



**Minnesota Valley Lutheran High School
Girls' 2010-2011 Basketball**

Head Coach: David Biedenbender **Assistant Coach:** Rollin Timm, Todd Schoof





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Chargers rally past St. Mary's

December 8, 2010 - New Ulm Journal

SLEEPY EYE - Minnesota Valley Lutheran defeated Sleepy Eye St. Mary's 35-32 Tuesday for the Tomahawk Conference game opener.

MVL's Miranda Maasz was the leading scorer with nine points and was 7-for-8 at the free throw line. Ashley Dinse and Emily Wessel each added eight points for MVL.

St. Mary's was led by Maddy Helget, who had 13 points and Anna Surprenant added eight points with 10 rebounds.

Defense keys Chargers

December 11, 2010 - New Ulm Journal

By Michael Gassett, Journal Sports Writer

NEW ULM - In two games this week, the Minnesota Valley Lutheran girls basketball team has allowed just 57 points.

The Chargers almost scored that much alone Friday night.

After holding Sleepy Eye St. Mary's to just 32 points in a win on Tuesday, MVL followed that up with a 49-25 victory over cross-town rival New Ulm Cathedral Friday in Tomahawk Conference play.

"I was really happy with the way we played defensively," MVL coach Dave Biedenbender said. "Right from the start, we wanted to shut them down and not give them any open looks from the outside. I thought we did a nice job with good positioning and hustle on defense."

As strong as the MVL defense was, the Greyhounds didn't help themselves out. They were just 5-for-24 from the field in the first half and finished the game 8-for-38.

"The first half we just did not handle the pressure at all," Cathedral coach Jeremy Drexler said. "We had a couple nice looks in the middle, a jumper at the free throw line and we just couldn't finish. It's hard to win when you can't score."

MVL never trailed in the game as the Chargers jumped out to a quick 11-2 lead to start the contest off. A Kari Berg 3-pointer, followed by a Val Lux free throw and a quick break score by Marisa Waibel cut the Greyhounds deficit to 15-9 with just over five minutes to play. Cathedral never got that close again. MVL went on an 11-5 from from that point and took a 26-15 lead into the break.

The field goals were even in the first half of play but MVL did its damage from the foul line. The Chargers were 13-for-20 in the first half from the line.



Journal photo by Steve Muscatello
New Ulm Cathedral's Marisa Waibel (left) and Minnesota Valley Lutheran's Ashley Dinse (20) look on as the Greyhounds Val Lux (15) takes a shot during the first half Friday at CHS.



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"I think that the free throws kept us in the game," Biedenbender said. "We were having trouble hitting the little bunnies and we weren't making the best passes either. Fortunately we went to the line and that gave us a little bit of a gap at half."

Drexler was pleased with his team's defense and acknowledged having an aggressive defense will lead to fouls.

"The girls are really doing a good job with putting pressure on the basketball and denying," he said. "They are doing a really nice job with the zone defense and have come a long way since the first game already."

MVL opened the second half on a 16-6 run when a Bailey Lange basket gave the Chargers a 42-21 lead. Cathedral scored just four points the rest of the game.

Cathedral was led by Lux with eight points and Waibel had six points and six rebounds. Lisa Helget had nine rebounds. Kari Berg had four rebounds and four steals.

The Greyhounds (1-3, 0-2) are at Cedar Mountain/Comfrey Tuesday.

MVL was led by Emily Wessel with 14 points and five steals. Lange had eight points and seven rebounds. Miranda Maasz scored 11 points, with six rebounds and Heather Danell had eight rebounds and three blocks.

The Chargers (3-0, 2-0) were supposed to travel to St. Croix Lutheran today but that game was cancelled due to the weather. They next host Gibbon-Fairfax-Winthrop Tuesday.

"Any time you can get two good conference wins and a good nonconference win against Nicollet it's great," Biedenbender said. "I'm glad to be 3-0 and I would much rather be 3-0 with ugliness than having a loss in there."

