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<http://www.maxpreps.com/high-schools/hS6KaYF3mkqdklBp7vU7tQ/new-ulm-eagles/girls-basketball/schedule.htm>



Photo courtesy of Hutchinson Leader Hutchinson sophomore Kaylee Kucera corralled a rebound over the out stretched arms of New Ulm forward Kelsy Kannegiesser in a 56-43Tigers win Tuesday.

## Hutchinson stops New Ulm

Dustin Briggs — Journal Sports Writer

*POSTED: March 3, 2010*

HUTCHINSON - The New Ulm girls basketball season came to an end as the Eagles fell to Hutchinson 56-43 in the Section 2AAA playoffs Tuesday.

It was a tough night for the Eagles as they faced an extremely aggressive Tigers' defense who made shooting difficult. But passing was nearly impossible as well.

Wearing black and yellow, the Tigers were all over the ball like killer bees swarming defenseless prey. In the rare occasion that a member of the Eagles got a shot off, it just wouldn't sink.

In the opening minutes of the game, New Ulm made the first field goal, and that 2-0 lead was the last lead the Eagles saw this season.

The Tigers then went on a 24-6 scoring run, barely letting the Eagles cross the half-court line. At the end of the first half the score was 30-16.

In the second half the Eagles made a valiant effort at a comeback. Jill Gareis hit two consecutive 3-pointers totaling seven points on the night.

Marissa Klimmek showed she would not give up by putting defensive pressure on the Tigers earning two steals, one of which ended in an unassisted field goal.

But the Eagles ran out of clock after a 11-4 run bringing the Tigers' lead to 13 points at the final buzzer with the score 56-43.

Klimmek led the Eagles in scoring with eight points and Gareis followed with seven points on the night.

Alissa Retterath led the Tigers to victory with an impressive 19 points including four successful 3-point shots.

The Eagles improved their game against the Tigers compared to their last match-up when the Eagles lost 70-36.

"We focused on running the floor and had a zone that we introduced in the second half," New Ulm coach Matthew Dick said. "We weren't the best team tonight but this is the best group of kids out there to coach."

# Marshall girls defeat New Ulm

Jim Bastian, Journal Sports Writer

POSTED: February 24, 2010

NEW ULM - It was not the way that the New Ulm Eagle girl's basketball team wanted to end the regular season especially facing a team that they may well play in the first round of Section 2AAA playoffs.



**Staff photo by Mary Roufs**

New Ulm High School's Marissa Klimmek (11) looks to pass during the first half of the game against Marshall Tuesday night at NUHS. For more photos of this event, go to <http://cu.nujournal.com>

The Marshall Tigers forced 12 first-half Eagle turnovers to take a 35-14 halftime lead and cruised by New Ulm 59-40 Tuesday night in nonconference basketball.

Dani Beekman led the Tigers (11-12) with a game-high 17 points. Kelsey Verdoes added 15 and Morgan McKittrick 10.

Marissa Klimmek and Angela Serbus each scored eight for New Ulm, which ends its regular season with an 8-16 mark and also a six-game losing streak.

While the turnovers (21 in the game for New Ulm) hurt the Eagles, head coach Matthew Dick said that his team saw some new zone defenses early in the game from the Tigers that they had not expected.

"And I will take the blame for that," he said. "I had scouted Marshall and all of the information that had was that they were going to run a 2-3 zone or a man. But that 3-2 zone that they used, we were not ready for."

That enabled the Tigers to erase an early 5-4 New Ulm lead with a 15-0 run that ended when Kelsey Michelson, Beekman and McKittrick each hit 3-pointers before New Ulm's Logan Ahlness answered with a 3-pointer of her own.

In that run, the Eagles got off just three shots and turned the ball over seven times.

"We did take timeouts and try and draw up plays against that zone but that was not enough," Dick said. "We subbed in different players we had lost what we had learned on the bench on what to do. We did not know where to go with the ball even after the timeout. We did not have it tonight."

Two baskets from Klimmek was the only offense for New Ulm as the Tigers increased their lead from 19-8 to 35-12 as the Tiger defense, when the Eagles got into running their offense, put pressure on the the Eagles perimeter game and forced then out.

"We would get open shots but we would be stuck watching them instead of going in and trying to hit the boards," Dick said. "We should have been able to rebound because of the zone that they were playing."

Trailing 35-14 at halftime, the Eagles found some life in the second half.

"We talked at halftime about how we wanted to move the ball north and south instead of east and west," Dick said. "Their zone made us go east and west in the first half. And we wanted to be more aggressive because all they did in the first half was stand in the zone because we were intimidated by it. Once we started crashing the boards, we played better."

That aggressive play allowed the Eagles to play even with the Tigers in the second 18 minutes and in fact held a 26-24 scoring advantage.

Dick thinks that that can be used to the Eagles' advantage if they meet the Tigers again, this time in the Section 2AAA playoffs in Marshall.

"We will watch this film and we will be prepared for that (3-2) zone," he said. "We will work on some things. We played hard all game and that serves us well. We will be prepared for all the zones that they will throw at us."

New Ulm lost the "B" game 43-20.

**MARSHALL ..... 35-24 - 59**

**NEW ULM ..... 14-26 - 40**

**MARSHALL (59): Beekman 17, Verdoes 15, McKittick 10, Miller 5, Culhane 4, Michelson 3, Saugstad 3, Vanleuwe 2.**

**NEW ULM (40): Klimmek 8, Serbus 8, Ahlness 7, Holstein 7, Hoffmann 4, Bode 2, Swift 2, Louters 2.**

## New Ulm falls to Fairmont

*POSTED: February 22, 2010*

Fairmont 51, New Ulm 38

FAIRMONT - The Fairmont Cardinals defeated the New Ulm Eagles in South Central Conference girls basketball action Monday, winning 51-38.

For the Eagles, Kelsey Kannegiesser scored 10 points and Jill Gareis had eight points.

## Fairmont nets share of SCC championship

Charlie Sorrells – Fairmont Sentinel Sports Editor

*POSTED: February 23, 2010*

FAIRMONT - Don Waletich added 'co-conference champion' to his basketball coaching resume on Monday night.

Fairmont's second-year head coach guided his girls cagers to the outright South Central Conference crown on the strength of a 10-0 record during his rookie season in 2008-09.

Senior guard Ariel Berhow produced a game-high 16 points, while Kirsten True came off the bench to deliver 10 points and seven rebounds to engineer the Cardinals' 51-38 league victory over the methodical New Ulm Eagles in Fairmont.

Class AA No. 9-ranked Fairmont improved to 18-2 overall and matched Blue Earth Area mentor Al Cue and the Bucs' co-champion conference record of 8-2 with the 13-point victory at Cardinal Gym.

"It's a neat accomplishment for the players, especially this group of seniors," Waletich said in reference to sharing the SCC crown. "... I thought the girls' transition offense did a nice job of extending our lead during the early stages of the second half. They really ran the secondary break well."

The Cardinals displayed their patience during the first half, countering New Ulm's time-consuming slow-down offensive strategy with four consecutive baskets from True to never relinquish the lead.

Shannon Christianson, who came off the bench to net six points and seven rebounds, hit a perfectly-executed screen-and-roll basket off Berhow's perfect pass to stake Fairmont to an 18-13 halftime edge.

Alyssa Niss' 15-foot jumpshot off a Berhow assist triggered the hometown lineup's 15-2 avalanche during the early stages of the second half to put the game out of reach.

Berhow pocketed three of her four steals off the red-and-white's defensive trap to reel off five unanswered points.



TRAFFIC JAM — Fairmont's Alyssa Niss (red uniform) fires a shot despite being sandwiched by New Ulm's Kelsey Kannegiesser (35), Faith Collum (ground) and Jill Gareis (right) during South Central Conference action on Monday night in Fairmont. View additional photos at <http://cu.fairmontsentinel.com> (Photo by Kimberly Cossairt)

Samantha Smith, Jami Riley and Christianson then combined for eight straight points on the heels of New Ulm guard Jill Gareis' two free throws to widen the gap to 36-17 with 11 minutes remaining in regulation.

Berhow's traditional 3-point play, Smith's low-post cutter off a Niss assist, True's steal-turned-layup, Riley's conversion of a one-and-one and a staggering 24-7 rebounding edge in the second half allowed Fairmont to pull away.

Riley and Smith each contributed six points to the Cardinals' winning ways.

Sophomore post player Kelsy Kannegiesser produced 10 points and five rebounds to pace the Eagles, while teammate Jill Gareis came off the bench to score eight points.

Fairmont (18-2) plays host to St. James at 7 p.m. Saturday night at Cardinal Gym in a Section 3AA, South Sub-Section quarterfinal game in Fairmont.

New Ulm (8-15, 3-7) plays host to Marshall tonight in a nonconference regular-season contest.

Justine Gerdtz chalked up 13 points and four steals to guide the Fairmont B-squad to a 39-26 win over New Ulm on Monday in Fairmont.

Kamara Cone delivered eight points, six rebounds and four steals to the Cardinals' effort, while Shannon Christianson netted six points and eight boards.

Megan Fuhrman made five steals, Morgan Timmerman chipped in four thefts, while Ashley Kloeckner grabbed six rebounds for Fairmont, which ended its season with a 15-2 record.

## **Eagle girls lose to Giants**

*POSTED: February 16, 2010*

LE SUEUR - Despite having four players in double figures, LeSueur-Henderson defeated New Ulm 73-64 in nonconference girls basketball action Monday.

Angie Serbus led the way with 14 points and Jill Gareis had 12 points. Rachel Holstein had 11 points and Kelsey Kannegiesser had 10 points for the Eagles. Marissa Klimmek also had nine points.

## **Cardinals run past Eagle girls**

By Michael Gasset, Journal Sports Writer

*POSTED: February 13, 2010*

NEW ULM - Fairmont is one of the Top 10 teams in Class AA and the Cardinals played like it Friday.

The Cardinals controlled every facet of the game as they easily defeated New Ulm 71-46 in South Central Conference girls basketball.

"It was a tough night all around," New Ulm coach Matt Dick said. "Fairmont is the most disciplined, defensive team we have seen all year. They had us on our heels all night."

Behind the hot hands of seniors Ariel Berhow and Alyssa Niss, Fairmont led from the opening



**Staff photo by Mary Roufs**

New Ulm High School's Caitlin Bierk pulls down a defensive rebound during the game against Fairmont on Friday night at NUHS. For more photos of this event, go to <http://cu.nujournal.com>

tip and built a double-digit lead eight minutes in.

The Cardinals built the lead to as much as 17 before New Ulm scored five straight points in the final minute to make it a 32-19 game at the half. Niss and Berhow had 17 combined points at the half.

The second half didn't go much better for the Eagles as they turned the ball over on their first five possessions of the half.

By that time Fairmont built the lead to more than 20 points. The Cardinals held New Ulm without a field goal until Angie Serbus completed a three-point with 11:16 to play in the game to make it 48-23.

Fairmont cruised the rest of the way for the 71-46 win.

Fairmont had a big edge in free throws as it went 20-for-26 from the line. New Ulm was just 8-for-20.

Kirsten True led the Cardinals (16-2) with 19 points. Niss had 18 points and Berhow added 12.

New Ulm (8-12, 3-5) was led by Serbus with 11 points. Rachel Holstein had eight points and Marissa Klimmek and Logan Ahlness each had six points.

The Eagles are at LeSueur-Henderson Monday.

"This kind of knocks us back a notch," Dick said. "We played a really good game against Waseca [a 56-52 loss Feb. 5] who is a really good team and we won three previous to that. So this kind of brought us back to earth where we have to get our focus back in practice and start doing the little things again, where we kind of let those slide."

## New Ulm falls to Waseca

*POSTED: February 6, 2010*

By Michael Gasset  
Journal Sports Writer

NEW ULM - It was a call that could have gone either way. In the end the officials just let them play.

With 15 seconds left and New Ulm trailing Waseca 54-52, Angie Serbus stole the Bluejays inbound pass and went straight to the basket. It looked as if she drew contact but nothing was called, the ball went back to Waseca and it was the Eagles that had to foul. Dani Collins missed both free throws but Waseca recovered and Lexi Ulfers delivered, sinking both shots and sealing the Bluejays 56-52 South Central Conference win.

"We did everything we needed to do, we just came up a little short," New Ulm coach Matt Dick said. "We had the steal at the end, we had the shot and that was against a really good team. We can step on the floor against anybody now and play with them and the girls have to realize that."

It was a frantic finish for a game that Waseca seemed to have in hand by halftime.

Waseca led from the opening tip and built a 16-10 lead on a Casie DeVos basket. New Ulm battled back and tied the game at 18 when Marissa Klimmek split the defenders in the lane for a nice layup with five minutes to play in the half.

But the Eagles went scoreless for nearly the rest of the half until Chelsey Bode hit a free throw with two seconds to go and Waseca took a 25-19 lead into the break.



**Staff photo by Steve Muscatello**

New Ulm's Angela Serbus (13) launches a shot over a Waseca defender during the first half Friday at New Ulm High School. For more photos of this event,



"We were right with them until the last four minutes of the half when we got some girls in to foul trouble and we had to sit them," Dick said. "Once we were able to put them back in, that's what made us play better. We gave up more points in that last five minutes when we didn't score and that kind of put us in the hole."

New Ulm got three quick scores to start the second half and tied the game at 25. The Bluejays quickly took back the lead as Jordyn Hedberg went on a little scoring spree. She scored six straight points for Waseca as it built a 38-33 lead with 10 minutes to play.

The Eagles weren't done. Serbus converted a traditional three-point play and Jill Garies nailed a leaner from the left elbow to tie the game at 38.

After a Waseca basket, Serbus again tied it at 40 and the Eagles took their first lead of the game on two free throws by Marne Louters to make it 42-40 with 7:53 to play.

Ulfers tied it once again at 44 with a basket and two Kelly Loonan free throws put the Bluejays back on top 46-44 with five-and-a-half minutes to play in the game.

That's when Marissa Klimmek hit a clutch 3-pointer from just right of the key to put New Ulm up 47-46.

"I wasn't ready for her to shoot it and I don't think anybody else was either," Dick said. "It was a great shot and she had kind of struggled from the field tonight. We just tell our shooters, 'if you miss it, shooters shoot and they will go in.' And that was a big momentum shift for us, it put us in the lead and it got the crowd going and it got our girls going."

The Eagles kept the lead for the next three minutes until Caitlin Whitney's basket gave Waseca a 50-49 lead. Serbus hit a free throw to tie it at 50 with 1:43 to play but Whitney made four straight free throws to give Waseca a 54-50 lead with under a minute to go.

Klimmek scored to cut the lead to two with 16 seconds left and Serbus intercepted the ensuing inbounds pass to set up the final scenario. Ulfers led the Bluejays with 19 points. The 6-foot-2-inch junior had 10 of Waseca's first 12 points of the game. Whitney had 11 points and was 5-for-7 from the free throw line. Waseca was 20-for-36 from the line on the night.

Serbus and Garies each had 12 points. Louters had 10 and Klimmek had nine. The Eagles were 15-for-24 from the line.



## Eagles hold off Mankato East

*POSTED: February 2, 2010*

By Jonas Leyrer  
Journal Sports Writer

NEW ULM - It would be difficult to sum up all the excitement of the New Ulm girls' basketball game in just a few words, but at the final buzzer of the night, only one word seemed important: victory.

Over an extremely fast-paced 36 minutes of game play on Monday night, New Ulm and Mankato East swapped points, fouls, and the lead more than once. The Eagles were able to stay focused though, and took the game 59-53.

In the opening minutes of the game, things did not go well for the Eagles. The girls had trouble finding the hoop and were unable to slow the pace of the Cougars.

**Staff photo by Steve Muscatello**  
New Ulm's Marne Louters (25) drives to the basket during the first half against Mankato East Monday at NUHS. For more photos of this event, go to <http://cu.nujournal.com>

It was at that midpoint that Mankato enjoyed its only moments of having control. The Eagles began moving the ball more on offense and used a strong press on defense that allowed them to go on a 14-2 run against the Cougars. Mankato's lead shrunk from 11 to just a single point. With 25 seconds left on the clock, Marissa Klimmek put up a shot and New Ulm took the lead for the first time of the night.

Coming out of halftime, it seemed that New Ulm still had the enthusiasm it walked off the court with at the end of the half. But despite their efforts, the Eagles could not break away with a strong lead. The next four minutes belonged to the Cougars, who picked up 10 points and took the lead, 40-37.

It was free throws that allowed New Ulm another chance at the lead. Two free throws by Klimmek and three by Angela Serbus (one following a made shot) gave the Eagles a 44-40 lead.

For New Ulm, the key elements to winning the game were not only playing with skill, but understanding how the opponent was scoring.

"It took a while to figure out how they played," New Ulm coach Matthew Dick said. "Once we figured out where the gaps would be, we pretty much did what we wanted to in that first half. Once we got that rolling, we finally could score some points. It has been a while since we've scored this many points."

For the Eagles, four players came out with double-digit scores. Klimmek led the team with 18 points. Following her were Kelsy Kannegiesser with 13 and Serbus with 12. Marne Louters added another 10 points to the Eagles' board.

Mankato East's top scorer was Kelsey Mosher, who picked up 20 points. Teammates Taylor Homan and Abby Connell scored 18 and 10 points, respectively.

## Serbus leads NU past St. James

*POSTED: January 30, 2010*

ST. JAMES - New Ulm defeated St. James 57-36 Friday night in South Central Conference girls basketballs action.



New Ulm was led by Angie Serbus who had 16 points in the victory. Marissa Klimmek had 13 points. Jill Gareis and Kelsy Kannegeiser each added 10 points for the Eagles.

St. James was led by Julia Runge who had a game high 17 points.

New Ulm (7-10) hosts Mankato East Monday.

New Ulm JV won 40-27.

## Saints stop Eagles 63-47

*By: Pat Beck, St. Peter Herald*

*Posted: Wednesday, January 27, 2010 10:14 am*

Defense was the name of the game as the St. Peter girls basketball team avenged a loss to New Ulm by beating the Eagles 63-47 Thursday.

"This was a great win for our program and great for the girls to beat New Ulm after losing the first time (83-78)," St. Peter coach Cyndi Raymond said. "It was a team effort with many girls having good games. The key was our second half defense holding New Ulm to 18 points. It has been great to see the girls making the

adjustments at halftime."

Three Saints scored in double figures, led by Tailor Raymond with 17 points and eight rebounds. Sidney Dirks chipped in 14 points, and Katy Kuiper scored 10 points and dished off a team-high six assists.

**New Ulm ..... 29 18 - 47**

**St. Peter..... 32 31 - 63**

**St. Peter (63)**

**Tailor Raymond 8-14 1-2 17, Sidney Dirks 7-10 0-2 14, Katy Kuiper 4-5 2-3 10, Dani Larson 3-6 4-4 10, AnnMarie Brown 2-6 0-3 7, Alissa Lager 0-2 3-4 3, Jenny Wilking 2-4 0 2 Totals 26-48 10-18 63**

**Rebounds 36 (Raymond 8, Kuiper 7, Brown 5, Wilking 5, Lager 3, Dirks 2, Larson 2)**

**Assists 22 (Kuiper 6, Raymond 4, Kuiper 3, Dirks 3, Larson 3, Brown, Lager, Wilking)**

**Steals 12 (Dirks 3, Kuiper 3, Raymond 2, Wilking 2, Brown, Larson)**

**Blocks 4 (Kuiper, Lager, Larson, Raymond)**

**3-point field goals 1-3 (Brown 1-2, Kuiper 0-1)**

## New Ulm holds off Cardinals

*POSTED: January 27, 2010*

New Ulm Journal

REDWOOD FALLS -The New Ulm girls basketball team pulled out a close 54-52 win against Redwood Valley in a non-conference game on Tuesday night.

The score was 28-18 at the half, but the Cardinals pulled up close at the end to put the pressure on the Eagles.

For New Ulm Jill Gareis led the team with 17 points. Rachel Holstein followed with 13 points, while Marissa Klimmek added another seven.

Redwood Valley's leading scorer, Liz Smith, matched Gareis with 17 points for the Cardinals.

## Trojans ground Eagles, 82-53

By: [Michael Brauer](#), Worthington Daily Globe

Published January 13 2010

WORTHINGTON — The Trojans wowed the crowd right away when Kaitlin Gerber lobbed a cross-court alley-oop to Martha Alwal on Worthington's very first possession.

The rest of the game went pretty much the same way.

Alwal had 30 points, 10 rebounds and seven blocks, and the Trojan girls' basketball team bounced back from their first loss of the season with a convincing 82-53 victory against New Ulm Tuesday night.

The 6-foot-2 Alwal had at least half a foot on every New Ulm starter, and the Trojans (8-1) took advantage.

"Their starting lineup came out and they were all pushing 5-8, if that," Gerber said. "I go, 'Martha, you're getting it all night,' and that's what she did. She did an awesome job."

Gerber made sure her center got the ball plenty. She and the other Trojan guards lofted several passes inside that Alwal pulled down before anyone else could.

Alwal scored Worthington's first six buckets, outscoring the Eagles 12-3 by herself.

"That's what we needed from her," head coach Eric Lindner said. "Finishing with confidence, it's important for us to see that from her. She put together two pretty good halves (Tuesday)."

WHS led 41-25 at halftime, in large part due to the Trojans' defense — which was suffocating, albeit a little frantic at times.

Their press helped force 22 steals, but it wasn't until the second half that Lindner was content with his team's effort.

"The defense was a little sloppy in the first half," the coach said. "We were hustling and getting on the floor, but not necessarily being smart. ... Sometimes we had three of four girls on a trap, and that isn't going to work."

Added Gerber: "At halftime, the coaches said we were running around like chickens with our heads cut off. We came out in the second half and played defense like we know how."



**Brian Korthals/Daily Globe**

Trojan Kayla Schroeder (34) fires in a three point shot during Tuesday night's game with New

But New Ulm also showed a little spark coming out of the locker rooms, and the Eagles closed the gap to 45-37 before Lindner called a timeout to regroup.

Angela Serbus had scored seven quick points to propel New Ulm's 10-2 run. She finished the night with 16 points.

Out of the timeout, though, Worthington scored 19 unanswered to put the Eagles away.

Alwal wasn't the only reason for the Trojans' second-half surge.

Kristen Andersen contributed 16 points and six rebounds, coming off the bench.

Gerber had 11 points, six steals and a half dozen assists (most of them to Alwal). Her sister Mackenzie Gerber added five steals.

Kaitlin, usually a wing, has had to adjust to playing point guard in place of the injured Gabby Boever.

Lately, though, she's been doing more dishing than shooting. Gerber has a total of 16 assists in the past two games.

"I'd much rather be playing a 2, but I know I have to do what's better for the team," she said. "I'm starting to get used to it."

Tuesday night's win came just 24 hours after the Trojans dropped their first game of the season, 64-57 to Spirit Lake (Iowa) in overtime.

Lindner thought his team looked sluggish during that game.

Not so against New Ulm.

"We just need to get it in their heads that we need to get up for every game, it doesn't matter who we play," Lindner said. "I knew they'd come out that second half strong — they didn't want to have practice tomorrow after another effort like (Monday)."

He hopes his team can keep the energy level up on Friday against Redwood Valley.

If Tuesday night was any indication, the Trojans should be ready.

"We all said before the game that we felt bad for New Ulm," Gerber said. "(Monday) was a loss that shouldn't have happened, and New Ulm got our revenge, for sure."

***New Ulm ... 25 28 — 53***

***WHS ..... 41 41 — 82***

***New Ulm (3FG-2FG-FT-TP) Serbus 1-6-1-16, Gareis 1-2-0-7, Louters 0-2-3-7, Kannegiesser 0-3-1-7, Ahlness 1-1-1-6, Holstein 0-2-1-5, Bode 0-1-2-4, Stark 0-0-1-1, TOTALS 3-17-10-53.***

***WHS (3FG-2FG-FT-TP) Alwal 0-14-2-30, K. Andersen 0-7-2-16, K. Gerber 1-2-4-11, Malmgren 0-2-3-7, K. Schroeder 1-1-0-5, M. Gerber 0-1-1-3, C. Landgaard 0-1-0-2, Cham 0-1-0-2, VanderVeen 0-1-0-2, B. Boever 0-1-0-2, TOTALS 2-32-12-82.***

## **New Ulm girls fall**

*POSTED: January 10, 2010 New Ulm Journal*

VICTORIA - The New Ulm girls basketball team fell to Holy Family 63-41 in nonconference basketball action Saturday.

Jill Gareis led the Eagles with eight points, Angie Serbus and Marne Louters each had six points.

Molly Bell led Holy Family with 10 points and Hanna Schonhardt had nine points.

***Continue scrolling for more New Ulm Eagles Basketball***

## Hutch races past New Ulm

By Jeremy Behnke, Journal Sports Editor

POSTED: January 6, 2010

NEW ULM - After getting off to a hot start, the New Ulm girls basketball team has been battling injury and illness lately.

On Tuesday, the Eagles had another tough battle as they had to deal with nonconference opponent Hutchinson.

While the Eagles were competitive in the first half and trailed 32-24 at halftime, they watched easy basket after easy basket for the Tigers in the second half. Hutchinson ran away from New Ulm in the second half, holding New Ulm to just 12 points in the 70-36 win.

"Hutch is a great team," first-year coach Matthew Dick said. "They played really hard defense and they played extremely hard, period, and they play smart. I told my girls we have to play hard and smart, and Hutchinson did that tonight."

The Tigers jumped out to a 6-0 lead thanks to 3-pointers from Alissa Retterath and Angela Tauer.

But the Eagles responded, taking a quick lead at 10-9 on an Angie Serbus three-point play. Serbus led the Eagles with 16 points, 15 of those coming in the first half.

"We shot well in that first half," Dick said. "We had shots go down and they went up 6-0 because they shot well too. It's just a case where two teams were hitting their shots."

The Eagles and Tigers went back and forth for the first half, but the Tigers began to pull away late in the half.

Tauer's 3 gave the Tigers a 25-21 lead, and they took that lead and ran with it in the second half. New Ulm, which trailed by eight at halftime, scored only 12 points in the second half as the Tigers turned up their defense.

Staff photo by Steve Muscatello



## New Ulm falls to Fulda

*POSTED: December 31, 2009*

WINDOM - Angie Serbus scored 18 points but it wasn't enough as New Ulm fell to Fulda 68-61 in the consolation game of the Windom Tournament Wednesday.

Jill Garies had 14 points and was selected to the all-tournament team.

For Fulda, Lane Gehl scored a game high 20 points, Courtney Hulstein had 11 and Kassie Wilkening added 10.

Fulda had a 35-21 lead at the half but New Ulm outscored the Raiders 40-33 in the second half.

In the championship, Fairmont beat host Windom 57-53.

## Windom wins battle of Eagles

*POSTED December.30,2009 Cottonwood County Citizen*

**New Ulm 22-26 = 49**

**Windom 32-34 = 66**

The Windom Eagle girls picked up their second straight win Tuesday, dumping New Ulm 66-49 in the first round of the Windom Holiday Classic.

Windom's defensive effort forced turnovers and poor shots by New Ulm as Windom built a double-digit lead in the first 10 minutes of the game and held it the rest of the night.

Windom got a balanced scoring effort, with four players in double figures. Makenzie Lovell paced the Eagles with 18 points and nine rebounds in the win. Sierra Even added 13 points, while Aimee Johnson came off the bench to add 12 and Chelsea Garrison came off the bench to score 11.

Game stats: <http://www.maxpreps.com/contests/aoXcmDlv8ECmQYn4US81eg/girls-basketball-winter-09-10/boxscore-new-ulm-new-ulm-vs-windom-windom.htm>

## New Ulm boys and girls fall at Windom

*POSTED: December 30, 2009 New Ulm Journal*

The New Ulm girls also dropped their first game at the Windom Tournament. **(NUSC Editor's Note: The score and opponent were not included in the text of this Journal article: Windom 65, New Ulm 49)**

Jill Garies led New Ulm with 15 points and Kelsy Kannegiesser scored 13 for New Ulm.

Windom was led by Mackenzie Wovell with 17, Aimee Johnson scored 12 and Sierra Even had 13 points.

New Ulm will play Fulda today.

## NU Eagle Girls Top Glencoe-SL 56-43

POSTED Dec 23, 2009 New Ulm Journal Website *(with minor alterations)*

GLENCOE - New Ulm defeated Glencoe-Silver Lake 56-43 Tuesday in non-conference girls' basketball action.

Angie Serbus led the Eagles with 18 points. Marissa Klimmek added 11 and Marne Louters eight points.

Clarissa Ober led GSL with 21. Kollett Stephanie scored eight.

## **Eagles rally falls just short**

By Jim Bastian, Journal Sports Writer

*POSTED: December 20, 2009*

NEW ULM - With just over nine minutes left in the game, the unbeaten Jordan Jaguars were riding a comfortable 46-26 lead over the New Ulm Eagles.

Less than seven minutes later, the Jaguars were fighting for their lives.

The New Ulm Eagle girl's basketball team cut that lead to 53-48, but the Eagles saw their comeback fall short as they fell to Jordan 59-54 Saturday afternoon in non-conference basketball.

Sam Hentges led Jordan (6-0) with 17 points. Ashley Hartman added 12.

Marissa Klimmek and Angela Serbus each scored 10 for New Ulm, now 4-2.

"I thought that we played hard in that second half," Eagles coach Matthew Dick said. "We battled back but we just did not come ready to play in the first half and that put us in too big of a hole to come back out of."

For the first 13 minutes of the game, the Eagles and the Jaguars went back and forth with a Jill Garies basket giving the Eagles a 16-14 lead.

But that was the last time that New Ulm was on the plus side of the scoreboard.

Jordan's Madison Dean buried a 3-pointer for a 19-16 Jaguar lead before Rachel Holstein put in a rebound basket to pull the Eagles to within 19-18.

However those two points were the last points of the half as the Eagles went scoreless until Chelsey Bode hit a free throw with just under two minutes left. The Eagles trailed 31-19 at halftime.

New Ulm missed all eight of its shots and turned the ball over four times in that span.

"It seemed like the rim had a lid on it," Dick said. "We got some good looks at the basket but the shots would not fall. I kept waiting for a shot to fall for us so I could take a time-out at that point and get our defense ready to go.

"The last couple of games we have had trouble shooting in the first half and I do not know why," he added.

Dick said that Jordan "was not pressuring us on the perimeter as much - they were switching everything. We knew that coming in so we were trying to hit our screeners more but we never were able to get into that."

Jordan built on that halftime lead and expanded it to 37-19 to start the second half and increased that to 43-26 before Holstein canned a jumper at the 10:49 mark.

New Ulm fell behind 46-26 before it slowly started a comeback.

A conventional three-point play from Serbus followed by two free throws from Serbus cut the lead to 47-35.

Klimmek's basket ended a 6-0 run by New Ulm as they cut the lead down to 49-41 before New Ulm's Logan Ahlness canned a 3. Holstein and Molly Schlieman hit baskets to pull the Eagles to within 53-48 with just over a minute left in the game but could not get over the hump.

"I told the team after the game that everyone is going to be so happy that we battled back," Dick said. "But I want to get to the point to where we do not have to battle back. We have not been a good first half team - we have been a great second half team. This time we dug a hole that was too big for us to come back from."

New Ulm lost the "B" game 42-24.

#### BOX SCORE

**JORDAN .... 31 - 28 - 59**

**NEW ULM ...19 - 35 - 54**

**JORDAN (59): Hentges 17, Hartman 12, Dean 8, Henderson 6, Clark 6, Chambers 5, Pieper 4, Hotchkiss 1.**

**NEW ULM (54): Klimmek 10, Serbus 10, Holstein 9, Garies 7, Ahlness 6, Louters 5, Bode 3, Schlieman 2, Stark 2.**

## New Ulm girls' basketball loses first

**Waseca girls 73, New Ulm 56**

*POSTED Dec. 17, 2009, New Ulm Journal*



WASECA - Waseca snapped New Ulm's winning streak, winning the South Central Conference battle Thursday.

Logan Ahlness had 13 points for the Eagles and Angela Serbus had 11 points, six rebounds and six steals.

## New Ulm girls top Sibley East, 53-45

*POSTED: December 16, 2009 New Ulm Journal*

GAYLORD - The New Ulm girls basketball team remained unbeaten with a 53-45 nonconference win over Sibley East Tuesday.

For the Eagles, Angie Serbus had 13 points and Marissa Klimmek scored 13 points and grabbed eight rebounds.

Erin Evans had 10 points and five rebounds for the Wolverines and Marie Rose had 15 points and seven rebounds. Courtney Nienaker had 10 points and three assists.



## Super Sophomores lead Eagles

By Michael Gasset, Journal Sports Writer

*POSTED: December 12, 2009*

NEW ULM - The New Ulm sophomores didn't play like underclassmen Friday night.

Led by Angie Serbus a trio of sophomores scored 23 of the teams 33 second-half points as the Eagles stayed undefeated with a 56-39 South Central Conference victory over St. James.

Serbus had a game high 22 points, she had eight of the first 10 points New Ulm scored in the second half.

**Staff photo by Steve Muscatello**

New Ulm's Marne Louters takes a shot as Julia Runge (left) of St. James defends on the play during the first half Friday at NUHS. For more photos of this event, go to <http://cu.nujournal.com>

"We weren't playing our best in the first half," Serbus said. "We really picked up the intensity in the second half. We wanted it more and in the first half we just came out weak and we brought it in the second."

New Ulm jumped out to an early lead to start the game but a drought of nearly five minutes between field goals let the Saints stay in it.

St. James was able to keep it close thanks to strong play from Shelby Wiederhoeft and Julia Runge in the paint.

A Wiederhoeft basket put the Saints up 14-11 with 10:13 play but back-to-back baskets by Marne Louters put the lead back in the Eagles' grasp and they took a 27-22 lead into the break.

Runge and Wiederhoeft proved to be the only scoring in the first half for the Saints as the duo combined for 14 of the teams 22 first-half points.

"We went into halftime and I was not happy," New Ulm coach Matt Dick said. "We were up five and I felt like we were down by 20. I didn't feel any intensity by the girls in the first half, it just seemed like they were going through the motions."

New Ulm made the adjustment at halftime. The help defense improved and held the two to just eight points in the second half.

"We were fronting as well as we could in the first half but our ball pressure wasn't very good," Dick said. "Once we got our ball pressure and our help defense figured out it was harder for them to even attempt that pass."

The super sophomores took control of the second half. Serbus scored eight of the teams' first 10 points as the Eagles broke up the close contest and led by double digits for most of the second half.

Jill Gareis got into the scoring too and combined with strong play from a third sophomore Kelsy Kannegiesser the trio scored 20 of the first 23 points in the second half.

"We are going to look to them a lot," Dick said. "Gareis is going to have to play some varsity and JV for us just because of our numbers. Angie struggled in the first half but she really let the game come to her in the second half and Kelsey played some big minutes for us in that second half and played well."

Gareis finished the night with 10 points and Rachel Holstein added nine for the Eagles.

St. James was led by Runge with 11 and Wiederhoeft with 10. Briana Brandts added nine points.

## **New Ulm 83, St. Peter 78**

POSTED By St. Peter Herald



"We looked like a completely different team against New Ulm," coach Raymond said. "Our perimeter defense and press weren't very effective, and this contributed to foul trouble. New Ulm controlled the boards, and we weren't able to get in an offensive or defensive rhythm with so many fouls. We were able to put 78 points up which is a positive this early in the season, and Taylor had a career high with 24 points. The great thing is that it is early and everything is correctable."

Brown also scored 24 points, grabbed a team-high 10 rebounds and tied for the team high with five assists.

Jenny Wilking also had five assists and scored 12 points.

### **St. Peter (78)**

AnnMarie Brown 8-14 5-6 24, Taylor Raymond 10-11 4-5 24, Jenny Wilking 3-6 6-7 12, Katy Kuiper 2-7 2-6 6, Alissa Lager 2-4 1-4 5, Dani Larson 2-4 1-4 5, Sidney Dirks 0 2-2 2

Rebounds — Brown 10, Kuiper 7, Raymond 4, Dirks 4, Alissa Lager 4.

Assists — Brown 5, Wilking 5

Steals — Brown 2, Larson 2, Kuiper, Raymond

Blocks — Alissa Lager 2, Raymond 2  
3 point field goals — Brown 1-1.



## New Ulm Girls Win Second Start

By Andy Danner, Journal Sports Writer

POSTED: December 5, 2009

**Staff photo by Steve Muscatello**

New Ulm's Faith Collum splits a pair of St. Peter defenders on her way to the basket during the first half Friday at New Ulm High School. For more photos of this event, go to <http://cu.nujournal.com>

**NEW ULM** - Despite a slow start, both New Ulm and St. Peter eventually busted out the offensive fireworks Friday night as the Eagles ran off with the 83-78 girls basketball win.

With the win New Ulm improved to 2-0 (1-0 in South Central Conference) on the young season under new head coach Matthew Dick.

"I probably would have had a hard time believing anyone who prior to the season would have said that we would start 2-0 with a section and a conference win," Dick admitted. "But we've done it and we are playing good basketball."

The first half was littered with turnovers and fouls as both teams came out pressing and playing aggressive. The two teams combined for a staggering 27 team fouls in the first frame and both teams were in the bonus just seven minutes into the game.

"It was a very physical game," Dick said. "The referees called it really close."

St. Peter controlled the game early holding the lead for the majority of the first half. It's largest lead came at the 9:18 mark when freshman Taylor Raymond converted a fast-break lay-up for the 21-14 Saints' advantage.

But New Ulm responded and drew even at 31-31 with four minutes to go in the half when senior Marne Louters hit an outside jumper.

Jill Gareis then reeled off six straight points to give the Eagles the lead for good. Louter's halftime buzzer-beater gave New Ulm the 44-37 halftime advantage.

St. Peter started the second half shooting stone cold. New Ulm made the most of this opportunity scoring the first eight points of the half to grab a commanding lead at 52-37.

The Eagles' lead stretched to 16 when Kelsy Kannegiesser scored at the 12:25 mark in the second half.

However St. Peter didn't throw in the towel and battled back. Raymond and AnnMarie Brown combined for 28 points in the second half as they helped the Saints close to within six points of New Ulm with six minutes remaining.

St. Peter managed to climb within five points but that was as close as they got as the Eagles hung on for the 83-78 win.

"They are a tough team and we took some of their best punches," Dick said. "But we kept our heads and didn't let the little things bother us."

Brown led all scorers with 26 points for the game. Raymond and Jennifer Wilking were also in double figures for the Saints with 20 and 12 points respectively.

New Ulm had four girls finish with double digits in the points column. Louters had 18 to lead the Eagles. Gareis and Angela Serbus both contributed 16 and Marissa Klimmek added 11 points.

"We move the ball around and look for the best shot no matter what player it is," Dick said. "I have faith in all my players to put the ball in the hoop."

## Eagle Girls Beat West In Opener

By Michael Gassett, Journal Sports Writer

*POSTED: December 2, 2009*



NEW ULM - Matt Dick couldn't have asked for a much better start to his New Ulm coaching career.

The Eagles broke open a close game with a strong second half as they breezed to a 60-44 win over Mankato West in the season opener for both teams.

"This is great, I couldn't have asked for a better start," Dick said. "It was a great effort by the girls. They came out and worked hard and they played hard and it was just tremendous for this to happen."

New Ulm led from the start and took a 16-12 lead on a Marissa Klimmek basket with 10:04 to play in the first half.

After that, neither team could find the bottom of the hoop. Both squads went scoreless for nearly six minutes when Brianna Christiansen scored for West to make it 16-14. Cara Christiansen hit a pair of free throws to tie it at 16.

Dick said it was New Ulm's defense that kept the Eagles in the game despite the scoring drought.

"Our initial defense was great all night," Dick said. "We were really in the passing lanes, we really made them uncomfortable. So when we are getting turnovers that keeps us in it even though we aren't shooting as well as we would like."

Logan Ahlness broke the tie with a basket with 3:50 to play and the Eagles went into the half up 23-20.

"We went into halftime talking about things that we weren't doing well," Dick said. "It was pretty safe to say that three-fourths of their points came on offensive rebounds. That was something that we said we were going to clean up and I thought we did a better job of that coming out."

New Ulm went on a 14-4 run to start the second half - thanks to six points by Rachel Holstein - and West never threatened again.

A Holstein basket with 11 minutes to play in the game put the Eagles up 40-26 and New Ulm led by double figures for the rest of the game.

"We owe it all to coach because of the pep talk he gave us at the half," Holstein said. "He talked to us about fighting harder and working harder and obviously it paid off in the end."

Klimmek led all scorers with 17 points. Holstein scored 13 and Angela Serbus scored 10 points. Eleven different players scored for New Ulm.

For Mankato West, Cara Christiansen had nine points, Emily Doyle scored eight and Emmalei Huber added seven points.

It was a nice win to start the season especially against a bigger school like West. "I think a lot of people doubted us tonight, playing Mankato West," Holstein said. "We just proved them wrong and it feels good for everybody."

**West - C. Christiansen 9, Doyle 8, Huber 7, Murry 6, Alquist 4, Sukalski 4, B. Christiansen 4, Williams 2.**

**New Ulm - Klimmek 17, Holstein 13, Serbus 10, Louters 4, Bierk 1, Bode 2, Collum 1, Gareis 4, Kannegiesser 4, Schlieman 2, Ahlness 2.**

## **New season, new coach for New Ulm**

By Jonas Leyrer — Journal Sports Writer

*POSTED: November 29, 2009*



NEW ULM -It's often quipped that "change is good." As the New Ulm Eagles girls basketball team gets prepared for a new season with a new head coach, everyone is hoping that the old saying proves true.

Last year, the New Ulm girls team had a disappointing 5-16 season. Since then, they have lost not only their coach Dale Bannermann but also Kayla Altmann their leading scorer.

Coming to New Ulm with 10 years of experience coaching high school and college basketball, is head coach Matthew Dick and he is ready to lay new foundations and build the Eagles into a whole new kind of team.

"We're building a new program," Dick says. "I'm a new coach so we have a new system. Everything is new to [the players]."

The new coach had plenty of positive things to say about the potential of his team this season.

"[The girls] have been great," Dick said. "They work hard. They have a great work ethic. They want to learn the game and so far they've been taking everything I can give them."

The players have certainly noticed the change the new coach has brought.

"It's a lot different than last year," says senior Logan Ahlness. "This new coach is bringing in a whole new perspective."

The biggest changes for the players are the increased level of intensity for all players, even seniors like Chelsey Bode.

"This year we're definitely being pushed to our limit," Bode said, "and our coach is focusing on everyone, not just pointing certain people out. He's really good and really positive."

Unfortunately for the Eagles, student interest in the team has waned in the past few years. Only 20 girls tried out [four seniors] for basketball this year, denying the school its ability to have a C squad.

"I think with our last coach, a lot of people quit," said senior Marne Louters, "but this year, I think [Coach Dick] will be the coach to bring the program back."

Dick sees the low numbers as an opportunity to help build the future of the program.

"I'm really gonna have to rely on a lot of those sophomores to play more than two quarters.," Dick said. "It's something they're going to need to do and grow so that next year... they'll be ready to go."

Despite all the changes taking place, the girls have been able to focus on the strategies that will help them play to win.

"We need to spread out on the court. That's what we are mainly working on," Louters said. "Spreading out on offense, staying low on defense and working together as a team."

"We have to be quick because we are a short team," said Ahlness. "We have to be really quick on defense and we have to fast-break a lot."

"I think we're definitely gonna have a good year if we stay together and stay positive," Bode added.

Dick said that the team has a lot of work ahead of it, but was pleased with much of what he saw.

"Every day we are getting better and better," he said. "I was hoping we'd be a little bit better defensively than we are right now, but we're ahead of the curve on offense. We're better offensively than I'd thought we'd be."

With their first game on Tuesday quickly approaching, the players know that things will not be easy.

"Our conference and our section is really competitive so I think every game will be a challenge for us," Ahlness said.

When asked about his final goals for the season, Dick spoke in general terms:

"Our No. 1 goal is to get better."

When asked about their final goals for the season, the senior girls were much more specific: Beat Waseca.



## **New Ulm girls fall**

*POSTED: January 10, 2010 New Ulm Journal*

VICTORIA - The New Ulm girls basketball team fell to Holy Family 63-41 in nonconference basketball action Saturday.

Jill Gareis led the Eagles with eight points, Angie Serbus and Marne Louters each had six points.

Molly Bell led Holy Family with 10 points and Hanna Schonhardt had nine points.

## Hutch races past New Ulm

By Jeremy Behnke, Journal Sports Editor

*POSTED: January 6, 2010*

NEW ULM - After getting off to a hot start, the New Ulm girls basketball team has been battling injury and illness lately.

On Tuesday, the Eagles had another tough battle as they had to deal with nonconference opponent Hutchinson.

While the Eagles were competitive in the first half and trailed 32-24 at halftime, they watched easy basket after easy basket for the Tigers in the second half. Hutchinson ran away from New Ulm in the second half, holding New Ulm to just 12 points in the 70-36 win.

"Hutch is a great team," first-year coach Matthew Dick said. "They played really hard defense and they played extremely hard, period, and they play smart. I told my girls we have to play hard and smart, and Hutchinson did that tonight."

The Tigers jumped out to a 6-0 lead thanks to 3-pointers from Alissa Retterath and Angela Tauer.

But the Eagles responded, taking a quick lead at 10-9 on an Angie Serbus three-point play. Serbus led the Eagles with 16 points, 15 of those coming in the first half.

"We shot well in that first half," Dick said. "We had shots go down and they went up 6-0 because they shot well too. It's just a case where two teams were hitting their shots."

The Eagles and Tigers went back and forth for the first half, but the Tigers began to pull away late in the half.

Tauer's 3 gave the Tigers a 25-21 lead, and they took that lead and ran with it in the second half. New Ulm, which trailed by eight at halftime, scored only 12 points in the second half as the Tigers turned up their defense.



## New Ulm falls to Fulda

*POSTED: December 31, 2009*

WINDOM - Angie Serbus scored 18 points but it wasn't enough as New Ulm fell to Fulda 68-61 in the consolation game of the Windom Tournament Wednesday.

Jill Garies had 14 points and was selected to the all-tournament team.

For Fulda, Lane Gehl scored a game high 20 points, Courtney Hulstein had 11 and Kassie Wilkening added 10.

Fulda had a 35-21 lead at the half but New Ulm outscored the Raiders 40-33 in the second half.

In the championship, Fairmont beat host Windom 57-53.

## Windom wins battle of Eagles

*POSTED December.30,2009 Cottonwood County Citizen*

**New Ulm 22-26 = 49**

**Windom 32-34 = 66**

The Windom Eagle girls picked up their second straight win Tuesday, dumping New Ulm 66-49 in the first round of the Windom Holiday Classic.

Windom's defensive effort forced turnovers and poor shots by New Ulm as Windom built a double-digit lead in the first 10 minutes of the game and held it the rest of the night.

Windom got a balanced scoring effort, with four players in double figures. Makenzie Lovell paced the Eagles with 18 points and nine rebounds in the win. Sierra Even added 13 points, while Aimee Johnson came off the bench to add 12 and Chelsea Garrison came off the bench to score 11.

Game stats: <http://www.maxpreps.com/contests/aoXcmDlv8ECmQYn4US81eg/girls-basketball-winter-09-10/boxscore-new-ulm-new-ulm-vs-windom-windom.htm>

## New Ulm boys and girls fall at Windom

*POSTED: December 30, 2009 New Ulm Journal*

The New Ulm girls also dropped their first game at the Windom Tournament. **(NUSC Editor's Note: The score and opponent were not included in the text of this Journal article: Windom 65, New Ulm 49)**

Jill Garies led New Ulm with 15 points and Kelsy Kannegiesser scored 13 for New Ulm.

Windom was led by Mackenzie Wovell with 17, Aimee Johnson scored 12 and Sierra Even had 13 points.

New Ulm will play Fulda today.

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*POSTED: December 5, 2009*

**Staff photo by Steve Muscatello**

New Ulm's Faith Collum splits a pair of St. Peter defenders on her way to the basket during the first half Friday at New Ulm High School. For more photos of this event, go to <http://cu.nujournal.com>

**NEW ULM** - Despite a slow start, both New Ulm and St. Peter eventually busted out the offensive fireworks Friday night as the Eagles ran off with the 83-78 girls basketball win.

With the win New Ulm improved to 2-0 (1-0 in South Central Conference) on the young season under new head coach Matthew Dick.

"I probably would have had a hard time believing anyone who prior to the season would have said that we would start 2-0 with a section and a conference win," Dick admitted. "But we've done it and we are playing good basketball."

The first half was littered with turnovers and fouls as both teams came out pressing and playing aggressive. The two teams combined for a staggering 27 team fouls in the first frame and both teams were in the bonus just seven minutes into the game.

"It was a very physical game," Dick said. "The referees called it really close."

St. Peter controlled the game early holding the lead for the majority of the first half. It's largest lead came at the 9:18 mark when freshman Taylor Raymond converted a fast-break lay-up for the 21-14 Saints' advantage.

But New Ulm responded and drew even at 31-31 with four minutes to go in the half when senior Marne Louters hit an outside jumper.

Jill Gareis then reeled off six straight points to give the Eagles the lead for good. Louter's halftime buzzer-beater gave New Ulm the 44-37 halftime advantage.

St. Peter started the second half shooting stone cold. New Ulm made the most of this opportunity scoring the first eight points of the half to grab a commanding lead at 52-37.

The Eagles' lead stretched to 16 when Kelsy Kannegiesser scored at the 12:25 mark in the second half.

However St. Peter didn't throw in the towel and battled back. Raymond and AnnMarie Brown combined for 28 points in the second half as they helped the Saints close to within six points of New Ulm with six minutes remaining.

St. Peter managed to climb within five points but that was as close as they got as the Eagles hung on for the 83-78 win.

"They are a tough team and we took some of their best punches," Dick said. "But we kept our heads and didn't let the little things bother us."

Brown led all scorers with 26 points for the game. Raymond and Jennifer Wilking were also in double figures for the Saints with 20 and 12 points respectively.

New Ulm had four girls finish with double digits in the points column. Louters had 18 to lead the Eagles. Gareis and Angela Serbus both contributed 16 and Marissa Klimmek added 11 points.

"We move the ball around and look for the best shot no matter what player it is," Dick said. "I have faith in all my players to put the ball in the hoop."

## Eagle Girls Beat West In Opener

By Michael Gassett, Journal Sports Writer

*POSTED: December 2, 2009*



NEW ULM - Matt Dick couldn't have asked for a much better start to his New Ulm coaching career.

The Eagles broke open a close game with a strong second half as they breezed to a 60-44 win over Mankato West in the season opener for both teams.

"This is great, I couldn't have asked for a better start," Dick said. "It was a great effort by the girls. They came out and worked hard and they played hard and it was just tremendous for this to happen."

New Ulm led from the start and took a 16-12 lead on a Marissa Klimmek basket with 10:04 to play in the first half.

After that, neither team could find the bottom of the hoop. Both squads went scoreless for nearly six minutes when Brianna Christiansen scored for West to make it 16-14. Cara Christiansen hit a pair of free throws to tie it at 16.

Dick said it was New Ulm's defense that kept the Eagles in the game despite the scoring drought.

"Our initial defense was great all night," Dick said. "We were really in the passing lanes, we really made them uncomfortable. So when we are getting turnovers that keeps us in it even though we aren't shooting as well as we would like."

Logan Ahlness broke the tie with a basket with 3:50 to play and the Eagles went into the half up 23-20.

"We went into halftime talking about things that we weren't doing well," Dick said. "It was pretty safe to say that three-fourths of their points came on offensive rebounds. That was something that we said we were going to clean up and I thought we did a better job of that coming out."

New Ulm went on a 14-4 run to start the second half - thanks to six points by Rachel Holstein - and West never threatened again.

A Holstein basket with 11 minutes to play in the game put the Eagles up 40-26 and New Ulm led by double figures for the rest of the game.

"We owe it all to coach because of the pep talk he gave us at the half," Holstein said. "He talked to us about fighting harder and working harder and obviously it paid off in the end."

Klimmek led all scorers with 17 points. Holstein scored 13 and Angela Serbus scored 10 points. Eleven different players scored for New Ulm.

For Mankato West, Cara Christiansen had nine points, Emily Doyle scored eight and Emmalei Huber added seven points.

It was a nice win to start the season especially against a bigger school like West. "I think a lot of people doubted us tonight, playing Mankato West," Holstein said. "We just proved them wrong and it feels good for everybody."

**West - C. Christiansen 9, Doyle 8, Huber 7, Murry 6, Alquist 4, Sukalski 4, B. Christiansen 4, Williams 2.**

**New Ulm - Klimmek 17, Holstein 13, Serbus 10, Louters 4, Bierk 1, Bode 2, Collum 1, Gareis 4, Kannegiesser 4, Schlieman 2, Ahlness 2.**

## **New season, new coach for New Ulm**

By Jonas Leyrer — Journal Sports Writer

*POSTED: November 29, 2009*



NEW ULM -It's often quipped that "change is good." As the New Ulm Eagles girls basketball team gets prepared for a new season with a new head coach, everyone is hoping that the old saying proves true.

Last year, the New Ulm girls team had a disappointing 5-16 season. Since then, they have lost not only their coach Dale Bannermann but also Kayla Altmann their leading scorer.

Coming to New Ulm with 10 years of experience coaching high school and college basketball, is head coach Matthew Dick and he is ready to lay new foundations and build the Eagles into a whole new kind of team.

"We're building a new program," Dick says. "I'm a new coach so we have a new system. Everything is new to [the players]."

The new coach had plenty of positive things to say about the potential of his team this season.

"[The girls] have been great," Dick said. "They work hard. They have a great work ethic. They want to learn the game and so far they've been taking everything I can give them."

The players have certainly noticed the change the new coach has brought.

"It's a lot different than last year," says senior Logan Ahlness. "This new coach is bringing in a whole new perspective."

The biggest changes for the players are the increased level of intensity for all players, even seniors like Chelsey Bode.

"This year we're definitely being pushed to our limit," Bode said, "and our coach is focusing on everyone, not just pointing certain people out. He's really good and really positive."

Unfortunately for the Eagles, student interest in the team has waned in the past few years. Only 20 girls tried out [four seniors] for basketball this year, denying the school its ability to have a C squad.

"I think with our last coach, a lot of people quit," said senior Marne Louters, "but this year, I think [Coach Dick] will be the coach to bring the program back."

Dick sees the low numbers as an opportunity to help build the future of the program.

"I'm really gonna have to rely on a lot of those sophomores to play more than two quarters.," Dick said. "It's something they're going to need to do and grow so that next year... they'll be ready to go."

Despite all the changes taking place, the girls have been able to focus on the strategies that will help them play to win.

"We need to spread out on the court. That's what we are mainly working on," Louters said. "Spreading out on offense, staying low on defense and working together as a team."

"We have to be quick because we are a short team," said Ahlness. "We have to be really quick on defense and we have to fast-break a lot."

"I think we're definitely gonna have a good year if we stay together and stay positive," Bode added.

Dick said that the team has a lot of work ahead of it, but was pleased with much of what he saw.

"Every day we are getting better and better," he said. "I was hoping we'd be a little bit better defensively than we are right now, but we're ahead of the curve on offense. We're better offensively than I'd thought we'd be."

With their first game on Tuesday quickly approaching, the players know that things will not be easy.

"Our conference and our section is really competitive so I think every game will be a challenge for us," Ahlness said.

When asked about his final goals for the season, Dick spoke in general terms:

"Our No. 1 goal is to get better."

When asked about their final goals for the season, the senior girls were much more specific: Beat Waseca.

