



**SPORTS**

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# Heartbreaker Ends Girls' Soccer Season

BY ELYSE BRIGHTMAN  
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Calling the first round of the Class A girls soccer playoff game between West Central and Vermillion an emotional roller coaster would be an understatement.

The Trojans and the Tanagers played a two and a half hour thriller at Cotton Park in Vermillion Tuesday night that surpassed double overtime and was decided by penalty kicks that ended minutes before nightfall. West Central triumphed by burying four penalty kicks to Vermillion's three for a final score of 3-2.

"When you have a game like this and there's a lot on the line the teams will step up and both teams stepped up today," said Vermillion head coach Shannon Fitzsimmons. "That's what you want. You want a good game and we had a great game."

The score was dead locked at zero heading into the second half when West Central took the lead from a goal by Ashley Eickman off a corner kick with 19 minutes left to play.

Vermillion answered less than 10 minutes later off a through ball by junior Jaida Anderson to senior Natasha Samudzi for a one on one with West Central's goalkeeper Hailee Fischer. Samudzi touched the ball past the keeper, who dove at her feet as the ball trickled in allowing a goal and earning herself a yellow card on the play.

Regulation ended and the teams entered overtime tied at one.

In the second overtime period Samudzi again found the back of the net with an almost identical play to her first goal giving the Tanagers the 2-1 lead. A through ball sent Samudzi one on one with the keeper and the players collided, but Samudzi got the last touch on the ball allowing it to roll into the net.

Things looked promising for the Tanagers as time ran out, but the Trojans stunned Vermillion with four seconds to play from a high volley across the net that found the head of Eickman, who put it just inside of the near post for her second of the game and the equalizing goal forcing penalty kicks.

"Soccer is one of those sports where you go from the extreme high to the extreme low and that's what makes the game exciting and that's what makes the game difficult," Fitzsimmons said.

The teams were tied at three made penalty kicks each and two missed. Olivia Becker buried West Central's fifth scored kick and what would turn out to be the winning goal.



SHAUNA MARLETTE/ FOR THE PLAIN TALK

Vermillion's Maddie Regnerus takes a shot during the Tanagers first round play off game against West Central Tuesday night.

Vermillion lined up for the potential tying score and put it in the back of the net and returned to the midfield when the ref called it back forcing a re-kick.

"Maddie (Regnerus) stepped up to kick the ball and she did her job and she made the goal," Fitzsimmons said. "The ref counted the goal then realized he didn't blow his whistle and because he realized he didn't blow his whistle he then discounted the goal and they won the game because of it. It's hard to end on a note like that, but at the same time the ref makes the calls and we live with the calls that the ref make

The next attempt was saved putting West Central, now 4-5-3, through to the next round on Saturday at Tea Area with a 2 p.m. kickoff

Vermillion ends the season with a 7-2-1 overall record.

"It's hard to put a game like that into words," Fitzsimmons said. "You saw two teams give everything that they had, and more, and I couldn't be prouder of the team that we had this year. We had a great season and they should be proud of how they represented Vermillion from beginning to end."

# VHS Golf Headed To State

BY MARK UPWARD  
For The Plain Talk

The Vermillion golf team finished in fourth place last Monday at Bakker Crossing Golf Course and earned a spot in the 2015 South Dakota State Golf. The Tanagers will head to Milbank to compete on Oct. 5-6 for team and individual titles.

Winning the Region Meet at Bakker Crossing Golf Course was the team from Tea Area with a score of 315. Sioux Falls Christian finished in second place with a 326, while Canton posted a 328 for third.

Other teams competing in the Region Meet were Dakota Valley (5th), West Central (6th), Beresford (7th), Elk Point-Jefferson (8th) and Lennox (9th).

Jameson Bull of Dakota Valley scored a 71 earning him medalist honors for the region tournament. Paul Schwasinger's 79 was the lowest score for the Tanagers. Schwasinger's 79 was good enough for a ninth place finish.

"I was happy with the way I played and I think I could have saved some more strokes today," said Schwasinger. "The course at Milbank is a course that you really don't have to have a long drive, but you have to be able to hit a 200 yard shot off the tee and then hit smaller greens."

Vermillion's Sam Craig had a season best score of 80 which earned him a tenth place finish.

"I only had one three putt and had a lot of single putts today. That really helped my score," said senior Craig. "I still have to work on my approach shots this week to get better for state."

Vermillion golf head coach Kirk Hogen was pleased with the way the team played at the region tournament.

"Our number three and four guys really stepped it up at Regions," he said. "We earned the right to compete at state by finishing in fourth place, so now we work towards doing better at Milbank. We have now had really good scores from each of the guys, so now we just have to do it at the same time at state next week."

Ryne Whisler was able to card an 85 which placed him at 18th while Cooper Williams' 86 and Cole Anderson's 87 saw them finish in 22nd and 24th respectively.

"Everything was pretty good for me today," said Whisler. "I didn't have anything extremely bad happen today and I had a few birdies so I was pleased with that."

When asked about qualifying as individual, Whisler added "I'm very excited to get to compete as an individual and I know I need to work on my putting this week."

Vermillion was the only team that could have used the qualification rule of four golfers qualifying as individuals can then compete as a team at state, even if you are not qualified as a team. Not only did the Tanagers have four golfers qualify, but all five golfers for the Tanagers qualified as individuals for the state tournament. Hogen is hoping the teams experience on the state tournament course in Milbank will work in their favor. "We played in



JAMES D. CIMBUREK/PRESS AND DAKOTAN

Vermillion's Paul Schwasinger watches his tee shot during his round in the Region 2A boys' golf tournament on Monday at Bakker Crossing Golf Course in Sioux Falls.

the Milbank Invitational early in the season just so we would have the experience on the course," said Hogen. "Milbank is a placement course where you are rewarded for placing your tee shot in the right spot and that should fit us as a team right now." The South Dakota state golf tournament is a two day, 36-hole tournament. This will be the first time in this season where golfers will need to play back to back 18-hole tournaments on two consecutive days. "This is a challenge for all high school golfers," said Hogen. "This is where the mental toughness for a golfer comes into play."

# Lavin Named Tanager Of The Week



JAMES D. CIMBUREK/PRESS AND DAKOTAN

Vermillion cross country runner Maddie Lavin has been named Tanager of the Week for two first place finishes in two meets last week for the Tanagers.

BY ELYSE BRIGHTMAN  
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Two first place finishes in two meets. That's what Vermillion High School cross country runner Maddie Lavin accomplished last week when the team competed at the Alcester-Hudson Invite last Monday and the Yankton Invite last Thursday.

And because of her two top finishes in one week, Lavin has been named one of two Tanagers of the Week for Sept. 21-26.

On Monday in Alcester, Lavin, a sophomore, completed

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