TREK UP THE TOWER



The Lewis and Clark Running Club sent four members to the 6th Annual Trek up the Tower held February 25th in Omaha, Nebraska. The Trek up the Tower is a race to the top the First National Tower which is the tallest building between Chicago and Denver. The building is 40 stories high and stretches 633 feet and 870 steps into the Omaha skyline. In the Women's Division Carol Hohenthaner (Yankton) placed 3rd in a time of 6 minutes and 6 seconds. Sandy Yaggie (Mission Hill) was 90th in 8:16. In the Men's Division Randy Rasmussen (Vermillion) was 10th with a time of 5:31 and Jake Hohenthaner (Yankton) finished 208th in 7:38. The team took 2nd place in both the community and co-ed division. A total of 1,593 athletes (908 women and 685 men) participated. The race was won by 6-time winner Ivan Marsh of Ashland, NE in 4:28. Pictured Left to Right: Randy Rasmussen, Carol Hohenthaner, Sandy Yaggie and Jake Hohenthaner.

Tanager boys end regular season with win over Canton

By Parker Knox Sportswriter

Despite having not played for 10 days, Vermilion's boys basketball team concluded the regular season on a high note, winning its third straight game in subduing a rallying Canton team, 52-46, at Canton Friday night.

The victory gave Coach Jay Drake's Tanagers a 10-9 regular-season record as they prepared this week to begin District 8A play last night (Thursday) at 6 p.m. against a team to whom they lost in January, Elk Point-Jefferson, at the home court of top-seeded Dakota Valley. The district title game will be played Saturday.

"It was a nice effort by our guys after a 10-day layoff," Drake said. "Canton is a young team but a dangerous team."

The Tanagers, leading 14-10 after one quarter, went up by as many as 11 points in the second period and led by 26-19 at the intermission. The lead reached 11 again at 32-21 in the third.

"Give Canton credit," Drake said. "We had a tough time scoring in the third quarter." The C-Hawks were back within 33-29 heading into the final period.

Vermillion appeared to have the game well in hand, leading by 49-38 with under two minutes remaining. But while the Tanagers were missing five straight free throws, Canton was getting baskets, and suddenly it was a 49-46 game with 20 seconds left.

Fortunately for Vermillion's sake the free throws started to drop, and the Tanagers made three of four in the final seconds to save the game.

While Cody Willet led Canton with 14 points and 10 rebounds, the young C-Hawk standout was held to four points by the VHS defense through three quarters. Jay Lems had 11 points and Zach DeJong nine boards for Canton.

All nine Tanagers who saw action dented the scoring column, led by Tanner Anderson's 11 points and Austin Krier's 10. Jayce Huska contributed eight, Nile Morecraft six, Nick Jensen five, Caleb Miller four, J.T. Sorensen four, Anthony Leber three and Tanner Settles one.

On the boards, out of Vermillion's 34 rebounds, Morecraft and Jensen had seven apiece, Leber five and Miller four. Anderson and Krier had six and five assists, respectively.

performs well at **NFL** draft combine

South Dakota senior offensive lineman Tom Compton had a strong showing at the 2012 NFL Draft Combine this past weekend at Lucas Oil Stadium in Indianapolis, Ind. More than 300 top prospects were invited to the event.

Compton, a native of Rosemount, MN, finished 5.11 in the 40 which was fifth-best among offensive linemen beating out first round prospect and Parkston, SD, native, Riley Reiff (5.23) who attended the University of Iowa. Compton also beat a number of Southeastern Conference and FBS (Football Bowl Subdivision) studentathletes, too.

He had the eighth-best vertical at 30.0 inches and a 9'0 broad jump which was third-best. His 3-cone drill also was eighth-best at 7.59 and his 20-yard shuttle was tied for sixth at 4.60. Compton earned Top Performer marks in the 40, vertical, broad jump, 3-cone drill and 20-yard shuttle.

Compton completed a stellar four year career this past fall for the Coyotes. He earned PhilSteele.com First Team All-America honors, along with Associated Press First Team All-America honors this season as he anchored an offensive line that paved the way for the Great West Conference's second-ranked rushing offense (158.2) and the league's third passing offense (177.6).

He also was a three-time All-Great West Conference selection, including earning first team honors in 2010 and 2011. He also was named Great West Conference offensive lineman of the year in a voting by the league's media.

Compton, according to the NFL Combine, is quick off the ball and can use angles to effectively get up-field on linebackers. He can position and does a good job of not letting his man get behind him. He can get around the line to the second level effortlessly when pulling and has a technically sound pass set which displays his perfect footwork.

The 2012 NFL Draft begins Thursday, April 26, and ends Saturday, April 28, with television coverage presented by ESPN. The first round is Thursday, followed by the second and third rounds on Friday and rounds 4-7 will be

Saturday. Compton has a chance to be the first Coyote drafted in the current seven-round format. If drafted, he would become the first draftee since Chul Schwanke (RB) who was drafted in 1986 by the Los Angeles Rams in the 11th round.

He has been projected between the fourth and fifth rounds on a number of mock draft sites.

Compton Vermillion Area Swim Team is going to state championship

Nineteen members of the Vermillion Area Swim Team have qualified and will make the trip to Rapid City this weekend for the South Dakota State Swimming Championships. The three-day event is the last swimming event held by South Dakota Swimming LSC this winter season. This marks the most swimmers VAST will have at the state swim meet in quite some time.

In the eight and under division, VAST will be represented by five swimmers ages seven and eight. Tally Allison, 7, is the youngest VAST swimmer to make the trip and is slated to swim a maximum of seven events. Kayleen Job and Annika Granaas will also be participating.

Granaas, who is just completing her first full season with VAST, will be entered in four events. She swam to automatic qualifications at the South Dakota BC Championships this past weekend in Sioux Falls. For her efforts at that meet, she qualified in the 100yard freestyle, 100 individual medley, and the 25 backstroke. She also will swim in the 25yard butterfly. Job has qualified in five events this season and had a great Tri State Championship meet, finishing on the medal stand in third in the girls 25 yard breaststroke.

Joining the three VAST girls in this division are two 8-yearold boys - Gabe Telleria and Charlie Ward. Telleria, who ran away with the Tri State League high point championship in the eight and under boys division last weekend, will swim in seven events. He is currently ranked in the top six in all events. Ward, coming off an amazing performance at the Tri State Championships, will also swim seven events.

Job, Allison, Telleria and Ward will also team up to swim the 100 Medley Relay and the 100 Freestyle Relay at the State Championships.

In the 9-10 division, Hunter Lavin will be the only boy from VAST in this division. Lavin, 9, is swimming four events.

Representing VAST in the girls' 9-10 division are Annika Holdhusen, Megan Muriuki, Isabel Telleria and Anna Van Holland.

Holdhusen shocked all the coaches and herself at the BC championships when she dropped over four seconds in the 50-yard backstroke and automatically qualified to state. She will also join the other three girls for both the 200 medley and 200-yard freestyle relays. She just started swimming with VAST this past September.

Muriuki, Telleria and Van Holland will also swim in the maximum of seven individual events. Telleria was crowed high point champion this past weekend at the Tri State Championships, and Van Holland was runner up.

VAST boasts some of the top swimmers in the state in the girls' 11-12 division. Maddie Lavin, Madisen Martinez, Lexie Malimanek and Abril Telleria will team up to swim both the 200 medley and 200-yard freestyle relays in Rapid City. Lavin, Martinez and Malimanek will also each

swim in seven individual events this weekend. Each of these three girls has at least one event where they are seeded first in the state.

Abril Telleria will swim in three after a great weekend at the BC Championships. She won the 100 breaststroke and earned a state qualification time along with it. She will also swim in the 50-yard breaststroke and the 200-yard freestyle.

Anna Hackemer and Kyleigh Moran look to drop time in their events at state in the girls' 13-14 division. Hackemer, 14, will swim in the 50- and 100-yard freestyle, while Moran, 13, is swimming six individual events.

Kaitlin Todd, Elly Miiller and Jacob Krier round out the state qualifiers for VAST this weekend. Todd, who is from Ponca, Neb., will swim seven individual events in the girls' 17-18 division. She narrowly missed being invited to the

Nebraska High School State Swim Meet held last weekend.

Competing with Todd in the same division is Miiller, who rejoined the team after a 1 1/2-year hiatus. She qualified in three events, while only swimming with the team for the last two months.

Krier is going to finish his great season with seven individual events as well. Right now, he ranks in the top 16 in South Dakota in every event he is entered.

All VAST results will be posted to their Web site: www.vastsd.com.

After the state meet, VAST will still be in the water as they await the announcement of accepted entries to the Midwest Regional Swim Meet held at the University of Minnesota Aquatic center. The meet, which will have some of the fastest swimming in the upper Midwest, annually accepts more than 1300 swimmers.

Annual Meeting Township of Garfield

will be held

Tuesday, March 6, 2012, 1:30 p.m.

at the Dalesburg Lutheran Church for the purpose of electing one supervisor, treasurer and one clerk and for any other business that comes before the board.

Jim Danielson, Clerk

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VERMILLION AREA COMMUNITY **FOUNDATION**

2011 REPORT TO COMMUNITY Investing in Our Future

Since our inception, the Vermillion Area Community Foundation has contributed over \$100,000 to various community projects that benefit residents of all ages. In 2011 alone, we contributed approximately \$10,000 to the following groups who requested funding for projects that support community needs:

Coyote Country Rodeo Club

Vermillion Area Dance Organization

Dakota Hospital Foundation / Public Access to Automated **Defibrillator Units**

Center for Children and Families Friends of the WH Over Museum

The Main Street Center Expansion Project Vermillion Public Library Expansion Project

We are proud, with your help, to be living our mission of

"Working Together To Make Our Community The Best It Can Be."



VACF Board Members: Steve Howe, Young Moore, III, Richard Sunde, Larry Brady, John Storm, (Treasurer) Ted Muenster, (Chair) Paula Keller, Tom Stogsdill, (Vice Chair) Lisa Ketcham (Secretary). Not pictured: John Gors and Don Dahlin

The Vermillion Area Community Foundation ended 2011 with \$206,895 invested in our endowment fund through the South Dakota Community Foundation, with \$8,797 in funds readily available to be distributed in 2012 toward community projects. In 2011, we received \$26,891 in new donations and earned a third-place finish statewide in the on-line giving program. Our goal is to continue to build the endowment fund to at least \$1,000,000. The more money that we raise for the endowment fund, the more funds we have to award toward projects for the betterment of the Vermillion community.

Every contribution helps us get closer to our goal. Thanks to those who have supported us in the past, and we welcome others to join us in our efforts to build a better community! All contributions to the VACF are taxdeductible. Any organization with a community project in mind can request funding. Decisions are made by our local board. Please consider giving to the VACF....it's a gift that continues to grow and to give back to our community...forever.

For more information, please contact a board member, write to: PO Box 342 Vermillion, SD 57069, or visit http://vermillion.sdcommunityfoundation.org.

Please join us for our annual meeting Thursday, March 8th, 2012 at 4:00PM

at the Vermillion Chamber of Commerce & Development Company office located at 116 Market Street in Vermillion. Noel Hamiel from the South Dakota Community Foundation will be our guest speaker.

Thank You 2011 VACF Donors: Donald & Ardith Baer

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We Especially Acknowledge Gifts Made: In Memory of Burton "Spuds" Anderson * In Memory of Joe Beringer * In Memory of Robert H. Eason **