O'Malley, Arens Both Reach Career Marks In Wins

Girls' Basketball: O'Malley Eclipses 2,000; Arens Passes 1K

CENTERVILLE — Kieran O'Malley scored the 2,000th point of her prep career on Tuesday night while leading Centerville to a 70-56 girls' basketball victory over Freeman in Centerville.

O'Malley, who finished with a game-high 30 points, eclipsed the 2,000-point mark with her first basket of the game. Logan Wieseler added 10 points in the victory while Carleigh Oster grabbed 11 rebounds.

Freeman, who led 20-12 after the first quarter, got 19 points from Dina Soulek and 13 from Erika Sage. Nicole Saarie added 10 points. Carli Lager had eight rebounds for the Flyers.

Centerville, 5-0, plays at the Parkston Classic on Dec. 28. Freeman, 1-2, hosts Platte-Geddes on Thursday.

FREEMAN (1-2).....20 29 43 56
CENTERVILLE (5-0).....12 34 54 70

Crofton 69, O'Neill 29

CROFTON, Neb. — Crofton senior Bridget Arens scored 17 points and notched her 1,000th career point on Tuesday evening to lead the Lady Warriors to their seventh consecutive win to start the season as Crofton completely dominated O'Neill, leading 35-8 at the half on their way to a 69-29 victory.

Sophomore Allison Arens added 15 points and five assists in the win. No other Crofton player scored more than seven points although 12 Lady Warriors in all ended the game with points. Crofton (7-0) has won their last two games by a combined total of 140-55.

O'Neill, 1-6, got 11 points from Brandi Walters. Lindsey Appleby added seven points and seven rebounds.

Crofton plays Bloomfield in the Crofton Holiday Tournament after Christmas. O'Neill plays at Guardian Angels Central Catholic on Thursday.

O'NEILL (1-6).....6 8 18 29
CROFTON (7-0).....14 35 44 69

Dakota Valley 63, Council Bluffs Thomas Jefferson 22

NORTH SIOUX CITY — McKenzie Mennenga led the Dakota Valley Panthers to a 63-22 victory over Council Bluffs Thomas Jefferson on Tuesday night in North Sioux City as the Panthers scored more points in the first quarter (23) than CBTJ managed for the entire game.

Mennenga scored 15 points while Jayde Bergmann added 11 in the win. Nicole Rasmussen notched five steals.

Dakota Valley also won the JV game (62-10) and C-Game (53-7).

Dakota Valley, 3-1, hosts Ponca on Thursday.

COUNCIL BLUFFS THOMAS JEFFERSON.....4 11 17 22
DAKOTA VALLEY (3-1).....23 39 54 63

Hanson 55, Marion 31

ALEXANDRIA — Cassidy Graham scored 10 points and the Hanson Beaverettes used a 34-9 halftime lead to beat Marion 55-31 on Tuesday night in Alexandria.

Lindsi Dey recorded eight points and nine rebounds for Hanson (5-0), while Kendra Cheeseman added four steals and five assists.

Marion (1-2) got 14 points from Kylie Hughes, nine points from Katherine Luke and four rebounds from Josie Schmidt.

Hanson visits Wagner on Friday and Marion hosts Alcester-Hudson on Dec. 27.

MARION (1-2).....5 9 27 31
HANSON (5-0).....18 34 44 55

Bloomfield 50, Elkhorn Valley 16

BLOOMFIELD, Neb. — Bloomfield defeated Elkhorn Valley 50-16 in Nebraska girls basketball action on Tuesday night in Bloomfield.

Autumn Luger led the way for Bloomfield (2-4), scoring 11 points, six rebounds and three steals. Kenna Fiedler added 10 points and nine rebounds. Amanda Goeden sparked Bloomfield with eight points, eight rebounds and six steals.

Elkhorn Valley (0-6) was led by Courtney Rich with five points. Lisa Henseleit added five points in the loss.

Bloomfield will host Creighton on Thursday, while Elkhorn Valley will host Madison on Thursday.

BLOOMFIELD (2-4).....11 24 36 50
ELKHORN VALLEY (0-6).....3 7 10 16

Estelline 48, Colman-Egan 33

ESTELLINE — Senior forward Erin Begalka's 21 points led the Estelline Lady Redmen to their fourth consecutive victory to start the year, topping Colman-Egan 48-33 on Tuesday night in Estelline.

Begalka was the only Estelline player in double figures, as the senior was 8-12 from the field and hit all five of her

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MMC Women Cruise Past Grace 86-37

OMAHA, Neb. — Taylor Forsch scored 21 points and the reserves combined for 53 points as Mount Marty College rolled past Grace University 86-37 in women's basketball action Tuesday night in Omaha, Neb.

The Lancers (8-5) shot 49 percent from the field, drained 11 three-pointers and were 11-of-13 at the free throw line.

Forsch was 5-of-6 on three-pointers, while Alexa Berg added 12 points and Kelly Amundson had 10 points and five rebounds off the bench. Mount Marty's reserves out-scored Grace's limited bench — with two players — 53-6.

Brittany Little chipped in with eight points and seven rebounds, while April Winne had nine points, and Raquel Sutera posted six points and eight rebounds.

Grace (7-6) was led by Katie Loewen with 11 points and 11 rebounds, while Erika Stubbendeck added nine points and six rebounds.

The Lancers will play two games in Florida, starting with Webber International (Fla.) on Dec. 28 and Emmanuel College (Ga.) on Dec. 29.

MOUNT MARTY (8-5)

Alyssa Whetham 1-2 0-0 2; Alexa Berg 3-6 4-4 12; April Winne 2-5 4-4 9; Brittany Little 4-5 0-1 8; Holly Hegge 1-3 0-0 2; Tara DesLauriers 2-6 0-0 5; Kelli Norrid 1-6 0-0 2; Sarah Cosgrove 1-3 0-0 3; Taylor Forsch 8-11 0-0 21; Hannah Youngberg 1-5 0-0 2; Kelly Amundson 4-5 1-2 10; Kelsey Schmidt 0-1 0-0 0; Allison De Kam 0-2 0-0 0; Cheyenne Lambley 1-2 2-2 4; Raquel Sutera 3-4 0-0 6. TOTALS 32-66 11-13 86.

GRACE (7-6)

Destiny Gamble 0-4 0-0 0; Erika Stubbendeck 3-14 2-4 9; Ashley Roh 2-8 0-0 5; Katie Loewen 4-13 3-6 11; Hannah Schnell 3-8 0-0 6; Christa James 0-0 0-0 0; Jenna Henderson 2-7 2-2 6. TOTALS 14-54 7-12 37.

Halftime: MMC 44-21. Three-Pointers: MMC 11-26 (Forsch 5-6, Berg 2-5, Amundson 1-1, Cosgrove 1-2, Winne 1-2, DesLauriers 1-5, Norrid 0-1, De Kam 0-1, Youngberg 0-3), Grace 2-8 (Roh 1-3, Stubbendeck 1-5). Total Rebounds: MMC 50 (Sutera 8), Grace 29 (Loewen 11). Assists: MMC 19 (Norrid 3, Winne 3, Forsch 3), Grace 12 (Roh 5). Turnovers: Grace 16, MMC 10. Personal Fouls: MMC 12, Grace 11. Fouled Out: None.

SOUTH DAKOTA STATE 72, DELAWARE STATE 57: BROOKINGS — Senior forward Leah Dietel posted her first career double-double with a career-high 16 points and 10 rebounds andAshley Eide tallied a game-high 25 points as South Dakota State pulled away for a 72-57 victory over Delaware State in non-conference women's basketball action Tuesday night at Frost Arena.

With their fourth win in five games, the Jackrabbits improved to 7-5 overall. Delaware State dropped to 2-7 on the season.

SDSU regained a double-digit advantage in the second half and slowly extended the lead. The Jackrabbits continued to use the free throw line to their advantage as they built their largest lead of the night, 66-47, on two charity tosses by Gabby Boever with seven and a half minutes to play.

For the game, the Jackrabbits were 32-of-37 at the line for 86.5 percent, setting season highs in all three categories. From the field,SDSU ended the night 18-of-49, 36.7 percent, including 4-of-16 from three-point range.

Megan Waytashek also reached double figures for the Jackrabbits with 15 points.

Dietel's 10 rebounds, which tied a career high, paced SDSU's 40-36 advantage on the boards.

For Delaware State, Tierra Hawkins came off the bench to score 15 points. Deanna Harmon and Keyanna Tate each tallied 10 points, with Tate adding a game-high 11 rebounds.

SDSU closes out the non-conference portion of its schedule Friday afternoon in Washington, D.C., against Georgetown. Tipoff is slated for 2 p.m. Eastern Time (1 p.m. Central). The Jackrabbits open Summit League play Dec. 30 at home against North Dakota State.

PREP WRESTLING | YANKTON TRIANGULAR

Bucks Split Home Triangular

BY EMILY NIEBRUGGE
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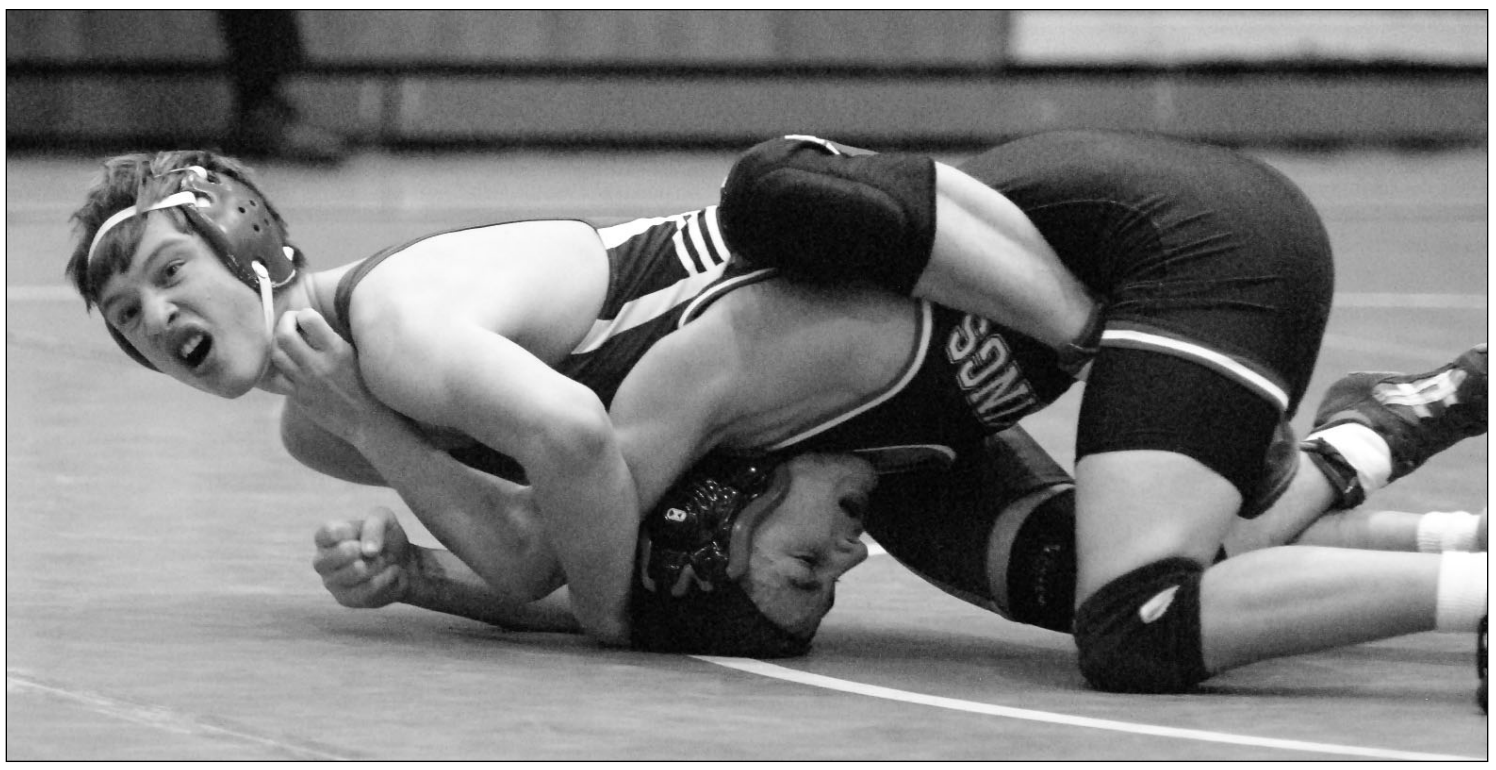

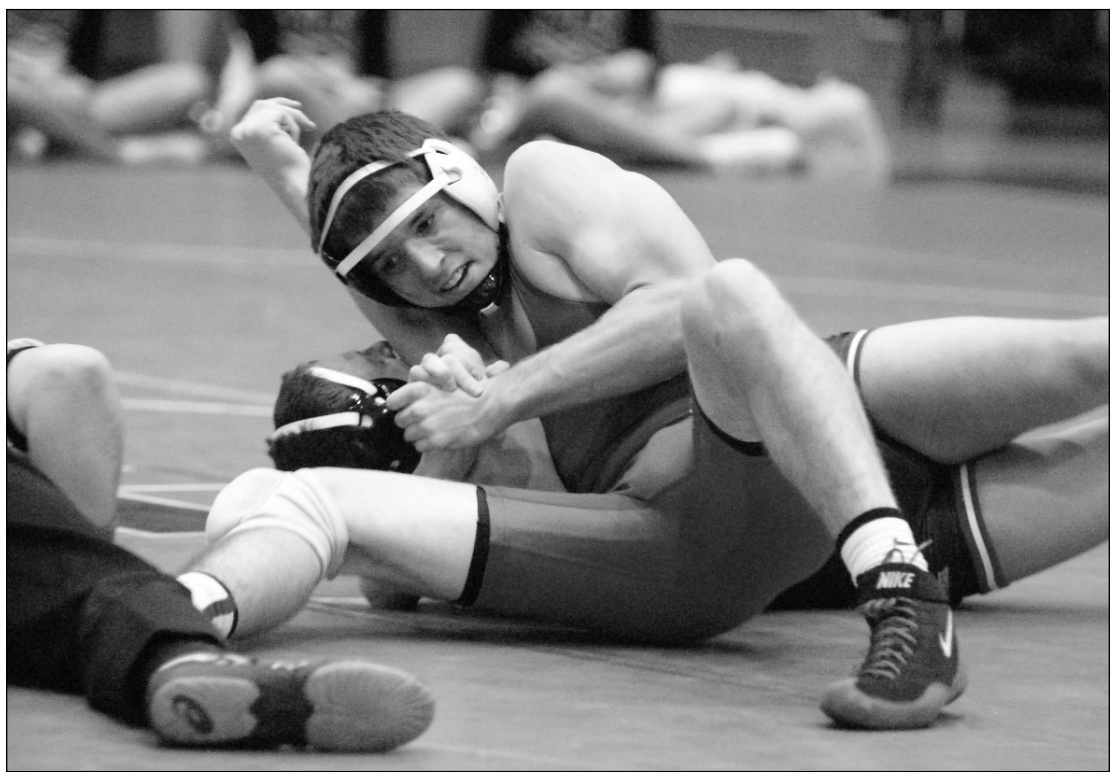

Action On The Mat

ABOVE: Yankton's Gabe Wenzlaff, left, locks up Jesse Kuebler during their 120-pound match at Tuesday night's wrestling triangular at the Summit Center. Kuebler went on to pin Wenzlaff in 1:36 as the Bobcats defeated the Bucks 41-31. Yankton would later beat Harrisburg 52-24 to earn a triangular split.

RIGHT: C.J. Warren of Yankton tries to hold down Wyatt Resman of Brookings for a pin during their 182-pound match at Tuesday night's wrestling triangular at the Summit Center. Warren pinned Resmen in a time of 1:20.

PHOTOS BY JEREMY HOECK/P&D

The Yankton Bucks were able to take second place at a home wrestling triangular with four junior varsity members jumping up to the varsity level.

Head coach Ryan Hage was happy with those who stepped up, and is looking forward to getting them experience for the future.

"Some of those guys, like Dylan Borgstrom and Ty Novak wrestled tonight for the first time and both of them did a fantastic job," he said. "I'm sure they were nervous, but they've been at practice everyday working hard, and you reward them for the work they've been doing. You have to get that first match under your belt and build from there."

The Bookings Bobcats took first place Tuesday night in the wrestling triangular at the Summit Center. Brookings went 2-0 on the day, 41-31 against Yankton and 55-21 against the Harrisburg Tigers.

Yankton went 52-24 against Harrisburg, finishing 1-1, while Harrisburg finished 0-2.

There were three key matches for the day — 106, 145 and 170 — and Hage said the Bucks fell short on two of them.

"Coming into the gym tonight I knew we would have to scramble a bit and play with the lineup somewhat because of the forfeits we do give up," he said. "Matt Huber (ranked No. 8 in Class A) did a fantastic job, wrestled a highly rated individual and came out with a big win. Unfortunately, we were short at 106 and 170. If we had to do it over again, you never know what could have happened. Those are big matches that can swing a dual very easily."

Senior C.J. Warren, ranked No. 4, won both of his matches, but

WRESTLING | PAGE 8

Boys: Crofton, Bloomfield Pick Up Nebraska Home Wins

CROFTON, Neb. — The Crofton Warriors used a 22-12 first quarter lead to defeat O'Neill in boys' basketball action on Tuesday night 59-51.

With the victory, the Warriors improve to 2-4 on the year.

No other stats were reported.

The Warriors are next in action in the Crofton Holiday Tourney after Christmas.

O'Neill, 4-2, plays at Guardian Angels Central Catholic on Thursday.

O'NEILL (4-2).....12 35 35 51
CROFTON (2-4).....22 29 51 59

Bloomfield 42, Elkhorn Valley 34

BLOOMFIELD, Neb. — Bloomfield defeated Elkhorn Valley 42-34 in Nebraska boys basketball action Tuesday night.

Chet Beckman led the way for Bloomfield (4-3) with 11 points and eight rebounds. Ty Alexander had 10 points and eight rebounds. Nick Nagengast added 10 points and six rebounds.

Jacob Heldt led Elkhorn Valley (1-5) with 10 points. Jed Shermer added seven points. Josh Beck also had seven points in the loss.

Bloomfield will play in the Crofton Holiday Tournament on Dec. 28-29. Elkhorn Valley will host Madison on Thursday (tomorrow).

BLOOMFIELD (4-3).....10 18 22 42
ELKHORN VALLEY (1-4).....2 13 22 34

Parkston 47, Avon 37

PARKSTON — The Parkston Trojans broke open a close game in the second half to secure a 47-37 victory over Avon on Tuesday night in Parkston.

Parkston outscored the Pirates 14-5 in the third quarter after holding a 20-19 halftime edge to pull away for the win.

Junior center Spencer Lucas led the Trojans with 19 points. Senior Kyle Hohn added 12 points as Parkston improved to 3-0 this season.

Senior Logan Powers had 16 points to lead the Pirates (0-4).

Parkston also won the JV game, 44-24.

Parkston travels to Corsica on Friday to play Corsica-Stickney.

Avon plays Alcester-Hudson in Alcester on December 28.

AVON (0-4).....8 19 24 37
PARKSTON (3-0).....9 20 34 47

Beresford 61, Irene-Wakonda 45

IRENE — Beresford defeated Irene-Wakonda 61-45 in South Dakota boys basketball action Tuesday night.

Austin Messler led the way for Beresford (1-3) with 19 points. Oliver Doeden totaled 16 points and 11 rebounds. Kory Diefendorf added 10 points in the loss.

Gabe King led the way for Irene-Wakonda (0-3) with 16 points. Dustin Livingston netted 12 points and six rebounds. Cody Schenk sparked the Eagles with five points, three assists and two rebounds.

Beresford will compete in the Buseman Classic in Centervill on Dec. 27. Irene-Wakonda will host Bon Homme in Wakonda on Thursday (tomorrow).

BERESFORD (1-3).....16 22 40 61
IRENE-WAKONDA (0-3).....12 22 34 45

Tripp/Delmont-Armour 58, Andes Central 31

LAKE ANDES — Tripp/Delmont-Armour defeated Andes Central 58-31 on Tuesday night.

Austin Barlow led the way for TDA (2-3) with 18 points, six rebounds and three steals.

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Twins Agree To 1-Year Deal With RHP Pelfrey

MINNEAPOLIS (AP) — Mike Pelfrey once was a promising prospect for the New York Mets, a groundball-inducing machine who chewed up innings and bats with a hard sinker that tumbled out of his 6-foot-7 frame.

He's 28 years old now, coming off of Tommy John surgery and was sitting in the free agent bargain bin, which is where the Minnesota Twins have been shopping for starting pitchers all offseason.

The Twins agreed to terms with the right-hander on a $4 million, one-year contract, adding him to the mix in a starting rotation filled with "pitch-to-contact" guys who rely more on their defense making plays behind them than they do striking hitters out with overpowering stuff.

Pelfrey went 50-54 with a 4.36 ERA in seven seasons with the Mets, including a four-year run in which he pitched at least 184 innings and topped 200 innings twice. But he has averaged just 5.1 strikeouts per nine innings, which means he fits right in with a Twins rotation built on light-throwing, location-oriented arms.

He missed almost all of last season after having the ligament replacement surgery and is now working on his comeback. His deal calls for $1.5 million in performance bonuses, including $100,000 for 150 innings, $150,000 for 160 innings, $250,000 each for 170, 180 and 190 innings and $500,000 for 200 innings, a person with knowledge of the agreement said on Tuesday. The person requested anonymity because the deal has not been announced.

Pelfrey will join Scott Diamond, Vance Worley and Kevin Correia in the new-look rotation. Only Diamond was a holdover from last year's staff, which is probably a good thing.

Twins starters went 39-75 with a 5.40 ERA last year, a disastrous season that put their staff ahead of only Colorado in the majors. Twelve players took at least five starts last season, and the dearth of power arms was one of the organization's biggest weaknesses in their second straight last-place finish in the AL Central.

They added highly touted prospects Alex Meyer and Trevor May in trades, but both will likely take at least another year of seasoning in the minors before they're ready to join the rotation. They also have their own prospect, Kyle Gibson, coming off of Tommy John surgery. He could join the rotation this season sometime but is expected to be on an innings limit similar to what Washington's Stephen Strasburg was on last season.

Wade, James Carry Heat Past T'Wolves

MIAMI (AP) — Dwyane Wade scored 24 points, LeBron James added 22 points and 11 assists and the Miami Heat survived a huge rebounding differential to beat the Minnesota Timberwolves 103-92 on Tuesday night.

Chris Bosh scored 15 points and Mario Chalmers added 12 for the Heat, who gave up 21 of the game's first 24 rebounds and wound up getting beaten 52-24 on the boards — yet still won.

Andrei Kirilenko scored 22 for Minnesota, which played without guard Ricky Rubio, who's being eased back after recovering from knee surgery. The Timberwolves dropped their second straight. Kevin Love finished with 11 points and 18 rebounds, and Nikola Pekovic had a 18-point, 12-rebound effort for the Timberwolves.

James topped the 20-point mark for the 27th straight regular-season game and 43rd straight overall.

A 24-9 run in the second half was the deciding blow for Miami, with James leading the way, getting 11 of those points and assisting on three other scores during the spurt. James had a pair of 3-pointers during the run, including one that put Miami up by 10 late in the third, and then he capped it with a three-point play after connecting on a running jumper with 10:26 left.

In eight minutes, what was a 63-62 deficit became an 86-72 Miami lead.

And when James took an alley-oop from Ray Allen for a dunk in transition with 7:36 left, the lead was 16 — then Miami's largest — and the reigning NBA MVP's streak of 20-point games was extended as well. On the next Miami possession, James found Shane Battier for a 3-pointer along the left wing. The lead was 97-78 with 7:09 left, and James walked back to the Heat bench pumping his right fist with satisfied emphasis.

It was the fifth straight time the Heat have beaten the Timberwolves. The last time Minnesota beat Miami was Feb. 23, 2010 — not all that long ago in real time but eons ago in Heat time, considering none of the five players in the starting lineup for that loss were even on last season's championship team, much less on the current roster.

Luke Ridnour scored 13 and JJ Barea added 10 for Minnesota.

And in the end on Tuesday, the Heat rebounded from a nine-point deficit, in a game where they were literally getting no rebounds early.

Minnesota's frontcourt of Kirilenko, Love and Pekovic knew it had a size advantage, but what it managed on the glass in the early going was ridiculous. Minnesota's rebounding edge was 13-2 after nine minutes — Love already had seven — and 18-3 after the first quarter.