Kacie Borowicz joined the 3,000-point club recently, making her family the first with two sisters in the exclusive club — and her school, Roseau, the only one with three members.

Borowicz notched her 3,000th on Jan. 18 on a free shot while scoring 29 in a 76-33 win over Badger-Greenbush-Middle River at home. She had 3,010 after that game.

A 5-8 senior guard who has played for a state champion, state runner-up and state third-place finisher in her career, she is averaging 26.7 points this year. She has signed with North Dakota.

Kylie Borowicz finished with 3,225 in 2017, Roseau’s state championship season. She’s currently leading Minnesota-Moorhead (16-2) with 14.4 ppg as a sophomore.

“When Kylie scored her 1,000th point, I hoped I could get to 1,000,” Kacie told the Grand Forks Herald.

“Then she got to 2,000, I was hoping for that. When she got to 3,000, I was hoping for that.”

Roseau’s Megan Taylor was the first girl in the state to crack 3,000 and finished with 3,300 in 1997 before starring at Iowa State.

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There are now 20 girls and 10 boys in the 3,000-point club, according to Matt Pederson, the informal record keeper for Minnesota high school basketball.


Braham is the only other school with more than one 3,000-point scorer: Isaiah Dahlman (2006) with 3,367 and Tyler Vaughan (2012) with 3,340.

The third Borowicz sister, Katie, a sophomore, has 1,116 points and is averaging 20.7 this year.
Chaska, Buffalo knock teams from unbeaten list

The Farmington girls and Princeton boys were both dislodged from the unbeaten ranks this past week.

Chaska (14-3) nipped Farmington 53-51 on Monday with Mallory Heyer scoring the decisive basket on a left-handed layup with 16 seconds left. Heyer had 12 points, and Destinee Bursch and Kaylee VanEps 10 each for the Hawks (14-3). Buffalo (11-5) shackled Princeton 83-63 on Jan. 17 with Aidan Bouman scoring 23 points, Tony Dahl 19 and Brandon Maatz 17.

Still unbeaten in the last week of January are 10 girls teams and six boys teams. Minneota has two -- with the Viking boys and girls ranked No. 1 in Class 1A all season.

Other boys unbeaten are Waseca, Osakis, BOLD, Henning and Ada-Borup. Other girls unbeatens are Wayzata, Hopkins, Eden Valley-Watkins, Medford, Menahga, Stephen-Argyle, Grand Meadow, Hills-Beaver Creek and Parkers Prairie.

Grand Meadow girls (16-0) burst unto the scene

Grand Meadow has never sent a basketball team to state but this year’s Superlarks girls are in the conversation at 16-0 and ranked No. 4 in Class 1A. “To get to state … That would be like, wow. But I think we have a real chance to do it,” said Jordyn Glynn, a sixth-year varsity player with nearly 2,000 points, in a Rochester Post-Bulletin article.

They win with speed and good shooting. Riley Queensland averages 18 points, shooting 60 percent; Glynn 16 points (51 percent) and Hailey Hindt eight points (61 percent). A defensive ace, Skylar Cotten, averages almost four steals and four deflections. She is nicknamed “Ninja,” because, as Flynn explains, she “comes out of nowhere.”

Coach Ryan Queensland, tracking his daughter’s group since grade school, told the Post-Bulletin, “I’ve always known that this is an unselfish group … To me, as a coach and a parent, that is neat to see.”

One section rival ranked ahead of them is Goodhue (No. 3), which won state titles in 2016 and 2017.
BOLD, soooo close to state title in football, roars back in basketball

By Bruce Strand

You can’t get much closer to a state championship and not win it than BOLD did last fall in football. After a heartbreaking Prep Bowl loss, the Warriors quickly exchanged cleats for sneakers and got right back to work to pursue another lofty goal.

“They didn’t want any time off,” said basketball coach Jake Brustuen, whose top six includes five football players. “We hashed it over and decided it was best to move on to the next challenge, which was to get another team to a state tournament.”

The Warriors have reeled off 16 straight wins, 15 by double digits. They are ranked No. 2 in Class 1A behind Minneota.

The Warriors are pumping in 78 points per game, getting production all around a lineup that’s still young. Starters are junior guard Jordan Sagedahl (averaging 19 points, seven rebounds), junior guard Gavin Vosika (17 points, seven assists, eight rebounds), soph guard Drew Sagedahl (15 points, three assists), senior forward Carter Henry (13.7 points, 6.6 rebounds) and junior guard Mathew Moore (7.5 points, 2.5 assists).

“It’s a very athletic group,” said Brustuen, a 2006 graduate of BOLD. “We are not real tall except for Carter (6-8), Jordan is 6-2 and the rest about 6-0. We have a few different kinds of pressure defense and on offense we get out and play fast and shoot the ball well and share the ball.”

Notable wins include 75-56 over Mayer Lutheran, the team that ended their season last year; 77-57 over North Woods, state runner-up the last two years; and 112-82 over Atwater-Cosmos-Grove City, breaking the school record of 101 set two years ago.

Coming up is a home game against No. 5 Springfield on Feb. 8. Both teams will vie for the Section 2A title. Springfield has beaten BOLD the last three years. Last year, Mayer Lutheran nipped them both at sectionals, BOLD 57-56 in the semifinals and Springfield 78-75 in the finals.

BOLD, an entity dating back to 1989, has never reached state in basketball as BOLD, but there’s been a flash of glory. Bird Island-Lake Lillian won back-to-back state titles in 1980 and 1981, led by Barry Wohler, who was voted to the All-State Tournament Team of the Century by fans in 2000. The other town, Olivia, had one state trip, in 1919.

In football this fall, BOLD blew out their first 13 opponents, including Minneota 49-7 in the section finals, avenging their lone loss the year before, also in the section finals. At the Prep Bowl, the Warriors lost to Mahnomen/Waubun 22-21, as Vosika had the ball yanked from his grasp at the 10-yard line in the closing seconds. Leading their high-octane offense were Vosika, scoring 28 touchdown on runs, passes and kick returns, and Jordan Sagedahl, passing for 29 touchdowns and running for 12 more.

The Warriors have won big in baseball, too, going 19-2 last year, losing only to state runner-up Sleepy Eye, with Jordan Sagedahl sparking at pitcher, catcher and shortstop. In the 2017-18 school year, BOLD was 10-1 in football, 22-7 in basketball and 19-4 in baseball.
Cromwell-Wright snaps MIB’s northland streak

The Mountain-Iron Buhl girls, state qualifiers for the last eight seasons, had won 112 straight games against fellow “Northland” teams before Cromwell-Wright toppled the Rangers 78-58 on Monday, the Duluth New Tribune reported. The last Northland team to beat MIB was North Woods, 52-50 in January of 2013.

Taya Hakamaki scored 31 points and her cousin Shaily Hakamaki pumped in 26 for the Cardinals (15-1). “It’s been forever since we’ve beaten them, so this is insane,” Taya Hakamaki told the paper, adding that a close loss Dec. 28 (57-49) had “boosted our confidence.”

Cromwell-Wright’s last win over MIB was in 2010. Ranger coach Jeff Buffetta told the News-Tribune: “Cromwell has a great program … Over the years they could have beaten us many times, but we had the upper hand. Everything went right for them and nothing went right for us.”

MIB was missing starters Mattison Bennett (hospitalized after she felt chest pains in warmups) and Macy Savela (shoulder injury during the game).

Chaska’s Nicholson hits 51

Cole Nicholson poured in 51 points for Chaska in an 82-69 win over Robbinsdale Cooper on Jan. 15. Nicholson shot 23-for-31 from the field and 5-for-6 at the line while snagging 20 rebounds. The 6-6 shooting forward got the school-record without even attempting a 3-point shot. Nicholson, averaging 22 points for the Hawks (10-4), has committed to Northern Colorado. Previous record was 48 by both Myles Hanson (2017) and Jake White (2011).

--A triple double was achieved by Spencer Halland, Red Rock Central post, on Jan. 11. The 6-7 senior tallied 26 points, 11 rebounds and 11 assists in an 82-49 win over Fulda. Halland is averaging 19 points and 10 rebounds for the Falcons (6-8) and is taking 1.3 charges per game.

--James Flicek of Princeton had a triple-double of 15 points, 11 rebounds and 10 assists in an 82-68 win over Cambridge-Isanti on Jan. 15.

--Wyatt Olson of St. Peter had two impressive double-doubles recently, with 28 points and 25 rebounds in a 72-70 win over St. Croix Lutheran, six days after notching 26 and 18 in a loss to Jordan, 76-72. The 6-5 junior averages 18.6 points and 13.3 rebounds for the Saints (12-3).
Men commonly coach girls sports. Women often coach both genders in sports like cross country and Nordic. But women coaching boys basketball is rare. Here are two.

Hager coaches girls, then boys at B.A.

By Bruce Strand

When the boys basketball position opened up at Bethlehem Academy last spring, Melissa Hager took a look at it and figured, why not her? Never mind that females coaching boys basketball are almost non-existent. Hager figured her resume stacked up pretty well.

She previously coached the Cardinal girls, then the St. Olaf women as an assistant, for four years each. She had played college basketball and soccer. And she knew all the boys on the squad; she had them in her PE class as seventh-graders, and later coached them in the fall league. B.A. activities director Ed Friesen agreed and hired Hager.

“I knew it was a good group of boys,” said Hager. “I just prayed that if that door was meant to be opened it would. If not, I knew I would still be coaching a great group of girls at St. Olaf.”

Bethlehem Academy is 6-6. Hager is their third coach in four years, so her main task was installing yet another new system for them. “I absolutely love this group of boys and feel so blessed to coach them,” she said. “We’ve had our ups and downs … but they have caught on so quickly. All the big pieces are in place; now it’s just focusing on the details. This group has worked so hard and has great senior leadership.”

One thing you notice right away about Hager is that she is one of the few coaches who does not constantly pace the sidelines, yelling at players, instead showing a calm, measured demeanor while sitting or kneeling. In the past, coaches always sat, but in the last two or three decades, it’s become vogue to coach from your feet. She was like that herself with the girls. “I had a feisty

Climax-Fisher legend Slyt takes up challenge

By Bruce Strand

Brenda Slyt is proud to say she’s from Climax, MN. And not many people can say that, as the population there was listed at 266 in 2017. Climax pairs with its bigger neighbor, Fisher (pop. 424), for sports. Slyt was a local legend as an athlete for her school, located 53 miles north of Fargo. And now she’s their boys basketball coach.

The only time Climax-Fisher made a big splash statewide was in 2003 when Slyt led the volleyball team to the state championship game, where they lost to Bethlehem Academy. Slyt blasted more than a thousand kills in volleyball, and was even better in basketball, although the team was not as successful.

Slyt amassed 2,358 points and 1,888 rebounds for the Knights in five seasons. Picked for the state all-star series, she rang up 23 and 20 points in the two games. No state tourney, though; she recalls losing in conference and section to Fosston and future Gopher star Kelly Roysland.

Slyt was a standout with North Dakota State in basketball. The six-foot forward averaged 12.2 points as a junior
East Ridge dazles in win over Bears for lead

No. 4 ranked East Ridge had more dunks (eight) than turnovers (five) in turning back No. 11 White Bear Lake 81-70 in a duel for the Suburban East Conference lead on Tuesday evening. The soaring dunks came from the Raptors’ three D-1 prospects — 6-10 junior forward Ben Carlson, who had 22 points; 6-7 sophomore guard Kendall Brown, who had 21; and 6-6 senior forward Courtney Brown, who had 18. Senior 5-10 guard Zach Zebrowski added 14. For the Bears, 6-1 senior guard Isaac Tessier sank 26 points (with two dunks) and 6-8 senior forward Jeremy Beckler had 24.

* * *

Seven boys basketball duels are slated for this year’s Breakdown Sports Minnesota/Wisconsin Border Battle on Jan. 26 at East Ridge High School. Minnesota Valley Lutheran faces Thorp at 10 a.m., followed by Lake City vs. Clear Lake at 11:30 p.m., St. Croix Lutheran vs. Whitefish Bay at 1:15 p.m.; Rochester Mayo vs. Waupun at 2:45 p.m.; Apple Valley vs. Brookfield East at 4:15 p.m.; Minnehaha Academy vs. Onalaska at 6 p.m.; and East Ridge vs. Brookfield Central at 7:30 p.m.

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There is no clear-cut No. 1 in Class 4A boys, with East Ridge, Park Center, Hopkins, Prior Lake and now Hopkins again taking their turn at the top of our rankings. The latest change came when Lakeville North beat Prior Lake 77-68 on Tuesday with five double-digit scorers led by Tyler Wahl with 22 and Tommy Jensen with 16. Sam Nissen had 25 and Dawson Garcia 20 for Prior Lake.

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Minnesota Valley Lutheran’s 14-1 record includes a hat trick of signature wins in a recent 10-day stretch — 76-73 over New Ulm Cathedral (12-2), 78-76 over Springfield (13-2) in overtime, and 83-63 over Cedar Mountain (10-4). Jake Kettner averages 20 points, Dunwa Omot 15, and Mason Cox 12 for the Chargers, the Mankato Free Press reports.
Bethlehem Academy coach

Continued from Page 5

couch in college and loved her, and I carried that on,” said Hager about her first stint. But she toned it down for the boys. “I have worked over the years to stay calm, because it helps the players to stay calm, too.”

Hager and husband Dan have two children and live in Faribault. She is a PE teacher at Lincoln Elementary. A Wisconsin native, she played basketball and soccer at Mosinee High School and at Ripon College.

Hager coached the B.A. girls from 2007 through 2011 with a 55-54 record. Then she had her first baby. After a year away from coaching, she came back to assist Tammy Filzen for two years.

Filzen, who had a good 13-year run coaching Carleton College, succeeded Hager at B.A., and proved to be a good mentor. They had a great experience in 2012-13 when Cardinals placed third in the state. When Hager applied for the boys job in 2018, Friesen felt confident she was a good choice, especially after asking Filzen if Hager was ready for “whatever scrutiny she could expect.” Filzen said “Absolutely.”

Her team is led by Jack Clark, with over 1,200 points in his career, and Damon Trump, who’s close to 900, both averaging over 13 points. Captains are Trump, Zach VanThomme and Griffin Malecha. Kyle Kohl and Malecha are the defensive stoppers. Hager likes the the way her players are filling into their roles, pushing hard for defense, and the way they make the youth program players “feel like part of the program.”

Asked about coaching boys, she said, “There are a few small differences — including locker room! One difference is that with boys, you have to treat most of them as shooters. Most boys are capable of shooting a three-point shot. I do feel that girls tend to be a little less confident in their abilities.” And an obvious difference is the girls earlier physical maturity, she said.

What about emotionally? Hager observed that boys seem to get over conflicts quicker. She added: “Both (genders) are emotional, and have to be talked through situations, and need reassurance, along with constructive criticisms. People think boys are less emotional than girls, and (coaches) can be harder on them, but you really have to act the same. It’s important with any players to set high expectations and hold them accountable.”

Climax-Fisher coach

Continued from Page 5

on a 14-11 team and 13.2 as a senior on a 17-11 team. One of her highlights was “beating the Gophers my junior year.”

For all that, Slyt’s main ambition was to just return to her hometown to raise kids (she has four) and teach and coach.

She teaches sixth grade and started coaching boys basketball last year. She is one of a tiny number of females doing so but it was an easy decision for her school, given her status as an athlete and her love for her home town. “I ended back in my home town because that’s where my family is,” said Slyt, who also coaches JV volleyball. “Family is very important to me ... My own kids, and nieces and nephews, all attend school in Climax. Seeing them every day makes things extra special for me.”

The job seems a huge challenge. In the last 10 years, counting Slyt’s first season (2-23), the Knights have averaged 3.4 wins and 21 losses. The last winning season was 15-12 in 2005-06. In its history, Climax-Fisher has sent two boys basketball to states, 1994 and 2004; one girls team, 1993; and two volleyball teams, 2003 and 2006.

The Knights are 3-12 with a starting lineup of Dylan Evitts, Brady Klein, Trea Byklum, Myles Smith and Hayden Reitmeire. There’s not a large talent pool here, with 24 boys in grades 9-12.

“I truly enjoy coaching boys basketball,” Slyt said. “I have built some great relationships, and seeing the boys side of sports is a whole new experience. The protocols are pretty much the same. I just have to make sure that someone checks the locker room before entering ... We have some strong leaders who stress to their teammates that it’s about having fun.”

About coaching boys, she said, “I really haven’t had any problems. I feel the boys respect and trust the decisions I make. I have a great bunch of kids who really have grown and want to learn. I know that this is where we are supposed to be. Basketball is my life and I know that the love I have for the game is something cherish and hope to pass down onto my kids.”
MBBN BOYS BASKETBALL TOP 20

CLASS 4A

1. Hopkins 15-2
2. Prior Lake 12-2
3. Park Center 14-1
4. East Ridge 12–2
5. Lakeville North 12-3
6. Shakopee 12-3
7. Wayzata 12-4
8. Edina 10-5
10. Chaska 10-4
11. Champlin Park 11-4
12. White Bear Lake 13-2
13. Cretin-Derham Hall 11-4
14. Tartan 13-2
15. Minnetonka 16-0
16. St. Michael-Albertville 9-4
17. Osseo 8-5
18. Maple Grove 10-5
19. Spring Lake Park 10-5
20. Robbinsdale Armstrong 10-4

CLASS 2A

1. Minnehaha Academy 11-2
2. Minneapolis North 11-4
3. Perham 13-1
4. Maranatha Christian 14-1
5. Jordan 12-2
6. Breck 12-3
7. Lake City 12-2
8. Spectrum 13-2
9. St. Croix Prep 11-4
10. Caledonia 12-4
11. Holy Family Catholic 10-5
12. Hawley 11-2
13. Osakis 14-0
15. Breckenridge 9-5
16. Pequot Lakes 11-3
17. Albany 11-4
19. Providence Academy 10-5
20. Litchfield 12-2

CLASS 3A

1. DeLaSalle 10-4
2. Waseca 15-0
3. Princeton 12-1
4. Austin 9-2
5. Mankato East 11-1
6. Mahtomedi 11-3
7. Delano 11-3
8. Northfield 9-3
9. Waconia 8-5
11. Sartell-St. Stephen 11-2
14. Bemidji 10-1
15. St. Thomas Academy 7-7
16. Totino-Grace 8-6
17. Hermantown 13-4
18. Winona 9-4
19. Hibbing 8-6
20. Robbinsdale Cooper 8-6

CLASS 1A

1. Minneota 16-0
2. BOLD 16-0
3. Cass Lake-Bena 15-0
4. Minnesota Valley Lutheran 14-1
5. Springfield 13-2
7. Henning 15-0
8. Spring Grove 11-1
9. Ortonville 11-1
10. Randolph 15-1
11. Ada-Borup 12-0
12. Waterville-Elysian-Morristown 14-1
13. New Ulm Cathedral 12-2
14. Rushford-Peterson 11-5
15. Hayfield 13-2
17. Grand Meadow 12-3
18. Cromwell-Wright 11-2
19. Southwest MN Christian 12-3
20. Mountain Lake/Comfrey 12-2
Boys and Girls entering grades 9-12 or freshman in college 2019-2020.
Parents are welcome to attend!

The Pacesetter “College Prep” program is designed for male and female players entering grades 9-12 through college freshman seeking to play basketball in college. Players will be taught high-level skills by college coaches in an intensive one-day, 7-hour format.

Paul McDonald will return as camp director. Paul is the head men’s coach at Vermillion Community College in Ely, MN, where he has guided teams to 23 straight state tournaments. He is the son of Bob McDonald, who finished his coaching career with over 1,000 wins - the most in Minnesota history. Paul played on two high school state championship teams. Other coaches on staff include college coaches from the MCAC.

Online Registration:
www.pacesettersports.net

SCHEDULE:
Monday: 10:00 am-5:00 pm

Camp Fee: $80
(College prep camp fee includes lunch on Monday)

Questions? Email info@pacesetternet.com or call 320-243-7460
MBBN Girls Basketball Top 20

**CLASS 4A**

1. Hopkins 17-0  
2. Wayzata 17-0  
3. Stillwater 14-2  
4. Farmington 16-1  
5. St. Michael-Albertville 13-3  
6. Park Center 14-2  
7. Chaska 14-3  
8. Eastview 12-4  
9. Roseville 15-3  
10. Eden Prairie 12-3  
11. Centennial 12-4  
12. Apple Valley 13-4  
13. Maple Grove 13-4  
14. Forest Lake 14-4  
15. Elk River 12-4  
16. Lakeville North 10-6  
17. Shakopee 11-5  
18. Robbinsdale Armstrong 13-4  
19. Prior Lake 8-8  

**CLASS 3A**

1. Hill-Murray 15-1  
2. Red Wing 15-2  
3. Waseca 19-1  
4. St. Paul Como Park 14-1  
5. Willmar 13-2  
6. Simley 13-4  
7. Alexandria 12-3  
8. Robbinsdale Cooper 8-7  
9. DeLaSalle 9-4  
10. Waconia 12-4  
11. Holy Angels 12-4  
12. Benilde-St. Margaret’s 13-4  
13. New Ulm 14-3  
15. Mankato West 12-5  
16. Austin 9-4  
17. Grand Rapids 12-5  
18. Hibbing 14-2  
19. Fergus Falls 12-3  
20. Northfield 7-7

**CLASS 2A**

1. Sauk Centre 13-2  
2. Roseau 13-2  
3. Eden Valley-Watkins 16-0  
4. Minnehaha Academy 13-5  
5. Rochester Livdres 11-4  
6. Holy Family 13-4  
7. Rush City 12-1  
8. Annandale 13-2  
9. Norwood-Young America 13-2  
10. Medford 14-0  
11. Hawley 10-2  
12. Esko 15-4  
13. Winona Cotter 13-3  
14. Maranatha Christian 10-6  
16. Minneapolis North 10-4  
17. Lake City 12-4  
18. Stewartville 10-5  
19. Proctor 13-5  
20. Zumbrota-Mazeppa 11-4

**CLASS 1A**

1. Minneota 15-0  
2. Menahga 16-0  
3. Goodhue 14-2  
4. Grand Meadow 16-0  
5. Pelican Rapids 15-1  
6. Ada-Borup 12-1  
7. Hills-Beaver Creek 17-0  
8. Stephen-Argyle 16-0  
10. Cromwell-Wright 12-1  
11. Belgrade-Brooten-Elrosa 12-4  
13. Parkers Prairie 14-1  
14. Lac qui Parle Valley 13-2  
15. BOLD 12-4  
16. Southwest MN Christian 10-2  
17. Cherry 14-3  
18. Wabasso 13-3  
19. Red Lake 11-4  
20. Swanville 13-1