Plain Talk Sports

Upcoming Sports Schedule

Tanager wrestling at SF Lincoln1 p.m. Dec. 21 & 10 p.m. Dec. 22Tanager boys & girls basketball at TeaTanager gymnastics hosts Winter Wonderland11:30USD women's basketball at Boise StateUSD men's basketball at Green BayUSD men's basketball at OmahaUSD women's basketball hosts OmahaUSD women's basketball hosts Omaha11:30

ec. 22 2 p.m. Dec. 28 11:30 a.m. Dec. 29 1 p.m. Dec. 22 7 p.m. Dec. 22 12 p.m. Dec. 29 2 p.m. Dec. 30

Wrestlers will Young Tanager girls BB team has 2-2 record

face tough competition

By Parker Knox Sportswriter

The Vermillion Tanager wrestlers will face some of their best competition of the entire season this weekend.

The Tanagers head to Sioux Falls for Lincoln High School's invitational meet Friday and Saturday.

Last week, Vermillion lost to West Central, 51-30. The Tanagers forfeited five weight classes, and two VHS wrestlers, Alex Osborne and Seth Heine at 170 and 182, respectively, won by forfeit.

In matches on the mats Brett Culver took his 113-pound opponent to the mat in a 4:45 pin, Regan Bye won by pin in 3:44 at 145 pounds, and Brett Bye won in the same time by pin at 152 pounds.

Jacob Husby lost by pin in 4:38 at 106, Mason Pickett lost by pin in 2:16 at 120, Carter Kratz lost by a 3-1 decision at 132, and Noah Westergaard lost by pin in 3:27 at 195 pounds.

By Parker Knox Sportswriter

For a team that suffered a 50-point loss in the season-opening game just two weeks ago, the Vermillion Tanager girls turned things around in a hurry.

After victories over Bon Homme last week and Madison on Monday and an overtime loss Tuesday at Tri-Valley, a place where hardly anybody expects to win a game, the youthful Tanagers are 2-2 and eagerly anticipating the rest of the season.

The Tanagers had shots at the end of regulation time to win it and shots in the final seconds of overtime to tie it but couldn't get them to fall, so Tri-Valley remained unbeaten at 5-0 with a narrow escape on its home court.

Vermillion led 6-0 on a pair of Josie Huber treys to open the game, and it took Tri-Valley till the halftime buzzer to tie the game at 20-20. Huber had nine first-half points and Courtney Johnson six to keep the Tanagers on top.

In the third quarter Tri-Valley's superior height began to wear VHS down at both ends of the court. The Mustangs went from a 24-22 deficit to a 31-24 lead at the end of the third period.

Trailing by eight a minute into the final quarter, the Tanagers used freethrow shooting to stage a 7-0 run of their own to give themselves a chance. A Johnson putback even put Vermillion ahead by one at 36-35. Huber scored with a half-minute left for a 40-38 lead, but Tri-Valley was able to force O.T.

The Tanagers were quickly down by five early in the extra stanza. Mackenzie Huber scored a field goal and two of four free-throw opportunities in the final minute, but two attempts at tying the game failed.

Josie Huber finished with 14 points, Johnson 12 and Mackenzie Huber 11.

Against Madison Josie Huber gave Vermillion a quick 5-0 lead, and the Tanagers never trailed, leading 14-6, 23-15 and 32-21 at the quarter breaks en route to a 47-32 victory even though Blair Gilkyson and Allison Heine were sidelined due to injuries.

Coach Nick Mayer got scoring from seven sources as his team shot 38 percent from the field and 63 percent at the stripe. Josie Huber had 10 points as well as 11 rebounds and five steals. Johnson contributed 10 points, Mackenzie Huber nine points and four assists, Sydney Peters seven points and four assists and Brooke Schwasinger seven points. Tori Gregoire and Shantel French each added two points.

Josie Huber scored 17 points and had five more steals as the Tanagers defeated Bon Homme 36-25 after leading at halftime by only 13-12. Schwasinger contributed five assists.

The girls will join the boys for a doubleheader at Tea Area next Friday, Dec. 28, before returning for a home game Jan. 3 against Sioux Falls Christian.



Vermillion's Brooke Schwasinger (15) goes up for a jump shot during action against Madison Monday night in the VHS gymnasium. The Tanagers defeated the Lady Bulldogs 47-32.

(Photo by David Lias)

Tanager boys defeat Tri-Valley 42-38 last Tuesday

By Parker Knox Sportswriter

Nobody ever said every victory would be pretty, and Tuesday's Tanager win at Tri-Valley wasn't.

Nevertheless Vermillion remained undefeated at 3-0 with a 42-38 victory that saw J.T. Sorensen score 10 of his team's 17 fourthquarter points in a come-frombehind win.

Seven Austin Krier points in the first quarter helped lift the Tanagers to an early 11-4 advantage. The lead was again at seven at 18-11 midway through the second quarter when suddenly the Vermillion offense went into a funk that extended dangerously through almost all of the third quarter. During that long stretch Tri-Valley outscored VHS 17-5. Fortunately the Mustangs were making enough turnovers to allow the Tanagers to stay within reach.

Carter Andre scored five of his seven points consecutively---a field goal to end the third quarter that brought the Tanagers to within 28-25 and the team's first three points of the final period. The rest of the way things were precarious, and neither team led by more than three points. Five points from Sorensen and a Krier field goal had Vermillion up by 35-32 with 2:15 left. Then with the margin down to a single point again, Sorensen scored perhaps his most important basket when he grabbed an offensive rebound and put it back in with 1:27 to go. Anthony Leber added two free throws and Tanner Anderson one over the next 60 seconds.

Fouled as he went after a defensive rebound at the 0:22 mark, Sorensen sank the first of two freethrow chances to make it 40-36. Brendon Boomsma of the Mustangs scored with 12 seconds left. Sorensen, fouled on Vermillion's inbounds pass, took advantage of his team's being in the bonus situation by making both of his free throws at the 402 mark to coal the deal

the :07 mark to seal the deal. Sorensen finished with 14 points as did Krier. Besides Andre's seven, Leber had four, Anderson two and Nick Jensen one. Brett Page scored 15 and Boomsma 12 for Tri-Valley. Last week the Tanagers improved to 2-0 in Big 8 Conference play with a 60-49 win at Lennox, breaking away from a 42-42 tie midway through the fourth quarter with a strong finish down the stretch.

A big 21-7 first quarter for Vermillion was offset by a 12-8 second period and a 16-11 third stanza, both in the Orioles' favor, making it 40-35 at the end of three.

Krier had a big game with 19 points, going six of 11 from twopoint field-goal range and seven of 10 from the line. Jensen had five field goals and was four-for-four at the stripe for 14 points, and Sorensen scored 11. Tanner Settles contributed six, Jayce Huska five, Anderson four and Leber one. Lennox was led by Tyler Harms' 14 points, Zach Koosman's 13 and Alex Lane's 10.

The Tanagers will try to remain unbeaten next Friday, Dec. 28, on the home court of the Tea Area Titans, who stunned top-ranked Dell Rapids last week.



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January 1st Edition

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Thurs., Dec. 20th at 11 a.m.

The Broadcaster/Plain Talk offices will be closing at noon on Monday, Dec. 24th and closed all day Tuesday, Dec. 25th.



Jo Our Loved Ones:

Happy Holidays! Merry Christmas! And Wishing you a Great New Year!

> Love Always, Oma & Uncle

