

# Commish: Oral Roberts Will Boost Summit League

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The news Thursday night took many by surprise.

Oral Roberts is returning to the Summit League.

The behind-the-scenes discussions between the conference and the school had never really slowed down despite Oral Roberts leaving for the Southland Conference two seasons ago, according to Summit League commissioner Tom Douple.

Both sides were "always in communication," Douple told the Press & Dakotan on Friday, partly because ORU's men's soccer program had remained an affiliate member of the Summit over the past two seasons.

"They're a great program. If you look at their history in our league, they've been successful," Douple said. "It's a good school to bring in at this time, right after bringing in Denver.

"We believe it'll make us better." Oral Roberts, located in Tulsa, Okla., will become the ninth member of the Summit League effective July 1, 2014, and will see its 16 athletic programs compete starting with the 2014-15 seasons.

The school will join Denver, Fort Wayne, IUPUI, North Dakota State, Omaha, South Dakota, South Dakota State and Western Illinois in the Division I conference that has seen its share of changes over the last few years.

## Oral Roberts

- Tulsa, Okla.
- Summit League member from 1997-2012
- Left for Southland Conference in 2012



Oakland and Kansas City left after the 2012-13 seasons for the Horizon League and Western Athletic Conference, respectively. Denver was added for the 2013-14 academic year to bring the Summit to eight members.

Expansion was, and continues to be, a hot topic of discussion among the league presidents council, Douple said. Ultimately, the decision was made — unanimously — to add Oral

Roberts.

"It got to that point in the fall here to where we wanted to see if we could make this happen," Douple said. "We worked hard from our end, and presidents council did a great job."

"Thankfully we were able to work it out."

Baseball, perhaps more than any other Summit League sport, will benefit the most from the return of Oral Roberts — the conference was down to five members (Fort Wayne, North Dakota State, Omaha, South Dakota State and Western Illinois).

ORU won 15 consecutive conference post-season titles, and only after

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## Miles' Huskers Are Out To End Creighton Dominance

LINCOLN, Neb. (AP) — When it comes to college basketball, the Nebraska Cornhuskers have been overshadowed by the Creighton Bluejays for more than a decade.

That needs to change, according to second-year Huskers coach Tim Miles.

Creighton enters Sunday's meeting at CenturyLink Center in Omaha having won 11 of the last 15 meetings.

"I just know that it's a really, really important game to me personally. It's an important game for our program," Miles said Friday.

"Creighton has historically had excellent basketball. You look at their NCAA tournaments

and how successful they've been. So we want to be able to go out there and compete and find a way to win."

Nebraska (6-2) leads the series 25-21, with its last win in 2010 in Lincoln. But the Bluejays (6-2) have controlled the series since the 1990s, much to the chagrin of Huskers fans who considered the small Jesuit school a once-a-year annoyance that surely couldn't compete in Nebraska's conference, whether the Big 12 or Big Ten.

Now, from a prestige standpoint, the programs are on more equal footing with the Bluejays' move from the Missouri Valley to the Big East, one of the so-called power conferences.

"It's a very important game for both teams," Creighton coach Greg McDermott said. "Both teams have a couple losses and some decent wins to go along with it. It's about basketball in the state of Nebraska. For that evening anyway, people are thinking about basketball in the state. That's pretty cool."

Though the Huskers have only three Nebraskans on their roster and Creighton one, the game generates additional buzz among the players.

"They live 45 miles down the street," said Creighton's Ethan Wragge, a native Min-



Miles

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## High School Basketball | Girls

# Crofton Surges Past Bears

LAUREL, Neb. — The Crofton Lady Warriors won their 36th straight game by surging past Laurel-Concord-Coleridge 60-46 in girls' action Friday night in Laurel.

Crofton led 24-21 at halftime but out-scored LCC 26-8 in the third quarter to take control.

In the win for the Warriors (2-0), Allison Arens recorded 17 points, six rebounds, five assists and four steals. Quinn Wragge had 10 points and six rebounds, while Alex Allen posted 10 points and five assists.

For good measure, Kelsey Sanger contributed nine points, five rebounds and five steals.

Cameron Eddie scored 24 points and grabbed seven rebounds for the hometown Bears (0-1). Audra Corbit added seven points and three rebounds, while Erin Gubbels scored five points and had seven rebounds.

CROFTON (2-0).....10 24 50 60  
LAUREL-CONCORD-COLERIDGE (0-1)14 21 29 46

## Wynot 70, Winside 36

WYNOT Neb. — Wynot started the game ahead and never slowed down in rolling past Winside 70-36 on Friday.

From the beginning, Wynot had a strong lead with 19-4 in the first quarter. They kept their lead for the whole game with 33-14 in the second quarter and 50-22 in the third.

Jenna Heine led Wynot in points scoring 16. Maggie Schulte added to the score with 13 points, while Danielle Wieseler netted 10 and had 10 steals. Skylar Arkfeld snatched 10 rebounds.

Carly Thies led Winside (0-2) and the game in scoring with 18 points.

Wynot travels to Osmond next Friday.  
WINSIDE (0-2).....4 14 22 36  
WYNOT (2-0).....19 33 50 70

## Wakefield 30, Allen 29

WAKEFIELD, Neb. — Lauren Lehmkuhl posted 23 points and 24 rebounds to lead Wakefield to a 30-29 victory over Allen in girls' basketball action on Friday.

Wakefield, 1-1, hosts Osmond on Monday. Allen hosts Cedar Bluffs today (Saturday).

## Plainview 50, Wausa 42

WAUSA, Neb. — Nicole White led Plainview to a 50-42 win against Plainview by scoring 20 points in Friday night basketball action in Wausa.

Brittney Waldow added 10 points for Plainview, while Alicia Jensen had eight points.



JAMES D. CIMBUREK/P&D

Laurel-Concord-Coleridge's Brittany Wolfgram is trapped by Crofton's Allison Arens, 10, Alex Allen and Maria Wortmann during their girls' basketball game on Friday in Laurel, Neb.

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## High School Basketball | Boys

# Warriors Clip Laurel-Concord-Coleridge



JAMES D. CIMBUREK/P&D

Laurel-Concord-Coleridge's Jordan Jansen, 24, finds teammate Dominic Anderson, 15, under the basket during their boys' basketball game with Crofton on Friday at Laurel, Neb.

LAUREL, Neb. — Brock Mueller scored 29 points Friday night to lead Crofton to a 63-47 win against Laurel-Concord-Coleridge Friday night in Laurel.

Mueller also had two rebounds and one assists, with teammate Austin Wookman putting up 11 points, five assists, five turnovers and three steals. Braston Maibaum scored seven points, and Eric Kleinschmit had four turnovers and three assists.

No stats were reported for Laurel-Concord-Coleridge.

Crofton hosts Knox Grammar School Monday, while Laurel-Concord-Coleridge hosts Homer Tuesday.

CROFTON (1-0).....6 22 44 63  
LAUREL-CONCORD-COLERIDGE (0-1)8 17 33 47

## Wausa 65, Plainview 11

WAUSA, Neb. — Wausa had a strong scoring game to defeat Plainview 65-11.

With the score 17-1 in the first quarter, Wausa had a clear lead. They kept their lead the whole game with 37-5 at the half and 51-7 at the end of the third quarter.

Spencer Rosberg led Wausa in points scoring 17. Devin Munter added 12 points and Austin Conn scored 7.

For Plainview Dahl scored 3 points and Jensen and Wright each had two.

Wausa hits the road for their next game at Boyd County on Friday.  
PLAINVIEW (1-1).....1 5 7 11  
WYNOT (1-0).....17 37 51 65

## Wynot 78, Winside 16

WYNOT, Neb. — Wynot took the lead in early on and held on to it the whole

game to top Winside 78-16.

Wynot led the first quarter 26-4, then continued to lead the game with 48-10 at the half and 68-12 at the end of the third quarter.

Cody Stratman led Wynot in scoring with 15 points. To add to the score, Austin Lange put up 10 points.

Bryce Meis scored 8 points for Winside.

Winside travels to Lyons-Decatur Northeast on Tuesday.

Wynot hits the road to Osmond on Friday.

WINSIDE (0-2).....4 10 12 16  
WYNOT (2-0).....26 48 68 78

## Thursday

### Wynot 68, Bloomfield 52

BLOOMFIELD, Neb. — The Wynot Blue Devils used strong starts to each half to down Bloomfield 68-52 in the season and Lewis & Clark Conference opener for both squads.

Wynot led 14-6 after one quarter, then outscored the Bees 22-6 in the third period after trailing 32-31 at the half.

Davis Wieseler and Jackson Sudbeck each had 19 points to lead Wynot. Brady Stratman added 14 points.

Kane Fiedler led Bloomfield with a game-high 21 points. Quinn O'Brien netted 10 points. Adam Haigh added eight rebounds.

Bloomfield travels to Hartington Cedar Catholic on Tuesday.

WYNOT (1-0).....14 31 53 68  
BLOOMFIELD (0-1).....6 32 38 52

### Niobrara-Verdigre 53, Stuart 50

STUART, Neb. — Niobrara-Verdigre used a strong start to the second half to defeat Stuart 53-50 in the season opener for both teams.

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