

## Lady Pirates open season with pair of wins over Browerville and Laporte



Jordanna Schluttner battled hard in the paint for this rebound.

by Asst. Coach Samantha Schmitz

The Lady Pirates basketball team opened their season on the road with Section 5A opponent, the Browerville Tigers. The Pirates were able to use their quickness and defensive pressure to hold off the Tigers and post a 61-50 win.

Teresa Moenkedick led the defensive attack with 10 steals. Moenkedick finished with a double-double, netting 27 points. The Pirates also got the job done at the free-throw line, making 23 of 29 free throws. Eighth-grader Jordyn Glenz scored 8 out of her 12 points from the foul stripe.

*Korfe, K.—13 points*  
*Glenz, J.—12 points*  
*Moenkedick, S.—5 points*  
*Schluttner, J.—2 points*  
*Moenkedick, T.—27 points*  
*Krista, D.—2 points*

### Trip to Laporte Favors Pirates 73-48

Taking advantage of the Wildcats' foul troubles, the Verndale girls basketball (2-0) team jumped out to a fifteen point lead in the first half, leading the Laporte Wildcats 43-28 at the break. That lead was extended in the second-half when the Pirates came out of the locker room with a surge that led to an amplified full-court defen-



Krista Dailey found herself wide-open from 3-point range.

—photos by Matt Ganz

sive pressure, domination of the boards and an up-tempo transition game.

The Pirates closed-out the contest, winning 73-48.

The Pirates were led by Teresa Moenkedick with 34 points. Overall, it was a balanced attack, starter Kirstin Korfe chipped in 11 points, and Glenz added 10 points. Off the bench, Miranda Miller scored 6 points and Elyssa Kern finished with 5 points.

*Korfe, K.—11 points*  
*Glenz, J.—10 points*  
*Moenkedick, S.—1 point*  
*Schluttner, J.—4 points*  
*Moenkedick, T.—34 points*  
*Kern, E.—5 points*  
*Miller, M.—6 points*  
*Wright, C.—2 points*

## Sports Schedule

### GIRLS BASKETBALL

December 9, AWAY  
Bertha-Hewitt, 7:30 p.m.  
December 12, AWAY  
Pine River-Backus, 7:30 p.m.  
December 15, HOME  
Henning, 7:30 p.m.

### BOYS BASKETBALL

December 9, HOME  
LaPorte, 7:30 p.m.

## Raiders take care of business against Lakers

by Coach Mike Barthel

The Raiders opened up the season this week by traveling to Minnewaska on Thursday for matches against the Lakers and the Cubs from Kimball. Then on Saturday they took the short trip to Wadena for the Wolverine Invite.

At Minnewaska, the Raiders opened up against the #5 ranked Kimball Cubs. In a dual that ended up 60-15 in favor of the Cubs, the matches were much closer than the score. We had many matches that were within a few points in the third period when we were pinned.

"I was very surprised with how well we wrestled and showed a lot of heart. I think that if we face another team like Kimball late in the year it would be much closer."

Following that match, the Raiders took on the Lakers from Minnewaska. It was a dual that we knew we could win and went out and took care of business. The guys went out and were able to control their opponents and

won 41-33.

"I felt like we out wrestled them from start to finish and could have turned around a couple matches."

On Saturday, the Raiders went to the Wolverine Invite for an individual tournament. It was and has always been one of the tougher tournaments that we are in and this year was no different. There was a lot of good wrestling throughout the day and the Raiders were in for a long day.

At 106 lbs., Nick Peterson filled in for the Raiders and wrestled well, but dropped both his matches.

Justin Gordon wrestled at 113 lbs. and beat his first opponent 8-6 and then lost a close match to the eventual champion. He then could not get going and lost out—placing 6th.

Marshall Willis was one of the smallest wrestler at 120 lbs., but he wrestled better than most. He dropped his pigtail match, but then stormed back with two big wins only to lose a tight match in the consolation semi-

nals, ending his day with a pin and placing him 5th.

Seventh grader Ethan Kimber wrestled at 126 lbs. for the Raiders and showed that he is not a pushover. He pinned his first guy, but then lost in the semifinals. He got another pin in the wrestle backs, but then lost in the finals placing 4th. He will surprise a lot of guys this year because he wrestles much tougher than a 7th grader.

Andrew Cihlar wrestled at 138, Dakota Finck wrestled at 152 and Hayden Truax wrestled at 160. All three were overpowered in their two matches, but look to come back strong next week and get some wins.

Nick Bennett wrestled at 170 lbs. for the Raiders and pinned his first man in the pigtail round only to drop his next two matches and losing out of the tournament.

Dillon Card wrestled at 182 lbs. and pulled out a close match in the first round. He then lost to a very tough wrestler in the semifinals. In the wrestle backs he got two pins, one in triple overtime to place 3rd.

At 195 lbs., Andrew Bounds also won his first match and lost in the semifinals. He got a pin in his wrestle back match, but then dropped a tough one placing him 4th.

Dalton Baker started with a pin and also lost in the semifinals. He battled back with a pin in the wrestle backs and in a back-and-forth match he gave up a reversal in the waning seconds to lose by one point placing 4th.

To end the day, lone senior Colin Turchin had what could have been the toughest bracket in the state. He pinned his first man, but then dropped his semi finals match against a #1 ranked wrestler. He then stormed through the wrestle backs pinning all of his guys placing 3rd.

The final team scores for the Wolverine Invite were:

1. Badger/Greenbush-Middle River 201.5
2. Perham 189.5
3. Pequot Lakes/Pine River-Backus 169.0
4. Thief River Falls 136.5
5. Staples-Motley 136.0
6. United North Central 103.0
7. Wadena-Deer Creek 101.5
8. Bertha-Hewitt/Verndale 97.0
9. Long Prairie-Grey Eagle 70.0

Next week the Raiders host Pequot Lakes/Pine River-Backus and Osakis on Tuesday in Verndale with wrestling starting at 5 p.m. We will then travel to Barnesville on Saturday for an individual tournament.

Also look for information coming about elementary wrestling starting up soon.

## Pirates drop two games to Arrows and Panthers

by Coach Jordan Hinkle

The Pirates boys basketball team dropped their first two games of the season this past week as they traveled to face the potent Ashby Arrows and the Parkers Prairie Panthers.

Verndale was unable to find much success on both the offensive end and defensive end. Both games the Pirates were without some players and that limited their subbing opportunities. However, the work ethic was at a high level and hopefully that will help build towards future success.

Ashby used 6'11 Riley Mickelson to own the paint and provide opportunities for others, as well as limit any inside shooting for the Pirates.

Parkers Prairie played a tough man-to-man defense and forced the Pirates to make indecisive decisions. Offensively the Panthers were able to get enough key baskets to keep the Pirates away from getting it much closer than 6-10 points.

The boys will play their first home game on Friday night against the Laporte Wildcats. A good week of practice will need to happen in order to keep their focus set on the long term goal of playing well and efficient in February.

	1st	2nd	Final	
Ashby	52	33	85	
Verndale	23	33	56	
Individual Stats				
	Pts	Rbnds	Steals	Asst.
Ehrmantraut	37	6	6	4
Lollar	6	6	0	0
Gomez	4	9	3	0
Kveton	3	1	0	0
Gilb	3	6	3	0
Horstmann	2	1	0	0
Siedschlaw	1	2	0	0

	1st	2nd	Final
Parkers Prairie	41	30	71
Verndale	31	24	55
Individual Stats			
	Pts	Rbnds	Steals
Ehrmantraut	18	6	5
Gilb	15	9	0
Kveton	8	7	0
Siedschlaw	6	0	0
Lollar	5	8	0
Gomez	3	0	2