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Who are the greatest athletes in the history of Vermillion? Who are the 'Legends' in your mind? Could it be a Tanager from Vermillion High School like Alicia Brown (above) or a University of South Dakota Coyote like Tyler Cain (right)? Well now you can make that call beginning Sunday as The Plain Talk looks to tell the stories of the greatest in Vermillion's history this summer.

FILE PHOTOS



# Who Are Your Legends?

By Alan Dale  
The Plain Talk

How much has come and gone in Vermillion over the years? So many moments in time and the people who drove them forward made themselves a part of the fabric of this historic town nestled in the womb of Clay County.

So many great instances of regalia and landmark encapsulations of what make this area

what it is.

These are times of legend.

With that in mind, The Plain Talk is about to bring a group of particular "Legends" home to you, the readers over the next few months.

Yes, 2015 marks the year that the "Legends Series" has been born in Vermillion as The Plain Talk embarks on a project we hope that will educate us on some of the greater

moments in time that helped shape this great place for more than a hundred years.

What does that mean? Well what it all adds up to is this: For the next few months, you – the readers, the people, the fans of Vermillion High School, University of South Dakota and other sports in the region – will decide who your "Legends" are.

We here at The Plain

Talk will only present the stories that you decide should be told.

How? Well let me explain.

Starting on Sunday, Feb. 1, sports fans in Vermillion will be able to nominate on an individual basis who they feel are the five greatest male and female athletes of all time are from this city. We will collect nominations up until March 31. Then from

April 1-14, we will tabulate the nominations. From there we will compile a list of the athletes who received the top 25 most nominations. (all dates tentative and subject to change).

That list will then be announced in the April 17 issue of The Plain Talk. From that date through May 31, fans will then be able to vote for who they think are the THREE GREATEST LEGENDS of

ALL TIME in Vermillion.

Once the voting ends, we will tabulate those results and throughout the months of July and August we will write stories on, at minimum, those who were selected the Top 5 Legends of Vermillion, on a weekly basis, leading up to the first day of the college sports season at the

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## Mixed Results for Tanager Hoops

By Alan Dale  
The Plain Talk

With about a month left in the regular season of the 2014-15 basketball campaign, both the Vermillion boys' and girls' basketball teams are hoping to find their individual rhythms for the stretch run.

Tuesday night in a home doubleheader against the visiting West Central Trojans, the Tanager squads recorded mixed results in their journeys to establish themselves.

The West Central boys nixed what worked so well for other teams in recent weeks against the Tanagers or they simply didn't get the memo.

That memo may have helped them to not get rolled out of Vermillion on the heels of a 71-48 rout by the Tanager boys who took the running game to the Trojans.

West Central thought incorrectly they could win a faster pace against Vermillion and ditched the slower tempos recent victors over the Tanagers employed.

Yeah, not good. As for the formidable West Central girls, they used a solid offensive attack, coming from various players and the Trojans shook off

Vermillion late in the first half and pulled away for an easy 57-35 victory over the Tanager girls.

Both teams continued play on Thursday night at Dell Rapids. Check back at www.plaintalk.net to see what happened.

### Dialing Long Distance, Tanagers Bomb Trojans

You've heard of a GPS getting you where drivers want to go?

Well say hello to JPC3 where shooters find a home at the bottom of the net.

The trio of Jeremiah Johnson, Paul Schwasinger, and Cooper Williams came out firing from beyond the 3-point line early, often, and oh so deadlier and the West Central boys suffered mightily because of it.

The three Tanagers hit from outside early and often and with plenty of help from Carter Andre and Jacob Manger, the Vermillion boys rolled to an easy win.

"That's a good basketball team," Vermillion boys' head coach Jay Drake said. "It's nice when the ball goes through the hoop, but from the coaching staff it's the 48 we are more proud of and being able to hold them. If

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Jeremiah Johnson (24) of the Vermillion Tanagers was one of four players in double figures Tuesday night to lead their team to victory over the visiting Trojans of West Central. The Tanagers (5-7) took on to-ranked Dell Rapids on Thursday night. Look for a recap online at www.plaintalk.net.

THOMAS HATZENBUHLER / FOR THE PLAIN TALK

## Young Gymnasts Battle to the Wire Against Yankton

By Alan Dale  
The Plain Talk

Taking on their regional rivals from Yankton, a young Vermillion Tanager gymnastics squad battled it out before falling 127.95 to 122.65 at home Thursday night.

Tanager eighth-grader Carter Williams won the all-around with a 33.45 as she held off three Gazelles who finished 2-3-4. Vermillion junior Cheyenne Mallory took fifth with a 30.95 all-around score and freshman teammate Anneliese Taggart scored a 30.9 for sixth-place.

Williams took first in the floor exercise (8.7) and beam (8.5) while taking third in the vault (8.55) and fourth on the bars (7.7).

"I feel like I did well even though I didn't do as well as I could have," Williams said. "I am proud of how I did overall. I feel like I performed well on beam and floor which are my strongest events."

"On floor I always feel confident and I felt extra confident today."

Williams acknowledges that despite being a young squad, the Tanagers have good chemistry.

"We work well as a team and even though we are young we still work well together," Williams said. "I am proud of our team. The older girls tell us how to do stuff and we do well together."

Mallory secured her spot behind fourth-place finishes in the beam (7.25) and vault (8.45) events while taking sixth with her floor routine (8.05).

Mallory is just a fraction away from qualifying for state in the all-around.

"Overall it was a good meet," Mallory said. "You need

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