



Serving our readers since 1884.

PLAIN TALK



© 2013 YANKTON MEDIA, INC., all rights reserved

www.plaintalk.net

75¢

The best of the best



Members of the Vermillion Red 13 & 14 Teeners find time to celebrate Sunday night after they defeated Dakota Valley 7-1 before a hometown crowd at Prentis Park in Vermillion to claim the 2013 Class A VFW South Dakota Teener Championship. To see or purchase images from this event, visit spotted.plaintalk.net.

(Photo by David Lias)

Verm Red 13-14 Teeners are state champs

By David Lias

david.lias@plaintalk.net

When the best Teener teams in the 13 and 14 year-old age bracket arrived in Vermillion July 26, it was anyone's guess who would succeed and who would experience defeat.

Sunday, July 28, before a cheering crowd of hometown fans, the Vermillion Red 13-14 Teeners demonstrated they are the best of the best.

The team saved some of its best play for the championship game that evening, defeating Dakota Valley 7-1 to claim the Class A crown.

"What surprised us the most is that we would play Dakota Valley," Vermillion's head coach Caleb Miller said.

"We've played them five times during the regular season, so we've seen this team. We're very familiar with them, and we had gone 3 and 2 against them, so it was a pretty even matchup."

Vermillion powerhouse Billy Mount was on the mound taking care of the Red's pitching for all seven innings of Sunday's game. Only one Dakota Valley player managed to score, thanks to the strength of Billy's pitching and the excellent defensive play of the Red.

"We didn't think that going into this tournament that we would see them (Dakota Valley) again,"

■ STATE, Page 10

Groton escapes Verm to defend Legion title

By Dave Vilhauer

Aberdeen American News

It doesn't get much more dramatic than this.

One strike away from victory in the top of the ninth inning, Groton needed to add another run in the bottom of the frame to capture the Class B American Legion Baseball State Championship. Groton outlasted a stubborn Vermillion squad 9-8 at Bob Wiley Field in Webster Tuesday evening.

On the verge of celebrating a title, Groton watched its three-run lead slip away with two outs in the ninth before Spencer Knecht produced a little two-out heroics of his own, driving in Mason Madsen with the winning run.

"This feels awesome," Knecht said. "There's nothing better than this."

The state championship is Groton's ninth in the sport (other titles were won in 1976, 1978, 1984, 1990, 1995, 1998, 2000 and 2012) and allowed the squad to defend its title from last year.

"This one tastes a little bit better, for whatever reason," said Groton coach Travis Kurth. "This was a hard-fought game and one that we are just happy to be on the right end of."

Groton trailed 2-0 and 5-2 before battling back each time. Jamie Jorgensen's two-run home run in the third inning gave Groton a 6-5 advantage. The champs padded the lead to 8-5 and appeared ready to hoist another title trophy before Vermillion scored three times in the ninth.

"That's a good team that we just beat," Kurth noted. "We knew that all along coming into the tournament. The more I watched them, the more I was impressed with them. It's too bad somebody actually had to lose this game, because both teams are very deserving of this championship."

It was Peter Haught's single that pushed across the game-tying run for Vermillion. However, Knecht and his Groton mates weren't finished.

Knecht delivered his own two-out single to end the classic battle.

"I just got up there and he gave me one right down the middle," Knecht explained, "so I swung at it."

Interestingly enough, Knecht saved a run in the top of the eighth inning on a sparkling catch in leftfield. While that play will not show up in the scorebook, it ended up playing a key role in the contest.

■ TITLE, Page 11



Vermillion third baseman Tanner Anderson attempts to make this catch on a foul ball during the first championship game vs. Groton at the State B Legion Baseball Tournament at Bob Wiley Field in Webster on Wednesday. Anderson managed to hang on to the ball (directly above his hand) and Vermillion also hung on to defeat Groton 5-3.

(Photo by Dave Vilhauer/Aberdeen American News)

Muenster Center expansion continues at rapid pace

By Travis Gulbrandson

travis.gulbrandson@plaintalk.net

Summertime usually is a slow period on the campus of the University of South Dakota.

That's not the case this year, however, with crews hard at work on the \$11.6 million expansion of the Muenster University Center (MUC).

"It's really taken shape over the summer," said Phil Carter, media relations representative for USD. "The weather has cooperated, with the conditions being dry and favorable. Over

the winter and into spring was kind of hinky, but I think by that time construction had started to evolve into interior work."

The 31,000 square foot expansion began late last fall, with exterior work, Carter said.

Through the spring and summer the project has included placement of additional steel beams, pouring the floors, and work on the exterior enclosure of the new addition.

The piping and plumbing was already completed by April of this year.

The completed facility will feature expanded seating and national restaurant options, such as Chick-fil-A, Qdoba and Einstein Bros. Bagels.

Aramark also will continue to offer dining options for students and visitors.

"The students have generally had an input when it comes to dining options," Carter said. "Obviously, when it comes to living on campus, that's part of the opportunity – to dine on campus."

Input was also received from "those who commute, and

faculty and staff who enjoy eating here on campus," he added. "So, a variety of those factors played into expanding the dining options."

Sustainability also is a consideration in the project, with contractors using LEED Silver certification materials to promote further efficiency of the MUC.

According to its official Web site, "LEED is a green building tool that addresses the entire building lifecycle recognizing best-in-class building strategies."

"It's a way for contractors as well as us to be sustainable environmental stewards," Carter said.

The project's general contractor is Sioux Falls Construction, with design of the new addition handled by RS Architects, also of Sioux Falls.

Work is taking place between the original MUC building and the I.D. Weeks Library, necessitating the closure of the

■ MUC, Page 16



Be ahead of the game.

Schedule your child's Athletic Physical Examination

VERMILLION MEDICAL CLINIC®
SO MUCH CARE, SO CLOSE TO HOME®
605-624-8643
101 SOUTH PLUM STREET • VERMILLION, SD 57069
www.VermillionMedicalClinic.com