

# Wrestling Union Proving Beneficial For Bon Homme, Scotland

BY JAMES D. CIMBUREK  
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The Bon Homme Cavaliers last won a state wrestling title in 2002 and finished sixth a year ago, going 5-3 in dual action. The Scotland Highlanders placed one wrestler at state last season, and lost every dual because it had just a handful of wrestlers.

This past off-season, the schools agreed to combine the programs, and the results have been as good as anyone could have hoped.

Bon Homme-Scotland is 9-1 on the season, with that setback coming Tuesday against defending state champion Parkston. The squad has been competitive in every event this season, including a sixth place finish in the Class A-dominated Jerry Opbroek Invitational this past weekend in Mitchell.

"It's been exciting on both ends. We have more kids to work with in practice," said BH-S head coach Mark Stoebner, who had headed the Bon Homme program for several years. "We haven't even heard any negative feedback from the adults."

The co-op between the programs had been on the table in recent years,

but was finally approved by both schools this past off-season.

"We held on thinking our numbers were going to go up," said Scotland athletic director Jim Kocer, who is an assistant for the BH-S program. He had served as a head and assistant coach for Scotland wrestling for several years. "Unfortunately they didn't."

As the schools met to discuss the co-op, wrestlers from both schools voiced their support.

"We went to all the meetings and told them we wanted this," said Scotland junior Dan Stibril, who wrestles heavy-weight for BH-S. He placed third at state in that weight class a year ago. "We thought it would be good for both schools."

Scotland brings just five wrestlers to the mix, but the combination in gaps in the Bon Homme program and the level of the former Highlanders has slotted each of them a spot in the varsity lineup.

"It almost couldn't have been better if we planned it that way," Kocer said. "All five kids are on varsity. That's made things even smoother."

That has given BH-S a full lineup that few teams in the state can boast.

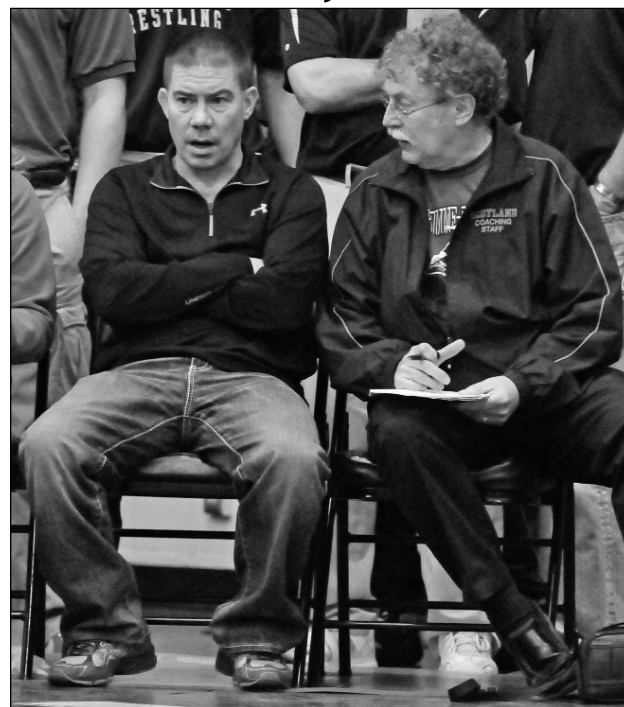
"They've really helped us get a full team, instead of having opens," said Bon Homme junior Duncan Stoebner, a 106-pound champion a year ago. He wrestles 113 pounds this season. "We all knew each other. We were all friends already. We consider ourselves one team."

The BH-S lineup debuted with a dual win over rival Wagner, then followed with a title at the Canton dual tournament.

"When we won the Canton dual tournament in early December, we knew we had something special here," Kocer said.

One of the Scotland wrestlers who has really benefited from the new arrangement is Blake Konstanz. A 120-pounder a year ago, he gave up 40 pounds to any other wrestlers in the Highlander practice room. This year, he's surrounded by quality wrestlers to compete against.

"Konstanz has all the skills. He battles in the room with our best guys. Now we have to get him used to winning and expecting to win," Coach Stoebner said. "Tanner Iwan and Kreg Kepplinger up top, it's been good for them, too."



JAMES D. CIMBUREK/P&D  
Bon Homme-Scotland head coach Mark Stoebner, left, and assistant coach Jim Kocer discuss the action during the Jerry Opbroek Invitational wrestling tournament on Saturday. This is the first year of the co-op between the programs.

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## USD Women Return Home After Rough Road Trip

BY JEREMY HOECK  
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VERMILLION — Lisa Loeffler smiled when she was asked about returning to the DakotaDome.

"We need to be home," said the junior post, whose University of South Dakota women's basketball team returns to Vermillion after three road losses to open the Summit League schedule.

Western Illinois visits the DakotaDome tonight (Thursday) at 7 p.m. and Omaha comes to town Saturday at 2 p.m.

The consistent theme among the three losses for USD (9-9, 0-3)?

"Our defense," Loeffler said before Tuesday's practice. "We just let them run whatever they wanted, and that's what we've been working on in practice."

In losing at Denver, IUPUI and Fort Wayne, the Coyotes allowed an average of 89 points — ranking them last in the conference.

And so, as USD returned home for practice this week, the emphasis has naturally been on the defensive end, Loeffler said.

"We have a tendency to stand up and now box out, so we've been working on staying in our stance the whole time," she said.

More than just defense, the Coyotes have also had to battle through a lingering ankle injury to leading scorer Nicole Seekamp (14.1 ppg). She scored 13 points in the Denver loss, was held scoreless at IUPUI and didn't play in Fort Wayne.

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## Dordt Women Shut Down MMC

SIOUX CENTER, Iowa — The Dordt Defenders lived up to their name, holding the hot-shooting Mount Marty College women's basketball team to 5-22 shooting from three-point range in a 69-54 victory over the Lancers in Great Plains Athletic Conference action on Wednesday.

Kara Van Dyke scored 21 points and Danelle Boone had 15 points for Dordt (10-11, 4-9 GPAC). Jaimie Kok added 14 points and 12 rebounds in the victory.

For Mount Marty, which came into the game ranked third in NIAA Division II in three-point percentage, Raquel Sutera led the way with 13 points and six rebounds. Cassidy Gebhart finished with 10 points. Allison De Kam had nine points and Cheyenne Lambley added six rebounds for the Lancers.

MMC (9-12, 1-11 GPAC) returns home to face Doane on Saturday. Start time is 2 p.m. at Laddie E. Cimpl Arena.

**MOUNT MARTY (9-12)**  
Cassidy Gebhart 3-7 3-4 10, Logan Wagner 3-9 0-0 7, Raquel Sutera 3-13 6-7 13, Kelsey Schmidt 1-6 2-2 5, Allison De Kam 4-8 1-2 9, Denaee Veldkamp 0-0 0-0 0, Cheyenne Lambley 0-1 1-2 1, Jill Jandreau 1-1 0-0 2, Holly Hegge 2-3 2-2 7, Kellie Winckler 0-0 0-0 0, Samantha Blake 0-0 0-0 0, TOTALS: 17-48 15-19 54.  
**DORDT (10-11)**  
Kayla Broekhuis 2-4 0-0 5, Jasmin Schelhaas 1-6 0-0 3, Danelle Boone 5-9 1-2 15, Kara Van Dyke 8-15 3-4 21, Jaimie Kok 6-10 0-0 14, Emily Neuman 0-1 0-0 0, Jessica Jelsema 0-0 1-2 1, Robyn Blount 0-0 2-6 2, Kim Kroezze 2-6 0-0 4, Mycah Hulst 2-2 0-2 4. TOTALS: 26-53 7-16 69.  
At the half: DC 34, MMC 27. Three-Pointers: DC 10-18 (Boone 4-6, Van Dyke 2-2, Kok 2-3, Broekhuis 1-3, Schelhaas 1-3, Kroezze 0-1), MMC 5-22 (Hegge 1-2, Gebhart 1-3, Wagner 1-4, Schmidt 1-6, Sutera 1-7). Re-

## Cougars' Little Sharp-Shooter



JEREMY HOECK/P&D  
Viborg-Hurley sophomore Duana Lee, center, talks with teammates Kayla Anderson, 24, and Abby Hora during a timeout in Monday night's girls' basketball game with Freeman in Viborg. Lee was born with half of a right arm, but has overcome that to become a weapon for the Cougars.

# Viborg-Hurley Guard Doesn't Let Anything Slow Her Down

BY JEREMY HOECK  
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VIBORG — Duana Lee is not the type to make excuses or take credit for her success. That's just not in her nature.

Nor is it to seek special treatment or extra attention.

"On the court, I'm a little mouse, but on the bench, I'm loud," the 16-year-old Viborg-Hurley sophomore said, with a smile. "You can't keep me quiet there."

While she was born with half of a right, it has been her 5-foot-4 frame that has presented more challenges on the basketball court.

And no, having one full arm has not made an impact on her skills. She can catch and shoot the ball without issue, and in many cases, better than most every other player.

"No, I don't think the other team really cares about it, to be honest, they just make sure I don't shoot," Lee said after Monday night's 61-53 win over Freeman in Viborg.

"I think they've caught on." Lee, a key reserve off the bench for the 9-1 Cougars, is averaging around eight points and two steals per game in her 8-9 minutes of varsity action.

"Her ability to do things is unbelievable," said Viborg-Hurley girls' coach Bill Hansen, who estimates that Lee makes between 38-40 percent of her three-point shots.

"It took me a while to realize how much she can do. She's exceeded my expectations, without question."

Especially when it comes to having to work around her size.

## also

■ See video with this story online at [yankton.net](http://yankton.net)

**"Her ability to do things is unbelievable. It took me a while to realize how much she can do. She's exceeded my expectations, without question."**

**BILL HANSEN, VIBORG-HURLEY COACH**

Even at the Class B level, Lee is consistently surrounded by players three to four inches taller than her — more when she ventures into the paint — but has found ways to compensate.

"She's definitely not the tallest one in the family," father Denny Lee joked. "She's shorter than most players she plays against, but man is she quick."

"After one game she told us she found herself in a crowd of players under the hoop and joked, 'All I could see was armpits.'"

One of five daughters for Denny and Kristi Lee, Duana — pronounced DWAYNE-a — is more than just a sharp-shooting weapon for a competitive girls' basketball program. She also plays volleyball for the Cougars and is actively involved in other extracurricular activities.

Motivation isn't a problem for Lee, her mother said.

"When she puts her mind to something, she does it," Kristi said. "That's just the way she is, very competitive."

Even if she doesn't always show that side of her, teammates say.

"She's so competitive inside, it fools you," sophomore guard Abby Hora said. "So when she makes a shot, it's like no big deal to her. But it's a big deal for us."

"She's got the best poker face."

## 'Keep Things Normal'

Despite what she has over-

come throughout her life, Duana Lee doesn't know any different. From parents on down to friends and teammates, everyone has never seen her once even bring up the disability.

"She doesn't think she's special," Kristi said. "She just has such a big heart."

During a practice or a scrimmage when the team makes a mistake, players are frequently asked to do push-ups. Lee will instantly drop to the floor for sit-ups instead, but has never once asked for any kind of special treatment, Hansen said.

"Regardless of anything else she deals with, she's an amazing role model just because of her personality," he said. "She just wants to keep things normal."

If she can be a kind of role model for any other kid who doesn't think they can cut it in varsity sports, that's fine with Lee, but that's not her motivation.

"I normally don't think about it, but then coach said there are probably other kids out there that think it's so cool," she said. "If it helps someone else, that's definitely good."

With four sisters (including Jessica, who played basketball briefly at Mount Marty College) and two brothers-in-law, Duana said she is surrounded by support.

"They've got my back," she said. "They're awesome to

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