

# Tanager track & field gears up for Lennox

**By Parker Knox**  
Sportswriter

Vermillion High's track teams will run, jump and throw next at Lennox again next Thursday afternoon after taking this weekend off for prom activities at the school.

The Tanagers were scheduled to be at Canton and Lennox on Tuesday and Thursday, respectively; this past week. Last Saturday's meet at Dakota Valley has been rescheduled for Tuesday, April 26.

## BOOSTER CLUB MEET

A trio of winning relay teams and three individual event champions highlighted the day for the home team as the Vermillion Booster Club hosted its invitational meet at VHS last Thursday.

The quartet of Aaron Ruhaak, Brenden Raizola, Cody Olson and Austin Krier cruised the track in 3:48.20 in the medley relay, beating their nearest rival by 200 meters and missing qualifying for the state meet by a tenth of a second.

The girls 4x100-meter relay foursome of Val Moos, Megan Olson, Christine Epping and Carlee Sorensen won their event in :53.60. Also breaking the tape was the VHS girls medley team of Megan Olson, Courtney Johnson, Epping and Blair Gilkyson in a winning clocking of 4:39.80.

Blair Gilkyson won the girls 1600-meter run in 5:40.10. Winning individual boys events were Cody Olson in the 200-meter dash in :23.60 and Colin Olson in the 400-meter dash in :52.80.

Among other high placers among Vermillion's girls were Val Moos, second in both hurdles events, going :16.60 in the 100s and :51.00 in the 300s; Beth Szymonski, second in the shot at 35'4" and third in the discus at 101'4"; Carlee Sorensen, fourth in the 300-meter hurdles in :54.60; Mackenzie Huber, sixth in both hurdles events, :56.40 in the 300s and :18.50 in the 100s, and Abreanna Raizola and Courtney Johnson, sixth in the 200 in :30.20.

In boys events Alex Robertson placed fifth in the high jump at 5'3" and fifth in the long jump at 17'11"; Brenden Raizola, fifth in the 200 in :24.90; Nathan Ford, sixth in the 3200-meter run in 12:01.70; Tanner Anderson, third in the 1600 in 5:05.61, and Will Mart, third in the discus at 131'5".

The VHS girls 4x200 relay team placed second in 1:55.70, and the 4x800 team was sixth in 11:37.00. In boys relays VHS was fourth in the 4x800 in 9:38.60, fifth in the 4x100 in :49.10 and seventh in the 4x400 in 4:03.90.

Other VHS boys results:  
100: Josh Manning, 43rd, :13.80.  
200: David Day, 13th, :26.20; J.T. Sorenson, tie-18th, :26.60; Manning, 32nd, :29.30.

800: Jayce Huske, seventh, 2:27.50; Alex Osborne, eighth, 2:29.00.  
110m hurdles: Brandon Fischer, ninth, :21.60.

Long jump: Jay Munger, 10th, 16'6 1/2".  
Shot put: Nick Jensen, eighth, 38'7

1/2"; Zahai Marshall, 29th, 31'7"; Avery Garcia, tie-34th, 30'11"; Ethan Cleaver, tie-45th, 27'3"; Dain Gall, 51st, 23'6 1/2".  
Discus: Jensen, 19th, 100'0"; Garcia, 21st, 94'4"; Cleaver, 43rd, 54'9".

Other VHS girls results:  
100: Carlee Sorensen, eighth, :14.00; Brandis Williams, 15th, :14.60; Emma Lunning, tie-19th, :15.00; Emily McClelland, 22nd, :15.10.

200: Williams, 10th, :30.90; Mackenzie Huber, tie-11th, :31.10; McClelland, 29th, :33.40.

400: Raizola, 12th, 1:09.50; Lunning, 17th, 1:10.60; Kylie Fischbach, 19th, 1:10.90.

800: Al Vander Loan-Soesbe, eighth, 2:46.50; Jonna Lynch, 15th, 3:05.40.  
3200: Morgan Hower, seventh, 13:58.10.

100m hurdles: Epping, 13th, :19.60.  
300m hurdles: Jade Fostvedt, ninth, :57.90.  
Shot put: Teagan McNary, 18th, 26'4"; Alexa Mockler, 23rd, 24'8 1/2"; Kayla Miller, 44th, 19'2 1/2"; Jordyn Mockler, 47th, 16'0".

Discus: Latrissa Necklace, 24th, 66'1"; Mockler, 25th, 65'6"; Lauren Liechtnam, 35th, 57'4".

Beresford's girls and Harrisburg's boys won the team titles. The VHS boys were sixth with 55 points and the girls fourth with 75.5 points.

## HUSKIES INVITATIONAL

Beth Szymonski was a double winner in girls field events, and Vermillion's boys medley relay team won its event as the Tanagers competed in Elk Point-Jefferson's meet April 5.

Canton's girls and Sioux City West's boys were the team champions. The VHS girls were seventh with 46 points and the boys eighth with 31.5 points.

Szymonski threw the shot 33'10" and the discus 110'8" in winning both events. The boys medley quartet won their race in 3:49.07, missing state meet qualification by one second.

Blair Gilkyson was another Tanager champion, winning the 800-meter run in 2:28 and qualifying for next month's state meet. In other girls events Courtney Johnson placed fifth in the 200 in :29.19 and Carlee Sorensen sixth in the 300-meter hurdles in :52.23.

VHS girls relay teams were fifth in the 800 in 1:53.94; fifth in the medley in 4:51.69; fifth in the 1600 in 4:25.70; fifth in the 400 in :57.28 and sixth in the 3200 in 11:31.89.

Among boys individual events Nick Jensen placed sixth in the shot put with a heave of 40'11". Alex Robertson went 5'7" in the high jump, the same height as the winner, but placed sixth. Brenden Raizola was fifth in the 200 in :23.93, Tanner Anderson fifth in the 800 in 2:13.47 and Nathan Ford fifth in the 3200 in 12:05.01.

In boys relays VHS was second in the 1600, qualifying for the state meet in the process. Those runners were Aaron Ruhaak, Colin Olson, Austin Krier and Cody Olson. VHS was third in the 3200 relay in 8:59.03.

Chris Curry, South Dakota State 10.97; 5, Landon Lupi, South Dakota State 11.32; 6, Tim Brown, South Dakota 11.38

200: 1, Luke Leischner, South Dakota State 21.69; 2, Matt Kerswill, South Dakota 22.11; 3, Jared Clement, South Dakota 22.13; 4, Brandon Kovash, South Dakota 22.37; 5, Chris Curry, South Dakota State 22.43; 6, Jordan Schumacher, South Dakota 22.53

400: 1, Chris Stoks, North Dakota 48.57; 2, Bill Lane, South Dakota 48.99; 3, Dustin Gibbons, South Dakota State 49.13; 4, Parker Erickson, South Dakota State 49.68; 5, Jared Foote, South Dakota State 49.90; 6, Evan Bunkers, South Dakota State 50.19

800: 1, Casey Shade, South Dakota 1:52.53; 2, Jared Ailts, South Dakota State 1:53.34; 3, Dominic Thielen, South Dakota State 1:53.97; 4, Jesse Fenstermacher, North Dakota 1:55.22; 5, Kely Hall, South Dakota State 1:56.78; 6, Travis Brenner, South Dakota 1:56.94

1500: 1, Jake Schneller, South Dakota State 3:52.07; 2, Greg Vollmer, South Dakota State 3:55.00; 3, Mitch Yaggie, South Dakota 3:58.95; 4, Travis Brenner, South Dakota 4:00.90; 5, Marshall Kambestad, South Dakota State 4:03.90; 6, Greg Beesley, South Dakota State 4:05.60

3000: 1, Ethan Marquardt, South Dakota 8:29.80; 2, Michael Krnsak, South Dakota State 8:37.36; 3, Anthony Bongard, South Dakota State 8:54.13; 4, Jeff Grossenburg, South Dakota 8:59.13; 5, Brad Anderson 9:04.40; 6, Nick Beare, South Dakota 9:07.35

110 HURDLES: 1, Matt Dunbar, South Dakota State 15.01; 2, Brandon Priebe, South Dakota State 15.13; 3, Stuart Charbonneau, South Dakota 16.20; 4, Kent Luetzen, North Dakota 16.66; 5, Jason Steinberg, South Dakota 16.85

400 HURDLES: 1, Brandon

# VHS baseball wins a thriller

**By Parker Knox**  
Sportswriter

An exhilarating come-from-behind win in the bottom of the seventh and final inning against Parkston at Prentis Park Monday night was just what the doctor ordered for Vermillion High's baseball team after three tough losses within five days.

The Tanagers were trailing 5-4 and down to their last out when Collin Bertram coaxed a walk off Parkston pitching to keep VHS alive. Tanner Anderson singled up the middle, and suddenly the tying and winning runs were on base.

With D'Andre Fore at the plate, a wild pitch advanced the runners into scoring position.

Fore slashed a red-hot clothesliner of a hit to the shortstop. He got a glove on the ball but couldn't catch it, and the ball careened into left field. Bertram scored easily from third to tie the game, and the fleet-footed Anderson squeezed

beneath a late tag at the plate to end the game victoriously.

Until Fore came through in the clutch, the Tanagers had stranded 10 runners on base. But they had stayed in the game thanks to strong pitching. Starter Chayse Meierkort didn't get a decision but threw a great game, striking out seven, walking three, and allowing three hits. Niles Morecraft came in as a reliever and got VHS out of a jam in the fifth. Then Bertram took over and kept Parkston bats quiet, allowing one run in two innings.

Anderson and Tanner Settles each had two hits to pace the VHS offense.

"Parkston was a solid team, and this was certainly a big regional win for the Tanagers," Coach Jason Gault stated.

Last Wednesday the Tanagers lost on the road to Beresford, the team that knocked Vermillion out of both high school and Legion playoffs

last year, 5-1. Tyler Husby pitched well for the Tanagers, but his team's offense couldn't support him, stranding eight runners.

Defensively the Tanagers committed a pair of big errors that allowed two unearned runs.

Fore, Settles, Meierkort, Anderson and Stormy Mirtz each had one hit, and Meierkort scored the only Vermillion run.

"We played them pretty well," Gault said, "but it is going to take a flawless game from us to compete with them."

It was more of the same in the home opener against Yankton Friday. The Tanagers left 12 men on base and could never get into the game once the Bucks scored eight first-inning runs.

Nate Garrett took the pitching loss. Meierkort threw an inning and Bertram two innings in relief. Fore went 3-for-4 at the plate with a double, and Scott Iverson had a 2-for-3 night.

On Sunday in another battle of regional opponents, the Tanagers were tied with Bon Homme 3-3 in the fifth. Again they had several opportunities to score but couldn't get timely hitting.

Husby threw another pitching gem, giving up only three earned runs. Robert Osterberg came on in relief and did a nice job of throwing strikes. But at the same time Bon Homme's pitcher, Kortan, allowed only four VHS hits, and his defense was strong behind him. Settles, Zach McDonald, Mirtz and Bertram had the four VHS base knocks.

The Tanager schedule calls for a pair of junior varsity games at Dakota Valley Saturday morning, then a date at Lennox on Sunday afternoon with the varsity game at 2 p.m. and the JV's to follow. Next Wednesday VHS plays at Canton at 5:30 p.m. and 7:30 p.m.

# Tanager golfers victorious as season opens

**By Parker Knox**  
Sportswriter

Vermillion claimed the top four individual scores in a girls golf dual against Madison at The Bluffs Friday, so team-wise, it was an easy season-opening victory for the Tanagers.

Allison Heine took medalist honors with an 87. Kelly Amundson followed with an 89 in second. Ellen Brown was third with a round of 92, and Kenzie Huska came home fourth with a 95.

The Tanagers are slated for action at home Monday at 4 p.m. In other girls events Courtney Johnson placed fifth in the 200 in :29.19 and Carlee Sorensen sixth in the 300-meter hurdles in :52.23.

Vermillion vs Madison Duel The Bluffs, Par 72					School: Vermillion				
Pos	Name	Front	Back	Total	Pos	Name	Front	Back	Total
<b>School: Madison</b>									
1	Shelby Skinner	50	47	97	1	Allison Heine	43	44	87
2	Mackenzie Robson	48	52	101	2	Kelly Amundson	42	47	89
3	Kallyn Bloom	54	52	106	3	Ellen Brown	46	46	92
4	Tia Limmer	56	57	113 (417)	4	Kenzie Huska	49	46	95 (363)
5	Taylor Bird	59	55	114	5	Elly Miiller	52	50	102
6	Samantha Pardy	60	59	119	6	Kylie Kuiper	46	57	103
7	Samantha Langford	53	66	119	7	Josie Huber	51	52	103
8	Jessica Waba	68	72	140 (492)	8	Lindsay Robinet	52	54	106 (414)
JV	Modified Scoring				9	Audry Miiller	58	58	116
1	Tess Pifer	85			10	Brooks Schwasinger	70	61	131
2	Sydney Gustaf	65			JV	Modified Scoring			
3	Meghan Pardy	70			1	Brooke Moser	65		
4	Mariah Palmquist	70	290		2	Kate Brockevelt	62		
Vars	Madison	417			3	Kayla Stammer	75		
JV	Madison	492			4	Allison Odens	77		279
C	Madison	290			5	Katie Herrea	79		
					6	jordon Fostvedt	92		
					Vars	Vermillion	363		
					JV	Vermillion	414		
					C	Vermillion	279		

# Men's golf team ties for 10th Women take 7th at Creighton

HOLLISTER, Mo. — Freshman Nolan Schmidt fired a final-round 75 to lead the South Dakota men's golf team at the final round of the Branson Creek Invitational at the Branson Creek Golf Club in Hollister, Mo. Schmidt's 75 was the best score fired by any player at the tournament for the Coyotes, who finished in a tie for 10th at the meet with a score of 962 (323-321-318).

The 318 score shot by the Coyotes on Tuesday was their best round of the 54-hole event.

Schmidt (Avoca, Iowa) finished in a tie for 26th overall at 235 (78-82-75), as did senior teammate Kyle Scanlon (Stillwater, Minn.), who carded a final-round 80 after firing 78 and 77 in his first two rounds.

Sophomore Ben Heller (Aberdeen, S.D.) shot a 243 (81-80-82) and finished in a tie for 49th. Sophomore Ty Munneke (Champlin, Minn.) added a 251 (86-82-83) and freshman Gabe Messler (Yankton, S.D.) added a 260 (91-88-81).

The Coyotes are off until May 24 when they compete at the America Sky Championship in Scottsdale, Ariz.

OMAHA, Neb. — The South Dakota women's golf team finished seventh at the Creighton Golf Classic Tuesday at the Oak Hills Country Club in Omaha, Neb. The Coyotes shot a team score of 383 on Tuesday to finish the 36-hole event at 761.

Freshman Whitney Wheeler (Sioux Falls, S.D.) paced the Coyotes, firing a 93 on Tuesday to finish with a team-best 184. Freshman Hailey Sheldahl (Ottumwa, Iowa) finished at 188 (91-97). Sophomore Nicole Funck (Dakota Dunes, S.D.) added a 189 (91-98). Senior Steph Zavilla (Highlands Ranch, Colo.) added a 200 (105-95) while junior Katie Benedict (Sioux Falls, S.D.) finished with a 206 (107-99).

Next action for the Coyotes is on April 25-27 at the Great West Championship in Houston, Texas.

Cody Linder, South Dakota 123-7  
LONG JUMP: 1, Cody Linder, South Dakota 22-1; 2, Sean Keane, South Dakota 21-11.5; 3, Gavin Cordell, South Dakota State 21-3.5; 4, Chad Pinkelman, South Dakota 21-1.25; 5, Ryan Jorgenson, South Dakota State 20-5.25; 6, Jeff Sebern, South Dakota 19-11.75

POLE VAULT: 1, Tane Owens, South Dakota 15-5; 2, Bryan Braley, South Dakota 15-5; 3, Stuart Charbonneau, South Dakota 13-5.75; 4, Ryan Schaefer, South Dakota State 12-11.75; 5, Mike Bredeson, South Dakota State 11-0.25

SHOT PUT: 1, Sean Burns, South Dakota State 52-6; 2, Cody Snyder, South Dakota 51-7; 3, Creighton Schroyer, North Dakota 50-4.5; 4, Sam McInerney, South Dakota State 49-10; 5, Shawn Johnson, North Dakota 47-1; 6, Trevor Jensen, Unattached 46-5.25

TRIPLE JUMP: 1, Cody Linder, South Dakota 46-3.5; 2, Gavin Cordell, South Dakota State 45-3; 3, Jeff Sebern, South Dakota 43-3.75; 4, Chad Pinkelman, South Dakota 43-1.5

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