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when new high-tech swimsuits aided swimmers in shaving a good chunk of time of their personal bests.

"World records are indeed flattening," Berthelot said in the LA Times story. "The likelihood that a world record occurs is becoming less and less."

But this isn't the first time the idea has come up if records can still be broken.

Bolt actually broke a record no one thought could fall.

In 1996, American Michael Johnson set the record in the 200-meter dash with a time of 19.32 seconds, a time which no one thought, would fall — until Bolt came along.

Bolt didn't crush the record by any means, but put up a time of 19.30 seconds.

USD head men's track and field coach Dave Gottsleben said there will always be a new 'freak' that comes along to break a record.

"No one though Johnson's records would be broken," he said. "Someday, someone will come along and break the records Bolt put up as well."

Gottsleben said one of the reasons the records will fall someday is because breaking the records are what the athletes strive for.

"Records are what drive the athletes, whether it's an Olympic, world, school or family record," he said. "They are always trying to get their personal bests as well."

One person who has a different opinion is USD junior Emma Erickson, a distance runner for the women's track team.

"They always say records are going to be broken, but you wonder if there's a point where it's maxed out," she said. "I was watching the Olympics and saw Bolt break those records, and I would think there would be a point when the record won't be reachable. You can't always duplicate it and there might be a time where it doesn't fall."

Erickson is no stranger to the record books herself.

She used to own USD's school record in the 800-meter

run with a time of 2:09.30 in 2008, until she shattered that time with a run of 2:06.83 at the Iowa State University Classic on Feb. 13.

But for Erickson, the record really only meant one thing to her.

"It was awesome to run that time, but when I ran it, it wasn't like 'Oh you broke the record!'," she said. "It was more along the lines that I'm improving and moving in the right direction. Breaking the record isn't the first thing that goes through my mind."

Erickson added that she is just always trying to better her time and that it's just a bonus if she breaks a record.

But that doesn't mean Erickson doesn't enjoy getting a record, especially her latest one.

Lucky Huber, USD's head women's track and field coach, entered Erickson into the race with a time of 2:07, which caught her off guard.

"I was extremely nervous because of the level of competition and Lucky entered me in as 2:07, and I wanted to represent USD and not have people think 'why is she in this?'," she said. "I was thinking 2:09 and 2:06 wasn't in my mind. I was extremely happy and almost anything could've happened the rest of the meet and I still would've been ecstatic."

When thinking about when an athlete peaked, Erickson has since thought she may have reached her best time with her new record, but it wasn't the first time she has thought that.

"Lucky will probably kill me for saying this, but 2:06 might be my personal best, and to go lower than that would be awesome," she said.

"But I remember running a 2:10 as a freshman and it hurt so bad, and Lucky was just saying 'Now let's get it down to 2:09' and I just thought that was crazy," she said with a laugh.

Now it seems the 'crazy' standard for Erickson has been lowered to about 2:06, and she still has a year and a half to go lower.

Tanager comeback versus Pine Ridge falls short

By Parker Knox
Sportswriter

If only this. If only that.

Monday's boys basketball home finale was another of those games where the Vermillion Tanagers, in position in the fourth quarter to pull out a victory, were unable to do so because of what they hadn't done an hour earlier.

If only the Tanagers had been able to make just one more of their numerous first-half shots drop, including a handful of layups that wouldn't climb up over the rim or, if they did, kept going and dropped down the other side of the basket.

If only the Tanagers had been able to slow up, just once, Pine Ridge's notorious fast-break transition offense which beat Vermillion back to the other end several times.

Pine Ridge escaped the VHS gym with a 56-55 win after leading by as many as 12 points just before halftime.

The Tanagers, now 5-14, close their regular season Friday night at Canton. The C-Hawks were 5-13 at the start of this week and had won three of their last four contests.

Vermillion then waits till next Thursday to open District 8A play as the No. 4 seed on the home court of the top seed, which could be Elk Point-Jef-

erson or Dakota Valley. Thursday's winners will play for the district crown Saturday, March 6.

"The frustrating thing tonight was that, for whatever reason, we weren't ready to play," said Coach Jay Drake in a post-game interview after the Pine Ridge loss, "and that's my fault."

Pine Ridge had a warm 55 percent shooting game, but part of that can be attributed to the fact that so many of their shots were dead-on fast-break layups. The Thorpes sank 20 of their 31 two-point attempts and added four three-pointers. Meanwhile, the Tanagers fired up 20 three-point tries, hitting on only six, and finished with a 43 percent average.

Drake said in his post-game interview that, even in the third period, after his team got back into it, that he sensed his boys weren't playing with the intensity required in a match against a team like Pine Ridge.

Another factor in Pine Ridge's rolling to a lead that reached 29-17 at one point was the fact that the Thorpes dominated the boards at Vermillion's end of the basket. The Thorpes rescued 19 of the 22 available rebounds off the Tanager backboards. Vermillion did a better job off the Pine Ridge basket, grabbing 13 rebounds to the Thorpes' nine.

A 10-2 Vermillion run out of halftime reduced a 29-22 deficit to 31-30. Aaron Steele fed Cole Andre for a three-point basket, and Austin Krier canned a three from the deep left corner to tie the game at 36-36.

Pine Ridge went back up by seven twice through the first half of the fourth period, but an Andre three-pointer at the 4:05 mark, Kyle Freidel's steal and drive that resulted in two free throws at the 3:38, and a Jason Rasmussen free throw with 2:51 to play brought the Tanagers back to within 50-49.

With his team down by three again, Freidel swished two more free throws at 1:44. His steal and layup with 1:07 left gave Vermillion its first lead of the game, 53-52. But a spinning baseline drive by the Thorpes' Brad Hussmann restored his team's lead.

Freidel again took charge, drove the lane for what appeared to be another take-the-lead basket, but the official's call was an offensive foul, wiping out the basket. The Tanagers then fouled twice to get Pine Ridge to the stripe, and Ori Brown sank two with 27 seconds remaining.

Twice in the closing seconds Vermillion missed three-point shots that would have tied the score. Freidel rebounded the latter of those tries, and his

put-back left the Tanagers one point shy as time expired.

Freidel finished with 18 points, three assists and four rebounds. Andre had 11 points, six boards and three assists. Krier scored 10, Steele seven, Tyler Husby six and Rasmussen three with four rebounds.

Last Thursday Madison's defending state "A" champs, after leading Vermillion by 40-29 at halftime, had only a five-point lead over the Tanagers with 4:30 left in the game, but the Bulldogs exploded to score on their next five possessions to blow open the contest again and won by 72-57.

"This was a great effort on our kids' part," Drake commented.

Offensive rebounds were a challenge for the Tanagers, who snared only four of 20 rebound chances off their own boards. They had a 14-11 advantage off Madison's board.

The Freidel-Andre tandem produced again as they must do in order for the Tanagers to be competitive. Freidel had 19 points, eight rebounds, two steals and three assists while Andre had 18 points and three assists. Steele and Rasmussen had six points each, Husby four, Krier two and Sam Ekstrom two.

Derrick Wiebe had 18, Mitch White 18 and Michael Sullivan 13 for Madison.

THIS WEEK IN VERMILLION CITY POOL LEAGUE

By Joe "MOJO" Reiser

Hello again folks. I think I have been feeling a thaw in our long winter. Mind you, this is no time to hold my breath and wonder where the 65 degree weather is. It is however, a time to talk about the 9Ball league.

Here are the standings as of Week 15:

- 1) Maya Janes 2 248-127.66.1 percent.
- 2) Whimps 195-105.65 percent.
- 3) Char 1 210-140.60 percent.
- 4) Leos 1 192-158.54.9 percent.
- 5) Char 2 176-149.54.2 percent.
- 6) Varsity 197-178.52.5 percent.
- 7) Maya Janes 1 195-180.52 percent.
- 8) Leos 3 183-192.48.8 percent.
- 9) Eagles 1 158-167.48.6 per-

- cent.
- 10) Careys 1 182-193.48.5 percent.
- 11) Eagles 2 181-194.48.3 percent.
- 12) Leos 2 180-195.48 percent.
- 13) Leos 4 171-204.45.6 percent.
- 14) Varsity 2 146-179.44.9 percent.
- 15) Bunyans 1 156-194.44.6 percent.
- 16) Maya Janes 3 162-213.43.2 percent.
- 17) Bunyans 2 154-246.38.5 percent.
- 18) Careys 2 114-186.38 percent.

As you can see the top dogs stay the same as Maya Janes 2 and Whimps are vying for top honors. Other honors needing our attention are as follows, for going 5-0 the "Gold Star" performers of the week salutes Glenn Mac of the Whimps White

Gloves and Wade "True Blue" Mount of the Varsity Lettermen.

One person was left under the "Bottom of the Barrel" for going 0-5 and that was Grant Sjaarda of the Eagles. Kurt Kuiper of Leos 4 and Ben Boskie of Careys 1 were the only two people that made a 9Ball Break. Congrats to the peeps that set themselves apart.

Let's take a look at the matches and see how our players fared. At Leos it was the Varsity Lettermen lead by Wade "True Blue" Mount and his 5-0 night taking down Leos 1. Rian Merrigan helped the Lettermen with a 4-1 night in a 16-9 upset road win. Four of the Leos 1 shooters were a sub-par 2-3 for the night.

In another clash at Leos it was Leos 2 with a 15-10 besting of the Eagles 1 High Pliers. Mike Hekrdle lead the way for Leos 2 with four wins and got three important wins from each of the

cues of Jami Baedke, Danny Doty and Jeff "Fleet" Gilbertson. Team "Viagra" was lead by Larry Edwards with four wins and "Downtown" Dick Brown who was a three game winner.

Leos 3 took the trek to Burbank and wound up on the short side of a 15-10 contest with the Whimps "White Gloves." Glenn Mac was 5-0 for Whimps and got four wins from Rob Leetbieter. Cam Nettetstadt was the lone three game winner for Leos 3. Maya Janes 3 held home court and delivered a 14-11 beating to Bunyans 2. Adam Hasse earned top shooter honors with four wins and was assisted by three wins from Alex and Rob. Johnny Gregg and Dan "Semi" Semmler lead the way for Bunyans 2 with three wins each.

For more on the City Pool League Happenings, check online at www.plaintalk.net

EP-J defeats Tanagers 48-37 in district semi-finals

By Parker Knox
Sportswriter

The first time Vermillion played District 8A's top seed, Elk Point-Jefferson, a month ago, the Tanagers were able to keep the Huskies' ace, Chrissy Strassburg, comparatively in check, and EP-J escaped the VHS gym with a two-point win.

But Tuesday night when it mattered a great deal more, Strassburg was a one-woman wrecking crew, and, worse yet, she had help.

Having earned the right to play the girls basketball district semifinals on their home court, the Huskies defeated the Tanagers, 48-37, to advance to last night's championship game against Dakota Valley, which had to rally in the second half to avoid Beresford, 36-32.

Coach Nick Mayer's Tanager girls came ready to play and were still in a 12-12 tie after the first quarter. EP-J gained a slight advantage in the second period to take a 21-17 lead into halftime.

But Strassburg and teammate Reanna Bertram bombarded the Tanagers with a total of seven three-point artillery shells. Strassburg sank four of her eight three-point tries and finished with 25 points as well as 10 rebounds. Bertram had 13 points, including three successful long-range shots.

Sierra Allen had 11 points and seven rebounds to lead her team in both categories in her last game as a Tanager.

er. Lexi Regnerus, one of seven sophomores on Mayer's roster, also had 11 points.

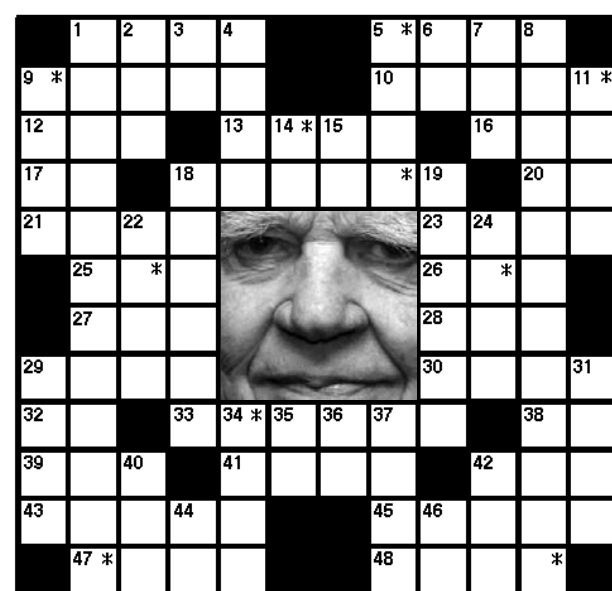
Besides Allen, Mayer's program will lose four other players to graduation, including Sarah Day, Hannah Nehlich-Arobba, Sophie Nehlich-Arobba and Kayla Munger. From the current varsity roster the seven sophomores and two current juniors will form the nucleus of next winter's team. Several of them as junior varsity players this season have had an outstanding season, providing hope for the 2010-11 campaign.

This year's varsity finished with a record of 4-16. The Tanagers whipped Tea Area in December, then won their other three games over a 10-day, four-game span in late January, taking down Canton, Dell Rapids and West Central. Among their 16 defeats were an overtime loss by four points, a two-point defeat and a one-point loss.

LEAGUE BOWLING

Bantam Prep League February 7, 2010			Ladies National League February 16, 2010		
Team Name	Won	Lost	Team Name	Won	Lost
Bowling Girls	37	15.0	Aramark	129.5	78.5
The Lucky Strikers	32	20.0	Lamie's Cleaning	126.0	82.0
Super Strikers	29	23.0	Team BK	118.0	91.0
Bowling Queens	27	25.0	Pace's	85.0	124.0
Bowling Buddies	26	26.0	Whimp's	84.5	121.5
Turkey Hunters	23	29.0	Market Street	82.0	128.0
Mizzou	22	30.0			
Team 8	11	34.0			
High Scr. Game-Team	Score		High Scr. Game-Team	Score	
Team 8	431		Aramark	630	
The Lucky Strikers	395		Whimp's	566	
Super Strikers	392		Team BK	566	
High Scr. Game Boys	Score		High Scr. Game	Score	
Collin Lovejoy	155		Judy Barta	181	
Bryson Turner	134		Traci Bartekoske	174	
Sam Craig	133		Sandy Marker	173	
High Scr. Game Girls	Score		Dorothy Wright	172	
Katie Kost	130		Angela Miller	171	
Kayla Stammer	122		High Scr. Series-Team	Score	
Alex Carr	84		Aramark	1800	
High Scr. Series-Team	Score		Team BK	1636	
Super Strikers	1122		Whimp's	1623	
The Lucky Strikers	1110		High Scr. Series	Score	
Turkey Hunters	1067		Sandy Marker	503	
High Scr. Series Boys	Score		Traci Bartekoske	502	
Sam Craig	363		Daris Labahn	497	
Collin Lovejoy	352		Angela Miller	491	
Rylan Craig	313		Amy Richardson	465	
High Scr. Series Girls	Score				

TV CROSSWORD



The identity of the featured celebrity is found within the answers in the puzzle. In order to take the TV Challenge, unscramble the letters noted with asterisks within the puzzle.

- ACROSS**
- Actor on "CSI"
 - Some batteries, for short
 - Half of MC
 - Ward
 - Alan-___; character in "Robin Hood"
 - Western actor Calhoun
 - Prefix for sung or done
 - Sit up?
 - "48 ___"
 - Surrounded by
 - Actress Campbell
 - "The Wizard of Oz" role
 - Setting for "Evening Shade"; abbr.
 - Series for Stana Katic
 - "___ Stacey" (1995-97)
 - "Win, ___ or Draw" (1999-2005)
 - Highest rating (hyph.)
 - Grant and Breneman
 - Liz Taylor's third
 - "Wanted: ___ or Alive"
 - Initials for actor Langham
 - Setting for "Men in Trees"; abbr.
 - 2001-07 series about a Southern soccer mom
 - Board thickness
 - Prefix for function or nutrition
 - Actor Penn's initials
 - "___ Man River"
- ANDY KOONEY SOLUTION**
1. CSI: Miami actor (2)

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