

# Milbank takes Winter Wonderland; Wagner third

Led by medalist Courtney Trapp, the Milbank Bulldogs claimed top honors at the Winter Wonderland gymnastics meet on Saturday at the Vermillion High School gym.

Milbank finished at 127.2, beating out Chamberlain (124.85) and Wagner (119.85) in the 10-team event. Host Vermillion finished seventh at 117.4.

Trapp posted an all-around score of 36.2, also claiming top honors on the floor exercise (9.3), balance beam (9.2) and uneven parallel bars (9.1). Chamberlain's Vanzi Knipping won the vault with an 8.9.

Wagner's Hannah Fleming finished fourth in the all-around with a 32.15.

TEAM SCORES: Milbank 127.2, Chamberlain 124.85, Wagner 119.85, Sisseton 119.2, Stanley County 119.2, Sioux Falls Washington 118.2, Vermillion 117.4, Britton-Hecla 116.65, West Central 111.3, Wall-Kadoka 108.45

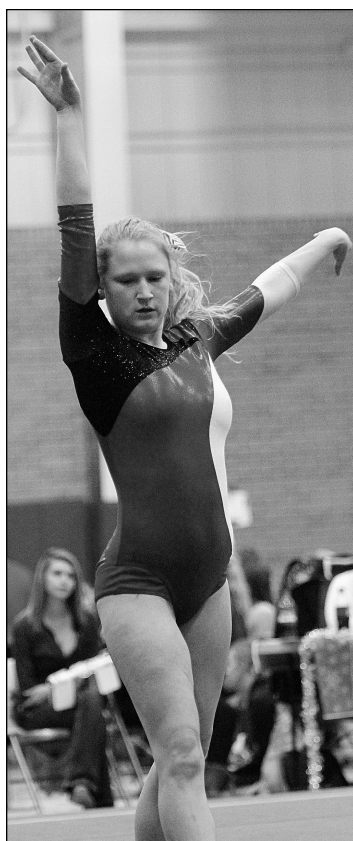
ALL-AROUND: Courtney Trapp, Milbank 36.2; Baylee Tordsen, Washington 34.25; Marilyn Nasomwat, Chamberlain 32.8; Hannah Fleming, Wagner 32.15; Vanzi Knipping, Chamberlain 31.8; Melissa Lenards, Milbank 31.25; Lexi Lopour, Stanley County 31; Libby Goertel, West Central 30.95; Katie Christopherson, Sisseton 30.75; Rachel Semmler, Washington 30.5  
BEAM: Courtney Trapp,

Milbank 9.2; Baylee Tordsen, Washington 8.75; Marilyn Nasomwat, Chamberlain 8.35; Katie Christopherson, Sisseton 8; Hannah Fleming, Wagner 7.9; Libby Goertel, West Central 7.6; Taryn Schneck, Milbank 7.35; Whitney Bredvik, Britton-Hecla 7.35; Olivia Carlson, Britton-Hecla 7.35; Rachel Semmler, Washington 7.25; Brittainy Schmitz, West Central 7.25

BARS: Courtney Trapp, Milbank 9.1; Marilyn Nasomwat, Chamberlain 8; Baylee Tordsen, Washington 7.95; Hannah Fleming, Wagner 7.9; Melissa Lenards, Milbank 7.9; Lexi Lopour, Stanley County 7.75; Rebecca Storhr, Milbank 7.7; Rachel Semmler, Washington 7.7; Kylie Dowell, Sisseton 7.65; Kylee Ligtenberg, Wagner 7.55

FLOOR: Courtney Trapp, Milbank 9.3; Vanzi Knipping, Chamberlain 9.1; Baylee Tordsen, Washington 8.95; Hailey Norman, Stanley County 8.75; Olivia Carlson, Britton-Hecla 8.45; Rory Tucker, Vermillion 8.45; Lexi Lopour, Stanley County 8.45; Melissa Lenards, Milbank 8.35; Lauren Kayl, Washington 8.35; Justine Soukup, Wagner 8.35; Kailee Rinas, Sisseton 8.35

VAULT: Vanzi Knipping, Chamberlain 8.9; Marilyn Nasomwat, Chamberlain 8.6; Melissa Lenards, Milbank 8.6; Courtney Trapp, Milbank 8.6; Baylee Tordsen, Washington 8.6; Bobbi Jo Soukup, Wagner



Vermillion's Rory Tucker competes in the floor exercises during the Winter Wonderland gymnastics meet on Saturday in Vermillion.

(Photo by David Lias)

8.45; Kylie Dowell, Sisseton 8.35; Amber Felicia, Chamberlain 8.3; Lexi Lopour, Stanley County 8.25; Kailee Rinas, Sisseton 8.25; Rachel Dion, Wagner 8.25

# Tanager girls defeat Tea Area 37-31 Friday night

By Parker Knox  
Sportswriter

By no means was it artistic, but the result was satisfying nevertheless as Vermillion's girls improved to 3-2 with a 37-31 victory at Tea Area Friday night.

A long scoreless spell in the second period and a 6-0 Titan run near halftime left Vermillion facing a 17-16 halftime deficit in the low-scoring contest. Fortunately for

the Tanagers, the winless Tea Area team was struggling offensively as well.

In the second half the Vermillion defense increased its intensity and level of play, too, as the team held its game-long turnover total to a mere eight errors. A field goal by Josie Huber, who shared game-high scoring honors at 15 points apiece with older sister Mackenzie, midway through the third period gave VHS a 20-19 lead after which the

Tanagers never trailed.

The 7-3 third quarter, after which Vermillion led 23-20, was followed by a 14-point Tanager surge in the final stanza. A field goal by Mackenzie Huber, a seven-point burst by Josie Huber and a Blair Gilkyson bucket gave the Tanagers some breathing room at 34-27, their biggest lead of the night.

Three of four from the free-throw line by Mackenzie Huber in the last 30 seconds kept Tea

# VHS boys' comeback not enough Friday

By Parker Knox  
Sportswriter

The Vermillion Tanagers lost their undefeated status but showed some grit and gumption in the process at Tea Friday night.

Down and seemingly out by a 17-point spread at halftime, the Tanagers crawled and clawed back to within two points twice in the fourth quarter before falling to Tea Area, 49-41.

It was the first loss in four games for the Tanagers, who, after going to West Central last night (Thursday), will be home in a girls-boys doubleheader against Parkston tonight (Friday). Vermillion will also be home Tuesday against Bon Homme.

Tea Area, which improved to 5-1 for the season, went on a 14-4 run in the first quarter to outdistance Vermillion by 17-8 at the break. The domination continued in the second period as the Titans scored 18 points to lead at the intermission by 35-18.

Tea Area's defense strangled the Vermillion offense in the first half as the Tanagers struggled mightily to get good shots at the hoop. At the same time the Titans beat the Tanagers down the floor numerous times. At halftime the outlook was gloomy indeed.

But it was a new Tanager team in the second half. The defense stepped up big-time, and as Tanager shots started to fall, that slowed down Tea Area's running game.

A 9-0 run to start the third

quarter was the impetus for the near-miracle rally. Three-point baskets by Austin Krier and Anthony Leber and a three-point play by J.T. Sorensen changed a 35-18 deficit to 35-27.

Surprisingly Sorensen and Nick Jensen would be the only Tanagers who would score for the remainder of the game. Sorensen had two more field goals in the third quarter after which Vermillion was still down by eight, 39-31.

While Tea Area could manage only a free throw, the Tanagers got a free throw from Sorensen and two field goals from Jensen. Then with 4:40 left Sorensen stole the ball and scored to cut the deficit to 40-38. After a Titan basket Sorensen fed Jensen for another field goal, and again Vermillion was down by only two at 42-40.

But in the final 3 1/2 minutes Tea's Connor Shaull scored a field goal and four late free throws while the Tanagers could muster only a free throw from Jensen at the 3:18 mark, and Vermillion could not score again.

Free-throw shooting is usually a Tanager strong point, but in this game it was costly as the team missed eight of 12 opportunities, and several of those were front ends of potential bonus situations.

Jensen had 11 points, Sorensen 10, Krier six, Leber five, Tanner Settles five and Jayce Huska four for VHS. Shaull had 14, Mitchell Nissen 14 and Riley Knutson nine for the Titans.

Area at bay and preserved the win. The Tanagers sank nine of 13 attempts from the stripe in the game, a major factor in a contest in which field goals were so difficult to come by.

Besides the 30-point total by the Huber sisters, Gilkyson, who played extensive minutes for the first time since returning from an injury, had three points, Courtney Johnson two and Brooke Schwasinger two. Crystal Zitterich led Tea Area with 10 points.

The Tanager girls missed their head coach, Nick Mayer, at Tea Area as he stayed home due to illness. Assistant coach J.J. Heyden handled the head coaching duties.

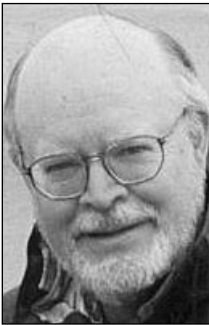
The VHS girls hosted Sioux Falls Christian last night (Thursday) and are back home tonight as part of a girls-boys doubleheader against Parkston. The girls resume conference play at Madison Tuesday and at home next Thursday against Lennox.

## OBITUARIES

### Charles Harrington

**SOUTH BEND, Ind.** — Charles D. "Chuck" Harrington died at sea on Dec. 21, 2012 while on a nature cruise in the Gulf of California. He is survived by his wife, Joyce; their children, Richard (Lisa) of St. Paul, MN, Theresa Brown (Doug) and Elizabeth (friend Jeff) of Portland, OR; a brother, Rodney (Ilga), of Waldoboro, ME; and three grandchildren.

Charles was born in Boulder, CO to Elbert and Marjory Harrington on Dec. 7, 1940; grew up in Vermillion;



HARRINGTON

He came to teach at Indiana University-South Bend in 1969, and taught there his entire career. He particularly liked teaching writing, the Romantic Period,

and nature and travel literatures. He always enjoyed his students.

Charles loved music and had a keen interest in politics. He was on the board of The Scholarship Foundation of St. Joseph County (IN). He delighted in nature and travel. He was enjoying both with Joyce when he died suddenly the last day of the cruise. There are few long happy marriages that both start and end with a delightful honeymoon trip. Charles and Joyce had one.

No services are planned at this time.

## Rep. Boomgarden thankful for thoughtful constituents

My final greetings to everyone as I complete my eighth year serving as a state legislator for District 17, Turner and Clay counties.

Many times I have stated that being a legislator was a wonderful learning experience and a great way to network and meet people that have been able to help me in many ways both professional and personal. The part of the legislature that I enjoyed the most was being able to resolve problems before even having to draw up any legislation. Believe me, if you can bring your concerns up to the secretary of the departments that handle those types of complaints, they will do whatever is possible to fix the problem before they have to face you and the other legislators in the committees. If they cannot help, then they will point you in the direction of who can help.

It is hard to believe eight years have gone by already. I remember being down in Vermillion, taking seven days off from work, to walk the concrete sidewalks going door to door campaigning. My hips/legs hurt so bad, partly due to wearing my farm boots rather than some comfortable tennis shoes. The part I remember back then the most, was this mafia looking guy who drove past me and seen me walking. He backed up his car, parked in the middle of the street, and came over and introduced himself to me. This person was no other than Jim Abbott, president of the University of South Dakota. At that time, he had no clue who I was, and my chances of winning back then were very slim.

However, this person, who I personally felt even to this day had more important things to do, took time from his schedule to stop and speak with me. He made me feel important and realize that running for the office was equally as important. For that I have the greatest admiration and respect for Jim Abbott and Vermillion is lucky to have such a person.

It goes as no surprise that Vermillion is pretty liberal in its political positioning, especially when it comes to education. It never fails that as Republicans, we

get pounded on pretty hard at cracker barrels or other political meetings. The one time I remember was during my first year in the legislature, we were at a meeting and Representative Donna Schafer and myself were under major fire for our positions/stance on issues. It was so bad that even Democratic Senator Ben Nesselhuf stepped in to help defend us. I still laugh about that to this day. Despite many people in Vermillion (and even Turner County) not sharing the same beliefs, we were still treated with respect. People voiced their opinions but were never trashing us with names or other degrading comments (at least not while I was present or close enough to hear anyway). For that I respected the cracker barrel process and attended as many as I could, even though I knew what I was in for every time I went to one.

As for Superintendent Mark Froke of Vermillion and Larry Johnke of Irene/Wakonda, I cannot say I voted in their favor more than 10 percent of the time at best, and neither was afraid to let me know it. Mr. Froke was never afraid to use my cell phone to call me and give me his opinion about what I should have or shouldn't have done. Both were very familiar with the legislative process and our limitations as legislators and both gave me their opinions and positions but most importantly they also gave me respectful comments when I voted against them. I will miss my interactions with Mr. Froke, and miss crashing the South Dakota Realtors Association meetings with him when they are serving the oyster stew next year.

My other thank you goes out

to all the newspapers in Turner and Clay counties, including Freeman, Sioux City and Yankton papers. In addition the Volante student newspaper from USD, in my opinion also deserves a big thank you. Any time I was ever interviewed for comments about certain current events or legislation, they never took me out of context and actually (in my opinion) made me sound much better than I actually felt I sounded or deserved. I never felt that I was being set up for a fall in my interviews, which was good, since I am the type who would have never done another interview had it happened. But my sincere "Thank You" to all the editors, staff and newspapers in our region.

In parting and my advice to the new legislators who attended SDSU be careful how you react to students down in Vermillion who make statements they are going to attend SDSU for college. I believe I was at a noon Lions meeting or city meeting, when all the candidates were up on the panel and listened to high school graduates state where they were going to school. When one of them said they were going to SDSU, I spontaneously yelled out, "Ya Hooo, Go Rabbits." Needless to say, the room got deafly quiet, and even my long time supporter David Lias from the Vermillion Plain Talk newspaper had to turn and sneak out of the room. The only thing I heard was Senator Nesselhuff, lean forward, laughing and said, "What did you sayyyy?" Needless to say I did not repeat it and it was never brought up again (at least in Vermillion). So new legislators don't repeat that

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### Greg Girard

Greg Alan Girard, 42, of Vermillion, died Dec. 25, 2012 at his residence.

Greg was born Sept. 30, 1970 in Vermillion to Leonard and Patricia (Ahrendt) Girard. He attended Vermillion High School graduating in 1989. He attended the University of South Dakota for two years and received his associates degree at Southeast Technical Institute in Sioux Falls. He was employed as a nuclear med. tech. with

DMS Imaging for 15 years.

He married Julie Roberts on March 2, 2001 in Las Vegas, NV.

He was preceded in death by his grandparents, Donald and Theresa Ahrendt and Francis and Evelyn Girard; and one uncle, Dennis Girard.

Survivors include his parents, Leonard and Patricia Girard of Vermillion; wife, Julie Girard, and sons, Jackson and Cooper, of Vermillion; brother, Mark Girard and sister, Roxane (Warren) Olson all of

Vermillion.

Funeral services were 10 a.m., Monday, Dec. 31, 2012 at St. Agnes Catholic Church in Vermillion, with Fr. John Fischer officiating. Burial followed in Bluffview Cemetery at Vermillion.

Visitation was Sunday, Dec. 30, 2012 from 6 to 7 p.m. with a scripture service beginning at 7 p.m. at the church.

For obituary and online condolences, visit [hansenfuneralhome.com](http://hansenfuneralhome.com)

### Thomas Jones

Thomas R. "Tom" Jones, 80, Stanberry, MO, passed away Monday, Dec. 24, at St. Luke's Hospital, Kansas City, MO with his sister, Gloria, and his niece, Pam, by his side.

Tom was born Feb. 24, 1932 to William R. and Goldie (Butler) Jones on the family farm in Vermillion.

He attended Star Prairie country grade school and was graduated from Vermillion High School. During his high school years, he and his brother, Bill, worked at the Evergreen gas station in Vermillion, as well as helped their father and neighbors farm.

The family moved to the present day Stanberry, MO farm in 1949, where Tom and Bill helped their father farm until they were inducted into the

Korean War.

Tom was stationed at Fort Ord, California while in the service.

Tom and Bill owned and operated the Sinclair gas station in Stanberry in the early 1960s. Then they formed the Jones Boys Construction Co. and began building Butler farm grain bins and buildings. Tom enjoyed visiting with his customers, who he always treated as friends. He always looked forward to participating in the Heart of America Tractor Cruise. Tom had a lot of fun collecting tractors throughout the past years, especially the older styles his father had used.

Tom was preceded in death by his parents; brother, Bill; brother-in-law, Mayo L. Carlson; and sister, Valeria.

Surviving are sister, Gloria E. Carlson and niece, Pamela J.

Carlson of the home; sister, Virginia M. (Dean) McCrea, King City, MO; niece, Dee Ann McCrea, Columbia, MO; Doug McCrea, King City; and great nieces, Megan McCrea, Madison McCrea; great nephews, Dylan McCrea and Cash McCrea; and close family friends, Dennis and Stacey Law and children, Haleigh and Justin.

Funeral services were 2 p.m. Friday, Dec. 28 at Roberson Funeral Home, King City, MO. Burial with military rites was in the High Ridge Cemetery, Stanberry, MO. The family received friends from 6 to 8 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 27. Memorials may be made to the Donor's Choice in care of Roberson Funeral Home, P.O. Box 153, King City, MO 64463. Online condolences may be left at [www.robersonfuneralhome.com](http://www.robersonfuneralhome.com).



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