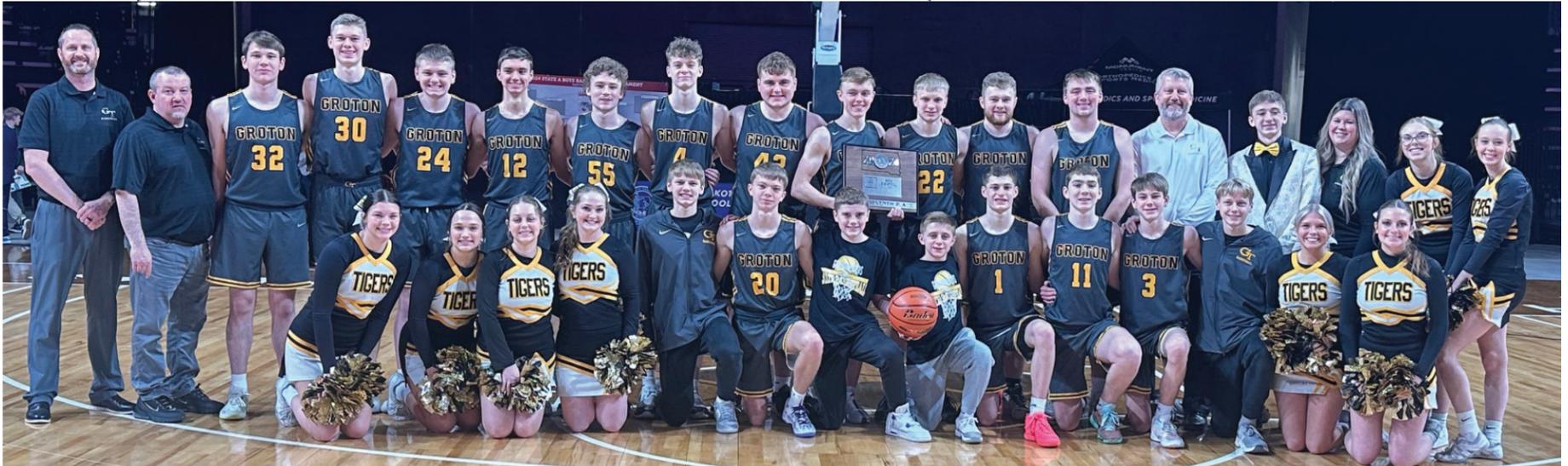


# State A Boys Basketball \$2

## Special Section

### The Groton Independent



### Groton Area takes seventh place at the State A

Pictured in back, left to right, are Assistant Coaches Kyle Gerlach and Matt Locke, Turner Thompson, Gage Sippel, Logan Warrington, Jayden Schwan, Teylor Diegel, Ryder Johnson, Logan Ringgenberg, Lane Tietz, Jacob Zak, Holden Sippel, Colby Dunker, Head Coach Brian Dolan, Braxton Imrie, Becky Erickson, Emma Schinkel and Anna Bisbee; in front, left to right, are Breslyn Jeschke, Paisley Mitchell, Shea Jandel, Cadence Feist, Karson Zak, Easton Weber, Major Dolan, Trey Tietz, Keegen Tracy, Kassen Keough, Blake Pauli, Ethan Kroll, Abby Jensen and Hannah Monson. (Photo by Paul Kosel)

### Groton Area earns Spirit of Six Award

The Spirit of Six honors six Rapid City High School cheerleaders who died in a plane crash on March 17, 1968, at Rapid City Regional Airport as they returned from leading Cobblers fans at the state championships in Sioux Falls. Jan Glaze, Shirley Landstrom, Lauren "Kay" McNutt, Terry Blanton, Diana McCluskey, and Gail Flohr died, along with pilot Ivan Landstrom, his wife, Mary (Shirley's parents), and English teacher and cheer adviser Dorothy Lloyd. The South Dakota Peace Officers originated the award to memorialize the girls by recognizing an outstanding cheerleading squad that exemplifies the late leaders' commitment and dynamism.



Photo courtesy of South Dakota Public Broadcasting. ©2024 SDPB | Aidan DeBoer

Cheerleaders pictured left to right are Breslyn Jeschke, Paisley Mitchell, Anna Bisbee, Shea Jandel, Cadence Feist, Abby Jensen, Hannah Monson and Emma Schinkel.



The welcome home was held Sunday evening in the Arena with an escorted caravan coming into Groton. (Photos by Paul Kosel)



Photo courtesy of South Dakota Public Broadcasting. ©2024 SDPB | Aidan DeBoer

### Lane Tietz earns "Spirit of Su" Award

Each year the "Spirit of Su" Award will be given to an outstanding senior player who exemplifies the life of SuAnne Big Crow, Pine Ridge. SuAnne was killed in a car accident on her way to the Miss Basketball Banquet in 1992.

The player will be judged in the categories of outstanding athletic ability, leadership, character, sportsmanship and grade point average.

The criteria is:

1. Athletic Ability: All-State caliber. All-around ability team player. Offensive and defensive standout.
2. Sportsmanship: Ability to act in a respectful manner with officials, opponents, teammates, and fans.
3. Leadership: Handles one-self in a manner which has earned the respect of teammates, opponents and fans.
4. Character: Able to interact in a positive fashion with students and adults, displaying self-discipline, high ethics, and respectful behavior. And is also a positive role model for young people.
5. Academic Ability: Maintains a 3.0 or above on a 4.0 scale.

# 2024 SDHSAA State Boys Basketball, Thursday Recap

SDPB Radio | By Nate Wek

Published March 14, 2024 at 10:04 PM CDT

## Class A Quarterfinal Round

### No. 1 Sioux Falls Christian 74 No. 8 Vermillion 48

Sioux Falls Christian steamed past Vermillion 74-48 in impressive fashion in the quarterfinal round. The Chargers 50% from the field and were led by Griffen Goodbary, who finished with 20-points and four blocks. Brant Wasenaar also contributed 14-points and nine rebounds. Vermillion was led by Bryson Skogsberg, who put up 15-points in the game.

### No. 5 Dakota Valley 62 No. 4 Pine Ridge 58

Dakota Valley survived a late game rally to defeat Pine Ridge 62-58 in the quarterfinals. The Panthers shot 42% from the field, but it was their rebounding and second chance points that was the difference down the stretch. Dakota Valley finished +12 in the rebounding differential. Luke Bruns and Jaxson Wingert both finished with 24-points for the Panthers. Pine Ridge was led by Marvin Richard III, who dropped 30-points in the contest.

### No. 2 Hamlin 46 No. 7 Groton Area 45

Hamlin survived a last second attempt to defeat Groton Area 46-45 in the quarterfinals. This matchup was incredibly even. Groton Area shot 43% from the field, while Hamlin shot 42%. Both teams tied with 13 turnovers and tied in the rebounding category too. Easton Neuendorf scored 17-points for the Chargers, and he recorded five assists too. Tyson Stevenson also scored 10-points for Hamlin. Groton's top scorer was Lane Tietz, who finished with 12. Ryder Johnson also scored 10-points for the Tigers in the loss.

### No. 6 Rapid City Christian 75 No. 3 Sioux Valley 72 (2 OT)

Rapid City Christian upset third seeded Sioux Valley 75-72 in thrilling double overtime fashion on Thursday night from Rapid City. The Cossacks shot 45% in the game, which was better than the Comets, who shot 35%, but Rapid City Christian scored more points off of turnovers and outrebounded. They also shot more efficiently from the charity stripe. Benson Kieffer scored 25-points and Simon Kieffer knocked down 23-points for the Comets. Max Engebretson was the leading scorer for Sioux Valley with 20-points.

# Free throw gives Hamlin one point win in opening game

A free throw with 5.5 seconds left in the game lifted Hamlin to a 46-45 win over Groton Area in the first round of the State A Boys Basketball Tournament in Rapid City.

Hamlin started the game with the upper hand, quickly jumping out to an 8-2 lead and led after the first quarter, 11-6. The Chargers powered their way to a 15-point lead at 22-7 early in the second quarter. Coach Brian Dolan said, "We started to find our groove in the second half of the second quarter." The Tigers then started to battle back and by half time, it was 28-20, Hamlin.

Hamlin still kept things on course early in the third quarter with a 10-point lead at 30-20. But then, in less than five minutes, the Tiger defense ripped apart the Chargers and the colorful Groton Area cheering section was on fire. It was 33-26 with Hamlin on top. Logan Ringgenberg found an opening and made a basket. Turnovers were turning into points as Lane Tietz made a basket. Not to be outdone, Ryder Johnson had an assist to score and Keegen Tracy found an easy shot. Tietz sank a three-pointer and the Tigers were on top, 37-33. The third quarter ended, 37-35, Groton Area.

Groton Area opened up a four-point lead early in the fourth quarter at 41-37. Hamlin battled back and tied the game at 43 with 2:35 left and took the lead with 1:37 left, 45-43. Groton Area tied the game at 45, but a foul with 5.5 seconds left put Easton Neuendorf to the free throw line where he made one of two free throws.

Three time-outs were used in the final seconds and the Groton Area attempt to win the game did not materialize.

Lane Tietz led the Tigers with 12 points followed by Ryder Johnson with 10, Jacob Zak eight, Logan Ringgenberg seven and Keegen Tracy and Colby Dunker each had four.

Hamlin was led by Neuendorf with 17 points while Tyson Stevenson had 10, Evan Stormo eight, Zach VanMeeteren six and Jackson Wadsworth five.

Both teams shot 42 percent from the field, both teams had 24 rebounds and both teams had 13 turnovers. Groton Area had one more steal than Hamlin, 7-6. Hamlin had one more assist than Groton Area, 8-7. From the line, Hamlin was 10 of 15 and Groton Area was nine of 13.

- Paul Kosel



Lane Tietz dribbles the ball in quick fashion as he tries to get through the Hamlin defense. (Photo by Paul Kosel)



Ryder Johnson finds an opening to make this basket at the State A Tournament. (Photo by Paul Kosel)



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It got pretty intense under the basket as Logan Ringgenberg and Easton Neuendorf go face to face, but that didn't stop Ringgenberg from making seven points in the game.

(Photo by Paul Kosel)



Jacob Zak puts up a left handed shot in the State A Tournament. (Photo by Paul Kosel)



Colby Dunker had some nice moves under the basket in the State A Tournament. (Photo by Paul Kosel)



Teylor Diegel looks for someone to pass off the ball during the State A Tournament. (Photo by Paul Kosel)

Official Box Score  
Groton Area vs Hamlin  
Game Totals -- Final Statistics  
March 14, 2024 at Rapid City, SD

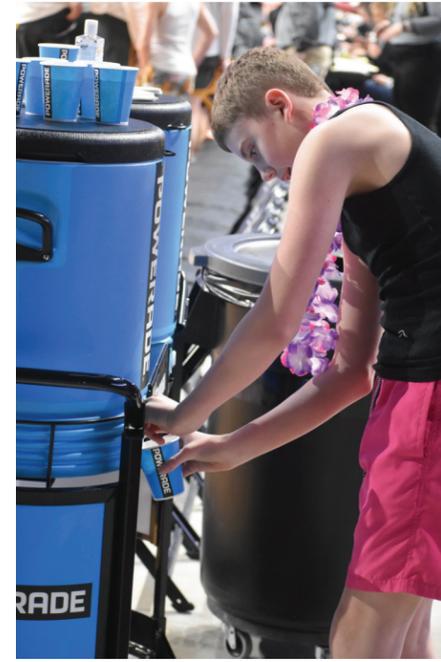
| Groton Area 45 |                    |   |           |              |             |             |          |           |           |           |          |           | Record: 19-4 |          |            |     |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|----------------|--------------------|---|-----------|--------------|-------------|-------------|----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|----------|-----------|--------------|----------|------------|-----|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|
| No.            | Player             | S | Pts       | FG           | 3FG         | FT          | OR       | DR        | TR        | PF        | A        | TO        | Blk          | Stl      | Min        | +/- |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 01             | TRACY, KEEGAN      | * | 4         | 2-4          | 0-1         | 0-0         | 0        | 1         | 1         | 3         | 0        | 3         | 0            | 0        | 25         | 5   |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 04             | JOHNSON, RYDER     | * | 10        | 5-5          | 0-0         | 0-0         | 0        | 3         | 3         | 2         | 0        | 2         | 0            | 1        | 32         | -1  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 10             | TIETZ, LANE        | * | 12        | 4-16         | 2-8         | 2-2         | 0        | 6         | 6         | 4         | 3        | 2         | 1            | 4        | 32         | -1  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 22             | ZAK, JACOB         | * | 8         | 2-9          | 0-2         | 4-7         | 0        | 6         | 6         | 0         | 3        | 3         | 0            | 1        | 32         | -1  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 42             | RINGGENBERG, LOGAN | * | 7         | 2-2          | 0-0         | 3-4         | 2        | 1         | 3         | 2         | 0        | 0         | 0            | 1        | 18         | -10 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 03             | PAULI, BLAKE       |   | 0         | 0-0          | 0-0         | 0-0         | 0        | 0         | 0         | 0         | 0        | 0         | 0            | 0        | 1          | 0   |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 05             | DUNKER, COLBY      |   | 4         | 2-4          | 0-0         | 0-0         | 0        | 1         | 2         | 1         | 2        | 0         | 0            | 0        | 11         | 4   |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 24             | WARRINGTON, LOGAN  |   | 0         | 0-0          | 0-0         | 0-0         | 0        | 0         | 0         | 0         | 0        | 0         | 0            | 0        | 0          | 0   |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 25             | DIEGEL, TEYLOR     |   | 0         | 0-0          | 0-0         | 0-0         | 0        | 1         | 1         | 1         | 0        | 0         | 0            | 0        | 10         | 0   |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| <b>TOTALS</b>  |                    |   | <b>45</b> | <b>17-40</b> | <b>2-11</b> | <b>9-13</b> | <b>5</b> | <b>19</b> | <b>24</b> | <b>14</b> | <b>7</b> | <b>13</b> | <b>1</b>     | <b>7</b> | <b>160</b> |     |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |

| Shooting By Period | FG           | FG%          | 3FG         | 3FG%         | FT          | FT%          | Deadball Rebounds: 2.0                        |
|--------------------|--------------|--------------|-------------|--------------|-------------|--------------|---|
| Period             |              |              |             |              |             |              | Last FG: 4th-0:39                             |
| Game               | <b>17-40</b> | <b>42.5%</b> | <b>2-11</b> | <b>18.2%</b> | <b>9-13</b> | <b>69.2%</b> | Largest lead: By at<br>Technical Fouls: None. |

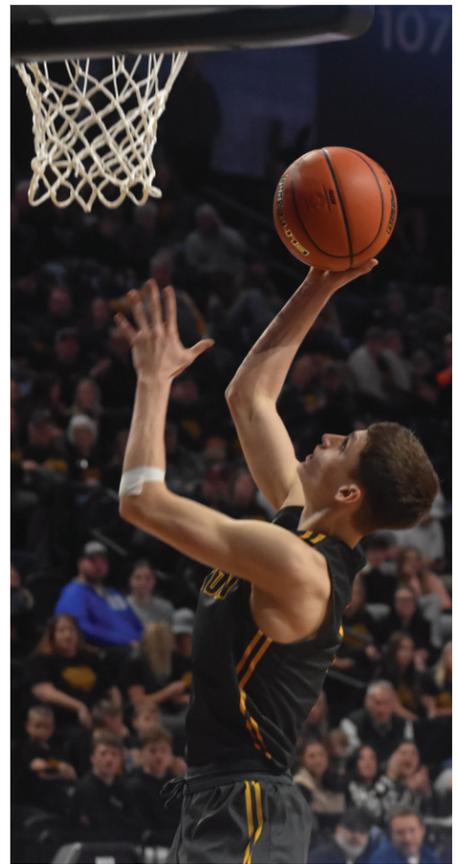
| Hamlin 46     |                    |   |           |              |             |              |          |           |           |           |          |           | Record: 20-3 |          |            |     |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|---------------|--------------------|---|-----------|--------------|-------------|--------------|----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|----------|-----------|--------------|----------|------------|-----|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|
| No.           | Player             | S | Pts       | FG           | 3FG         | FT           | OR       | DR        | TR        | PF        | A        | TO        | Blk          | Stl      | Min        | +/- |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 03            | NEUENDORF, EASTON  | * | 17        | 6-13         | 1-2         | 4-6          | 0        | 2         | 2         | 4         | 5        | 6         | 0            | 1        | 31         | 6   |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 10            | STORMO, EVAN       | * | 8         | 2-5          | 0-2         | 4-4          | 3        | 5         | 8         | 2         | 0        | 2         | 0            | 0        | 27         | 1   |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 23            | WADSWORTH, JACKSON | * | 5         | 1-5          | 1-4         | 2-2          | 0        | 2         | 2         | 2         | 1        | 1         | 0            | 1        | 31         | 3   |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 30            | STEVENSON, TYSON   | * | 10        | 4-11         | 2-6         | 0-3          | 1        | 1         | 2         | 0         | 2        | 1         | 0            | 2        | 32         | 1   |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 33            | VANMEETEREN, ZACH  | * | 6         | 3-3          | 0-0         | 0-0          | 2        | 7         | 9         | 3         | 0        | 1         | 3            | 1        | 27         | 6   |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 24            | NOEM, DAWSON       |   | 0         | 0-1          | 0-1         | 0-0          | 0        | 1         | 1         | 0         | 0        | 2         | 0            | 1        | 12         | -12 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| <b>TOTALS</b> |                    |   | <b>46</b> | <b>16-38</b> | <b>4-15</b> | <b>10-15</b> | <b>6</b> | <b>18</b> | <b>24</b> | <b>11</b> | <b>8</b> | <b>13</b> | <b>3</b>     | <b>6</b> | <b>160</b> |     |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |

| Shooting By Period | FG           | FG%          | 3FG         | 3FG%         | FT           | FT%          | Deadball Rebounds: 2.0                        |
|--------------------|--------------|--------------|-------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|---|
| Period             |              |              |             |              |              |              | Last FG: 4th-1:44                             |
| Game               | <b>16-38</b> | <b>42.1%</b> | <b>4-15</b> | <b>26.7%</b> | <b>10-15</b> | <b>66.7%</b> | Largest lead: By at<br>Technical Fouls: None. |

| Game Notes:          | Score | 1st | 2nd | 3rd | 4th | TOT       | Points       | GRO   | HAM   |
|----------------------|-------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----------|--------------|-------|-------|
| Officials: , ,       | GRO   | 6   | 14  | 17  | 8   | <b>45</b> | In the Paint | 28    | 22    |
| Start Time: 18:00:00 | HAM   | 11  | 17  | 7   | 11  | <b>46</b> | Off Turns    | 12    | 10    |
| Postseason Game:     |       |     |     |     |     |           | 2nd Chance   | 8     | 5     |
|                      |       |     |     |     |     |           | Fast Break   | 2     | 0     |
|                      |       |     |     |     |     |           | Bench        | 4     | 0     |
|                      |       |     |     |     |     |           | Per Poss     | 0.849 | 0.902 |
|                      |       |     |     |     |     |           |              | 22/53 | 21/51 |



Major Dolan makes sure there were cups filled with water for the team at the State A Tournament. (Photo by Paul Kosel)



Keegen Tracy gets the easy basket at the State A Tournament. (Photo by Paul Kosel)

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# 2024 SDHSAA State Boys Basketball, Friday Recap

SDPB Radio | By Nate Wek  
Published March 15, 2024 at 10:20 PM CDT

**Friday**

## Class A Semifinals

**No. 1 Sioux Falls Christian 50 No. 5 Dakota Valley 48**

Sioux Falls Christian survived a near upset against Dakota Valley on Friday 50-48 to advance to the state title game. At one-point, the Panthers trailed by eleven. Dakota Valley had a look from beyond the arc with two-seconds to play, but the bucket hit back iron, and the Chargers celebration began. Griffen Goodbary had 20-points and nine rebounds for Sioux Falls Christian. Dakota Valley was led by Jaxson Wingert, who scored 20-points and had eight boards in the loss.

**No. 2 Hamlin 62 No. 6 Rapid City Christian 45**

For the first time since 1983, Hamlin will play for a boys state basketball title. The Chargers defeated Rapid City Christian 62-45 in the semifinal round on Friday night. Hamlin shot 45% from the floor. Tyson Stevenson and Easton Neuendorf both led the scoring for the Chargers with 17-points. The Comets were led in scoring by Simon Kieffer, who dropped 17-points in the contest.

## Consolation Semifinals

**No. 4 Pine Ridge 79 No. 8 Vermillion 63**

Pine Ridge bounced back on Friday with a 79-63 win over Vermillion. As a team, the Thorpes shot 46% from the floor and 40% from beyond the arc. They also were +8 in the rebound category. Jaylin Rouillard finished with 26-points for Pine Ridge, while Marvin Richard III also contributed 19 in the scoring column and grabbed 13-rebounds for the Thorpes. Trey Hansen led Vermillion with 20-points and 11 boards.

**No. 3 Sioux Valley 67 No. 7 Groton Area 58**

Sioux Valley came into Friday coming off a double overtime quarterfinal loss to Rapid City Christian. The Cossacks defeated Groton Area in the consolation semifinals 67-58. Alec Squires finished with 31-points and 12 rebounds to lead Sioux Valley. On the other side, Ryder Johnson scored 19-points and grabbed seven rebounds for the Tigers.

# Johnson has double-double in consolation loss to Sioux Valley

Ryder Johnson had a double-double in Groton Area's 67-58 loss to Sioux Valley in the consolation round of the State A Tournament.

The game was tied five times at 10, 12, 20 and 27 with the last time at 29 late in the second quarter. Groton Area did have a 17-16 lead early in the second quarter.

Sioux Valley's Alec Squires used his height to power in nearly half of the Cossack's points. Squires was 10 of 15 in shooting and was 11 of 13 from the line, scoring 31 points and had a double-double with 12 rebounds.

Groton Area came to within one at 51-50 with 4:51 left in the game, and had chances to take the lead. Sioux Valley led at the quarterstops at 14-12, 35-28 and 51-45.

Johnson led the Tigers with 19 points and 10 rebounds while Keegen Tracy had 17 points, Lane Tietz 11, Jacob Zak nine and Colby Dunker two.

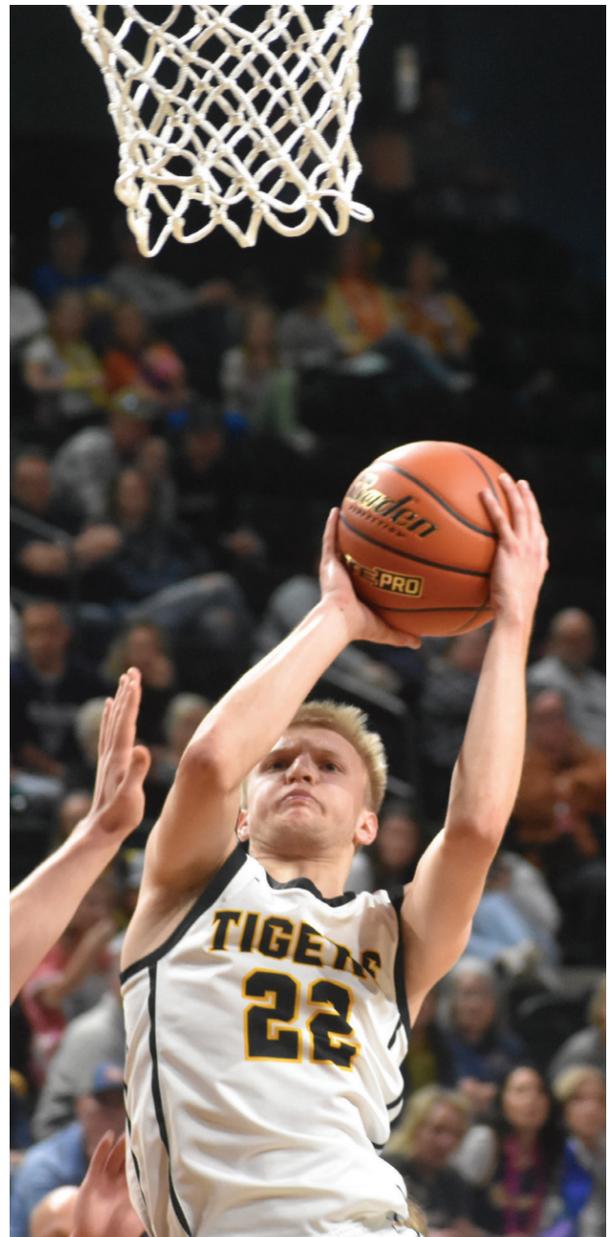
Besides Squires, Maxwell Engebretson added 13 points for Sioux Valley with Jace Christensen having eight, Hudson Ruesink and Boden Schiller each had seven points and Brock Christopherson added one point.

In two-pointers, Groton Area was 11 of 24 for 46 percent while Sioux Valley was 20 of 31 for 65 percent. In three-pointers, Groton Area was seven of 26 for 27 percent and Sioux Valley was two of 13 for 15 percent. From the line, Groton Area was 15 of 17 for 88 percent off of Sioux Valley's 18 team fouls. Sioux Valley was 21 of 27 for 78 percent off of Groton Area's 24 team fouls with Ringgenberg and Sippel both fouling out.

Sioux Valley controlled the boards, 33-24. Groton Area had 15 turnovers with 12 of them being steals. Sioux Valley had 17 turnovers with 10 of them being steals, led by Tietz and Johnson with three each. Tietz had four of the team's nine assists. Gage Sippel had two blocks while Zak and Johnson each had one.

Groton Area will play for seventh place today against Vermillion at 1 p.m. central time.

- Paul Kosel



Senior Jacob Zak makes a quick move to the basket. (Photo by Paul Kosel)



Ryder Johnson fought for this basket among the tall Sioux Valley players. (Photo by Paul Kosel)

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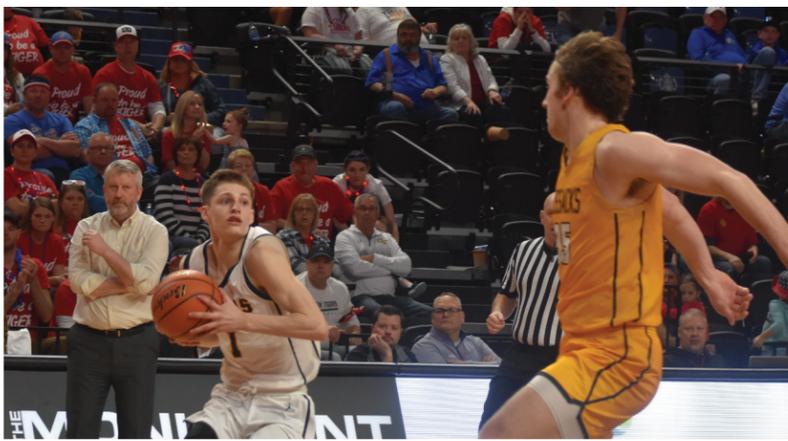
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Senior Lane Tietz made this basket to give Groton Area its only lead of the game at 17-16 early in the second quarter. (Photo by Paul Kosel)



Keegen Tracy looks to pass off the ball as his defender closes in on him. (Photo by Paul Kosel)



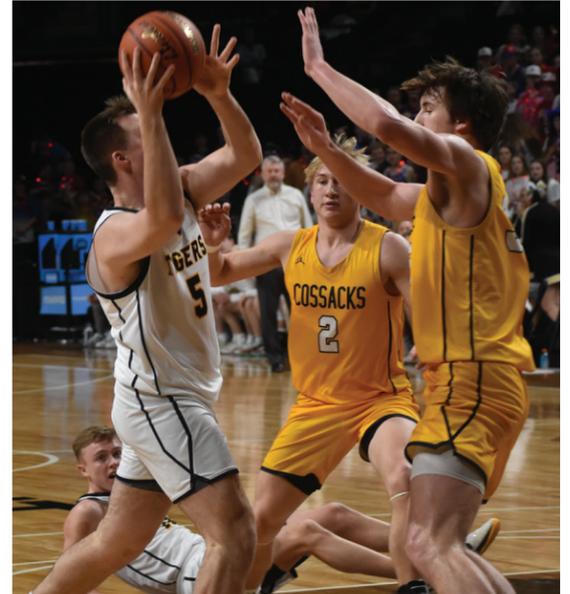
Senior Logan Ringgenberg tries to keep Sioux Valley's Alec Squires away from the basket. (Photo by Paul Kosel)



Taylor Diegel gets ready to pass off the ball in front of Sioux Valley's Hudsyn Ruesink. (Photo by Paul Kosel)



Gage Sippel looks to hand off the ball. (Photo by Paul Kosel)



Despite being double teamed, senior Colby Dunker got past these defenders to score and tie the game at 10 points early in the game. (Photo by Paul Kosel)



The team were in a huddle prior to the start of the game. (Photo by Paul Kosel)



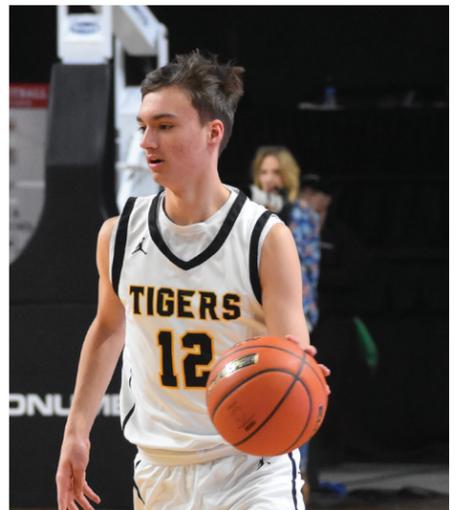
Kassen Keough  
(Photo by Paul Kosel)



Turner Thompson  
(Photo by Paul Kosel)



Coach Brian Dolan probably wishes he could pull a trick out of a hat. (Photo by Paul Kosel)



Jayden Schwan  
(Photo by Paul Kosel)



Dinosaur Park is located at one of the highest points in Rapid City. You can see the Dinosaur from throughout the city. This time around, we went up to Dinosaur Park and took a photo of The Monument complex where the State A Boys Basketball Tournament is being played. (Photo by Paul Kosel)



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# 2024 SDHSAA State Boys Basketball, Saturday Recap

SDPB Radio | By Nate Wek

Published March 17, 2024 at 12:23 AM CDT

## Class A

### Championship: No. 2 Hamlin 53 No. 1 Sioux Falls Christian 50 (OT)

For the first time since 1983, Hamlin has won a boys state basketball championship. They defeated Sioux Falls Christian 53-50 on Saturday to clinch the title. Hamlin shot 45% from the field. Tyson Stevenson finished with 16-points for Hamlin, while Easton Neuendorf dropped 12-points. Griffen Goodbary led Sioux Falls Christian with 19-points and ten rebounds.

### 3rd Place: No. 5 Dakota Valley 78 No. 6 Rapid City Christian 73

Dakota Valley took down Rapid City Christian 78-73 in the 'A' third place game. The Panthers shot 51% in the game, but it was kept close with the Comets winning the turnover and rebounding battle. Dakota Valley was led by Luke Bruns, who finished with 19-points and ten rebounds. Jaxson Wingert also scored 17-points for the Panthers. Rapid City Christian was led by Benson Kieffer, who scored 29-points, and Simon Kieffer who contributed 24-points.

### 5th Place: No. 3 Sioux Valley 69 No. 4 Pine Ridge 51

Sioux Valley defeated Pine Ridge 69-51 in the consolation championship. The Cossacks shot an impressive 60% from the field, which was in big part due to the performance by Alec Squires, who went 9 of 10 for 21-points and grabbed 17-rebounds. Marvin Richard III led the scoring for Pine Ridge with 19-points.

### 7th Place: No. 7 Groton Area 67 No. 8 Vermillion 49

Groton Area rolled past Vermillion on Saturday afternoon 67-49 in the 'A' seventh place game. Lane Tietz finished with 25-points and six rebounds to lead the way for the Tigers. Jacob Zak also contributed 15-points and grabbed nine rebounds for Groton Area. Vermillion was led by Connor Roerig and Zoan Robinson, who both scored 13-points in the game.

# Groton Area takes seventh with stunning win over Vermillion

Groton Area was never threatened in the seventh place game as the Tigers avenged an earlier loss to Vermillion and posted a 67-49 win at the State A Basketball Tournament.

The Tigers jumped out to a 7-0 lead and Vermillion called two quick time-outs to try and reorganize, but the Tiger defense was too much for Vermillion to handle and the Tigers held a 21-14 lead after the first quarter. Groton Area had a 10-point run to start the second quarter and led at half time, 42-25. The Tanagers scored seven straight points midway in the third quarter, but the Tigers would score the final six points of the quarter to take a 57-34 into the fourth quarter and would go on for the win.

Lane Tietz led the Tigers with 25 points, seven rebounds and four assists. Jacob Zak had 15 points and nine rebounds. Keegen Tracy had 12 points and four assists. Colby Dunker had six points while Kassen Keough had three points and Ryder Johnson, Logan Ringgenberg and Gage Sippel each had two points

Groton Area made 21 of 34 two-pointers for 62 percent while Vermillion was 14 of 33 for 42 percent. In three-pointers, the Tigers were five of 21 for 24 percent and the Tanagers were four of 11 for 36 percent. Tietz made three three-pointers while Tracy and Keough each had one. From the line, Groton Area was 10 of 12 for 83 percent off of Vermillion's 15 team fouls. Groton Area's 22 team fouls allowed Vermillion to make nine of 16 free throws for 56 percent.

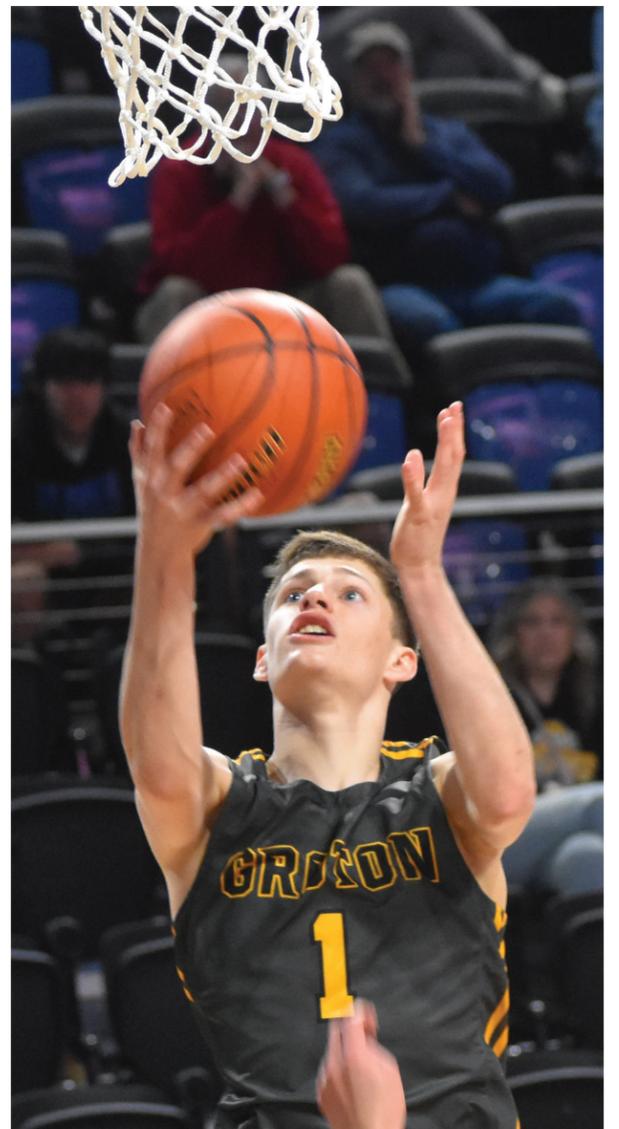
Groton Area controlled the boards, 30-27. The Tigers had 12 turnovers of which seven were steals. Vermillion had 16 turnovers of which seven were steals. Groton Area had 14 assists while Vermillion had four. Zak and Johnson each had one block.

Groton Area finishes it season with a 19-6 record while Vermillion is 16-9.

- Paul Kosel



Logan Ringgenberg makes this shot to give Groton Area a 23-14 lead. (Photo by Paul Kosel)

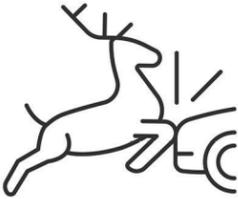


Keegen Tracy breaks free to score and give the Tigers a 25-14 lead. (Photo by Paul Kosel)




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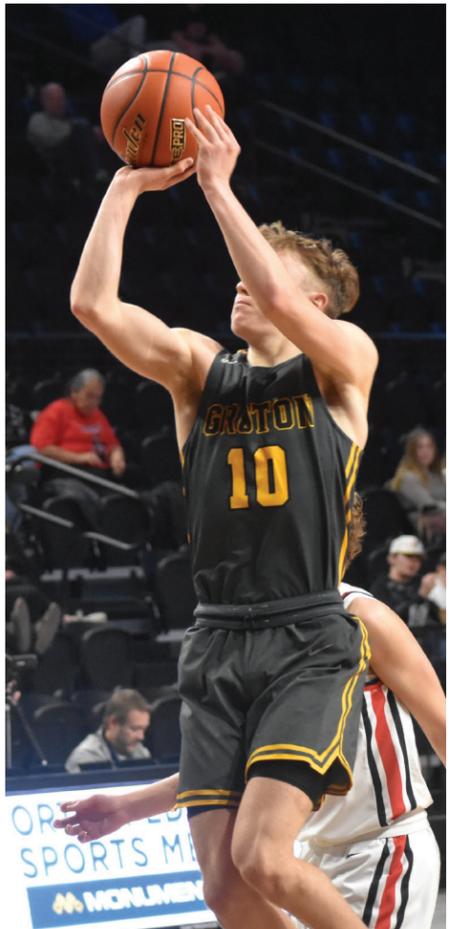
**Jacob Zak puts up the shot while being double teamed.** (Photo by Paul Kosel)



**Holden Sippel got a rebound and passes off the ball as the Tiger offense kept on rolling.** (Photo by Paul Kosel)



**Colby Dunker made this shot to give the Tigers a 33-19 lead.** (Photo by Paul Kosel)



**Lane Tietz puts up a shot to get the Tiger offense rolling.** (Photo by Paul Kosel)



**Easton Weber dribbles the ball as he got some playing time at the end of the game.** (Photo by Paul Kosel)



**Blake Pauli applies defense to Vermillion's Bryson Skogsberg.** (Photo by Paul Kosel)



**Kassen Keough sank this three-pointer to Groton Area a 67-46 lead.** (Photo by Paul Kosel)



**Turner Thompson launches a shot late in the game.** (Photo by Paul Kosel)



**Teylor Diegel looks to pass off the ball.** (Photo by Paul Kosel)



**Jayden Schwan looks to where he should pass the ball.** (Photo by Paul Kosel)



**Gage Sippel got the offensive rebound and put the ball back up and in to give Groton Area 42-22 lead.** (Photo by Paul Kosel)



**Ryder Johnson makes this basket to make it 31-19.** (Photo by Paul Kosel)



**Logan Warrington gets ready to pass off the ball at the State A Tournament.** (Photo by Paul Kosel)

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Senior Logan Ringgenberg gets a hug after he fouled out in the Sioux Valley game from Coach Brian Dolan. (Photo by Paul Kosel)



Gage Sippel and Teylor Diegel help Ryder Johnson off the floor after he took a fall on the floor during the Sioux Valley game. (Photo by Paul Kosel)



Major Dolan and Trey Tietz make sure there is plenty of water cups filled. (Photo by Paul Kosel)



Groton 8th graders dress the "USA" theme for the second round of the Boys State A Basketball Tournament. L-R Braden Flihs, Ryder Schelle, Alex Abeln, TC Schuster, John Bisbee and Kason Oswald. (Photo by Bruce Babcock)

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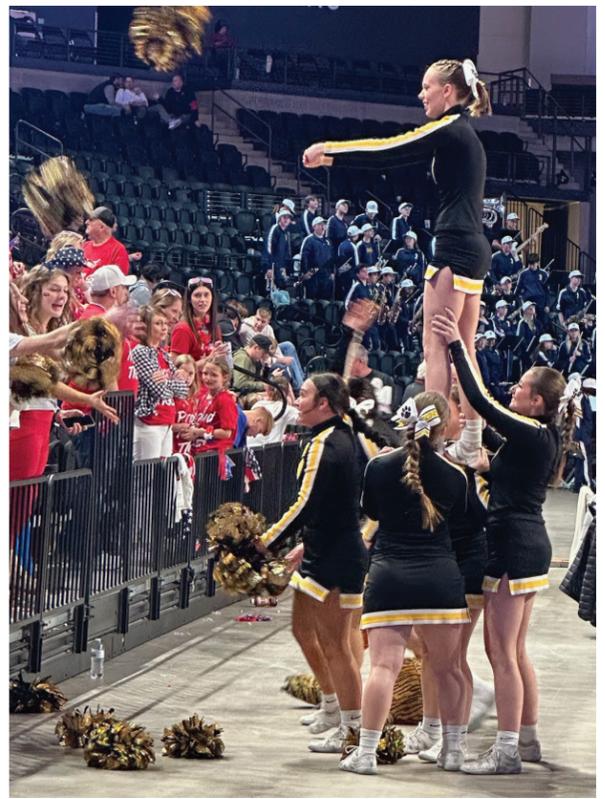
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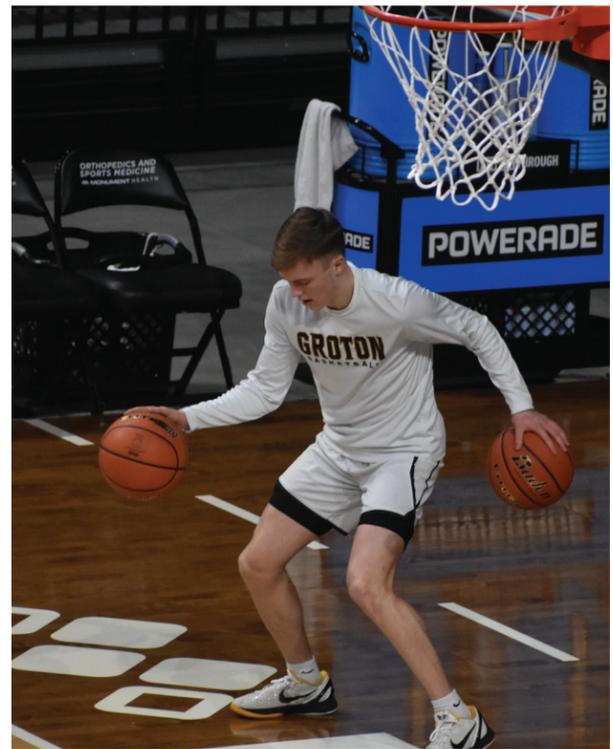
Ryder Johnson suffered a head injury during the seventh place game. He was unable to come back in to play for the rest of the game. Coach Brian Dolan and a medic are quick to check on him. Bottom left photo features an official and Easton Weber checking in on Ryder and bottom right photo features Braxton Imrie checking in on him. Johnson had good care from Groton Area's athletic trainer Brittany Hubbart. (Photos by Paul Kosel)



The Groton Area cheerleaders were having a little fun with the fans at half-time as fans were throwing the pom-poms to see if they could make a basket. (Photo by Paul Kosel)



Cheerleader Advisor Maddie Bjerke talks with the cheer team. (Photo by Paul Kosel)



Lane Tietz doing his warm up drills. (Photo by Paul Kosel)

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Spanier Trucking would like to say congratulations to Coach Dolan and the Groton boys basketball team for making it to state. All your hard work has paid off. Your town and community are very proud.

Congratulations also the Cheerleaders for the Spirit of Six Award and to Lane Tietz for the Spirit of Su Award!

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Is there anyone left in Groton? Many fans came to Rapid City to cheer on the Groton Area Tigers. (Photo by Jeslyn Kosel)



The Groton Area cheerleaders were in perfect form during the playing of the school song. (Photo by Paul Kosel)



It was USA dress-up day for the Groton Area fans and they were necklaces that lite up. They were very visible during the introductions when the main lights were turned off. (Photo by Jeslyn Kosel)



## What a crowd

What a difference in crowd size in the seventh place game of the State A Tournament. Groton Area was the smallest high school in the State A while Vermillion is the second largest. The Groton section is pictured above. The Vermillion section is pictured below.

High school enrollment of the State A Tournament qualifiers were Dakota Valley 459, Vermillion 440, Sioux Falls Christian 412, Pine Ridge 281, Hamlin 232, Rapid City Christian 232, Sioux Valley 206 and Groton Area 171. (Photos by Paul Kosel)



## VICTORY - That's the Tiger battle cry!

(Photo by Paul Kosel)



These eager Tiger fans were waiting to get in to get their seats at the State A Basketball Tournament. Pictured are Taryn Traphagen, Rylee Dunker, Tali Wright, Elizabeth Flihs, Austin Aberle, Anna Fjeldheim, Faith Traphagen, Hannah Sadness, Teagan Hanten and McKenna Tietz. (Photo by Paul Kosel)



Photo courtesy of South Dakota Public Broadcasting. ©2024 SDPB | Aidan DeBoer

Lane Tietz (front row, third from left) was named to the All Tournament Team at the 2024 State A Boys Basketball Tournament.

### Official Box Score Sioux Valley vs Groton Area Game Totals -- Final Statistics March 15, 2024 at Rapid City, SD

| Sioux Valley 67 |                       |           |              |             |              |          |           |           |           |           |           |          | Record: 21-3 |            |     |     |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|-----------------|-----------------------|-----------|--------------|-------------|--------------|----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|----------|--------------|------------|-----|-----|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|
| No.             | Player                | S         | Pts          | FG          | 3FG          | FT       | OR        | DR        | TR        | PF        | A         | TO       | Blk          | Stl        | Min | +/- |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 04              | ENGBRETSON, MAXWELL   | 13        | 5-12         | 1-6         | 2-2          | 0        | 1         | 1         | 1         | 1         | 3         | 0        | 3            | 31         | 9   |     |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 05              | CHRISTENSEN, JACE     | 8         | 2-5          | 0-2         | 4-5          | 0        | 4         | 4         | 3         | 3         | 4         | 0        | 1            | 18         | 11  |     |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 14              | NELSON, MAVERICK      | 0         | 0-1          | 0-1         | 0-0          | 0        | 2         | 2         | 0         | 0         | 2         | 0        | 2            | 15         | 17  |     |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 32              | RUESINK, HUDSYN       | 7         | 3-5          | 1-2         | 0-0          | 1        | 4         | 5         | 4         | 2         | 1         | 0        | 3            | 24         | 9   |     |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 35              | SQUIRES, ALEC         | 31        | 10-15        | 0-1         | 11-13        | 4        | 8         | 12        | 2         | 2         | 5         | 2        | 0            | 31         | 12  |     |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 00              | HILTUNEN, BRADY       | *         | 0-0          | 0-0         | 0-0          | 0        | 0         | 0         | 0         | 0         | 0         | 0        | 0            | 0          | 0   |     |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 01              | DANZEISEN, BRADEN     | *         | 0-0          | 0-0         | 0-0          | 0        | 0         | 0         | 0         | 0         | 0         | 0        | 0            | 0          | 0   |     |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 02              | SCHILLER, BODEN       | 7         | 2-4          | 0-1         | 3-5          | 2        | 6         | 8         | 3         | 0         | 0         | 1        | 1            | 24         | 1   |     |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 03              | MILTON, BRET          | *         | 0-0          | 0-0         | 0-0          | 0        | 0         | 0         | 0         | 0         | 0         | 0        | 0            | 0          | 0   |     |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 10              | ROSE, DONOVAN         | 0         | 0-0          | 0-0         | 0-0          | 0        | 0         | 0         | 1         | 0         | 0         | 0        | 1            | 1          | -3  |     |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 21              | SQUIRES, TOBIN        | 0         | 0-0          | 0-0         | 0-0          | 0        | 1         | 1         | 1         | 0         | 0         | 0        | 0            | 1          | -2  |     |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 23              | CHRISTOPHERSON, BROCK | 1         | 0-2          | 0-0         | 1-2          | 0        | 0         | 0         | 3         | 2         | 2         | 0        | 1            | 15         | -4  |     |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 24              | NELSON, MCCADE        | *         | 0-0          | 0-0         | 0-0          | 0        | 0         | 0         | 0         | 0         | 0         | 0        | 0            | 0          | 0   |     |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 31              | SAPP, CARTER          | *         | 0-0          | 0-0         | 0-0          | 0        | 0         | 0         | 0         | 0         | 0         | 0        | 0            | 0          | 0   |     |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| <b>TOTALS</b>   |                       | <b>67</b> | <b>22-44</b> | <b>2-13</b> | <b>21-27</b> | <b>7</b> | <b>26</b> | <b>33</b> | <b>18</b> | <b>10</b> | <b>17</b> | <b>3</b> | <b>12</b>    | <b>160</b> |     |     |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |

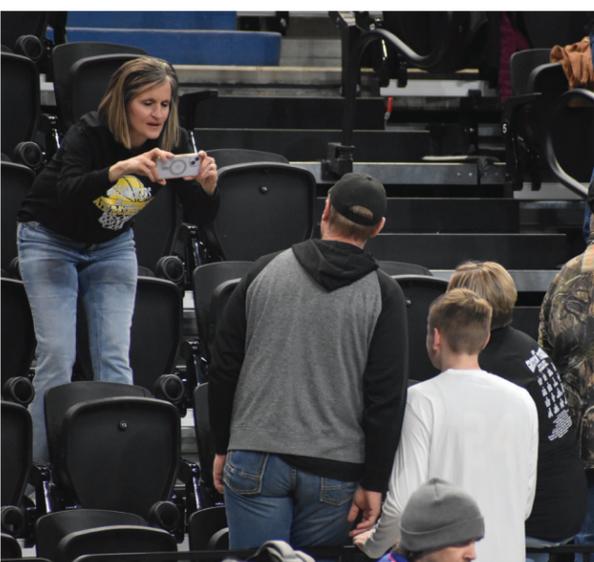
| Shooting By Period | FG    | FG%   | 3FG  | 3FG%  | FT    | FT%   | Deadball Rebounds: 3.0                     |
|--------------------|-------|-------|------|-------|-------|-------|--|
| Period             |       |       |      |       |       |       | Last FG: 4th-0:22                          |
| Game               | 22-44 | 50.0% | 2-13 | 15.4% | 21-27 | 77.8% | Largest lead: By at Technical Fouls: None. |

| Groton Area 58 |                    |           |              |             |              |          |           |           |           |          |           |          | Record: 19-5 |            |     |     |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|----------------|--------------------|-----------|--------------|-------------|--------------|----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|----------|-----------|----------|--------------|------------|-----|-----|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|
| No.            | Player             | S         | Pts          | FG          | 3FG          | FT       | OR        | DR        | TR        | PF       | A         | TO       | Blk          | Stl        | Min | +/- |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 01             | TRACY, KEEGAN      | 17        | 5-12         | 3-9         | 4-4          | 0        | 1         | 1         | 2         | 2        | 3         | 0        | 2            | 29         | -13 |     |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 04             | JOHNSON, RYDER     | 19        | 6-12         | 3-6         | 4-5          | 2        | 5         | 7         | 2         | 2        | 4         | 1        | 2            | 29         | -11 |     |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 10             | TIETZ, LANE        | *         | 11           | 3-12        | 0-6          | 5-6      | 0         | 3         | 3         | 4        | 4         | 3        | 0            | 5          | 31  | -6  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 22             | ZAK, JACOB         | 9         | 3-10         | 1-4         | 2-2          | 2        | 2         | 4         | 3         | 0        | 4         | 1        | 0            | 30         | -3  |     |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 42             | RINGGENBERG, LOGAN | 0         | 0-1          | 0-0         | 0-0          | 1        | 2         | 3         | 5         | 0        | 0         | 0        | 0            | 19         | 3   |     |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 03             | PAULI, BLAKE       | 0         | 0-0          | 0-0         | 0-0          | 0        | 0         | 0         | 0         | 0        | 0         | 0        | 0            | 1          | -3  |     |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 05             | DUNKER, COLBY      | 2         | 1-1          | 0-0         | 0-0          | 0        | 0         | 0         | 2         | 0        | 0         | 0        | 0            | 3          | -3  |     |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 11             | KEOUGH, KASSEN     | 0         | 0-0          | 0-0         | 0-0          | 0        | 0         | 0         | 0         | 0        | 0         | 0        | 0            | 2          | 5   |     |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 14             | ZAK, KARSON        | *         | 0-0          | 0-0         | 0-0          | 0        | 0         | 0         | 0         | 0        | 0         | 0        | 0            | 0          | -1  |     |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 24             | WARRINGTON, LOGAN  | *         | 0-0          | 0-0         | 0-0          | 0        | 0         | 0         | 0         | 0        | 0         | 0        | 0            | 0          | -1  |     |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 25             | DIEGEL, TEYLOR     | 0         | 0-1          | 0-1         | 0-0          | 0        | 0         | 0         | 1         | 0        | 0         | 0        | 0            | 4          | -1  |     |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 30             | SIPPEL, GAGE       | 0         | 0-0          | 0-0         | 0-0          | 0        | 0         | 0         | 5         | 1        | 1         | 2        | 0            | 12         | -12 |     |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 32             | THOMPSON, TURNER   | *         | 0-0          | 0-0         | 0-0          | 0        | 0         | 0         | 0         | 0        | 0         | 0        | 0            | 0          | -1  |     |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 34             | SIPPEL, HOLDEN     | *         | 0-0          | 0-0         | 0-0          | 0        | 0         | 0         | 0         | 0        | 0         | 0        | 0            | 0          | -1  |     |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| <b>TOTALS</b>  |                    | <b>58</b> | <b>18-49</b> | <b>7-26</b> | <b>15-17</b> | <b>6</b> | <b>19</b> | <b>25</b> | <b>24</b> | <b>9</b> | <b>15</b> | <b>4</b> | <b>9</b>     | <b>160</b> |     |     |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |

| Shooting By Period | FG    | FG%   | 3FG  | 3FG%  | FT    | FT%   | Deadball Rebounds: 1.0                     |
|--------------------|-------|-------|------|-------|-------|-------|--|
| Period             |       |       |      |       |       |       | Last FG: 4th-0:22                          |
| Game               | 18-49 | 36.7% | 7-26 | 26.9% | 15-17 | 88.2% | Largest lead: By at Technical Fouls: None. |

| Game Notes:          | Score | 1st | 2nd | 3rd | 4th | TOT | Points       | SVA   | GRO   |
|----------------------|-------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|--------------|-------|-------|
| Officials: , ,       |       | 14  | 21  | 16  | 16  | 67  | In the Paint | 36    | 20    |
| Start Time: 13:45:00 |       | 12  | 16  | 17  | 13  | 58  | Off Turns    | 10    | 13    |
| Postseason Game:     |       |     |     |     |     |     | 2nd Chance   | 10    | 9     |
|                      |       |     |     |     |     |     | Fast Break   | 0     | 0     |
|                      |       |     |     |     |     |     | Bench        | 8     | 2     |
|                      |       |     |     |     |     |     | Per Poss     | 1.031 | 0.892 |
|                      |       |     |     |     |     |     |              | 33/65 | 26/65 |

SVA led for 0:0. GRO led for 0:0.  
Game was tied for 0:0.  
Times tied: 0 Lead Changes: 0



## Thoughts from Assistant Coach Kyle Gerlach

I tried to memorize what I wanted to say on the bus ride home but with sleep deprivation and the emotional roller coaster I forgot what half of it was.

First of all, I'd like to thank our administrators and school board members, I appreciate everything that you have done and will continue to do for our school and students now and in the future. Countless hours have gone into deliberations and decision making to ensure the best results for everyone involved. I wouldn't know where to start that process and I'm sure glad we have the best in the state to tackle those challenges. Thanks for allowing me to coach and teach in this district. I truly felt at home since day one and you have all been a huge reason why. Thanks for all you do, it doesn't go unnoticed!

Next, I need to thank our community. You have welcomed our family into Groton with open arms. From the goodies throughout the year to just helping Tyhe out with the kids during games, it's greatly appreciated. The

**Prior to the seventh place game, the players came out and mingled with their parents and there were plenty of photos taken as it was a very relaxing time for the players and parents.** (Photos by Paul Kosel)

generosity of donations to the hospitality room and everything in between. It was amazing to see such an outpouring of support. Thanks to Jesse Zak and Ryan Tracy for organizing the majority of those things. I'm sure there's more that goes unseen (spouses and other individuals) but we really appreciate you all.

Thanks to the parents for allowing me to coach your kids. It has been a fun year and one of the most successful years I've personally had in my coaching career across all 3 levels. Many of you came up to me, called or texted to let me know that you appreciate what I'm doing and that makes me feel that I must be doing something right. Not only that, but many of your kids have interacted with my children and even take Kailynn to get popcorn or skittles. You've raised them right, to be genuine and caring which is so special to see. Once again, thank you!

To those 6 seniors, words can't describe how I truly feel about you all and each of you will hold a special place in my heart. It's not just that you'll be missed on the basketball team next season but the conversations we've had beyond that about life, your passions, and what your next steps will be once you graduate. Those are the things I will truly miss about you. Thanks for making year 5 the best one yet!

I just wanted to say an extra thank you to you cheerleaders. Kailynn gets so excited every time she sees you and says, "Hey dad look, my cheerleaders!" You have included her in your lives during the season, at the hotel and at the state tournament. She loved every minute of it! She looks up to you so much and talks of being you someday and that is so awesome! It makes me so happy to know we have great role models that aren't just basketball players but cheerleaders as well. You are all great individuals and I'm proud of you all. Thank you to Aubray and Maddie as well for dedicating your time as a cheer coach. These girls have earned one of the greatest awards in their sport and that pays huge in part to the work you two did with them. We are so thankful to have great support!

We are truly blessed as a family and couldn't ask for a better support system from a community family. Go Tigers!

Coach Gerlach

## Official Box Score Groton Area vs Vermillion Game Totals -- Final Statistics March 16, 2024 at Rapid City, SD

### Groton Area 67

| No.           | Player             | S         | Pts          | FG          | 3FG          | FT       | OR        | DR        | TR        | PF        | A         | TO       | Blk      | Stl        | Min | +/- |
|---------------|--------------------|-----------|--------------|-------------|--------------|----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|----------|----------|------------|-----|-----|
| 01            | TRACY, KEEGAN      | 12        | 4-9          | 1-6         | 3-3          | 0        | 1         | 1         | 1         | 4         | 1         | 0        | 1        | 30         | 21  |     |
| 04            | JOHNSON, RYDER     | 2         | 1-4          | 0-1         | 0-0          | 0        | 1         | 1         | 2         | 0         | 2         | 1        | 1        | 17         | 12  |     |
| 10            | TIETZ, LANE        | 25        | 10-19        | 3-8         | 2-3          | 0        | 6         | 6         | 4         | 4         | 3         | 0        | 3        | 26         | 20  |     |
| 22            | ZAK, JACOB         | 15        | 5-10         | 0-1         | 5-6          | 3        | 6         | 9         | 3         | 1         | 2         | 1        | 0        | 25         | 23  |     |
| 42            | RINGGENBERG, LOGAN | 2         | 1-2          | 0-1         | 0-0          | 1        | 2         | 3         | 2         | 1         | 2         | 0        | 0        | 7          | 10  |     |
| 03            | PAULI, BLAKE       | *         | 0            | 0-0         | 0-0          | 0-0      | 0         | 0         | 0         | 0         | 0         | 0        | 0        | 5          | 4   |     |
| 05            | DUNKER, COLBY      | 6         | 3-3          | 0-0         | 0-0          | 0        | 0         | 0         | 1         | 0         | 0         | 0        | 0        | 13         | 1   |     |
| 11            | KEOUGH, KASSEN     | 3         | 1-1          | 1-1         | 0-0          | 1        | 0         | 1         | 0         | 0         | 0         | 0        | 1        | 4          | 0   |     |
| 12            | SCHWAN, JAYDEN     | *         | 0            | 0-0         | 0-0          | 0-0      | 0         | 0         | 0         | 1         | 0         | 0        | 0        | 2          | -3  |     |
| 20            | WEBER, EASTON      | *         | 0            | 0-0         | 0-0          | 0-0      | 0         | 0         | 0         | 0         | 0         | 1        | 0        | 0          | -4  |     |
| 24            | WARRINGTON, LOGAN  | *         | 0            | 0-0         | 0-0          | 0-0      | 0         | 1         | 1         | 0         | 0         | 0        | 0        | 3          | -3  |     |
| 25            | DIEGEL, TEYLOR     | 0         | 0-1          | 0-1         | 0-0          | 1        | 0         | 1         | 3         | 1         | 1         | 0        | 0        | 10         | 5   |     |
| 30            | SIPPEL, GAGE       | 2         | 1-2          | 0-0         | 0-0          | 1        | 0         | 1         | 1         | 0         | 1         | 0        | 0        | 3          | 6   |     |
| 32            | THOMPSON, TURNER   | *         | 0            | 0-2         | 0-2          | 0-0      | 0         | 2         | 2         | 3         | 0         | 1        | 0        | 8          | -6  |     |
| 34            | SIPPEL, HOLDEN     | 0         | 0-1          | 0-0         | 0-0          | 0        | 1         | 1         | 0         | 0         | 0         | 0        | 0        | 2          | -1  |     |
| <b>TOTALS</b> |                    | <b>67</b> | <b>26-54</b> | <b>5-21</b> | <b>10-12</b> | <b>8</b> | <b>23</b> | <b>31</b> | <b>21</b> | <b>11</b> | <b>14</b> | <b>2</b> | <b>6</b> | <b>152</b> |     |     |

### Shooting By Period

| Period      | FG           | FG%          | 3FG         | 3FG%         | FT           | FT%          |
|-------------|--------------|--------------|-------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|
| <b>Game</b> | <b>26-54</b> | <b>48.1%</b> | <b>5-21</b> | <b>23.8%</b> | <b>10-12</b> | <b>83.3%</b> |

Deadball Rebounds: 0.0  
Last FG: 4th-2:40  
Largest lead: By at  
Technical Fouls: None.

### Vermillion 49

| No.           | Player            | S         | Pts          | FG          | 3FG         | FT       | OR        | DR        | TR        | PF       | A         | TO       | Blk      | Stl        | Min | +/- |
|---------------|-------------------|-----------|--------------|-------------|-------------|----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|----------|-----------|----------|----------|------------|-----|-----|
| 20            | ROERIG, CONNOR    | 13        | 4-4          | 2-2         | 3-3         | 0        | 3         | 3         | 2         | 0        | 0         | 0        | 1        | 25         | -21 |     |
| 22            | SKOGSBERG, BRYSON | 12        | 5-12         | 0-4         | 2-2         | 1        | 5         | 6         | 1         | 2        | 3         | 0        | 1        | 26         | -9  |     |
| 23            | ROBINSON, ZOAN    | 13        | 6-7          | 1-1         | 0-2         | 0        | 1         | 1         | 3         | 0        | 5         | 0        | 3        | 27         | -25 |     |
| 24            | HANSEN, CARTER    | 1         | 0-5          | 0-1         | 1-2         | 2        | 0         | 2         | 1         | 2        | 2         | 0        | 0        | 28         | -21 |     |
| 33            | HANSEN, TREY      | 7         | 2-9          | 1-2         | 2-4         | 0        | 5         | 5         | 4         | 0        | 4         | 0        | 1        | 28         | -15 |     |
| 10            | REUVERS, KADE     | *         | 0            | 0-0         | 0-0         | 0-0      | 0         | 0         | 0         | 0        | 0         | 0        | 0        | 2          | 3   |     |
| 12            | CERNY, LONDON     | 0         | 0-1          | 0-1         | 0-0         | 0        | 0         | 0         | 2         | 0        | 0         | 0        | 0        | 5          | -2  |     |
| 14            | MORSE, HUNTER     | 1         | 0-0          | 0-0         | 1-2         | 0        | 0         | 0         | 0         | 0        | 0         | 0        | 1        | 1          | 1   |     |
| 21            | THOMAS, TRENTON   | 0         | 0-0          | 0-0         | 0-0         | 0        | 0         | 0         | 0         | 0        | 0         | 0        | 0        | 1          | 1   |     |
| 30            | JENSEN, LUKE      | *         | 2            | 1-3         | 0-0         | 0-1      | 2         | 1         | 3         | 0        | 0         | 0        | 0        | 2          | 2   |     |
| 32            | LARSEN, GABE      | 0         | 0-1          | 0-0         | 0-0         | 0        | 0         | 0         | 0         | 0        | 0         | 0        | 0        | 1          | 1   |     |
| 35            | PREISTER, KARSON  | *         | 0            | 0-2         | 0-0         | 0-0      | 0         | 0         | 0         | 0        | 0         | 0        | 0        | 2          | 2   |     |
| 40            | ORR, FRANKIE      | *         | 0            | 0-0         | 0-0         | 0-0      | 1         | 0         | 1         | 0        | 0         | 0        | 0        | 2          | 2   |     |
| 44            | MORSE, WYATT      | *         | 0            | 0-0         | 0-0         | 0-0      | 0         | 0         | 0         | 0        | 0         | 0        | 0        | 2          | 3   |     |
| 50            | TWETEN, COLE      | 0         | 0-0          | 0-0         | 0-0         | 0        | 1         | 1         | 2         | 0        | 1         | 2        | 0        | 8          | -12 |     |
| <b>TOTALS</b> |                   | <b>49</b> | <b>18-44</b> | <b>4-11</b> | <b>9-16</b> | <b>6</b> | <b>21</b> | <b>27</b> | <b>15</b> | <b>4</b> | <b>16</b> | <b>2</b> | <b>7</b> | <b>160</b> |     |     |

### Shooting By Period

| Period      | FG           | FG%          | 3FG         | 3FG%         | FT          | FT%          |
|-------------|--------------|--------------|-------------|--------------|-------------|--------------|
| <b>Game</b> | <b>18-44</b> | <b>40.9%</b> | <b>4-11</b> | <b>36.4%</b> | <b>9-16</b> | <b>56.3%</b> |

Deadball Rebounds: 3.0  
Last FG: 4th-0:07  
Largest lead: By at  
Technical Fouls: None.

### Game Notes:

Officials: ...

Start Time: 12:00:00

Postseason Game:

| Score | 1st | 2nd | 3rd | 4th | TOT       | Points       | GRO   | VER   |
|-------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----------|--------------|-------|-------|
| GRO   | 21  | 21  | 15  | 10  | <b>67</b> | In the Paint | 34    | 28    |
| VER   | 14  | 10  | 10  | 15  | <b>49</b> | Off Turns    | 17    | 10    |
|       |     |     |     |     |           | 2nd Chance   | 10    | 6     |
|       |     |     |     |     |           | Fast Break   | 0     | 0     |
|       |     |     |     |     |           | Bench        | 11    | 3     |
|       |     |     |     |     |           | Per Poss     | 1.031 | 0.817 |
|       |     |     |     |     |           |              | 31/65 | 23/60 |

GRO led for 0:0. VER led for 0:0.  
Game was tied for 0:0.  
Times tied: 0  
Lead Changes: 0



**Emery Blackwood of Groton poses with her two favorite Tiger Basketball players at the State A post game get together in Rapid City. Lane Tietz below and Colby Dunker above.** (Photos by Bruce Babcock)





**Keegen Tracy**  
(Photo by Paul Kosel)



**Blake Pauli**  
(Photo by Paul Kosel)



**Ryder Johnson**  
(Photo by Paul Kosel)



**Colby Dunker**  
(Photo by Paul Kosel)



**Lane Tietz**  
(Photo by Paul Kosel)



**Kassen Keough**  
(Photo by Paul Kosel)



**Jayden Schwan**  
(Photo by Paul Kosel)



**Karson Zak**  
(Photo by Paul Kosel)



**Easton Weber**  
(Photo by Paul Kosel)



**Jacob Zak**  
(Photo by Paul Kosel)



**Logan Warrington**  
(Photo by Paul Kosel)



**Teylor Diegel**  
(Photo by Paul Kosel)



**Gage Sippel**  
(Photo by Paul Kosel)



**Turner Thompson**  
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**Holden Sippel**  
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**Logan Ringgenberg**  
(Photo by Paul Kosel)



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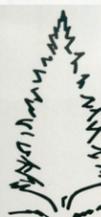
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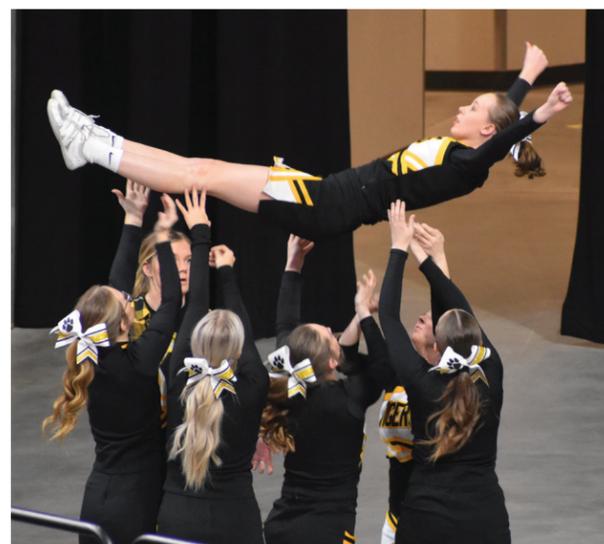


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| WATERFALLS / PONDS                   |                                  |



**The cheerleaders were practicing prior to the seventh place game.** (Photo by Paul Kosel)



**Water Boy Trey Tietz**  
(Photo by Paul Kosel)



**Water Boy Major Dolan**  
(Photo by Paul Kosel)



**Statistician Becky Erickson**  
(Photo by Paul Kosel)



**Manager Braxton Imrie**  
(Photo by Paul Kosel)



**Asst. Coach Matt Locke**  
(Photo by Paul Kosel)



**Asst. Coach Kyle Gerlach**  
(Photo by Paul Kosel)



**Head Coach Brian Dolan**  
(Photo by Paul Kosel)



**Head Coach Brian Dolan**  
(Photo by Paul Kosel)



**Head Coach Brian Dolan is being interviewed by a reporter from South Dakota Public Broadcasting at halftime of the seventh place game.** (Photo by Paul Kosel)



**It got a little emotional at the end of the game as Senior Lane Tietz and his younger brother Trey Tietz hug each other.** (Photo by Paul Kosel)



**Bruce Babcock captured these shots as the Tigers won the Spirit of Six and the Spirit of Su awards.**



**Groton Area school board member, Marty Weismantel, also serves on the board of the South Dakota High School Activities Association. Weismantel handed out the medals to the Groton team after winning the seventh place game.** (Photo by Paul Kosel)



**Braxton Imrie helping with warmups.** (Photo by Paul Kosel)

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## Hospitality Room

A hospitality room at the Minneluzaham Senior Center near The Monument was done for the team, fans and parents after the game. It was held Thursday after the game and will also be open today at 11 a.m. and again after the game.

Coach Brian Dolan thanked everyone for making the long drive to Rapid City. "We had the best fan section there," he said. "There was a lot of energy and we will need that again in the next game. We're re-defining our goal - to come home with a trophy. We have a lot to accomplish in the next 48 hours." Dolan also talked about the scouting team. "These boys can run Hamlin's plays better than Hamlin can run them," he said. "They are a great scout team."



Many fans showed up at the hospitality room after the Friday basketball game. The gathering was at the Minneluzaham Senior Center near The Monument. (Photo by Paul Kosel)



**Thanks to Our Groton Community**  
*Your Support Makes the Difference!*

|   |   |   |  |
|---|---|---|--|
| MARTIN TORRY<br>LUKE BRUNS<br>DACOTAH BANK<br>ZUNTAI<br>CENTRAL STEEL<br>LANGE AND JOANN FLEHS FAMILY<br>JERRY AND BECCA JOHNSON<br>S & S LUMBER<br>JEFF ANDERSEN FARMS<br>TOM PIGORS<br>KOLKER LAW OFFICE<br>PARENT ACTION COMMITTEE (PAC) | MARC SIPPLE FAMILY<br>CRAIG AND TASHA DUNKER FAMILY<br>BASE KAMP LODGE<br>SPANER TRUCKING<br>THURSTON CATTLE<br>RIX FARMS<br>JAMES VALLEY TELEPHONE<br>H.R.H FLEHS AND SUN & SEA TRAVEL CO.<br>LORI'S PHARMACY<br>PIONEER SEED-JOEL BIERMAN<br>STROM FARMS<br>BAHR SPRAY FOAM | GROTON AG<br>AMERICAN LEGION POST 39 GROTON<br>GROTON FIREMEN<br>GROTON CHIROPRACTIC<br>JAMES VALLEY THUNDER<br>DOEBEN INVESTMENT GROUP<br>JEFF FLEHS FAMILY<br>INDEPENDENT AG<br>VOTE YES FOR THE OPT OUT-GROTON COMMUNITY<br>MEATHOUSE - IN ANDOVER<br>COLLIN / DEB GENERE FAMILY<br>FARMERS UNION INSURANCE - JOHNSON AGENCY | BEADY BREW<br>STROM ARCHITECTURE<br>NANCY LARSEN<br>STEVE AND BETTY DUNKER<br>BARB AND TOM PAEPKE<br>JOAN AND JERRY JOHNSON<br>LARRY AND KATHY HARRY<br>WW RENTALS-COLUMBIA<br>4L FARMS<br>KIRK'S AUTO<br>DEAN & LORIE RINGENBERG<br>JAY AND LINDA JOHNSON |
|---|---|---|--|

**GROTON TIGERS**

There were a lot of people who donated to make the upgrade to the charter bus and the hospitality room a reality for the State A Tournament. (Photo by Bruce Babcock)



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