

## Upcoming Sports Schedule

Tanager Girls Golf at Harrisburg	9 a.m. May 10	Tanager Boys Tennis at Madison	9 a.m. May 12
Tanager Track Big 8 Conference at West Central	3 p.m. May 10	Tanager Girls Golf Regions at Harrisburg	9 a.m. May 14
Tanager Boys Tennis hosts SF Lincoln	4 p.m. May 10	Tanager Track at Regional Meet, Beresford	May 17
USD Track & Field at Summit League Championships	May 10-12	State Boys Tennis at Rapid City	May 17-19
Tanager JV Baseball Tournament at Sioux Falls	May 11-12a		

### BLUFFS BULLETIN

#### WEDNESDAY EVENING LADIES LEAGUE

May 2 was the FIRST day for the summer Wednesday Morning Ladies Golf, Dominoes and Card games!

We had great turnout for the luncheon today – 20. Hope to have more of you joining us. Desserts were great and provided by June Wagner and Ellie Davis. Thanks ladies! Cherry Street Grille is providing the meals again for us – thanks Jon.

We were saddened to hear the our friend Maxine Rogers husband Wayne passed away. Our sympathies are with her and her family. A card was sent on behalf of everyone in our Wednesday group.

The \$5 drawings were won by: June Wagner and Eileen Turner.

Quarters won by: Pat Steckelberg, Eileen Turner, Marlys Jensen, Lois O'Grady, Ellie Davies and Ann Stewart.

Golf report: We had four ladies today: Darlene, Edith, Donna and myself. It was a challenge with all the gnats we had to chase away. We played "Pass The Buck" and Edith Nelson was our winner.

There was one table for Bridge and Ellie Davis was High.

Dominoes report: We had two tables and the winners were:

Round 1 – Darlene Engbrecht and Dori Ryan.

Round 2 – Karine Amundson and Eileen Turner (Eileen was a big winner all around today)

Round 3 – Barb Larson and Dori Ryan

Total Score – Sally Gilbertson and Beth Silvano

As you can see we have lots of fun, excitement and friendship going on here at the Bluffs.

Come on out and join us.

Pat Steckelbert, reporter  
steckswilli@msn.com

### Tanager golfers win Big 8 Championship

By Parker Knox  
Sportswriter

Vermillion's team defended their home turf successfully and won the Big 8 Conference girls golf championship at The Bluffs Friday.

The Tanagers' 361 team score was 12 strokes better than runner-up West Central at 373. Madison needed 386 strokes, Harrisburg 427 and Lennox 578.

West Central's Angie Ewert was individual champion with an 84 round, but the five Tanagers were all bunched within the next 10, and that consistency paid off with the championship.

Allison Heine and Elly Miller carded 87s to tie for the second-best score. Kelly Amundson's 93 was worth seventh place, Kate Brockevelt was ninth at 94 and Kayla Stammer's 98 put her in 11th place.

The Harrisburg Invitational yesterday (Thursday) concluded the regular season. Now the Tanagers enter Region 2A play at Harrisburg on Monday, trying to qualify for the state tournament to be played in Brookings on May 21-22.

#### Ganious earns Hampshire Honor Society honors

University of South Dakota graduating senior football player Chris Ganious was named to the 2012 National Football Foundation & College Hall of Fame Hampshire Honor Society, the organization announced Wednesday.

The Hampshire Honor Society, which is comprised of college football players from all divisions of play who each maintained a cumulative 3.2 grade-point average or better throughout their college career, had a total of 721 players from 232 schools qualified for membership in the society's sixth year, marking this year's class the largest since the program's creation in 2007.

# Tanager baseball extends win streak; prepares for Monday semifinal

By Parker Knox  
Sportswriter

For the Vermillion High baseball team the postseason playoffs can't begin soon enough.

The Tanagers won four times within six days this week, extending their winning streak to 10, completing a perfect 10-0 sweep through Region 1B play and finishing the regular season with a record of 13-3.

The semifinal game in Region 1B-East – #1 Vermillion vs. #4 Dakota Valley – is tentatively set for 6 p.m. Monday at Prentis Park. Fans should check the VHS website at [www.vermillion.k12.sd.us](http://www.vermillion.k12.sd.us) under "Athletics" to verify the date and time.

To reach the state semifinals in Sioux Falls on Memorial Day, the Tanagers have to win three times starting Monday.

The Tanagers have developed a strong pitching rotation as this season has progressed. In the 10 games against Region 1B teams, the opponents have scored more than one run only twice. At the same time VHS has scored fewer than five runs only three times, consistently capitalizing on their small-ball offensive skills and a cut-throat ability to make the enemy pay for every mistake.

VHS completed the regular season Monday with an 8-6 win over Beresford that was an 8-0 shutout until the top of the final inning. Starter Nile Morecraft struck out six, walking only two and allowing two inconsequential hits in going six innings, but he could not start the seventh due to high school baseball's pitch-count rule.

Reliever Chayse Meierkort hit the first two batters of the seventh and gave up an infield bunt hit to load the sacks. With two out a bases-loaded walk and a bases-loaded hit batter gave Beresford two runs, and a double by Ethan Sorensen added two more. Joe Mazour was brought in and would have ended the game on his first batter except that he had to make an awkward off-balance throw to first in fielding a weak grounder, and the throw missed its mark, allowing two more runs to score. With Beresford's tying run at the plate, Mazour slipped a called third strike past Ty Knutson to end the game.

Vermillion scored in each of its first four at-bats. As happens more often than not, leadoff man D'Andre Fore walked and later scored after a Caleb Miller sacrifice bunt and a Tanner Anderson single. A misplayed fly ball in left field let another run in.

Tanner Settles' single in the second



Jayce Huska's single in the sixth inning Saturday ended the Tanagers game with Parkston Saturday at Prentis Park via the 10-run rule. (Photo by David Lias)

was followed by a pitcher's wild throw to first in fielding a sacrifice bunt that let Settles score. In the third Meierkort led off with a double, went to third on Anderson's single and scored on the tail end of a double steal.

A Nate Garrett single, a passed ball, Mitch Ellison's grounder and Fore's sacrifice fly made it 5-0 in the fourth. A shortstop's error on a grounder that would have ended the inning was bobbled, and that opened the floodgates. A Meierkort single and an Anderson triple made it 8-0. As it turned out, those seemingly unimportant runs proved to be very crucial an inning later.

Anderson had three of the seven Tanager hits and three RBIs.

In three wins over last weekend VHS pitching allowed only three earned runs and 11 hits while walking eight and striking out 18. It began with a 10-3 win at Dakota Valley Thursday. Starter Morecraft worked four innings of four-hit ball, and Garrett struck out five in three hitless innings in relief.

Spotting the Panthers three first-inning runs, the Tanagers erupted for six in the second, two in the third and single runs in the fourth and sixth to pull away.

A misplayed grounder and a dropped fly early in the inning ignited the six-run second. Fore had a two-run single, Miller an RBI single and Anderson a two-run double for the inning's biggest hits.

A Meierkort double and an Anderson single produced a run in the fourth. Two walks and a passed ball set the table for a Collin Bertram sacrifice fly in the sixth.

Fore, Meierkort, Anderson and Mirtz had two hits each among Vermillion's 11. Anderson drove in three runs, Garrett and Fore two each, and Bertram and Miller one apiece.

On Saturday at home the Tanagers pounced on Parkston with six runs in the first inning and drove starter Spencer Lucas from the game before he could get anybody out. Miller, Anderson, Mirtz and Garrett all had RBI hits in the inning, and two Parkston errors helped the VHS cause.

A two-run fourth featured RBI hits by Miller and Mirtz. In the sixth a bases-loaded passed ball put VHS up by 9-0, and Jayce Huska's single ended the game via the 10-run rule.

Bertram cruised on the mound, allowing only two hits, walking one and

striking out seven.

Sunday's 6-1 win over Corsica/Stickney/Armour/Ethan started in typical fashion in the first with Fore's single and advance on a throwing error, Miller's sacrifice bunt and Mirtz's single. A bases-loaded walk and a misplayed ground ball made it 3-0 in the third.

Two walks and a single gave the visitors a run in the fourth, but the Tanagers answered when Fore walked, stole second, was sacrificed along yet again by Miller and scored on Meierkort's single.

Loading the bases on three walks, the Tanagers were handed two gift runs in the fifth when Fore was hit with a pitch and Miler walked.

Vermillion enjoyed another complete-game pitching effort, this time by Garrett, who allowed five hits, walked three and fanned four. The Tanagers had only four hits themselves, but they came at opportune times, and every Corsica error, walk and miscue was cashed in.

While the VHS varsity awaits Monday's regional opener, the junior varsity team will play in its state tournament in Sioux Falls starting today (Friday).

### Vermillion tennis struggles with Yankton, defeats SCE

By Parker Knox  
Sportswriter

With five of their top seven players unavailable, the Vermillion Tanagers tennis team struggled again against Yankton last week, losing to the Bucks for the fourth time this season.

However, the youngsters who filled in, after their 9-0 loss to the Bucks on Thursday, rose up to smack Sioux City East, 7-2, on Friday.

Against Yankton, sophomore Joe Swanson forced his opponent into a tie-breaker to decide the second set of their match, the closest any Tanager came to winning against the Bucks. But against East, junior David Day, Swanson, freshman Jacob Ford and eighth graders Sam Craig and David Wang scored singles victories, and the doubles team of Swanson and sophomore Ryan Styles and the doubles duo of Craig and Wang won their matches.

Vermillion will close the regular season Saturday at the Madison Invitational at 9 a.m.

#### YANKTON 9, VHS 0

- Singles
1. David Day lost to Luke Rockne 0-6, 3-6.
  2. Ryan Styles lost to Chances Sorensen 0-6, 0-6.
  3. Joe Swanson lost to Morgan Jones 2-6, 6-6 (2-7).
  4. Jacob Ford lost to Ben Jensen 0-6, 2-6.
  5. Sam Craig lost to Brandon Frick 0-6, 2-6.

6. David Wang lost to John Fanta 0-6, 0-6.

#### Doubles

1. Day/Ford lost to Rockne/Sorensen 3-6, 4-6.
2. Styles/Swanson lost to Jensen/Frick 1-6, 2-6.
3. Craig/Wang lost to Jones/Fanta 2-6, 3-6.

#### VHS 7, S.C. EAST 2

##### Singles

1. Day def. Bobby Graham 8-3.
2. Styles lost to Jordan Betts 0-8.
3. Swanson def. Tyler Potter 8-4.

4. Jacob Ford def. Dare Trotter 8-8 (7-0).

5. Sam Craig def. Jeremy Bennett 8-4.

6. David Wang def. Casey O'Horn 8-4.

##### Doubles

1. Day/Ford lost to Graham/Betts 4-8.
2. Styles/Swanson def. Potter/Trotter 8-3.
3. Craig/Wang def. Bennett/O'Horn 8-1.

### Tanager track athletes will compete in Region 4A meet

By Parker Knox  
Sportswriter

The fast-disappearing track and field season enters postseason stage next week when Vermillion and other area athletes compete in the Region 4A meet at Beresford on Thursday to qualify for the state meet the following week in the Black Hills.

The Tanagers were to conclude the regular season yesterday (Thursday) at the Big 8 Conference meet in Hartford.

Last Friday VHS athletes participated at the O'Gorman Invitational in Sioux Falls, battling inclement weather as well as tough competition.

The Tanagers' boys medley relay team won their event in 3:39.89 to highlight the day. Carrying the baton for VHS

were Aaron Ruhaak, J.T. Sorensen, Colin Olson and Austin Krier.

Will Mart placed second in the discus at 147'8", Andrew Kost was third in the 300-meter hurdles in :44.96, Nick Jensen placed fourth in the shot put at 50'3", Colin Olson was fifth in the 400-meter run in :52.10, and Nathan Ford was sixth in the 3200 in 10:42.94.

Two Tanager girls relay teams were second in their

respective races. The medley team was second in 4:31.75, behind winning Weset Central's 4:30.20 clocking. The 1600-meter team ran in 4:14.93, being edged out by West Central's winning time of 4:12.98.

Val Moos placed fourth in the 100-meter hurdles in :15.90, Mackenzie Huber was fifth in the pole vault at 9'0", and the VHS 800-meter relay team was fifth in 1:53.30.

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