



Vermillion youth wrestlers start season

Eight members of the Vermillion youth wrestling program participated in the Beresford Throw Down at the Dog Pound tournament held on Jan. 2. All of the boys wrestled well with several top finishes. The program has over 40 youth wrestlers that practice twice a week and participates in tournaments all over South Dakota, Minnesota, Iowa and Nebraska. Pictured are Carter Kratz, second place; Jack Kratz, first place; Luke Anglin, first place; and Brody Surrell, second place. Other wrestlers participating that day were Kyle Seibel, Carter Mart, Mason Pickett and Jake Husby.

Tanager girls record first season win

By Parker Knox
Sportswriter

Vermillion recorded its first victory of the girls' basketball season during the holiday break, winning at Tea Area by a 33-11 score.

The Tanagers were also on the road at Winner's Snowball Classic, losing to the host Warriors, 59-32. Vermillion thus took a 1-3 record to Sioux City East for a game this past Tuesday.

Coach Nick Mayer's ladies will be part of a girls-boys doubleheader at Parkston Friday night before playing at home for the first time this season next Tuesday against Madison. The Tanagers will also be home Thursday against Lennox.

"It was a great feeling to get our first win," Mayer said. "The kids played hard and executed our game plan to perfection."

Sierra Allen had seven points, six rebounds and three assists. Sophie Nehlich-Arobba contributed six points. Kayla Munger picked off four boards while Lexi Regnerus had four steals and Morgan Erickson three steals.

"Our defense was the key to this ballgame

as we caused Tea to turn the ball over 25 times and held them to only 11 points," Mayer added. "There are still things we need to sharpen up, but we are extremely pleased with the effort of our kids."

The Tanagers ran into a very tough foe at Winner. Allen again led the offense with 13 points along with six rebounds. Sophie Nehlich-Arobba pitched in with six points, two steals and four assists. Erickson and Regnerus scored four each, and Hannah Nehlich-Arobba had two steals.

"I thought our kids handled their pressure very well, and we played very hard on the defensive end," Mayer observed. "We will continue to improve on the offensive end and keep getting better with every game we play."

After a 10-day layoff following their season opener, the Lady Tanagers went to Madison on Dec. 21 and lost 61-35, facing a top-10 team that picked that night to shoot at a 55 percent clip.

Vermillion's opponent this Friday at Parkston was rated No. 1 in the state in last week's Class "A" poll.

Coyote women drop road contest at Iowa State

Iowa State shot 56 percent in the first half and went on to defeat The University of South Dakota women's basketball team, 68-43, in a non-conference game Tuesday night in Ames, IA.

The Cyclones (12-1), a Big 12 power which was in the NCAA Elite 8 in 2008-09, won their 11th straight game, while the Coyotes fell to 5-6 on the season.

USD was led by Abby Kinder (Jr., Granger, IN), who had 12 points and five rebounds. Amber Hegge (So., Crofton, NE) added eight points, while Jasmine Mosley (Sr., Bellevue, NE) had seven.

The first half proved to be the difference in the game as Iowa State hit 14-of-25 field goal attempts, while USD hit just 6-of-25 (24 percent). The Cyclones shot 66.7 percent from three-point range as well on their way to a 41-19 halftime lead.

USD took an early 2-0 lead 41 seconds into the game, after two free throws by Mosley, but Iowa State followed with a 17-0 run over the next eight minutes to

take a 15-2 lead.

The Coyotes started out ice cold from the field, missing their first nine field goal attempts before Hegge hit a basket with 10:37 left in the half to bring the Coyotes within 17-4.

The Cyclones started heating up from outside as Denae Stuckey and Kelsey Bolte hit three-pointers to push the lead to 23-4. Iowa State hit 6-of-9 three-point attempts in building a 22-point advantage.

The play of freshman Sam Mehr (Fr., Apple Valley) was a bright spot in the first half for the Coyotes as she contributed five points off the bench, hitting 2-of-2 field goals. Kinder led with six points, while Hegge and Mosley had four each.

USD enjoyed a better offensive second half, nearly playing the Cyclones even over the final 20 minutes (Iowa State outscored the Coyotes 27-24 in the second half). The Coyotes fell behind 44-19 early in the second frame after an Anna Prins three-pointer but cut the lead

to 49-32 with 13:01 left after a Hegge layup. That was part of a 13-5 Coyote run.

USD opened the second half by hitting seven of its first 15 field goal attempts and were within 18 with 6:14 left before Iowa State pulled away.

Mehr and Annie Roche (So., Vermillion) each had five points each. Kara Iverson (Sr., Yankton) had four rebounds, two blocks and three assists. Hegge had two steals. Kinder finished 4-of-8 from three-point range.

The Coyotes will play host to Seattle University at 1 p.m. on Jan. 10. It is USD's first home game since Dec. 20.

Hot Springs champs at Winter Wonderland tourney

By Parker Knox
Sportswriter

Hot Springs won the team championship, and the host Vermillion team placed two athletes among the top 10 in the all-around standings when VHS hosted its annual Winter Wonderland gymnastics tournament Dec. 29.

The top six teams were bunched together within a spread of only 5.5 points in the final team standings. Behind Hot Springs' winning 125.7 were Britton/Hecla 124.35, Chamberlain 123.7, Wagner 122.65, Milbank 121.65 and Stanley County 120.2. The Tanagers placed seventh with 116.6 points, and West Central was eighth at 101.93.

Carlie Weiss of Hot Springs was the all-around champion with a 34.25 score, just .9 better than Stanley County's Shelby Gienger. Vermillion's Ely Melby was fifth at 32.4, and Amber Walker of the Tanagers was eighth at 31.6.

Weiss was the champion in the vault and bars events. Milbank's Mary Lenards was the champion on the balance beam, and a trio of gymnasts—Gienger, Sarah Claeys of Britton/Hecla and Brittini Kirkpatrick of Chamberlain—tied for first in floor exercise.

Melby was second to Weiss in the vault with an 8.95 score to Weiss' 9.1. Melby also placed fifth in floor exercise at 8.55 and tied for seventh on the bars at 7.7.

Walker's best placing was a seventh on the beam at 7.5.

"We were pleased with the girls' performance," Coach Mark Upward said. "We're still shooting ourselves in the foot on the beam, but we're getting better."

Fans who enjoy watching gymnasts perform should mark down next Tuesday, Jan. 12, on their calendars. Madison, which has



Vermillion's Ely Melby placed fifth at Dec. 29's Winter Wonderland tournament in Vermillion with a score of 32.4. (Photo by David Lias)

won the Class "A" state championship for 15 straight years, will bring its team to Vermillion for a dual with the Tanagers starting at 6 p.m.

Before that, the Tanagers take their varsity and JV gymnasts to Hartford for a dual with West Central Friday night. Then the varsity girls go on to Fort Pierre for Stanley County's invitational tournament the following day.

Tanagers defeat Tea Area 57-47

By Parker Knox
Sportswriter

Seven different men scored, paced by the one-two tandem of Kylan Freidel and Cole Andre with 35 points between them, as Vermillion dealt Tea Area a 57-47 defeat Dec. 29.

The Tanagers' third win of the year saw them move out to a 28-19 halftime lead and maintain that margin into the final period. Then a four-minute cold stretch allowed the Titans to creep back to within three points with another possession coming, but the Tanagers regrouped and survived to build up their lead to 10 again.

Freidel's all-around performance left little to be desired. He had 19 points, six rebounds, six assists and two steals. Andre's 16-point game included four successful three-point shots, and he also assisted on four others' baskets and grabbed three rebounds.

Jason Rasmussen had seven points and led the rebounders with seven, six of them off the defensive board. He had two steals and two assists. Aaron Steele contributed five points, four boards, two steals and two assists.

Freshman Austin Krier had a pair of treys for six points. Tyler Husby and Sam Ekstrom had two points each to finish off the VHS scoring.

Vermillion shot at a 47 percent clip from the field and was 7-of-16 in three-

point attempts.

Winner's Warriors may not have expected a tough game from the Tanagers, but they got one at their own Snowball Classic last Saturday. The Tanagers, though trailing by 10 at halftime, rallied back to within two points twice early in the final period and were still within four with 30 seconds left in the game.

A 9-0 Warrior run late in the first half enabled the home team to gain a comfort zone which lasted until late in the third stanza when a 10-4 Tanager outburst got VHS back to within six at 33-27 heading into the final period.

Baskets by Andre and Rasmussen got the Tanagers to within 33-31. Moments later a Freidel basket again cut Winner's lead to two. Over the next five minutes the teams exchanged baskets. Four times Winner upped its lead to seven, and each time the Tanagers had an answer.

When Andre hit a clutch three-pointer at the 0:30

mark, the deficit was only 46-42, but Winner was able to add a pair of free throws and then a meaningless three-pointer at the final buzzer which left the final margin at a somewhat deceiving eight-point margin.

Vermillion's offense was led by Andre's 15 points. Rasmussen had nine, Freidel eight, Husby four, Steele four and Krier two. Tanner Anderson also saw action.

The Tanagers attempted only four free throws all night, making three of them. Winner had a 33-20 rebounding edge against the shorter Tanagers. Rasmussen and Freidel with six each led the VHS rebounders, and Rasmussen picked off three steals.

The Winner game matched Tanagers' head coach Jay Drake against the team coached by his father, Jim.

After playing at West Central last night (Thursday), the Tanagers, now 3-2, go to Parkston for a girls-boys doubleheader Friday.

LEAGUE BOWLING

Bantam Prep League December 13, 2009			Team BK		
Team Name	Won	Lost	Whimp's	Score	568
Bowling Girls	25.0	7.0	Darlis Labahn	Score	538
Super Strikers	20.0	12.0	High Scr. Game	Score	180
The Lucky Strikers	18.0	14.0	Tiffany Moore	Score	174
Turkey Hunters	18.0	14.0	Judy Barta	Score	173
Bowling Buddies	17.0	15.0	Sandy Marker	Score	169
Mizzou	12.0	20.0	Dawna Andersen	Score	159
Bowling Queens	11.0	21.0	High Scr. Series-Team	Score	1832
Team 8	6.0	19.0	Aramark	Score	1619
High Scr. Game-Team	Score		Whimp's	Score	1585
Super Strikers	507		Team BK	Score	1505
The Lucky Strikers	371		High Scr. Series	Score	485
Turkey Hunters	364		Tiffany Moore	Score	485
High Scr. Game Boys	Score		Sandy Marker	Score	484
Logan Peterson	138		Darlis Labahn	Score	479
Ryan Brunick	136		Judy Barta	Score	444
Braiden Tucker	126		Dawna Andersen	Score	444
High Scr. Game Girls	Score		Ladies National League December 15, 2009		
Kayla Stammer	123		Team Name	Won	Lost
Katie Kost	107		Lamie's Cleaning	249.0	198.0
Sharrie Stammer	92		Team BK	243.0	203.0
High Scr. Series-Team	Score		Market Street	241.0	207.0
Super Strikers	1337		Whimp's	214.0	235.0
The Lucky Strikers	1017		Aramark	199.5	247.5
Turkey Hunters	1000		Pace's	196.5	253.5
High Scr. Series Boys	Score		High Scr. Game-Team	Score	
Logan Peterson	390		Aramark	Score	571
Bradyn Rusher	332		Team BK	Score	561
Ryan Brunick	316		Market Street	Score	559
High Scr. Series Girls	Score		High Scr. Game	Score	
Kayla Stammer	306		Traci Bartkoske	Score	171
Sharrie Stammer	250		Marion Sprecher	Score	171
Alex Carr	245		Sandy Marker	Score	170
Ladies National League December 8, 2009			Marilynne Kaiser	Score	169
Team Name	Won	Lost	Angela Miller	Score	160
Lamie's Cleaning	234.0	183.0	High Scr. Series-Team	Score	1618
Market Street	226.0	192.0	Aramark	Score	1612
Team BK	216.0	200.0	Team BK	Score	1550
Whimp's	199.0	220.0	Whimp's	Score	464
Aramark	196.5	220.5	High Scr. Series	Score	464
Pace's	181.5	238.5	Sandy Marker	Score	451
High Scr. Game-Team	Score		Traci Bartkoske	Score	448
Aramark	629		Marilynne Kaiser	Score	446
			Mary Mock	Score	446
			Angela Miller	Score	445

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