

## 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 semifinals, 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.

## Tigers roll over Bears

by Jim Roberts

The Browerville Tigers traveled to Bertha-Hewitt last Friday night for their first game of the season. When it was all said and done, all three squads brought home victories. The varsity squad came out offensively strong in the first half and defensively strong in the second half, finishing off the Bears by a score of 68-43.

Seth Kellen started things out with the first five points for the Tigers, including a 3-pointer. Max Goligowski came off the bench and immediately made his presence known by connecting on a 3-pointer to tie things up at 14. Bertha-Hewitt took a short lead before Mitch Heid also made a 3-pointer to give the Tigers a 20-19 lead.

In the final ten minutes of the half, Browerville outscored Bertha-Hewitt by nine to take a ten point lead into the locker room.

The inside game for the Tigers proved to be too much for the Bears in the first half as Seth Christensen and Connor Burns combined for 22 of the teams 41 points. Matthew Frethem scored 13 first half points to lead the Bears and Zach Tranvik made three 3-pointers to help the Bears keep pace with the Tigers.

Bertha-Hewitt scored first in the second half on a basket by Frethem. This would be the only basket by the Bears for the next 13 minutes. Browerville's defensive control and domination on the boards allowed them to open up a 30 point lead.

Frethem led all scorers finishing with 21 points. Browerville's inside combination led the way with Christensen's 20 and Burns' 12. Kellen finished with 9 and Goligowski added 8 points for the Tigers.

The Tigers out rebounded the Bears 38-20. Mitch Heid pulled



The inside presence of the Tigers Connor Burns was too much for the Bears to handle. Burns finished the evening with 12 points, the second leading scorer for the black and orange.

—photo by Ray Benning

down 10 boards and handed out 7 assists. Max Goligowski had 3 steals.

This week the Tigers travel to Sebeka on Tuesday and then to Barrett on Thursday to play West Central Area for their first conference game of the year.

## Tigers defense stifles Bears in second half

by Coach Dale Finck

Boys hoop action for the B-H Bears started on Friday night at home as they hosted the Browerville Tigers. The game started with a bang as both teams played some nice offensive basketball and didn't show the first game jitters like many would expect.

In the first three minutes, four of the Bears players had scored and we were up 10-9. Both teams traded baskets and when Zach Tranvik hit his second 3-pt shot he put the Bears up 19-17. The Tigers then took control of the game as they slowly stretch the lead to 10 points at halftime.

"As a team we were pleased with our offensive effort because of the balanced attack, scoring inside and out, and we had good spacing in our offense. Defensively we were not ready to challenge the interior play of Christensen and Burns as they scored 22 of the Tigers 41 points. We really needed to focus on working harder inside and challenge them from scoring inside in the second half."

The Bears did a better job defending the post, but it was at the offensive end where we struggled. After a quick basket by Frethem to start the half, the Tigers defense made things extremely difficult for the Bears. It wasn't until the 6:52 mark when the Bears would get our next field goal. By then the Tigers had stretched the lead to 26 points. The Bears were forced to work hard for our shots and they held us to 25% shooting in the second half.

The Tigers proved why they



Zachary Tranvik was able to put up this layup over the hands of the Tigers Jackson Polak. Tranvik was the Bears second leading scorer with 11 points.

—photo by Ray Benning

are a preseason favorite in Section 5 with a great all around performance. Final score 43-68.

Player	Pts.	Reb.	Asst.
Murphy	4	0	1
Kirscht	0	0	0

Frethem	21	10	3
Voge	2	5	2
Dittberner	5	4	2
Tranvik	11	3	5
Rushmeyer	0	0	0

### ★ Golden Gloves Boxing

Three Wadena boxers competed in action in Cass Lake on Saturday, December 3. Albert Boldt, 119 lbs. and Matt Umland, 80 lbs., were defeated by decision by the number one ranked boxers from Duluth and St. Paul. Both Wadena boxers did well in their bouts.

Jose Perez, Wadena, super heavyweight, won on a close decision over Tommy Woodner of Shakopee in a regular bout.

Wadena's first home card is set for Saturday, December 17 at the Wadena Armory. Bouts begin at 7:30 p.m.

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## Lady Tigers fall to Pirates and Bears

by Coach Middendorf

Verndale 61—Browerville 50

The Browerville girls' basketball team opened their 2011-2012 campaign with a 61-50 loss to Verndale on Tuesday night in Browerville. The orange and black fell behind 8-0 early, but rallied back to take a 20-10 lead midway through the first half.

The Tigers found themselves in foul trouble early and leaned on their youth to get them back in the contest. Eighth graders Paige Callahan and Kendra Buchta combined to score 10 points in the first half as they battled down in the paint for position and connected on a number of short jump shots.

The Tigers finished the 20-2 run on a three pointer by 8th grader Kale Knutson.

Verndale battled back in the final minutes of the first half to take a one point lead into halftime at 27-26.

Verndale came out strong in the second half and wore down the Tigers as the Pirates took advantage of the young and tired Browerville squad. The Pirates were successful on 15 of 18 free throws in the second half and proved to be the difference as the Tigers finished 9 of 21 at the charity stripe.

chased down loose balls and played tough defense in a very physical opening contest.

Callahan finished with a team high 14 points and 11 rebounds in her first varsity appearance while Buchta ended with 7 points and 10 rebounds. Ninth graders MaKenna Hegs-eth and Haley Piotrowski each poured in 8 points for the Tigers, while Piotrowski added 7 rebounds and 4 steals. Knutson finished with 6 points and 6 assists in an impressive first performance. Eighth grader Crystal Pearson played tough down low for the Tigers and finished with 5 points.

Bertha-Hewitt 64—Browerville 41

The Tigers started slow out of the gates and never could recover as the Bears won the non-conference contest 64-41 Thursday night in Bertha.

Piotrowski scored 17 points for the Tigers, who managed only 12 points in the first half. Callahan and Pearson each dropped in six points for the orange and black.

The Bears forced the Tigers to struggle in their half-court offense as Browerville committed 15 turnovers in the first half and ten turnovers in the second half. Freshmen Katelyn Kellen provided a spark off the bench

for Browerville with a couple of nice looking jump shots in the second half as the Tiger offense started to find a groove. Callahan finished with 9 rebounds in a solid effort down in the paint.

Arei Stokes led the Bears

with 21 points.

Browerville is now 0-0 in the Prairie Conference and 0-2 overall. On Thursday, the Tigers host Prairie Conference newcomer West Central Area.



Crystal Pearson and Haley Piotrowski battled for this hard won rebound over Verndale's Teresa Moenkedick.

—photo by Matt Ganz