

# Pirates trounce Eagles to even their conference record

by Coach Jordan Hinkle

The Verndale Pirates boys basketball team evened their conference record last Tuesday with a 64-47 win over the New York Mills Eagles. It was one of the better performances overall the Pirates have put together this young season, including a nearly flawless first half that saw the Pirates shoot over 60% with only four turnovers and 12 assists.

The boys went into halftime up 40-19, and the lead increased to as much as 56-23 in the second half. The Eagles were able to hit some buckets towards the end to close the gap to 17 when the final buzzer sounded.

Dallas Ehrmantraut paced the Pirates with 23, while senior Aaron Denny chipped in with 15 points, and sophomore Marcos Gomez added 15 as well.

The win gives the Pirates an overall record of 3-7, with two wins coming in the Park Region Conference and two losses as well.

The Pirates next host the PRB Tigers on Tuesday and then will travel to Sebeka on Thursday.

**Verndale Pirates 64, NYM Eagles 47**

	PTS	REB	AST	BLK	TO	STL	PF
Ehrmantraut, Dallas	23	5	7	0	3	9	1
Gomez, Marcos	15	2	3	0	2	4	3
Denny, Aaron	15	11	1	3	2	3	3
Siedschlaw, Christian	4	4	0	0	2	0	2
Kveton, James	3	4	0	0	1	1	1
Lollar, Travis	2	3	3	1	2	0	4
Gilb, Josh	2	3	2	0	0	0	4
Fisher, Daniel	0	0	0	0	1	1	4
<b>Total</b>	<b>64</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>22</b>



Senior Christian Siedschlaw took this outside shot as he reached high above the outstretched hands of the Eagles defender.

—photos by Matt Ganz

# Raiders pick up a win over Panthers

**Finish 5th in Parkers Prairie Invitational**

by Coach Mike Barthel

This week the Raiders wrestled New York Mills on Tuesday and then were at the Panther Invitational in Parkers Prairie on Saturday. It was a busy week and was a good test for the wrestlers.

At Mills it was a very tough start for the Raiders who fell in a 35-9 hole to start the dual. It was tough seeing our guys wrestle tough only to get pinned in the end. We were able to string together some wins down the stretch to make it a 41-33 dual.

"I think that if we can have a few guys drop weight it would really improve our line up. We just seem to be getting overpowered in some areas and hopefully if we wrestle Mills again we can turn a couple of those lower weights around and get the victory."

At Parkers we looked much stronger at the start, winning the first two matches and after receiving four forfeits we were able to run up the score a little taking a 43-15 lead into the 195 pound match. After losing a tough match at 195 and losing right at the buzzer in the 220 lb. class, the score was a little clos-

er, but Colin Turchin got the pin at 285, making the final score 49-22.

On Saturday, the 9th grade and under wrestlers, excluding Dillon Card, traveled to their section qualifier, so the varsity only had eight of the 14 weights filled. Even though the Raiders were able to place 5th out of 10 teams with individual placers being: Colton Moyer 6th, Hunter Truax 5th, Dalton Baker 4th, Andrew Bounds 3rd, Justin Gordon and Nick Bennett 2nd, and Colin Turchin and Dillon Card 1st.

"It was a good day of wrestling for our guys and nice to see the improvements in some of them from earlier in the year."

This next week will have the Raiders hosting United North Central on Tuesday which will be Parents' Night and then on Friday, the Raiders will travel to Pierz for a quad. On Saturday, January 21, the Raiders will be hosting a JV wrestling tournament in Bertha starting at 8:30 a.m. and then the BHV Elementary wrestling tournament with weigh-ins starting at 11 a.m.-12:30 p.m. with wrestling starting at 1 p.m.



Dallas Ehrmantraut had a great all around game against the Eagles. He led the Pirates with 23 points, 5 rebounds, 7 assists and 9 steals.

## Sports Schedule

### GIRLS BASKETBALL

January 20, HOME Menahga, 7:45 p.m.  
January 26, HOME Bertha-Hewitt, 7:45 p.m.

### BOYS BASKETBALL

January 19, AWAY Sebeka, 7:45 p.m.  
January 24, HOME Pillager, 7:45 p.m.

### WRESTLING

January 20, AWAY Pierz Healy Quad, 5 p.m.  
January 24, AWAY (Brow) B-EV Triang., 5 p.m.  
January 26, HOME (B) Raiders Triang., 5 p.m.

# Raiders show well at 9th grade State Qualifier

by Lee Truax

On Saturday, January 14 the Jr. High Raiders wrestling team competed in the 9th grade state qualifier tournament held at the Mahanomen High School. Out of 16 team competing, the Raiders ended the day in slot number four, falling just short of a state tournament bid as the top three teams advanced.

The Raiders had five individuals who placed and four of them who will be moving on to the state individual tournament held in Champlin Park in February. Those wrestlers who placed were: Anthony Kern, champion in the 95 lb. weight class; Marshall Willis, champion in the 113 lb. weight class; Ethan Kimber, 3rd place in the 126 lb. weight class; Hayden Truax, champion in the 145 lb. weight class; and Jarod Hall, 2nd place in the 195 lb. weight class.

Congratulations Raiders on a job well done.



Front row: Marshall Willis. Middle row: Jarod Hall, Ethan Kimber, Anthony Kern and Hayden Truax. Back row: Brady Baker, Austin Ortiz, Zack Waln and Charlie Nienaber.

—submitted photo

# Pirates post road win over Bulldogs

by Assistant Coach Samantha Schmitz

The Verndale Pirates girls basketball team traveled to Swanville for a non-conference game against the Bulldogs, where they posted a 58-53 win. It was a back and forth battle the first half with frequent lead changes, but the Pirates continued to focus on applying full court defensive pressure to take a 26-24 lead at halftime.

Early in the second half, the Pirates got up by as many as 11 points, but the Bulldogs chipped away at the Pirates lead. With five minutes to go, the Pirates played patiently to run time off the clock, but when the Bulldogs got the ball, they pounded it inside to keep the game close.

Finally, with two minutes remaining in the game, the Bulldogs had to foul with hopes of getting the ball back to score and close the Pirates' lead, but the Pirates capitalized from the free-throw line. Teresa Moenkedick made 5 of 6 free throws, Kirstin Korfe went 2 for 4 and Sarah Moenkedick hit both of her attempts.

Sophomore Kirstin Korfe finished shooting 8 of 16 from the field, scoring 20 points. Teresa Moenkedick also finished with 20 points, 6 steals and 5 assists. Sarah Moenkedick also finished in double digits, adding 12.

Korfe, Kirstin—20 points  
Glenz, Jordyn—2 points  
Moenkedick, Sarah—12 points  
Schluttner, Jordanna—5 points

Kern, Elyssa—4 points  
Dailey, Krista—1 point  
Moenkedick, Teresa—20 points

### Trojans Too Much for Pirates

The Sebeka Trojans used their experience and size to defeat the Lady Pirates in a 34-63 conference contest. The Trojans were able to use their long athletic defenders to make it difficult for the Pirates to get good looks at the basket.

In the first half, the Pirates found themselves in foul trouble, when their leading scorer, Teresa Moenkedick, got her fourth foul with seven minutes to go in the first half, but the youthful Pirates continued to play hard-nosed basketball, diving on the floor after loose balls and continuing to add full court defensive pressure.

The Pirates struggled from the field, shooting just 30% (14-46).

Offensively, eighth grader, Jordyn Glenz led the Pirates with 10 points. Jordy Schluttner



Despite the huge difference in height, Teresa Moenkedick showed no fear as she put up this shot against 6'1" Alicia Boe of Sebeka. Moenkedick was held to a season low of 9 points in the Pirates loss to the Trojans.

—photo by Matt Ganz

led the rebounding effort for the Pirates, grabbing 8 boards.

The Pirates drop to 5-8 overall and 1-4 in the conference.

Korfe, Kirstin—7 points  
Glenz, Jordyn—10 points  
Moenkedick, Sarah—2 points  
Schluttner, Jordanna—3 points  
Dailey, Krista—1 point  
Moenkedick, Teresa—9 points  
Glenz, Shania—2 points

# Young Pirates finish 3rd in tournament



Front row: Imogen Stinar, Sharae Conn, Morgan Glenz and Kirsten Petersen. Back row: Alyssa Thompson, Allison Olsson, Molly Brownlow and Skyler Honer.

—submitted photo

The Verndale 5th grade girls' basketball team started their season with a tough loss to the strongest team around when they faced the top Pequot Lakes team in the first game of the day on Saturday, January 14. They suffered another tough loss to Brainerd in the second game of the day after being tied at the half. However, as the day progressed, the girls improved greatly and were able to pull away with wins over Crosby-Ironton and the weaker of the two Pequot Lakes teams leaving them 2-2 for the day and a 3rd place finish.

We are extremely proud of these girls and with how hard they played Saturday!

They will host a tournament here in Verndale next Saturday, January 21.

**PLEASE SUPPORT THESE LOCAL BUSINESSES**

Verndale Sun

Wayne's Discount and Hardware

Bounds Body Shop

West Central Telephone Assoc.

Insurance Advisors-Tarrell Agency

**Reasons to support your local businesses:**

- A local business will often go out of its way to find a product you are looking for, or it will add a service if a customer asks for it.
- A local business will never be that much more than a national chain or competitor, and they will usually match a competition price.
- A local business will help to keep more money in a community by way of paying taxes to the local government and by spending on other local goods and services.
- A local business is more connected with the community because the owner lives there. They are more likely than their competitors to be involved in community events.
- A local business will generally help a local economy retain jobs even in a downturn.

**How buying local boosts the economy**

- The New Economics Foundation found that twice the amount of money stayed in the community when people choose to buy local.
- Local economics aren't necessarily suffering for lack of money coming in, but because too much money is flowing out to bigger corporations in other areas, nationally and internationally.
- Buying local campaigns help to reveal market opportunities where a local person can choose to setup a business based on a market need not being fulfilled, or being fulfilled poorly by a bigger company.
- National and International politics, and things such as exchange rates and rising gas prices, all have a drastic effect on the price you pay for goods and services. The more things that are available locally, and the less a community relies on the national or international economy, then the better off that community will be in the long run.
- How fast money circulates is also an important factor to consider. As money leaves a community, it slows down the rate at which it circulates within the community.
- The final answer may be that community doesn't need to worry about how much money it has, as to how much of it is leaking out to areas that don't benefit the community.

**Survey Shows...**

Businesses in communities with an active "buy local" campaign have experienced markedly stronger revenue growth compared to those located in areas without such a campaign.