

Grant Union girls fall to Heppner at districts

By Steven Mitchell
Blue Mountain Eagle

The Grant Union Prospectors girls basketball team saw its season end in a 47-32 loss to Heppner in the first round of the Blue Mountain Conference district tournament Friday at the Pendleton Convention Center.

The Lady Pros, who were one and two against the Mustangs during the regular season, had their work cut out for them. In their first matchup of the season, the Grant Union girls team won by a point, 31-30, and the second time Heppner won by 5 points, 45-50.

Grant Union had won their last three games and evened up their league record to 6-6 heading into districts. The Lady Pros' win on senior night, besting Stanfield 56-49, gave them added momentum entering the tourney.

In Friday's game, the Lady Pros held their own. Senior Kaytlyn Wells scored 13 points, and the team shot the ball well. But the



Grant Union's Riley Robertson (10) drives toward the basket during the first half against the Mustangs. The Heppner Mustangs defeated the Grant Union Prospectors 47-32 at the Pendleton Convention Center Friday night.



EO Media Group/Ben Lonergan
Grant Union's Riley Robertson (10) struggles to gain control of the ball during the first half against the Mustangs. The Heppner Mustangs defeated the Grant Union Prospectors 47-32 at the Pendleton Convention Center Friday night.

Mustangs outscored Grant Union in a 21-7 run in the fourth quarter to earn the win.

The top two teams from the league, Union (12-0, 23-3) and Stanfield (8-4, 19-7), automatically qual-

ified for the state tournament, and four at-large spots went to the four highest ranked teams in the state who did not automatically qualify for the state tournament. Grant Union finished the season ranked 25th with

with an 8-14 overall record.

Grant Union head coach Kristi Moore said her team made great strides throughout the season.

"As I look back on the season, I am proud of each player as they

worked hard to be the best player and teammate they could be," she said. "They fought through adversity and showed improvement through the season."

Dayville/Monument boys end their season on a winning note, beating Ukiah/Long Creek 48-39

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The Dayville/Monument boys basketball team lost to Jordan Valley 51-30 Thursday at the first round of the High Desert League Basketball Tournament.

However, the Tigers faced Ukiah/Long Creek in the consolation game and ended the season with a 48-39 win.

Dayville/Monument finished their season with an overall record of 7-16 and a winning league record of 5-4.

"It has been a privilege to be the coach of these young men, and to watch them grow was a joy," Schafer said.

The Tigers, who struggled to score in the first period against Jordan Valley, could not close the offensive gap opened up early in the first period.

Jordan Valley led the game 16-5 by the end of the first quarter.

Senior Drew Wilburn, who

led the Tigers with 13 points, said that Jordan Valley is a tough team to beat.

Wilburn also had an outstanding night from the perimeter, draining three jumpers from the 3-point line and hitting two field goals.

Junior JT Hand piled on 9 points on a pair of field goals and a 3-pointer while Mark Thomas, Donovan Shafer and Wesley Adams combined for 8 points.

Head coach Jeff Shafer said he is proud of what his team accomplished this season, but said the Tigers were not working together Thursday.

"They did well this year, but they need to focus on working as a team," he said.

The Tigers lacked the depth, the size and experience of Jordan Valley. They fought hard in the fourth quarter to make a comeback but could not overcome the double-digit deficit.

Schafer said he is looking forward to next year.



The Eagle/Steven Mitchell
Dayville/Monument defenders double-team Jordan Valley late in the game Thursday. Dayville/Monument lost to Jordan Valley.

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