

VAST sees fast swimming in Sioux City

The cold and snowy weather on Saturday, Dec. 3, did not deter swimmers from the Vermillion Area Swim Team in their quest to swim fast. Neither did the crowded pool deck and hallways at Sioux City North High School.

VAST swimmers accounted for 76 new personal best times and swam to a great day in Sioux City. Leading the way were two swimmers who won all five events they swam.

Eight-year-old Gabe Telleria continued his winning ways this year, which is his last season in the 8-and-under age group. Telleria won the 50-yard freestyle, 25-yard butterfly, 25-yard breaststroke, 100-yard individual medley and the 25-yard freestyle.

In the 17-18 division, Kylie Martin won the 50-yard freestyle, 200-yard freestyle, 100-yard breaststroke, 100-yard backstroke, and 100-yard freestyle.

In the boys' 15-16 division, Jacob Krier had the fastest meet of his life, thus far in the early stages of his swimming career. Krier started off the day with the 50-yard freestyle and dropped .44 seconds off his personal best. He followed that up by dropping just over four seconds in the 200-yard freestyle. His previous best came a little more than three weeks ago in Sioux Center. He then set out and dropped time in the 100-yard freestyle, lowering his personal best by just over a second.

For his efforts, Krier should now be ranked in the top six in South Dakota.

"It was a great meet today," said head coach Mike Moran. "The kids came out and swam fast even after a tough week of practice. For most of our swimmers, this is the last meet of 2011."

There are a few VAST swimmers who will be making the three-hour drive to Lincoln, Neb., this Friday for the Greater Nebraska Swim Team Winter Invite, held at the Bob Devaney Center Pool on the campus of the University of Nebraska.

"Our swimmers who are going down there are going to have a great meet," said Moran. "The pool is fast, and the competition will be great. We are very excited to go down there and continue to swim well."

The next meet after this weekend will be Jan. 7 in Yankton.

Full results and information about VAST can be found at its new website:

www.teamunify.com/sdvast.

USD Employee Holiday Hoop-la to be held

University of South Dakota employees can Wear Red for the Coyotes and celebrate the holidays with Coyote basketball. The South Dakota athletic department has announced two upcoming special USD employee programs for a pair of upcoming Coyote home basketball games.

The USD Employee Holiday Hoop-la will offer a free ticket to any USD employee and 50 percent off for family members to the Coyote women's game vs. Northern Colorado on Saturday, Dec. 10 (7 p.m. tipoff) and to the Coyote men's game vs. Canisius on Sunday, Dec. 18 (2 p.m. tipoff).

The Coyotes will also feature a number of holiday-related incentives including a free photo with Santa Claus and Charlie Coyote and the "12 Gifts of a Yotes' Christmas" with raffle and lucky game program giveaways during each game. The prizes include a special Sioux Falls getaway with a one night's stay at the Hilton Garden Inn near the Empire Mall and a \$25 gift certificate for Champps. Other prizes will include Vermillion Bucks courtesy of the Vermillion Chamber of Commerce, various restaurant gift certificates and air transportation for one person on Allegiant Air. The photo opportunity will be conducted behind the bleachers starting 30 minutes before the game through halftime.

USD Employee can receive their FREE ticket and purchase additional tickets at the special 50 percent rate by presenting their USD ID at the South Box Office at the DakotaDome in advance or on each game date. For more details call 605-677-5959.

South Dakota women's rally falls short

The South Dakota women's basketball team cut a 14-point second-half deficit to two in the final minute but the Coyotes' rally fell short in a 65-63 loss to Indiana-Purdue-Fort Wayne in Summit League play Thursday night in Fort Wayne, IN. The loss spoiled the Summit League debut to the Coyotes, who fell to 4-1 overall and 0-1 in conference play.

Senior forward Amber Hegge (Crofton, NE) had her first double-double of the season with 21 points and 11 rebounds. Senior guard Annie Roche (Vermillion) added 15 points on 5-of-8 three-point shooting. Junior guard Alexis Yackley (Onida) had seven assists to go with seven points, while senior center Jodie Boss (Columbus, NE) had four blocks.

The Mastodons (3-4, 1-0 Summit) shot 50 percent from the field (24-of-48). South Dakota shot 39.3 percent from the

field, including only 29.6 percent from three-point range (8-of-27). The Coyotes shot just 30.3 percent in the first half, hitting 10-of-33 field goals.

"It's a tough loss. We left some things out there," South Dakota head coach Ryn Williams said. "We played hard, but we seemed to be a little tentative and hesitant early on. That is uncharacteristic of us."

The Coyotes were down 58-44 with 7:47 left in the game before beginning their rally. They went on a 10-0 run - sparked by threes from Roche and Yackley - to cut the lead to 58-54 with 5:19 left.

IPFW stretched the lead to 61-54, but the Coyotes closed within 63-60 with 1:12 left on a Boss layup. The Coyotes had a chance to tie in the final 30 seconds after forcing an IPFW turnover, but they turned the ball over themselves.

After a foul, IPFW's Erin Murphy hit two free throws to push the lead to 65-60. Roche hit a three in the final second but the rally fell short as the Mastodons held on for a two-point win.

"You've got to play through some bad luck sometimes. You are going to have to play through that on the road," Williams said. "For the most part, we did a nice job of playing with some poise. We just came up a little short tonight."

South Dakota lead 9-6 with 14:59 left in the first half - with Hegge scoring six points and Roche adding a three -- but managed just one point over the next seven minutes as IPFW went on a 12-1 run to take an 18-10 lead.

The Coyotes got off to a miserable start shooting the ball, hitting just 4-of-19 (21.11 percent) of their attempts in the first 12:30 of the contest.

IPFW stretched the lead to 10 twice -

but each time, Freshman Taylor Moore (Milford, NE) drained a three-pointer to bring the Coyotes within seven, including one with 3:37 left that cut the Mastodon lead to 27-20.

Those threes by Moore were part of a 15-7 Coyote run over the final 5:26 of the half that brought South Dakota within 31-29 at the half.

Hegge led the Coyotes with 15 first-half points, while Roche and Moore each had six.

South Dakota trailed by just two at the half, but IPFW methodically pulled away and built a 58-44 lead, setting up the Coyote comeback attempt in the final seven minutes.

Boss, Moore and junior guard Tempestt Wilson (Elk River, MN) had six points each. Hegge added three assists.

Tanager wrestlers place seventh at Rider Invitational

By Parker Knox
Sportswriter

Vermillion wrestlers came home from Saturday's Rider Invitational at Sioux Falls Roosevelt with two individual champions and two other top-four finishers.

As a team the Tanagers placed seventh among nine teams with 93 points. The three Sioux Falls public schools - Washington, Lincoln and Roosevelt - were 1-2-3 in that

order, and Washington and Lincoln claimed seven of the 14 champions.

Vermillion's men on the top step of the medal stand were freshman Brett Bye at 138 pounds and senior Will Mart at 285 pounds.

Bye won a 3-2 decision over Lincoln's Landon Stroud to capture his title while Mart won by a 5-2 count over Harrisburg's Dylan Van Steenberg for his gold medal.

The first tournament of

Brenden Raizola's senior season resulted in a third-place medal for him at 132 pounds. He defeated Tea Area's Trayce Rutoseinen, 5-3, in his third-place match.

The other Tanager placer was Carter Kratz, who came home fourth in the 120-pound class.

Vermillion competes this Saturday at the Yankton Invitational and next Thursday in a dual at West Central.

In the season-opening

competition in a dual at Lennox on Nov. 29, the Tanagers prevailed by a 57-24 team score.

Eight of the 14 weight classes found one team or the other open and giving away forfeit points. Vermillion won six of those for 36 team points but also won four of the six matches actually wrestled, outscoring the Orioles in team points in those matches by 21-12.

Brandon Steenholdt, 113-pound senior, got it rolling for VHS with a decision win over

Matt Mazourek. Marquese Tayborn, 126-pound freshman, also won by decision. Brandon Hertz, freshman at 152, and Alex Osborne, 160-pound sophomore, both won by decisions to increase the Tanager lead.

Dan Goeden, senior wrestling at 195 pounds, lost his match, and Gage Peck lost at 220 in the two wrestled matches captured by the Orioles.

Former Coyote named assistant coach for Cleveland Cavaliers

Former South Dakota men's basketball standout Nate Tibbetts has been named an assistant coach with the NBA's Cleveland Cavaliers, it was announced this week. Tibbetts will serve as an assistant coach under Head Coach Byron Scott.

Tibbetts has spent the past two seasons as the head coach of the Tulsa 66ers of the NBA Development League. He guided Tulsa to its second straight playoff appearance after the 66ers recorded a 33-17 mark in 2010-11.

"Nate comes from an organization that has developed a young core and a similar belief system in creating success with a defense-first mentality," Scott said in a release.

Tibbetts played for South Dakota and Head Coach Dave

Boots from 1997-2001. He is second all-time in assists with 678 and also second all-time in steals at 215. He was All-NCC first-team in 2000-01 and Academic All-NCC in 2000. Tibbetts' father, the late Fred Tibbetts, served as Coyote

women's basketball coach for four seasons.

Cleveland is slated to open the regular season on Dec. 26 against Toronto.

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by the fast start of Bader who led the team with 14 points, while Hamilton added 12 points. The Grizzlies shot an even 50 percent from the field on 17 of 34. They were 6 of 14 from range and 14 of 18 from the line which was a major discrepancy in the first half. OU had 20 rebounds, including six on the offensive end.

Back-to-back layups by Westbrook cut the deficit to 13 at 58-45 early in the second half which was the closest the Coyotes would get.

Through the first eight minutes of the second half, the Coyotes made 10 of 16 field

goals, but were just 1 of 6 from beyond the arc during that span, while Oakland was just as hot shooting 10 of 18 and was 2 of 4 from deep and 3 of 4 from the line as it held a 79-58 lead with 11:25 left. To that point, the Coyotes hadn't attempted a free throw in the second half.

Over the next three minutes, the Grizzlies swelled the lead to 86-61 courtesy of another big triple from Bader, his seventh of the game. From there, the Coyotes kept fighting and continued to chip away at the deficit and two charity tosses by Gruis brought the Coyotes within 97-81 with 1:45 left as OU settled for a 101-83 win.

The Coyotes shot 46.9 percent from the field for the game on a season-best 30 of 64 from the field. They were 6 of

26 from beyond the arc and were 17 of 21 from the line. They had 32 rebounds, but had just six on the offensive end as Oakland tallied 45 rebounds and 15 on the offensive end leading to a 16-2 advantage for the Grizzlies in second chance points.

Oakland shot equally impressively as it was 35 of 72 from the floor and 10 of 25 from beyond the arc, including

Bader's 8 for 13 shooting performance from range and the Grizzlies were 21 of 28 from the line, which also was a major difference in the game.

The Coyotes look to rebound Saturday as the travel to IPFW for a 6:30 p.m. tip CT. The voice of the Coyotes, Warren Swain, will have the call on the home and away voice of South Dakota basketball on B102.7FM.

"I thought it was good to start with these guys every game is tough and it's a good league," Boots added.

"Everybody is going to have their share of bad plays, but we consistently made them through the whole game. We are making too many mistakes on decision making, but as the season goes on maybe we can correct some of that. There's a lot of work to do."

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Check today's issue for the solution to the puzzle.



Welcome to the World

The following babies were born at Avera Sacred Heart Hospital in November 2011:

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AARON	CIERRA	JAEZERII	NORA
ANDONISE	COOPER	JAKE	OWEN
ANTHONY	DAISY	JAX	REID
ATREYU	DAMIAN	JOSIN	RHIANNEN
AULLIANA	DAMIAN	KAMARI	SHIYLER
AVERY	DEUGNYN	KARINA	TRACEY
AYRN	DEYVAH	KARLIE	TUCKER
BARBARA	DREW	KENSLEY	
BLAKE	EASTON	MARY	
BRINN	EMMA	MATO LUTACE	
CANDI TANKA	GABRIEL	MICKENZIE	

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