

## Tanager boys hit the road for Harrisburg

By Parker Knox  
Sportswriter

Vermillion's boys basketballers hit the road for the last time in the regular season tonight, heading to Harrisburg with their hopes for a share of the Big 8 Conference championship.

The Tanagers, who began this week with a 10-5 record, would have to beat Harrisburg and then turn the tables on Madison in Vermillion next Thursday in order to tie the Bulldogs for the conference crown. The Tanagers will also be home Tuesday against Wagner as part of a girls-boys doubleheader.

At Madison Coach Jay Drake's charges trailed the Bulldogs by 20-12 after a quarter but were still within 28-24 at halftime. The Bulldogs scored 28 points to the Tanagers' six in that period.

Madison shot 47 percent from the field, while the Tanagers connected on only two of 14 from long distance. From the field in all Vermillion shot 30 percent, making 15 of 50.

Austin Krier with 13 points and Nick Jensen with 11 led Tanager scoring. Tanner Anderson added eight points, Jayce Huska seven, J.T. Sorensen five and Tanner Settles two.

Of the Tanagers' 26 rebounds, Sorensen accounted for seven while Settles, Jensen and Krier had four each. Settles had a team-high three assists and two steals as well.

# VHS girls victorious over Warriors

By Parker Knox  
Sportswriter

The regular season for Vermillion's girls basketball team has dwindled down to the final two games prior to tournament time.

The Tanagers will be at Harrisburg tonight (Friday) to wind up their Big 8 Conference schedule, then will be at home Tuesday against Wagner. District 8A semifinal play begins the following Tuesday, Feb. 19.

When this week began, Coach Nick Mayer's girls stood at 9-7 and were still in a battle with Dakota Valley (9-7) and Elk Point-Jefferson (10-6) to determine who would be the No. 2 seed in the district. It likely doesn't matter too much if a team finishes No. 2 or No. 3, but the team that is fourth seed has to start tourney play at Beresford against the top-seeded Watchdogs, who were 13-3 through last weekend.

So far as Big 8 play is concerned, Vermillion was 2-4 heading into last night's game at West Central and tonight's finale against Harrisburg. The powerful Harrisburg team has the league title sewn up with a 7-0 conference record.

Last week the Tanagers rebounded from their Tuesday loss at Beresford with a 48-37 victory over Sergeant Bluff-Luton at the VHS gym.

Vermillion took a 3-2 lead early and never trailed after that, holding a 14-9 advantage after one quarter. SB-L got to within two points once in the second period, but the Tanagers led at the half, 27-18, and maintained a lead of from five to 11 points through the second half, matching points with the visitors.

There's no doubt where the Tanagers won the game. It was at the free-throw line where they sank 17 of 20 attempts, including five of five by Josie Huber and six of seven by Blair Gilkyson. Sergeant Bluff-Luton, on the other hand, made only seven of its 14 free-throws.

Josie Huber had 18 points in all, including three three-point field goals in addition to her five free throws and two two-pointers. Gilkyson and Brooke Schwasinger had 10 points each, Mackenzie Huber six, Courtney Johnson two and Allison Heine two.

The Tanagers shot 39 percent from the field.



Vermillion's Brooke Schwasinger (15) drives toward the basket past Warrior defender Miles Ludwigs. (Photo by David Lias)

## VAST takes second place at Snowfox Winter Meet

This year, swimmers with the Vermillion Area Swim Team are setting records and enjoying great achievements as the season progresses.

Last weekend, the team took second place at the Snowfox Winter Classic Meet in Sioux Falls, bringing home 18 first places in various events during the three-day meet. In an extremely exciting race, Vermillion's Maddie Lavin, age 12, won the 200-yard Butterfly, lowering her state record in that event by 1.35 seconds. When high point awards were announced in each age group at the end of the meet, VAST's Maddie Lavin, Lexie Malimanek, and Madisen Martinez were all tied for top honors, making them the 14 and Under High Point Co-Champions for the meet.

First place winners at the Snowfox meet included: 14 and Under Division - Lexie Malimanek in the 1000 Freestyle; Madisen Martinez in the 200 Freestyle, 100 Freestyle, 100 Breast, and 50 Freestyle; and Maddie Lavin in the 500 Freestyle, 200 IM, and 200 Butterfly.

In the 9-10 age division, Annika Holdhusen took first

place in the 100 Backstroke, 100 IM, and 50 Backstroke. Megan Muriuki took the first place slot in the 50 Freestyle and Hunter Lavin beat out competitors for top honors in the 200 Freestyle and the 100 Breaststroke.

In the 6 and Under age division, VAST top winners included Kristy Muriuki in the 25 Breaststroke and 25 Freestyle event, Rebekah Sharples-Schmidt in the 100 Freestyle, and Andrew Sharples-Schmidt in the 100 Freestyle.

The Snowfox Winter Classic Meet draws some of the area's fastest swimmers and is a highly competitive meet, according to VAST Head Coach Mike Moran. He is extremely pleased with the performances of the 18 VAST swimmers who attended the meet.

"The entire weekend was a lot fun," he said. "It was great to see all of our kids improve throughout the three day meet. Some kids took big steps in the right direction this weekend and have set themselves up well for the end of the year. To finish in second place overall at this meet

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## 2 VHS grapplers claim championships

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Vermillion wrestlers won two individual championships and had four runners-up spots in the Big 8 Conference tournament at Hartford Saturday.

Along with one third-place man and another in fourth, the Tanagers accumulated 132.5 points to place third in the five-team tournament. West Central won it all with 210 points, Madison had 162, Harrisburg 128.5 and Lennox 90.

Vermillion closes the regular season tonight (Friday) at home in a dual against Elk Point-Jefferson. That sets the stage for the Region 2A Tournament hosted by Sioux Falls Lincoln next Thursday and Friday, Feb. 14-15. There a wrestler has to place at least fourth in his weight class to advance to the state tournament in Watertown on Feb. 22-23.

At the Big 8 meet Regan Bye improved his record to 31-4 with a championship at 145 pounds. After a first-round bye, he won by technical fall, 23-8 at the 3:53 mark, over Jake Anderson, West Central,

in the semifinals, then pinned Madison's Wyatt Fender in 5:53 in the finals.

Moments later Brett Bye captured the 152-pound title with a 1:12 pin over Madison's Tyler Guthmiller. Earlier in the day, Bye, who is now 32-1, had pinned Brendon Van Rosendale, Lennox, in 2:48, in the quarterfinals and did the same to West Central's Christian Witt in 2:57 in the semis.

Kyle Seibel at 106 pounds with a pair of decisions reached the championship match before losing to top-seeded Austin Ideker, West Central, on a pin in 2:50. Seibel earlier had beaten West Central's Devon Garry, 6-2, and Harrisburg's Nick Schirado, 8-4.

Jacob Husby at 113 was also a runner-up. He had a first-round bye, won 7-5 in the semis over Wesley Weischedel, Lennox, and lost in the finals to Tayt Boeckholdt, West Central, on a 1:24 pin.

Carter Kratz had an impressive day at 138 pounds where he started with a pair of pins---in 1:11 over Micash Hierholzer, Harrisburg, and in 5:48 over Brendon Waldron, Madison, in the semis.

Waldron had come into the tourney with a 19-4 record. In the finals Kratz took top-seeded Cole Tirrel, West Central, the distance in an 11-5 loss. Tirrel is now 26-4.

In the 182-pound division Seth Heine started fast, taking 44 seconds to pin Madison's Luke Palmquist. A win by forfeit advanced Heine to the finals where he lost to Madison's Tyler Currey (31-5) in 3:16 to finish second.

Vermillion's third-place wrestler was Brandon Hertz at 160. He pinned Alex Klein, West Central, in 1:15; lost by pin in 5:30 to Michael McComish, Madison; won 13-5 over Jackson Jones, Madison, then won the third-place match over Klein, 9-1.

Alex Osborne earned fourth-place honors at 170. After a first-round bye and a 5-3 loss to Madison's Tyler Heeren in the semifinals, Osborne pinned Trevor Hoadley, Madison, in 4:05, and lost a tough 12-11 match to Nate Guthmiller, Madison, in the third-place contest.

Other VHS wrestlers:

- 106, Brett Culver: Lost by pin, 3:23 to champion Austin

Ideker, West Central; won by pin, 4:46, over Jerred Hodges, Madison; lost 12-4 to Nick Schirado, Harrisburg.

- 120, Mason Pickett: Lost by pin, 1:58, to Peyton Webster, West Central; decisioned Caleb Deist, Harrisburg, 5-2; lost by pin, 3:38, to Lane Schruers, Harrisburg.

- 126, Noah Waldner: First-round bye; lost by pin, 1:51, to champion Jonah Rechtenbaugh, West Central; lost by pin, 3:48, to Riley Hollander, West Central.

- 195, Noah Westergaard: Lost by pin, 2:36, to Chris Stokke, Lennox; lost by pin, 1:33, to Dexter Nowstrup, Madison.

- 220, Zach Westergaard: Lost by pin, 1:57, to Sam Mettiev, Lennox; won 4-2 over Braxton Steffen, Madison; lost by pin, 1:39, to John Blue, West Central.

Last week in a triangular the Tanagers lost to Beresford, 48-36; lost to Sioux Falls Lincoln, 60-18, and defeated Dakota Valley, 54-30.

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**NOTICE OF ANNUAL MEETING**

**Farm Mutual Insurance Company of Clay County**

The Annual Meeting of the Farm Mutual Insurance Company of Clay County will be held at the Vermillion City Hall, 25 Center St., in Vermillion, SD, at 1:30 p.m. on **Wednesday, February 13, 2013**

Hearing of reports, director elections, changes in the by-laws will be discussed, and any other business that may come properly before the assembly.

By the order of the Board of Directors dated the 26th day of January, 2013.

- John Aden, President
- Mark Donnelly, Secretary

**Cookies & Coffee will be served. Door prizes given.**

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