

BLUFFS

From Page 05

was won by Barb Weyrich. Mary Ellen Jensen came closest to the pin on #8 to win the second pin prize while Joanne Ustad garnered her pin prize for the longest putt on hole 9.

Despite chilled hands Kathy Merrigan-Manning shot the low gross of the evening with a 47. Lynette Wulff had low net with a 35 (50-15). No one reported any birdies although there were numerous barn swallows swooping around the carts searching for bugs and six goslings sighted. Inside the clubhouse Barb Ballensky won the Quackson drawing to take home a modicum of cash.

WELL

Wednesday Evening Ladies League Standings as of May 22, 2013

Teams	Won	Possible
Two Putts	17.5	20
Birdie Bound	12.5	20
Lucky Shots	12	20
L-O-N-G Shots	5	10
Not Bluffing	9.5	20
Angry Birdies	9.5	20
Puttin' Divas	9	20
The Golden Girls	9	20
Wedgies - Boxers	8.5	20
Wedgies - Briefs	3.5	10

POST 1

From Page 05

Isaac Faldmo weathered a stormy first four innings on the mound for Dakota Valley, permitting six hits, five earned runs and four walks. Reliever Andrew Prochello also walked four and allowed three hits and two earned runs. Cody Sexton pitched the top of the seventh and gave up two hits along with four unearned runs.

While the walks they were given and the hits they achieved helped the Vermillion cause, 10 Dakota Valley errors cost the losers dearly, to such an extent that 11 of Post 1's 18 tallies were unearned runs.

Dennis becomes fifth Coyote to qualify

University of South Dakota freshman thrower Meghan Dennis set a new state and school record while qualifying for the NCAA Division I Outdoor Track and Field Championships by finishing seventh in the javelin at the West Region Preliminary Round on Saturday.

The top-12 finishers in the event advanced to the championships in Eugene, OR starting June 5.

Dennis, who entered the event ranking 18th in the region, threw 159 feet, 3 inches on her second throw. She set new USD and state records for the second straight meet, topping her previous mark of 157-10 that she set at the Summit League Outdoor Championships on May 9.

Saturday wrapped up USD track and field's weekend at the preliminary round. Dennis will join four other Coyotes at the championships: Bethany Buell and Emily Grove qualified in the women's pole vault, Megan Glisar qualified in the women's high jump and Cody Snyder will compete in the men's discus.

Tanager track athletes compete at state meet Sat.

By Parker Knox
Sportswriter

Vermillion's defending state champion boys' sprint medley relay team came within a whisker of repeating that feat at the state meet in Sioux Falls Saturday but lost at the tape to winning Custer by 1.16 seconds.

That second-place finish was one of seven placings that earned team points for VHS as the school's athletic year came to an end.

The Tanager boys accumulated 20 points to place 14th while the girls tied for 18th place with 12 points.

Custer and Vermillion medley teams entered the state classic ranked one and two, respectively, according to in-season qualifying times, and that's the way they finished in the finals, even though the Tanagers had the

better qualifying time of 3:42.46 in Friday's preliminaries at Lennox. The final tally on Saturday showed the winning Wildcats at 3:38.14 and the Tanagers at 3:39.30.

With three runners back from the quartet that won it all last year in Rapid City, the Tanagers almost did it again. Nate Svendsen took the first 200 and J.T. Sorensen the second. Colin Olson in his 400-meter third leg faced an uphill challenge to get VHS to the front of the pack, and he did, and Austin Krier ran a heroic 800-meter anchor leg that just missed catching Custer's anchor man.

In the 4x400-meter relay the Tanager team came in with the third-best time in the state behind Moberidge-Pollock and Custer. Vermillion ran its preliminary race with the third-best time of 3:29.70 and finished that way in the finals, too,

with a 3:31.15 clocking behind Spearfish and Moberidge-Pollock. Krier, Sorensen, Svendsen and Olson carried the baton for VHS.

Olson earned six more team points on his own with a third-place medal in the 400-meter run in :50.61, just 1.1 seconds behind the champion. Olson had the best time in Friday's prelims at :50.85.

Vermillion's other entry in the boys' division, the 4x100-meter relay foursome of Jeremiah Johnson, Sorensen, Alex Robertson and Olson did not qualify for the finals. In the prelims they ran the 21st-best time of :45.87.

Dylan Fischbach easily rolled to victory in the exhibition event, the 100-meter dash for wheelchair contestants. His time was :18.36.

Mackenzie Huber concluded her high school pole vaulting experience by

earning six team points for the VHS girls with her third-place leap of 8'9". The winning height in her specialty was a foot higher at 9'9".

Seventh-grader Maddie Lavin likely is just beginning a long stretch of state-meet participation. She placed sixth in the 1600-meter run in 5:20.50 and was seventh in the 3200 in 11:42.75.

The Tanager girls' medley relay team of Paige Olson, Sydney Peters, Emma Lunning and Megan Olson had the eighth-best qualifying time in the prelims at 4:28.45, and that's where they placed in the finals, too, with a time of 4:29.39.

Custer's boys exploded from the rest of the field to easily win the state "A" team championship, and St. Thomas More won the girls' title.

Three qualify for NCAA Outdoor Championships

After rain delays halted action for much of the afternoon, University of South Dakota pole-vaulters Bethany Buell and Emily Grove and high jumper Megan Glisar all qualified for the NCAA Outdoor Track and Field Championships by posting top-12 finishes at the West Region Preliminary Round last week.

The three join Cody Snyder, who qualified in the discus, in going to the national championships that will be held in Eugene, OR, starting June 5.

Buell and Grove cleared 13 feet, 5½

inches to finish first and sixth, respectively. Buell didn't miss on any of her attempts, while Grove missed one at the final height.

It's the second straight year both qualified for the outdoor national championships.

Buell will make her third straight outdoor national championship appearance. She placed third at the championships last season and has the highest mark in the nation this year at 14-7½.

Grove finished seventh at the

championships a year ago and has a high mark of 14-0 this year.

In the high jump, Glisar finished in a tie for third with a mark of 5-10½. She was one of four to clear that height. It'll be her first appearance at the NCAA national meet.

Five Coyotes ended their seasons on Friday. Outside of Buell's and Grove's finishes in the pole vault, Hunter Wilkes placed 27th and Madison Mills placed 28th in the event. Wilkes cleared 12-8 while Mills cleared 12-2.

In the men's shot put, Kyle McKelvey

placed 26th with a mark of 54-10¼, while Snyder placed 48th with a throw of 44-7½. Snyder's season will continue after qualifying for nationals in the discus on Thursday.

Senior Alexa Duling finished her career with a 15th-place finish in the 400-meter hurdles quarterfinals in 59.20 seconds, while Jeff Mettler finished 32nd in the men's 3,000-meter steeplechase in 9:06.74.

Meghan Dennis will be the only USD athlete in action on Saturday. She'll compete in the javelin at 5 p.m.

Kayakers revel in river challenge

By Andrew Atwal
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More than 140 kayakers from across the country were in Yankton this weekend for a 72-mile journey down the Missouri River to Sioux City.

The South Dakota Kayak Challenge, in its fourth year, began Saturday morning at 7 a.m. at Riverside Park, and racers had until Sunday afternoon to finish the challenge.

"It's a wonderful opportunity for our team to show off the beauty of the Missouri River," said Jarett Bies, co-founder of the challenge. "The area we hold the kayak race is one of the most scenic and beautiful stretches of the river. It's a great opportunity for people to come and experience that beauty first-hand."

The first South Dakota Kayak Challenge took place in 2010, and Bies said the event has been growing ever since.

"The South Dakota Department of Tourism took note of a kayaking event in Missouri and approached Steven Dahlmeier (the co-founder of the event) and to ask us if we could put together and comparable event in South Dakota," Bies said. "We want to continue to make these events safe and open to everyone. We don't have any time cut-offs for checkpoints like some races do. Anyone from a beginner to a hard-core paddler can come out and make the event their own."

He added that he has been kayaking for about 15 years and said one of the things he loves about it is the tranquility and that you can get to places on the river you can't reach with a boat.

"It's also very intimate in that you're only a few inches off the surface of the water," Bies said. "You don't get that with a boat or Jet Ski. It's physically intense, but it's also very rewarding and the opportunity to explore either a small stream or huge river is very appealing to me."

Dahlmeier said his favorite place to paddle is the Yankton-Ponca stretch of the Missouri River and added that he enjoys it because the river is always changing each time he is out on it.

He said planning for this year's event went well.

"Some of the racers have come from as far away as Rhode Island and Georgia," Dahlmeier said Friday. "Water levels are a bit low this year, which will make for a new challenge looking out for sandbars and navigating the channel. But we know participants will be eager for the challenge."

He added that some people in the race are doing it to challenge themselves, and not necessarily the other racers.

"If they do the challenge in their first year, they could look back next year and try to beat the time they had set," Dahlmeier said.

Dahlmeier and Bies placed volunteers all along the river — including in Yankton, Myron Grove, Bolton and Sioux City — to monitor riders and safety.

The race began at 7 a.m. Saturday with a gunshot start. Riders were placed into one of

two categories: the competitive class, for riders with more experience; and the adventure class for less experience paddlers.

"The competitive class is fun to watch. The kayakers in that group are serious and in it to race," Dahlmeier said. "The adventure class has a number of people, some are more competitive and others are there just to paddle and enjoy the river."

The average time it takes riders to complete the course is typically around 15-18 hours. Last year, the first place finisher took just about eight hours to complete the 72-mile course.

"This is a challenging course," Dahlmeier said. "The upper stretches of it are part of the national park. Some of it is does not have a channel, is wild and changes depending on the flows out of Gavins Point. Each year the main channel may move to another part of the river, so kayakers need to use their best judgment to navigate where the channel is in the river."

Kayaker Ben Busser, from Brookings, said Friday night he didn't plan to get too competitive during the race, but was looking forward to it.

"This is something new for me to do," he said. "I've been kayaking for about two years and came here with a group of four people. We haven't kayaked at all this spring so this will be interesting."

Dahlmeier said he appreciates the support from

local communities, include the Yankton and Vermillion Chambers, city councils and parks departments in the area.

"It would be hard to move the race from Yankton because of the great support we have around here," he said. "We plan on continuing this every year as long as we can. We don't want it to grow too big that we can't handle the race anymore. We need to be respectful of the resources we have and make sure the checkpoints don't ever get too big."

The results of the 2013 Kayak Challenge are as follows:

- Women's Tandem/Competitive — Carol Heddinghaus, Rolla, Mo./Joan Twillman, St. Charles, Mo.: 11 hrs, 59 min.
- Men's Tandem/Competitive — David Lackey, Ashland, Mo./Matt Green, Jefferson City, MO: 8 hrs, 51 min.
- Women's Solo/Competitive — Nancy Smidt, Sturgis: 12 hrs., 24 min.
- Men's Solo/Competitive — Calvin Hassel, Grand Island, Neb.: 8 hrs, 58 min.
- Women's Solo/Adventure — Katherine Albers, Sioux Falls: 14 hr., 28 min.
- Men's Solo/Adventure — Chad Cadwell, Dekalb, Ill.: 9 hrs., 51 min.
- Mixed Tandem/Adventure — David Deslauriers, Brookings/Erinn Ipsen, Brookings: 16 hrs., 10 min.
- Men's Tandem/Adventure — Justin Herreman, Rapid City/Steve Jones, Rapid City: 11 hrs., 37 min.
- Women's Tandem/Adventure — Jennifer Brown, Vermillion/Danielle Quist, Vermillion, 15 hrs., 45 min.

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