More Great 5-State champs

Two each from Minnesota, South Dakota last weekend

Crosby-Ironton players celebrating their 5th-grade championship included Samie Hachey (3), Veronica Millsop, Tori Oehrlein (14) and Emma Silgen.

Photos by Bruce Strand, Minnesota Basketball News

South Dakota rules! Aiden Hanssen of Lennox, above; Emma Kirlin of SD Extreme, right (trailed by Mykie Messer of Bismarck)

Damarius Russell of 6th-grade champion Waseca glides for a transition layup, with TMB’s Alex Munson trailing.
SD Extreme takes over

By Bruce Strand

The SD Extreme eighth-grade girls basketball team from Brandon Valley captured the championship — and ended a dynasty from the other Dakota — of the Pacesetter Great Five-State on Sunday at Target Center.

The Extreme defeated Bismarck Intensity 35-29 in the championship game on the home of the NBA Timberwolves and WNBA Lynx. The Bismarck squad had won five-state titles the last two years. This was Brandon Valley’s first Pacesetter tournament.

8TH GRADE GIRLS FINAL: SD EXTREME 35, BISMARCK INTENSITY (ND) 29

In the semifinals, the Extreme beat Grand Rapids (MN) 34-21 at Concordia University. There were five team in the tournament.

Extreme team members are Izzy Kirlin, Ava Mitzel, Coral Gonseth, Emma Kirlin, Rylee Schlotman, Maesa Geringer, Jaida Metzger, Madison Schlotman, and Hillary Behrens. Coaches are Paul Behrens, Brian Kirlin and Hayden Behrens.

Coach Kirlin reports that the Extreme has won 57 tournaments over four years with a total record of 183-19 and a point differential of 4,096. Extreme players made up most of their middle school team that’s gone unbeaten the last two seasons.

“This team has many traits to achieve so much success, from their dedication in practice to their determination and will to win,” Kirlin said. “Ultimately what I feel sets them apart is the family bond they share after playing together for many years. This bond results in great chemistry and unselfish play and the comfort of knowing that they all have each other’s back.”

Bismarck Intensity reached the finals, again, defeating Barnesville (MN) 33-19 in the semifinals in St. Paul, after a first-round bye.

Intensity team members are Gabriella Bird, Gabbi Mann, Megan Weisbeck, Bergan Kinnebrew, Ali Gulleson, Eve Sheldon, Logan Nissley, Brooklyn Bendel, and Mykie Messer. Coaches are Mark Kinnebrew and Kelly Messer.
Waseca drives to the top

By Bruce Strand

The Waseca sixth-grade boys basketball team captured the championship of the Pacesetter Great Five State tournament on Sunday at the Target Center.

The Blue Jays, who qualified by winning the Minnesota tournament, defeated Tracy-Milroy-Balaton 34-23 in the championship game on the home court of the NBA Timberwolves and WNBA Lynx.

Waseca advanced to finals beating Hanson (SD) 44-39 and Cass Lake-Bena (MN) 44-38, both at Concordia University.

6TH GRADE BOYS FINAL: WASECA (MN) 34, TRACY-MILROY-BALATON (MN) 23

Waseca team members are Damarius Russell, Jameson Paulson, Issac Feldkamp, Deron Russell, Tauston Rupe, Max Howard, and Cam Karsten. Coaches are Brian Rupe, Corey Rupe and Gregg Feldkamp.

“This group of boys just love the game and understand the game,” Brian Rupe said. “They play great team basketball and complement each other very well.”

The coach added that Damarius Russell is the leading scorer but also passes extremely well, Tauston Rupe is the top rebounder and makes the hustle plays, Deron Russell is a defensive leader, trapping all over the place and creating steals for Issac Feldkamp and Jameson Paulson, while the big guys, Max Howard and Cam Karsten, do a great job finishing around the basket.

The group started traveling to tournaments at the end of February. They took third in the A2 bracket of the MYAS grade state tournament in March.

The runner-up TMB Panthers advanced to the final defeating Hanson (SD) 39-31 and Bismarck (ND) 38-30, both at Concordia University.

Panther team members are Ryker Davis, Noah Knakmuhs, Cade Swenhaugen, Quinn Landherr, Dalton Timmerman ... Back: Alex Munson, Trevor Smith, Taylor Swenhaugen, and Aidan Swenhaugen, Coaches are Michael Munson and Bryan Smith.

Tracy-Milroy-Balaton’s Dalton Timmerman (31) scores on fast break, with Waseca’s Tauston Rupe trying to block the shot.
Crosby-Ironton cruises to title

By Bruce Strand

The Crosby-Ironton fifth-grade girls captured the championship of the Pacesetter Great Five State tournament on Saturday at the Target Center.

The Rangers, who qualified by winning the Minnesota tournament, beat Mobridge-Pollock, the South Dakota champion, in the Great Five State finals 40-19.

To reach the finals, the Rangers beat Yellow Medicine East (MN) 34-10 and Minnewaska Area (MN) 34-21, both at Concordia University.

5TH GRADE BOYS:
CROSBY-IRONTON (MN) 40,
MOBRIDGE-POLLOCK (SD) 19

Ranger team members are Sammie Hachey, Emma Silgen, Ryley Bartels, Lucy Lewandowski, Tori Oehrlein, Kirsten Nixon, and Veronica Millsop. Coaches are Kyle Bartels and Sarah Oehrlein.

Mobridge-Pollock, which qualified by winning the South Dakota tournament, beat Janesville-Waldorf-Pemberton (MN) 21-13 and North Dakota champion Jamestown 26-9 to reach the Great Five-State finals.

Team members are Addie Aman, Jacy Netterville, Blake Thompson, Jayda Thompson, Tegan Kobold, Alexis Reiss, Katelynn Fieldheim, Faith Heil, Becca Cox, Ellie Kemnitz, Jasmin Perez, Christian Schilz, and Kiana Collins. Their coach is Jesse Kobold.
Lennox wins finals thriller

By Bruce Strand

The Lennox fourth-grade boys captured the championship of the Pacesetter Great Five-State tournament on Sunday at the Target Center.

The Orioles defeated Prinsburg (MN) 26-24 in overtime in the championship game. Aiden Hanssen sank two free shots with six seconds left in the overtime for the winning points at the home of the NBA Timberwolves and WNBA Lynx.

In the semifinals, the Orioles beat Byron (MN) 33-14, at Concordia University. There were five teams in the tournament.

Team members are Aiden Hanssen, Chase Lundquist, Eli Plank, Jevyn Lefers, Wyatt Holland, Brennen Juffer, Drake Mikkelsen. Coaches are Chris Hanssen and Jennie Holland.

4TH GRADE BOYS FINAL: LENNOX (SD) 26, PRINSBURG (MN) 24, OT

“They are very driven, hard-working and play very well together as a team,” Jennie Holland said, about the boys. “They work hard on and off the court and you will often find them fitting in their own practices at school recess.

“We have had success at several local tournaments around the Sioux Falls area. This was our first opportunity to play in the Great Five-State Championship. This is an experience the boys will never forget.”

The coach for Prinsburg (representing Central Minnesota Christian School), Daryl Van Der Hagen, said this was the first time his team ever lost a game, playing together since first grade.

The BlueJays, who qualified by winning the Minnesota tournament, beat Grand Rapids 37-19 in the semifinals after a first-round bye.

Team members are Sutton Van Der Hagen, Kyle Schwitters, Andrew Broberg, Carter Rupliger, Will Schneiderman, Eli Gerdes, Asher Wieberdink, Carter Taatjes.
**8TH GRADE GIRLS**

**Quarterfinals**
- Barnesville (MN) 24, Hawley (MN) 13
Three other teams had byes

**Semifinals**
- Bismarck Intensity (ND) 33, Barnesville 19
- Brandon Valley (SD) 34, Grand Rapids (MN) 21

**Championship**
- Brandon Valley 35, Bismarck Intensity 29

**Third place**
- Grand Rapids 30, Hawley 23
- Grand Rapids 41, Barnesville 25

**6TH GRADE BOYS**

**Quarterfinals**
- Tracy-Milroy-Balaton (MN) 39, Hanson (SD) 31
- Bismarck (ND) 52, Waukon (IA) 11
- Leech Lakers (MN) 33, Greenfield (WI) 32
- Waseca (MN) 44, Hanson (SD) 39

**Semifinals**
- Tracy-Milroy-Balaton 38, Bismarck 30
- Waseca 44, Leech Lakers 38

**Championship**
- Waseca 34, Tracy-Milroy-Balaton 23

**Third place**
- Leech Lakers 28, Bismarck 14

**Consolation round**
- Greenfield 50, Waukon 19

**Olivia Danielson of Minnewaska launches a shot that hit nothing but net against Jamestown.**

- Hanson 35, Waukon 11
- Hanson 39, Greenfield 31

Hanson is consolation champion

(With only 7 teams, Hanson played twice in the first round)

**4TH GRADE BOYS**

**Quarterfinals**
- Grand Rapids (MN) 41, Mpls. Central Green (MN) 36
Three other teams had byes

**Semifinals**
- Crosby-Ironton 34, Minnewaska Area 21
- Mobridge-Pollock 26, Jamestown 9

**Championship**
- Crosby-Ironton 40, Mobridge-Pollock 19

**Third place**
- Minnewaska Area 18, Jamestown 10

**Consolation semifinals**
- Hanson/Ethan/Wagner 29, Yellow Medicine East 23
- Janesville-Waldorf-Pemberton 29, Nett Lake 12

**Consolation championship**
- Janesville-Waldorf-Pemberton 30, Hanson/Ethan/Wagner 21

**Consolation third place**
- Yellow Medicine East 32, Nett Lake 16

**5TH GRADE GIRLS**

**Quarterfinals**
- Crosby-Ironton (MN) 34, Yellow Medicine East (MN) 10
- Minnewaska Area (MN) 20, Hanson/Ethan/Wagner (SD) 6
- Jamestown (ND) 22, Nett Lake (MN) 14
- Mobridge-Pollock (SD) 26, Janesville-Waldorf-Pemberton (MN) 13

**Semifinals**
- Crosby-Ironton 34, Minnewaska Area 21
- Mobridge-Pollock 26, Jamestown 9

**Championship**
- Crosby-Ironton 40, Mobridge-Pollock 19

**Third place**
- Minnewaska Area 18, Jamestown 10

**Consolation semifinals**
- Hanson/Ethan/Wagner 29, Yellow Medicine East 23
- Janesville-Waldorf-Pemberton 29, Nett Lake 12

**Consolation championship**
- Janesville-Waldorf-Pemberton 30, Hanson/Ethan/Wagner 21

**Consolation third place**
- Yellow Medicine East 32, Nett Lake 16
8TH GRADE BOYS

Quarterfinals
- Byron 22, Hutchinson 22
- Hawley 34, Deer River-Fond du Lac 26
- Brainerd 40, Madelia 31
- Moose Lake-Willow River 43, St. Joe's-Waconia 27

Semifinals
- Byron 56, Hawley 30
- Moose Lake-Willow River 59, Brainerd 51

Championship
- Moose Lake-Willow River 41, Byron 39

Third place
- Hawley 48, Brainerd 43

Consolation semifinals
- Deer River-Fond du Lac 36, Hutchinson 34
- St. Joe's-Waconia 56, Madelia 27

Consolation championship
- St. Joe's-Waconia 59, Deer River-Fond du Lac 56

Consolation third place
- Hutchinson 43, Madelia 39

7TH GRADE BOYS

Quarterfinals
- Stewartville 45, St. Joe's-Waconia 25
- Paynesville 37, Nett Lake 33
- Brainerd 50, Byron 28
- Annandale 28, Moose Lake-Willow River 21

Semifinals
- Stewartville 48, Paynesville 36
- Brainerd 48, Annandale 42

Championship
- Brainerd 48, Stewartville 45

Consolation semifinals
- St. Joe's-Waconia 39, Nett Lake 38
- Moose Lake-Willow River 40, Byron 38

Consolation championship
- Moose Lake-Willow River 28, St. Joe's-Waconia 25

Consolation third place
- Byron 46, Nett Lake 33

7TH GRADE GIRLS

Quarterfinals
- Mt. Iron-Buhl 45, Sauk Centre 18
- Bemidji 22, New Ulm 19
- St. Peter 49, Deer River 14
- Detroit Lakes 25, Plainview-Elgin-Millville 20

Semifinals
- Mt. Iron-Buhl 48, Bemidji 20
- Detroit Lakes 37, St. Peter 29

Championship
- Mt. Iron-Buhl 28, Detroit Lakes 17

Third place
- St. Peter 43, Bemidji 22

Consolation semifinals
- New Ulm 35, Sauk Centre 16
- Plainview-Elgin-Millville 41, Deer River 22

Consolation championship
- Plainview-Elgin-Millville 23, New Ulm 21

Consolation third place
- Sauk Centre 48, Deer River 40
MN INV. TOURNEYS JUNE 22

9TH GRADE BOYS

Pool play
• Hawley 39, New Ulm 28
• Warroad 48, Lac qui Parle Valley 31
• Moose Lake-Willow River 39, Hawley 31
• Warroad 44, Ashby 25
• Moose Lake-Willow River 45, New Ulm 35
• Ashby 32, Lac qui Parle Valley 27

Championship
• Detroit Lakes 41, Climax/Ada-Borup/West 29

Third place
• Lewiston/Altura 22, Mountain Lake/Comfrey 17

Fifth place
• Wrenshall 38, Deer River 34

7TH GRADE BOYS

Pool play
• Mountain Lake/Comfrey 38, Deer River 32
• Climax/Ada-Borup/West 31, Lewiston/Altura 29
• Detroit Lakes 36, Mountain Lake/Comfrey 21
• Climax/Ada-Borup/West 53, Wrenshall 37
• Detroit Lakes 40, Deer River 36
• Lewiston-Altura 46, Wrenshall 35

Championship
• Sleepy Eye 30, MN Valley Lutheran 21, Roseau 20

Third place
• Triton 27, Roseau 26

5TH GRADE GIRLS

Quarterfinals
• Stewartville 29, Nett Lake 23
• Crosby-Ironton 29, Lanesboro 14
• Janesville-Waldorf-Pemberton 20, Virginia 10
• Minnewaska Area 18, Yellow Medicine East 15

Semifinals
• Crosby-Ironton 35, Stewartville 24
• Janesville-Waldorf-Pemberton 18, Minnewaska Area 10

Championship
• Crosby-Ironton 31, Janesville-Waldorf-Pemberton 26

Consolation semifinals
• Lanesboro 20, Nett Lake 16
• Yellow Medicine East 30, Virginia 17

Consolation championship
• Yellow Medicine East 23, Lanesboro 18

Consolation third place
• Virginia 25, Nett Lake 13

7TH GRADE GIRLS

Quarterfinals
• Sleepy Eye 41, Deer River 8
• Triton 33, Park Rapids 21
• Roseau 13, Minneota 9
• MN Valley Lutheran 40, Northeast College Prep 0

Semifinals
• Sleepy Eye 30, Triton 17
• MN Valley Lutheran 21, Roseau 20

Championship
• Sleepy Eye 30, MN Valley Lutheran 21, Roseau 20

Third place
• Triton 27, Roseau 26

Consolation semifinals
• Lanesboro 20, Nett Lake 16
• Yellow Medicine East 30, Virginia 17

Consolation championship
• Yellow Medicine East 23, Lanesboro 18

Consolation third place
• Virginia 25, Nett Lake 13
Great 5-State champs June 22-23

8th grade girls
SD EXTREME (BRANDON)
Front: Izzy Kirlin, Madison Schlotman, Jaida Metzger, Ava Mitzel, Coral Gonseth
Back: Coach Brian Kirlin, Emma Kirlin, Hilary Behrens, Rylee Schlotman, Maesa Geringer, Coach Paul Behrens

6th grade boys
WASECA (MN)
Front: Damarius Russell, Jameson Paulson, Issac Feldkamp, Deron Russell
Back: Coach Gregg Feldkamp, Tauston Rupe, Max Howard, Cam Karsten, Coach Brian Rupe, Coach Corey Rupe

5th grade girls
CROSBY-IRONTON (MN)
Front: Aubrey Stark, Addy Heid, Alia Randt, Lauryn Ankeny, Jayda Kolstoe
Back: McKenna Kopel, Kendall Danielson, Olivia Danielson, Carley Jergenson, Ava Staples, Phemie Oeltjen, Lyla Stadtherr

4th grade boys
LENNOX (SD)
Front: Aiden Hanssen, Chase Lundquist, Eli Plank
Back: Jevyn Lefers, Wyatt Holland, Brennen Juffer, Drake Mikkelsen
Coaches: Chris Hanssen, Jennie Holland
Great 5-State runners-up, June 22-23

8th grade girls
BISMARCK INTENSITY (ND)
Front: Megan Weisbeck, Eve Sheldon, Gabbi Mann, Ali Gulleson ... Back: Coach Kelly Messer, Brooklyn Brendel, Gabriella Bird, Bergan Kinnebrew, Logan Nissley, Mykie Messer, Coach Mark Kinnebrew

6th grade boys
TRACY-MILROY-BALATON (MN)
Front: Ryker Davis, Noah Knakmuhs, Cade Swenhaugen, Quinn Landherr, Dalton Timmerman ... Back: Coach Bryan Smith, Alex Munson, Trevor Smith, Taylor Swenhaugen, Aidan Swenhaugen, Coach Michael Munson

5th grade girls
MOBRIDGE-POLLACK (SD)
Front: Alexis Reiss, Jacy Netterville, Addison Aman, Blake Thompson, Jayda Thompson, Kiana Collins, Jasmin Perez, Ellie Kemnitz ... Back: Coach Katie Konold, Christina Schily, Faith Heil, Tegan Konold, Katelynn Fjeldheim, Becca Cox, Coach Jesse Konold

4th grade boys
PRINSBURG (MN)
Front: Sutton Van Der Hagen, Kyle Schwitters, Andrew Broberg, Carter Rupliger ... Back: Will Schneiderman, Eli Gerdes, Asher Wieberdink, Carter Taatjes, Coach Daryl Van Der Hagen
Great Five State boys snapshots

Waseca’s Tauston Rupe (15) tries to shoot over Tracy-Milroy-Balaton’s Aiden Swenhaugen.

Leech Lake’s center Bowen Nichols heads upcourt against Bismarck.

Leech Lake’s Jayden Fairbanks leads a fast break.

Lennox’s Brennen Juffer heads for the hoop against Prinsburg’s Asher Wieberdink (24) and Carter Taatges.
Great Five State girls snapshots

Battling for the ball were Bismarck Intensity’s Gabbi Mann (middle) with SD Extreme’s Jaida Metzger (left) and Coral Gonseth (right).

Jamestown’s Elizabeth Nihill is double-teamed by Minnewaska’s Lyla Stadtherr and Lauryn Ankeny.

Emma Silgin rebounds for Crosby-Ironton.

Mobridge-Pollack’s Haith Heil drives hard to the hoop with Crosby-Ironton’s Tori Oehrlein in pursuit.

Ava Stokes takes aim for Minnewaska Area.
Pacesetter state champs June 23

9th grade girls
NEW RICHLAND-HARTLAND-ELLENDALE-GENEVA

7th grade boys
MOOSE LAKE-WILLOW RIVER
Front: Sam Dewey, Phillip Sheetz, Duane Broughton, Landin Kurhajetz ... Middle: Connor Welch, Caden Durkin, Zach Youngs ... Back: Coach Paul Dewey, Chance Lunde, Ethan Burton, Dominick Beaulieu, Logan Orvedahl, Coach Angie Orvedahl

7th grade boys
BRAINERD
Front: Eli Hoelz, Bennett Berander, Jameson Dale, Brady Rushin, Jake Merseth ... Back: Coach Nick Hoelz, Nate Herkenhoff, Brandon Stark, Dylan Gross, Coach Jon Dale

7th grade girls
MOUNTAIN IRON-BUHL
Front: Mya Gallus, Angel Moore, Zoe Bialczak ... Back: Aaliyah Barfield, Jordan Zubich, Desi Milton, Hali Savela, Gabby Lira, Suzy Aubrey
Pacesetter state runners-up June 23

9th grade girls
STEPHEN-ARGYLE

From left: Coach Scott Groven, Marey Kazmierczak, Mausie Srnksky, Macy Haugen, Josie Rivard, Grace Carlson, Riley Mooney, Greta Weberg, Casey Osowski, Madelyn Groven, Coach Heidi Carlson

9th grade boys
BYRON

Left to right: Garret Johnson, James Durst, Sam Pompeii, Jaxon Marine, Josh Petersen, Carson Czeczok, Trent DeCook, Kole Forstoffer

... Not pictured: coaches Scott Marine, Chad DeCook, Jay Czeczok, Matt Petersen

7th grade boys
STEWARTVILLE

Photo not available

7th grade girls
DETROIT LAKES

Front: Ava Jones, Sydney Borgmann, Brook Markuson, Anna Askelson, Ella Bommersbach ... Back: Karley Mace, Helena Daggett, Ella Okeson, Grace Gunderson, Hannah Knoop, Elle Bettcher
Pacesetter MIT champions June 22

9th grade boys
MOOSE LAKE-WILLOW RIVER
Front: Sam Dewey, Phillip Sheetz, Duane Broughton, Landin Kurhajetz ... Back: Connor Welch, Caden Durkin, Zach Youngs
Back row Left to right: Coach Paul Dewey, Chance Lunde, Ethan Burton, Dominick Beaulieu, Logan Orvedahl, Coach Angie Orvedahl

7th grade boys
DETROIT LAKES
Front: Erick Ziegler, Ryan Peterson, Isaac Sweep, Devon Berg, Lohgen Olson ... Back: Coach Mike Berg, Mason Sherva, Reece Borgmann, Brandon Marsh, Isaac Cariveau, Mason Carrier, Coach Matt Carrier

7th grade girls
SLEEPY EYE
Front: Cadence Oakerman, Kadence Hesse, Jazzibele Martinez, Briissa Hernandez ...
Back: Lydia Hurrias, Brea Mertz, Anna Rosbach, Kennedy Braun

5th grade girls
CROSBY-IRONTON
From left: Emma Silgin, Lucy Lewandowski, Veronica Millsop, Tori Oehrlein, Kirsten Nixon, Sammie Hachey, Ryley Bartels.