

VHS wrestlers' goal: win regional title

By Parker Knox
Sports writer

Breaking away from a 12-12 tie, Vermillion's wrestling juggernaut won six consecutive matches to end the dual and come home from Crofton with a 46-12 victory last Friday.

The triumph was the Tanagers' 16th dual win in 19 tries, heading into last night's season-ending duals in Sioux Falls against Washington and Harrisburg.

Coach Joe Delvaux said Saturday his final-week strategy was to give his kids the weekend off, then to "come back hard" at the beginning of this week in anticipation of putting a full lineup on the mat in Sioux Falls last night.

"Our goal is to win the regional title and send as many as possible to state," Delvaux said.

That postseason opportunity begins next Thursday and concludes the following night at Brandon Valley High School. The Region 2A tournament brings together the Tanagers, the host Lynx, Harrisburg, Lennox, Sioux Falls Lincoln, Sioux Falls Washington, Tea Area, West Central

and Yankton.

The top four placers in each weight class advance to the state "A" tournament in Rapid City on Feb. 26-27.

The Tanagers' first six points at Crofton came on 103-pounder Brett Bye's 3:37 pin over Pete Hernandez and a forfeit win for Joey Mueller at 112. A 7-5 loss by Regan Bye at 119, a 1:11 pin loss for Tony Henderson at 125 and a 3-1 loss by Earl Kiertzner at 130 lifted Crofton into a tie, but the Nebraska club wouldn't score again.

Lance Burkhart picked up a forfeit win at 135, and the next two classes were left open by both teams. Then came a Tanager avalanche, starting with Andrew McCann's 7-6 triumph over Logan Schieffer at 152. Dexter Mehlhaf kept it going with a 1:45 pin of Brady Steffen at 160.

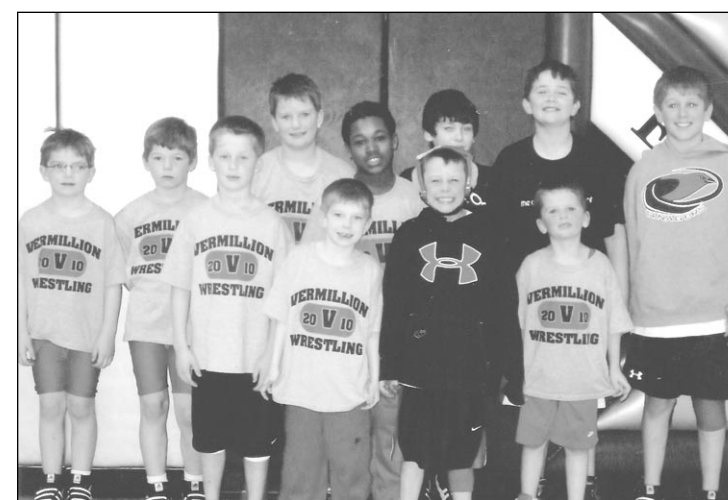
Crofton forfeited to Chris Mart at 171. Then Nick Mart, still unbeaten and ranked No. 1 in his class in South Dakota Class "A" circles, scored a 21-8 major decision over Calan List. Gerrit Heine won a 4-3 match over Deryk Wortmann at 215, and Will Mart's 2:53 pin of Rupert Aguilla at heavyweight was Vermillion's

exclamation point.

Earlier last week the Tanagers won three duals in Beresford, edging the host Watchdogs 43-42, trimming a short Dakota Valley lineup 60-12 and beating Akron-Westfield for the second time in four days, 51-19.

The match against Beresford was unique in that the Tanagers gave up some open weights in the early going, allowing the Watchdogs to accumulate team points. The dual came down to the last four weights with Vermillion needing the ultimate — four straight pins — just to tie the team score, and that's what they did. To determine the team winner, tie-breakers had to be used, and it came down to the sixth criterion before the tie was broken in Vermillion's favor.

In addition to Nick Mart's No. 1 rating at 189 in last week's Class "A" statewide rankings, the Tanagers' T.J. North, also unbeaten, remained No. 1 at 112 pounds. Ranked fourth in their respective classes were Burkhart at 135, Chris Mart at 171 and Heine at 215. Will Mart was ranked No. 7 at heavyweight and Kiertzner eighth at 130.



Youth wrestlers participate in team dual

Vermillion youth wrestlers participated in their first ever team dual competition last Friday night in Elk Point. Teams consisted of 14 weight classes starting at 45 pounds and finishing with heavyweight. Vermillion compiled a very young, but strong 12-man team. Vermillion faced a very talented Sioux City Predator team first, falling short 45-31. Next they faced a much older and experienced Harrisburg team, losing a very tough fought battle 55-18. In the fifth and sixth place round, they faced a Merville, IA team and came up strong finishers as they won the dual 38-30. Many of the younger wrestlers faced much older opponents that evening, and although they looked pretty rough in the end, the team came together and definitely displayed their strong Tanager pride. Pictured are: (back) Kobe Culver, Brett Culver, Brody Surrell, Mason Pickett, Hunter Christopherson and Carter Kratz; (front) Trey Hage, Nicolas Roob, Kyle Seibel, Jack Kratz and Carter Mart. Participating, but not pictured were Blake Anglin and Luke Anglin. Please help support all of the youth wrestlers as they host their youth tournament this Sunday, Feb. 14 starting at 1 p.m. in the high school gym. If anyone would like to help with the tournament in any way, please contact Jennifer Kratz at 624-2502 or Brian Anglin at 677-8987.

USD ends three-game skid with rout of USF

By Keith A. Brockberg
Yankton Media, Inc.

The University of South Dakota Coyotes received a welcome dose of shooting elixir Monday night as they hosted the University of Sioux Falls Cougars and beat them 62-39 at the DakotaDome.

The Coyotes limped into the game coming off a 6-game string of road games — the last three being losses — and saw their season shooting percentage dip under 40 percent.

"It's just nice to be back home and play a game that was rescheduled," said Williams. "I'm sure the kids were glad to have a game and not face a week of practices." "We definitely needed a home game and a good home win," said USD swing Jasmine Mosley. "It's hard losing continuously, but what's past is past and we got a good team win."

USF was supposed to visit Vermillion Jan. 25, but weather pushed the game to Monday.

Hitting four of their first five shots against the Cougars of the NAIA Great Plains Athletic Conference seemed to cure what ailed the 'Yotes.

Two of the Coyotes' initial field goals were 3-pointers from Teresa Case, but more importantly, the Coyotes were able to establish an inside presence with Amber Hegge and later Jasmine Mosley.

Hegge knocked down two early shots while Mosley made four of five shots from in close to push the Coyotes to a 35-9 halftime lead.

Annie Roche sped toward the basket for three lay-ups and knocked down two free throws as the redshirt sophomore scored eight points in the half.

Kara Iverson and Samantha Mehr each added 3-pointers as the Coyotes were efficient behind the 3-point line and knocking down four of seven downtown shots.

In all, the Coyotes hit 14 of



South Dakota's Jasmine Mosley (44) drives for the hoop during basketball action against the University of Sioux Falls Monday night in the DakotaDome. Mosley, a senior from Bellevue, Neb., scored 16 points and pulled down five rebounds as the Coyotes built a commanding 35-9 halftime lead and rolled to a 62-39 win over USF. (Photo by David Lias)

25 shots — a 56-percent clip — all while garnering seven steals and holding Sioux Falls to 17.6-percent shooting.

The Cougars found their shooting touch to start the second half.

Sioux Falls finally broke double-digits on a put-back by Chelsea Baxa, and Holli Aggan and Baxa each cued up for 3-pointers to give the USF faithful something to cheer about. The Cougars trimmed the deficit under 20 points at 46-27 when Becky Christofferson knocked down a 3-pointer with 12:48 to play.

However, Iverson kept the Coyotes safe by answering with a 3-pointer and identical leaners from Hegge and Mosley pushed USD's lead to 53-29.

Reserves Jamie Young,

Jackie Hiebert and Pam January each contributed buckets as USD coasted to the 62-39 final.

"We were a little fatigued, so we didn't want to get into a highly contested game that goes down to the last five minutes," said Williams. "I really credit our kids with playing that inspired first 10 minutes and our bench for giving us some minutes."

Mosley finished with a game-high 16 points while Roche and Case each scored 10. Roche, Hegge and January each had four assists while Case had four of USD's 10 steals.

Katie Farley led USF with nine points while Christofferson had seven points.

The Coyotes (9-11) host Chicago State Thursday and

New Jersey Tech Saturday before traveling to Brookings to renew their rivalry with South Dakota State Monday.

"Every game is behind us, and with these next home games and State on Monday, this should get it going," said Mosley.

"It's nice to see our kids in white uniforms," quipped Williams. "I'm sure we forgot that we had them."

Sioux Falls (16-12) plays at Briar Cliff Wednesday to get back to GPAC action.

SIoux FALLS (16-12)

Holli Aggan 1-3 2-2 5, Jessica Austin 0-1 0-0 0, Chalsa Baxa 2-6 0-0 5, Jamey Hofer 0-3 5-6 5, Elizabeth Hildreth 2-4 0-2 4, Dominick Schuler 0-3 2-2 2, Becky Christofferson 2-8 2-2 7, Malissa Gruenwald 0-1 0-0 0, Abby Mendlik 1-3 0-0 2, Steph Hofer 0-1 0-0 0, Katie Farley 3-6 0-0 9, Kelli Hoff 0-1 0-0 0. TOTALS: 11-40 11-14 39.

SOUTH DAKOTA (9-11)

Annie Roche 4-11 2-2 10, Amber Hegge 4-4 0-1 8, Kara Iverson 2-6 0-0 6, Teresa Case 3-5 1-2 10, Jasmine Mosley 8-12 0-0 16, Samantha Mehr 1-2 0-0 3, Jackie Hiebert 2-3 1-2 5, Pam January 1-1 0-0 2, Jamie Young 1-5 0-0 2. TOTALS: 26-49 4-7 62.

At the Half: SD 35, SF 9; 3-Point Goals: SD 6-16 (Roche 0-4, Iverson 2-5, Case 3-4, Mehr 1-1, Young 0-2), SF 6-27 (Aggen 1-2, Austin 0-1, Baxa 1-4, Hofer 0-2, Hildreth 0-1, Schuler 0-3, Christofferson 1-7, Gruenwald 0-1, Mendlik 0-2, Farley 3-4); Rebounds: SD 33 (Iverson 6), SF 23 (Hildreth 5); Personal Fouls: SF 17, SD 15; Fouled Out: None; Assists: SD 18 (Hegge, Roche, January 4), SF 7; Turnovers: SF 16, SD 12; Blocked Shots: SD 1, SF 0; Steals: SD 10 (Case 4), SF 1.



LEAGUE BOWLING

| Bantam Prep League | | Ladies National League | |
|------------------------|-----------|------------------------|-----------|
| Team Name | Score | Team Name | Score |
| January 31, 2010 | | | |
| Bowling Girls | 37.0 11.0 | Alex Carr | 90.5 59.5 |
| Super Strikers | 30.0 18.0 | Brooke Assmus | 247 |
| February 2, 2010 | | | |
| The Lucky Strikers | 28.0 20.0 | Aramark | 86.0 61.0 |
| Bowling Queens | 23.0 25.0 | Lamie's Cleaning | 88.0 62.0 |
| Bowling Buddies | 22.0 26.0 | Team BK | 86.0 61.0 |
| Mizzou | 21.0 27.0 | Whimp's | 65.5 83.5 |
| Turkey Hunters | 19.0 29.0 | Market Street | 64.0 86.0 |
| Team 8 | 11.0 30.0 | Pace's | 54.0 96.0 |
| High Scr. Game-Team | | High Scr. Game-Team | |
| Super Strikers | 440 | Aramark | 641 |
| Mizzou | 369 | Whimp's | 558 |
| The Lucky Strikers | 368 | Team BK | 557 |
| High Scr. Game Boys | | High Scr. Game | |
| Logan Peterson | 138 | Mary Mock | 188 |
| Jacob Peterson | 128 | Dawna Andersen | 182 |
| Justin Neason | 123 | Traci Bartekoske | 180 |
| High Scr. Game Girls | | High Scr. Series-Team | |
| Kayla Stammer | 137 | Aramark | 1818 |
| Brooke Assmus | 98 | Team BK | 1602 |
| Kayla Andersen | 94 | Whimp's | 1529 |
| High Scr. Series-Team | | High Scr. Series | |
| Super Strikers | 1284 | Dawna Andersen | 484 |
| The Lucky Strikers | 1009 | Traci Bartekoske | 476 |
| Turkey Hunters | 1001 | Mary Mock | 470 |
| High Scr. Series Boys | | High Scr. Series Girls | |
| Jacob Peterson | 351 | Dorothy Wright | 469 |
| Logan Peterson | 336 | Tammy Assmus | 464 |
| Bradyn Rusher | 317 | | |
| High Scr. Series Girls | Score | | |

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Coyote Game Day
ANSWER THE CALL

See You At The DakotaDome!

Doubleheader Vs. New Jersey Tech
Saturday, February 13th
6:00PM Tipoff - Women
8:00PM Tipoff - Men
Halftime - Red Dawgs Wheelchair Basketball Exhibition
3:30 - Exhibition Wheelchair Basketball Game
Red Dawgs vs. Vermillion All Stars

Game sponsored by **Avera**

Doubleheader Vs. Utah Valley
Thursday, February 18th
6:00PM Tipoff - Women
8:00PM Tipoff - Men

"Share Your Sole" Shoe Drive
Bring your gently used shoes (all types) to the Feb. 18th game.
All shoes collected will be donated to the Cheyenne River Youth Project which benefits the Cheyenne River Sioux Reservation.
Sponsored by USD Student-Athlete Advisory Committee

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