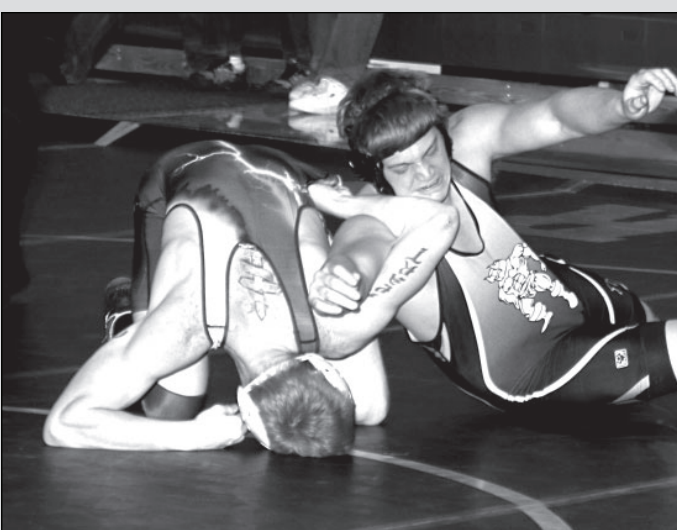


Raiders host Triangular



Dillon Card at 182 lbs. was able to defeat both of his opponents in the Triangular held in Bertha on December 20, however, that wasn't enough to help his team as they ended up losing both matches. The Raiders fell to West Central Area 42-30 and then lost to Barnesville 45-27. No article was available from Coach Barthel at press time.



Verndale's Andy Bounds tried to strong arm his opponent, but ended up with a loss for the Raiders. —photos by Matt Ganz

Pirates defeat Braves with aggressive play



Senior Aaron Denny does a great job at center for the Pirates. In the game against Menahga, Denny picked up 17 rebounds to go along with 15 points and four blocked shots.

photos by Jason Nelson

by Coach Jordan Hinkle

The Verndale Pirates boys basketball team was able to defeat the Menahga Braves last Thursday by a score of 67-52. It was a nice victory for the Pirates, and it allowed them to snap a three game losing streak.

The Pirates fell to a tough Eagle Valley Rebels team in the third place game of the holiday tournament last Tuesday by a

score of 65-57.

Both Menahga and Verndale had a tough time getting going in the first half of the game. The boys were able to do just enough to lead by one, 23-22. However, the second half seemed to belong to the young Pirates as they were able to use their aggressiveness to break the Braves' press and build an 18 point lead.

Menahga did what they could to chop into the lead, but decent free-throw shooting and timely baskets by the Pirates never allowed them to get closer than 11.

Dallas Ehrmantraut paced the Pirates with 20, going 11 for 13 from the charity stripe and Aaron Denny chipped in with 15. Denny was a monster on the glass, pulling down 17 rebounds and blocking 4 shots.

Schwartz led the scoring for the Braves, picking up 16 points, followed by Tolkkinen with 12.

Overall, the Pirates are 2-5 and are 1-1 in the Park Region Conference. The boys travel to WDC on Tuesday night. It will be the first meeting between the schools in over a decade. Just a reminder that the alumni game will be this Friday night, December 30, at 6 p.m. Cost is \$5 at the door. All proceeds benefit the Pirates boys basketball program.

Verndale-Menahga Stats

	Pts	Rbnds	Steals	Blks
Ehrmantraut	20	7	7	3
Denny	15	17	3	4
Gomez	9	3	3	
Kveton	9	3	2	
Fisher	7	4		
Lollar	5	4	1	
Siedschlaw	2			

Verndale—FG: 21/50 42%; FT: 22-39 56%

Menahga—FG: 14-49 28%; FT: 18-35 51%



James Kveton, a freshman forward for the Pirates, laid out this nice shot inside the paint against a tough Rebels team.

Sports Schedule

GIRLS BASKETBALL

January 3, HOME
New York Mills, 7:30 p.m.

BOYS BASKETBALL

January 3, AWAY
WDC, 7:30 p.m.
January 5, AWAY
Henning, 7:45 p.m.

WRESTLING

January 3, AWAY
LPGE Dual, ??
January 5, AWAY
WDC Dual, 7 p.m.

Pirates come up short in loss to Rebels

Place 3rd in Holiday Tourney



Despite being heavily guarded all evening, Teresa Moenkedeck was able to garner 34 points against the Rebels defense, leading all scorers.

—photos by Matt Ganz

by Assistant Coach Samantha Schmitz

In the first game of the Holiday Basketball Tournament, the Eagle Valley Rebels handed the Verndale Pirates girls basketball team a 62-52 loss. Cold shooting, combined with lack of offensive rebounding caused the Pirates to get off to a slow start, trailing by nine points at halftime.

The Pirates came out looking much sharper the second half, getting some quick bas-

kets after steals on their press defense to tie the game. The Rebels post play was too much for the Pirates to handle, as they eventually pulled away to win by ten.

Verndale shot just 30% from the field and 52% from the free throw line.

Teresa Moenkedeck led the Pirates with 34 points. Jordy Schluttner was the rebounding leader with 8 boards.

Korfe, Kirstin—5 points
Glenz, Jordyn—2 points

Moenkedick, Sarah—4 points
Schluttner, Jordanna—5 points
Moenkedick, Teresa—34 points
Wright, Christina—2 points

Lady Pirates Take Third at Holiday Tournament

After losing the first game of the four team tournament, the Lady Pirates came out with a vengeance to post a 66-20 win over the Pillager Huskies.

The Pirates took a 28-13 lead by intermission and outscored the Huskies 38-7 in the second half.

Go Pirates!