

Lady Panthers fall to top-ranked Crane

Team faces Four Rivers at district tournament Thursday

By Steven Mitchell
Blue Mountain Eagle

The Prairie City girls basketball team walked away from Saturday's game on senior night with their heads held high after battling it out with the top-ranked Crane girls basketball team. The Lady Panthers fell to the Lady Mustangs, 52-37.

But for the girls squad, holding their own against a team some are picking to win it all this year was a victory in and of itself.

"They left nothing on the court, and I am really proud of those girls," head coach Bo Workman said.

In a hard-fought game that saw Prairie City leading the Lady Mustangs by 3 at one point in the first period, Crane head coach Stub Travis was impressed.

"Prairie City came out and played a great game against us today," Travis said.

Freshman Betty Ann Wilson, in perhaps her best game of the season, led the team with 15 points, draining three field goals and going three for five at the free throw line.

Wilson also led the team with four assists, seven steals and seven total rebounds, and committed a single turnover.

Senior Hailee Wall and junior Samantha Workman piled on 8 and 9 points, respectively.

Samantha Workman had two assists and a steal and was three of five in free throw shooting. She grabbed four rebounds, two on defense and two on offense.

While the loss snapped the team's six-game win streak, the Lady Panthers are confident as they head into districts.

"Only a 2A team has come this close to beating them (Lady Mustangs)," Wilson said. "This shows how much of a threat we can be in districts."

The team had other takeaways as well.

"We took an early lead and played really good defense," senior Emily Ennis said.

After taking Crane the distance in true underdog fashion, the Lady Panthers are confident should they face the Lady Mustangs at the High Desert



The Eagle/Steven Mitchell

Prairie City senior Hailee Wall (21) tips-off against Crane's Riley Davis (20) as Emily Ennis (22) and Aleah Johns (5) look on. The top-ranked Lady Mustangs defeated Prairie City, 52-37.

1A-8 HIGH DESERT LEAGUE GIRLS STANDINGS

- Crane, 8-0 league, 23-0 overall
- Jordan Valley, 7-1, 17-7
- Prairie City, 6-2, 15-6
- Adrian, 5-3, 8-15
- Dayville/Monument, 4-4, 7-14
- Four Rivers, 3-5, 8-12
- Harper Charter, 2-6, 5-11
- Huntington, 1-7, 1-10
- Ukiah/Long Creek, 0-8, 0-13

League Girls Tournament this week.

The Prairie City girls will tip off against Four Rivers at 7 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 20, at the HDL Tourney in the Grant Union High School gym in John Day.

The winner of that game will face Jordan Valley at 1 p.m. Friday, with the loser of the Jordan Valley game going on to play for a chance at the third seed to state at 11 a.m. Saturday and the winner going on to the championship game at 4 p.m. Saturday.



The Eagle/Steven Mitchell

Prairie City senior Aleah Johns hugs junior Abby Pfefferkorn during Prairie City's senior night ceremony before the Lady Panthers' game against Crane. The girls fell to the top-ranked Lady Mustangs, 52-37.

Lady Prospectors rally for a win over Stanfield on senior night

By Steven Mitchell
Blue Mountain Eagle

The Grant Union girls basketball team showed great resilience and had the packed Grant Union High School gym on their feet Friday in a close, 56-49 win over the Stanfield Tigers on senior night.

The Lady Prospectors got off to a good start and jumped out to a 14-9 lead by the end of the first period of play. Stanfield answered back and put up 14 points in the second quarter. Heading into halftime, Grant Union had a slim, 27-23 lead.

The rest of the game was a seesaw battle with offensive weapons on both teams.

Stanfield shooters Nyah Tejeda and Savannah Sharp scored 10 points and 12 points, respectively. Sharp was 100% in free-throws, hitting four out of four and draining four field goals, while Tejeda was four of seven at the free throw line with three field goals.

For the Lady Pros, senior Baylee Combs led the offensive attack with a game-high 15 points, two field goals and pair of 3-point jumpers. Combs was also five of seven at the free-throw line.

Senior Kaytlyn Wells notched 13 points, shooting four field goals and hitting five out eight free throws.

Sophomore Carson Weaver came in with 12 points, knocking down four field goals and going four of 10 at the free throw line.

In a third quarter that saw both teams scoring 11 points, the Lady Pros were deeply in need of an offensive breakthrough.

Combs, who hit her first 3-pointer in the third quarter, nailed her second in the fourth and shifted the momentum.

Senior Tyler Blood, sophomore Riley Robertson and Carson Weaver all put up points to edge out the Lady Tigers in the

2A-6 BLUE MOUNTAIN CONFERENCE GIRLS STANDINGS

- Union, 12-0 league, 22-3 overall
- Stanfield, 8-4, 18-6
- Enterprise, 8-4, 16-5
- Heppner, 6-6, 13-8
- Grant Union, 6-6, 8-13
- Pilot Rock, 2-10, 6-17
- Weston-McEwen, 0-12, 2-21

fourth quarter.

"This is the best they have ever played," Grant Union head coach Kristi Moore said. "They do what they're supposed to do at the right moment."

Blood said she is proud of the steps the team has taken together this season.

"I am proud that we did not let our emotions get the best of us with it being senior night," Combs said. "We stayed resilient and never gave up."

The Lady Prospectors finished out the regular season 8-13 overall and 6-6 in league play.

Grant Union heads to the Blue Mountain District Tournament Feb. 21-22 in Pendleton. They will face Heppner (6-6 league, 13-8 overall) at 6 p.m. Friday.

The winner of that game will face the loser of Friday's game between Stanfield and Enterprise for third place at the district tournament at 1 p.m. Saturday.

The top two teams from the district will automatically qualify for the state tournament, and four at-large spots will go to the four highest ranked teams in the state who did not automatically qualify for the state tournament. Grant Union is currently ranked 23rd.

SPORTS ROUNDUP

Dayville/Monument boys win one of two over weekend

The Dayville/Monument Tigers boys basketball team fell to Jordan Valley Friday 58-39, but came back Saturday and shut down Burnt River 73-18 to close out the regular season.

Dayville/Monument finished the season 5-4 and 7-15 overall, finishing sixth in the 1A-8 High Desert Boys League.

The Tigers will face Jordan Valley at the High Desert League Tournament Thursday, Feb. 20, at Grant Union High School. Tip off is at 8:45 p.m.

Dayville/Monument

boys basketball head coach Jeff Shafer could not be reached for comment.

Ukiah/Long Creek girls finish season

The Ukiah/Long Creek girls basketball team lost two over the weekend to Four Rivers and Jordan Valley, 37-68 and 65-25, respectively.

Ukiah/Long Creek head coach Amos Studtman said, in the first game, Four Rivers' shooters were successful from the 3-point line, and that created a deficit from which the Ukiah/Long Creek girls could not come back.

"We played well," he said. "We passed the ball

well and played really good defense."

He said Jordan Valley (17-7, 7-1) was much more experienced and had more depth than his team.

Studtman said, despite the score of the game, the team never gave up.

"I told them that it's not what you have, it is what you give," Studtman said. "Regardless of the score, I feel like we took a win."

Studtman said the girls

kept their heads up and overall had a good season.

Ukiah/Long Creek boys split wins over the weekend

The Ukiah/Long Creek boys basketball team eked out a 66-60 victory over Four Rivers Friday, but fell to Jordan Valley 74-58 in their final game of the regular season.

The boys team finished the season 6-3 in league and 13-7 overall.

Ukiah/Long Creek will face Adrian at the High Desert League Tournament at Grant Union High School on Thursday, Feb. 20. Tip off is at 2:45 p.m.

Ukiah/Long Creek head basketball coach TC Connor could not be reached for comment.

Dayville/Monument girls fall to Jordan Valley

The Dayville/Monument Lady Tigers lost

to Jordan Valley 54-24 to finish out the regular season.

The girls team finished 4-4 in league and 7-14 overall.

Dayville/Monument will face Adrian at the High Desert League Tournament at Grant Union High School at 1 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 20.

Head coach Cheyenne Perkins could not be reached for comment.

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