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# Tanagers Shine At Region 4A Meet

BY ELYSE BRIGHTMAN

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Vermillion High School track will travel to Spearfish and Rapid City this weekend for the Class A State Meet after a strong showing at the region meet last week in Tea.

"Things are going really well for us," said head coach Lenni Billberg. "Our kids have stepped up even higher than we thought they could. I would say (they had personal records) in every event we've had today and that's what you ask your kids for."

The girls' team earned a second place finish scoring 94 points while the boys placed fifth with 84 points.

"We knew we could be close to there but that's showing where we are as a team," Billberg said about the team standings.

The girls' 4x400 meter relay team placed first with 4:09.46 winning a close race with Canton who placed second with 4:10.98.

The 4x800 relay saw the opposite ending with Canton (10:15.72) taking first and beating out second place Vermillion (10:19.96).

Vermillion also took first in the 1600 meter sprint medley relay with 4:42.60. Beresford came in a close second at 4:44.45 followed by Canton with 4:48.90.

Josie Heeron of Elk Point-Jefferson ran a 5:16.72 in the 1600 meter run for first place followed by Maddie Lavin of Vermillion with 5:17.57. Heeron (2:21.64) also placed first in the 800 meter run.

Vermillion's Kasey Herbster placed third in the 300 meter hurdles with a time of 50.94. Sara Bohan (47.22) of Dakota Valley placed first and Halie McMains (48.64) of Canton was second.

Cayley Schmitt (1:01.09) of Tea Area, Callie Davis (1:02.99) of Elk Point-Jefferson and Katie Kost (1:03.95) of Vermillion took first, second and third in the 400 meter dash.

A discus throw of 118 feet, five inches put Canton's Kristin Jennings on top of the podium by 15 feet, four inches. Holly Van Gelder of Beresford was second with 103 feet, nine inches and Caitlin Siegel of Vermillion was third with 102 feet, 5 inches.

For the boys, Jon Rosales of Vermillion placed first in the 400 meter dash (52.01) and second in the 200 meter dash (23.65). Teammate Logan Peterson placed first in the 800 meter run clocking in at 2:04.74.

Beresford's Alec Atwood placed second in the 1600 (4:57.68) and Elk Point-Jefferson's Hunter Paulson also took second in the 800 (2:06.33).

Vermillion took first in the boys' 4x400 (3:33.38) and 4x800 (8:50.65).

"We have the best teams of South Dakota (in the region) and we represented well," Billberg said. "We're young and



ELYSE BRIGHTMAN/ FOR THE PLAIN TALK  
Vermillion High School's Jon Rosales in the 400 meter dash at the region track meet in Tea.

we're hungry and I think that just bode well for us in the future.

"When you get to the state meet, everybody is sore, everybody is tired and it's all about just going out and saying 'I'm just a little bit less and I'm ready to go.'"

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# Tennis Competes At State Tournament



JAMES D. CIMBUREK/PRESS AND DAKOTAN  
Vermillion's Sam Craig returns a shot during flight two singles competition against Huron's Rick Struble on Friday at the South Dakota State Boys' Tennis Tournament in Sioux Falls.

BY JAMES D. CIMBUREK  
Press and Dakotan

Vermillion's Sam Craig led the Tanagers to 38 points at the boys' tennis state tournament in Sioux Falls last week.

Vermillion scored 14 points on the first day to rank 18th out of 21 teams.

Craig battled past Roncalli's Keaton Deiter 7-5, 6-4 in the first round at flight two singles before dropping a 6-0, 6-0 decision to top-seeded Sam Dobbs of Lincoln.

At flight six singles, Vermillion's David Wang downed Thorman 2-6, 6-4, (10-8) to advance to the second round, where he dropped a 6-0, 6-1 match to top-seeded Michael Yousef of O'Gorman.

At flight one singles, Vermillion's Jacob Ford dropped a 6-1, 6-3 first-round decision to Isaiah Vilhauer of Aberdeen Roncalli.

Ryan Styles dropped a 6-4, 3-6, (10-7) decision to Huron's Tyler Sterrett at flight three singles.

At flight four, Tim Ellison dropped a 6-0, 6-0 decision to Brandon Valley's Dylan Kipp. Ellison will face Baatz in consolation play today.

All three doubles teams for Vermillion were eliminated on Thursday.

Vermillion finished the tournament in 18th with 38 points after earning three

victories in consolation singles action on Friday.

At flight three singles, Ryan Styles beat Roosevelt's Isaac Schweitzer and Brandon Valley's Mason Blue, each by 11-9 decisions, before falling to Brookings' Dalton Rittershaus 10-7 in the consolation semifinals.

At flight two singles, Craig scored a consolation win over Huron's Rick Strubel before being eliminated by Watertown's Gauger.

Ford (flight one), Ellison (flight four), Daniel Robinson (flight five) and Wang (flight six) were eliminated in second round consolation play.

Team results: 1. Sioux Falls Lincoln (SFL), 613 points; 2. Mitchell (M), 574; 3. Sioux Falls O'Gorman (SFO), 524; 4. Sioux Falls Washington (SFW), 432; 5. Rapid City Stevens (RCS), 395; 6. Aberdeen Central (AC), 303.5; 7. Yankton (Y), 289; 8. Brandon Valley (BV), 249; 9. Watertown (W), 235.5; 10. Sioux Falls Roosevelt (SFR), 189.5; 11. Madison (M), 184; 12. Pierre T.F. Riggs (PR), 175; 13. Brookings (B), 159; 14. Aberdeen Roncalli (AR), 133; 15. Rapid City Central (RCC), 119; 16. St. Thomas More (STM), 95; 17. Huron (H), 77; 18. Vermillion (V), 38; 19. Millbank (MB), 10; 20. Spearfish (S), 2; 21. Sioux Falls Christian (SFC), 0.

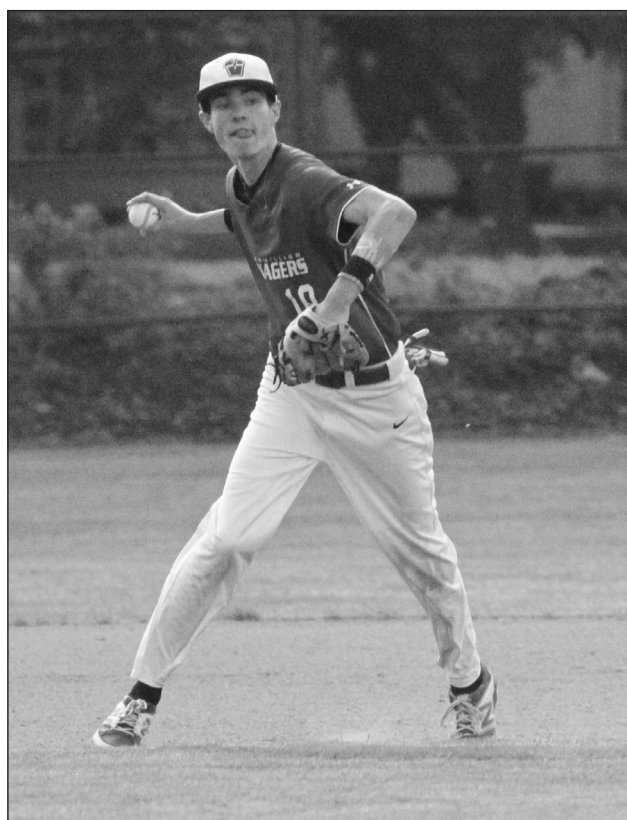
# Vermillion Over EPJ In First Round

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ELYSE BRIGHTMAN/ FOR THE PLAIN TALK  
Vermillion's Carter Kratz pitched six innings giving up three hits and one walk while striking out seven in the Tanagers 10-0 win over Elk Point-Jefferson during Tuesday's first round of region play offs in Vermillion.



Carter Kratz recorded seven strikeouts and pitched a complete game in Vermillion High School's 10-0 shutout of the Elk Point-Jefferson Huskies in the first round of Region 1B East baseball playoffs.

"Carter did a really nice job pitching today, and just threw a lot of strikes," said head coach Jason Gault. "I think his strike to ball ration was five to one, or something really impressive. We'll take that any day from anybody. He's got a little mustard on his fastball and so that helps out."

Kratz gave up just three hits and one walk in the six-inning game.

"Defense played nice behind him," Gault said.

"(Jefferson) Galvin goes into the full splits over there at first base from a tough backhand from Cole Anderson. The guys were just fun to watch. I was glad we kind of seemed to elevate our play a little."

The Tanagers offense was in full swing earning 10 runs on 10 hits.

Scoring opened up in the second inning when Hunter Christopherson hit a routine fly ball that was dropped by the Huskies' defense—one of four Elk Point-Jefferson errors—scoring Cole Anderson. A few batters later, Christopherson was brought home by Kratz, who drew a bases loaded walk.

The next batter, Joe Miller, hit a two-run single that scored Nate Robertson and Jake Odens ending the inning up 4-0.

The next inning, Christopherson hit into a fielder's choice that scored Brandon Mockler and all runners were safe on a misplay by the Elk-Point Jefferson defense.

In the fourth, Kratz hit a triple to deep right field followed by Miller who drew a walk. With Jack Brown at bat, Kratz was tagged out trying to run home on a passed ball, while Miller advanced to third. Brown reached base when he was hit by the pitch. With Travis Weber at bat, Miller would score on passed ball for a 6-0 lead.

In the sixth, Kyle Larson came up with a double. A few batters later, Andrew Heine drew the walk to bring up Riley Johnson.

Larson scored on a passed ball then Johnson lined an RBI single to score Heine. Mockler then hit an RBI triple followed by another RBI single by Anderson to end the game at 10-0.

"(We were) getting timely hits later in the game," Gault said. "I would have liked to have seen that a little sooner, but we ended up with some guys getting into the game and stepping up. In a big situation, (they were) getting some hits for us."

Nate Robertson went 2-for-2 in the game with two singles.

The Tanagers will now travel to Tabor to take on Beresford at 2 p.m. Monday. The winner of that game will play the winner of the Tabor, Wagner game at 6 p.m. that same day for the regional championship.

ELYSE BRIGHTMAN/ FOR THE PLAIN TALK

Left: Vermillion third baseman Cole Anderson throws to first for an out during the Tanagers 10-0 win over Elk Point-Jefferson Tuesday afternoon at Prentis Park.

# South Dakota Soccer Schedule Announced

South Dakota's 2015 soccer schedule includes a season opener at Creighton, a home opener against Iowa State and nine home games at the USD Soccer Complex.

After two trips to Nebraska to play the Huskers (Aug. 14) and Creighton (Aug. 21), the Coyotes host Iowa State on Aug. 23. It will be the third matchup between the Coyotes and the Cyclones in four years.

South Dakota also hosts Drake on Aug. 27 for the sixth meeting between the teams. Drake leads the series 5-1, with the Coyotes' win coming in a 1-0 victory last season in Des Moines, Iowa.

The Coyotes travel to North Dakota (Aug. 30), Chicago State (Sept. 4), Houston Baptist (Sept. 11) and UTPA (Sept. 13), all formerly of the Great West Conference. Mixed in is a home match against Green Bay on Sept. 6 and a road trip to Idaho on Sept. 18.

The Coyotes have the home advantage for the final two games leading into league play. South Dakota hosts Northern Iowa on Sept. 20 and UC Riverside Sept. 25. The women secured a 2-0 win on the road against Northern Iowa last season, while this will be the first meeting with UC Riverside.

Summit League home games include Oral Roberts (Oct. 2), Denver (Oct. 4), IUPUI (Oct. 23) and Western Illinois (Oct. 25). The league road trips are to North Dakota State (Oct. 11), South Dakota State (Oct. 16), Omaha (Oct. 18) and Fort Wayne (Nov. 1).

The top four teams in league play advance to the Summit League Tournament, scheduled for Nov. 5-7 in Brookings.