



JAMES D. CIMBUREK/P&D
Yankton's Whitney Specht celebrates after her birdie putt on Hole No. 8 during a girls' golf triangular on Thursday at Yankton's Fox Run Golf Course.

Yankton Easily Wins Home Triangular

The Yankton Gazelles claimed three of the top four and four of the top six scores to easily win a home girls' golf triangular on Thursday at Fox Run golf Course.

Yankton shot 343 as a team, 44 strokes better than runner-up Sioux Falls Washington. Mitchell finished at 399 on the day.

Yankton's Megan Mingo earned top honors, finishing with a 79 to place one stroke ahead of Washington's Ashlee Eggebraaten. Yankton's Becky Frick (86) and Whitney Specht (87) finished third and fourth.

Yankton also had the low score for the second four, finishing at 407. Washington's second four carded a 453, with Mitchell shooting 465.

The Gazelles had the four lowest scores among the non top-four finishers, led by Alicia Gregoire's 98.

Yankton hosts Sioux Falls O'Gorman in a dual on April 9.

VARSITY

TEAM SCORES: Yankton 343, Sioux Falls Washington 387, Mitchell 399
INDIVIDUAL: Megan Mingo Y 79, Ashlee Eggebraaten W 80, Becky Frick Y 86, Whitney Specht Y 87, Kristen Sabers M 89, Amber Livingston Y 91, Rachael Horner W 100, Josie Obenauer W 101, Macy Miller M 101, Kylie Barrington M 104, Madison VanWalleghen M 105, Sarah Nolan W 106

JUNIOR VARSITY

TEAM SCORES: Yankton 407, Washington 453, Mitchell 465
INDIVIDUAL: Alicia Gregoire Y 98, Payton Pierce Y 101, Rachel Frick Y 104, Ashley VanMeesteren Y 104, Caitlin Dieger W 107, Ashley Biltrey Y 110, Cayla Buckman W 112, Allysa Sorenson M 112, Carly Knutson W 114, Taylor Volesky M 115, Trisha Flemmer M 116, Makenzie Huber W 120, Kirsten May Y 121, Cassidy Stucky M 122, Allison Miller M 123, Blair Overweg M 126, Amanda Paulson W 127, Caryn Hazard W 170

Track: Parker Sweeps Turner County Relays

CENTERVILLE — In a meet filled with area standouts, the Parker boys and girls combined for 12 titles to sweep the team track crowns at the Turner County Relays on Thursday in Centerville.

Parker won six events on the way to 166 total points in the boys' division, while Freeman was second at 145.

As usual, the champion Pheasants were led by their distance runners. Duane Jongeling won the 1600 (4:48.2) and 3200 (10:38.8), while Michael Olson was first in the 800 (2:12.4).

Parker also took first in the 3200 and medley relays, while Tristen Erickson won the high jump (6-1).

Freeman had two individual champions, with Caleb Lang in the discus (130-0) and Brennan Schmidt in the 400 (51.5).

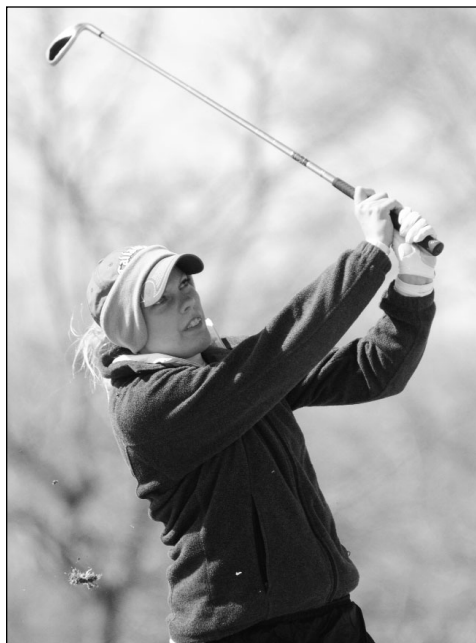
Trevor Jacobsen of Viborg-Hurley won the 100 (11.2) and 200 (23.4), while teammate Tyler Gerdes was the champion in the long jump (20-10.5).

For Irene-Wakonda, Garrett Anderson won the 300 hurdles (44.3) and pole vault (12-6), while Dustin Livingston was first in the 110 hurdles (16.1).

On the girls' side, Parker was first in six events to finish first with 173 points. Irene-Wakonda edged Freeman 128-127 for second place.

For the Pheasants, Brittany Olson claimed titles in two events, the 200 (26.7) and 400 (1:01.7), while Kate-lynn Getts won the discus (106-1). Parker also won the

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JEREMY HOECK/P&D
Logan Wagner of Parkston watches her tee shot during the Southeast South Dakota Small School Golf Invite, held Thursday at Fox Run Golf Course in Yankton.

Pierre Duo Lead Class AA All-State Team

BY WADE LAROCHE

Pierre Capital Journal

PIERRE — After leading the Pierre Governors to their first title in 31 years, Lane Severyn and Zach Hanson headline this season's Class AA All-State team.

The Pierre duo is joined by Brandon Valley's Chase Marso, Watertown's Tanner Heiser, Sioux Falls Roosevelt's Tyler Howard and Brookings' Tyler Nagy on the first team, as voted by the South Dakota Coaches Association and the South Dakota Sportswriters Association. Heiser, Severyn and Hanson are the only players on the team with previous All-State honors.

Hanson and Severyn capped off their careers with All-State selections after seasons that saw Severyn top the Governors' all-time lists for scoring (1,486 points) and rebounds (658) with Hanson a close second in both categories (1,362 points and 654 rebounds).

"Zach and Lane have been staples of the program for four years at the varsity level and it will definitely be different without them next year," Governors coach Terry Becker said. "They've set a new standard with all they have done. It's been tremendous to see them do this together, they've been a phenomenal duo and I think that was evident in the state tournament. Each of them found their moments to step up throughout the three games and it's just a testament to their hard work and the talent that they possess."

Severyn and Hanson also made their mark in the Class AA record books. With Severyn ranking fifth all time in scoring and Hanson following in eighth, the two were the only teammates in the top-10 together on the who's who of Class AA legends.

"It's going to be great to look back on what Lane and I did together," Hanson said. "The success that the team had over the past four years has been better, though. We couldn't have done

it by ourselves, and we had three other guys with us."

Hanson, who will be a member of the Creighton Bluejays next year, averaged 20 points and 8.6 rebounds a contest. The 6-foot-9 big man also stepped up at the state tournament with five points in the final 30 seconds in Pierre's semi-final comeback against Sioux Falls Lincoln, and he also grabbed 13 rebounds and had five blocks in the championship round.

It led to Hanson earning his second consecutive first-team selection to go along with his second-team nod in 2011 to cap a historic career.

"It's a great to be mentioned with all of the great players in the state," Hanson, who also won the state's Gatorade Player of the Year for the second consecutive year, said. "All of these accolades at the end of the year have been exciting. It's nice to enjoy it now that it's all over."

Severyn averaged 20.8 points a game to go along with 8.6 rebounds

and 3.04 assists a game during his senior campaign. Severyn was also at his best when it mattered most. He exploded for 24 points in Pierre's title-clinching win against Brandon Valley, with nine of those points coming in the fourth quarter.

The future Jackrabbit earned his third all-state honor of his illustrious career and his first as a member of the first team.

"It's an honor to be mentioned as one of the top players in the state," Severyn said. "As a young player, you strive to become a household name in the community or the state. It's great that we've been able to do that but more importantly, it's a fitting way to end because of the state championship."

Hanson and Severyn's championship didn't come easy – in part due to Marso's will to win.

Marso led the Lynx to the state

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Lancers Make Home Debut



LEFT: Mount Marty College freshman Vanessa Rockne returns a backhand volley during Thursday's GPAC tennis match with Northwestern at the YHS/SAC Tennis Courts. It was the first-ever home match for the Lancers. Rockne upset Frankie Eszes in flight one singles.

RIGHT: Mount Marty College freshman Kendra Cersosimo returns a volley during Thursday's GPAC tennis match with Northwestern.



JEREMY HOECK/P&D

Northwestern Tops Mount Marty 7-2 In First Home Match In Program History

BY JEREMY HOECK

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As if the Mount Marty College women's tennis record books weren't already new enough, Vanessa Rockne gave the first-year program a rather significant early achievement.

She handed the reigning conference player of the year a rare loss.

Although Northwestern beat the Lancers 7-2 in Mount Marty's first-ever home tennis match on Thursday in Great Plains Athletic Conference (GPAC) action in Yankton, the hometown squad was treated to a thrilling flight one singles match.

Rockne, a freshman from Yankton, upset last year's GPAC Player of the Year Frankie Eszes 7-5, 6-3 — the first-ever conference loss for Eszes, a sophomore.

"The Morningside coach told me that (Wednesday) I would be playing the best girl in the conference," Rockne said later. "And I thought, 'Uh oh.' But I looked it as a challenge."

For a program that was added in November 2011, naturally there was

some anticipation for its first home match — and the challenge of facing one of the league's top teams. Was it nice to finally play?

"Gosh yes," Rockne said with a smile. "We've been practicing since January, and I kept thinking, 'Just get me on the court.'"

Once they did, the young Lancers (0-3) — comprised of seven freshmen — held their own with the best Northwestern had to offer. Beyond simply the results, MMC was glad to finally have a product to showcase for local fans, according to coach Rob Klimisch.

"I think the girls had a lot of fun, and I know it was fun for all of us to be out here," Klimisch said. "Hopefully we started a tradition here."

Part of that tradition, team members said, is to continue working toward being a potential contender in the GPAC.

"There's always room for improvement, all around," said Kendra Cersosimo, who scored Mount Marty's only other win Thursday. The Mitchell native beat Terry Odera 6-1, 6-1 at

flight two singles.

Dropping their singles matches for the Lancers were Yankton native Danielle Gill (flight 3), Lauren Janssen (4), Becky Koch (5) and Michaela Ramm (6). Lexie Klimisch of Yankton did not compete for a second straight match.

Of course, with a first-year program comes the opportunity to start fresh, Cersosimo said.

"I like the idea of being on a new team, with all new players," she said. "There's no pressure and no expectations; everything's new. You get a chance to start something together."

There was a sense of being together at the Yankton High School/Summit Activities Center Courts on Thursday, as the Lancers were greeted by a good-sized crowd.

"When you looked around, you saw family and friends, but we even had Mount Marty students and staff," said coach Klimisch, who also mentioned "tennis fans" Ron Kachena and Tim Mulhair as being in attendance.

The support for the Lancers is already being felt across the GPAC,

Klimisch said.

"We actually had a better turnout at Morningside than they did, which is really saying something for tennis," he said.

Such a fanbase can also make a player nervous, Rockne said with a smile.

"There's an upside and a downside, I think," she said. "I don't really like a lot of people watching me, but it was cool to see familiar faces."

Mount Marty returns to action April 13 at Doane in Fremont, Neb., followed by an April 19 home match with Hastings. The Lancers close the regular season April 27 at Nebraska Wesleyan.

You can follow Jeremy Hoeck on Twitter at twitter.com/jhoeck

NORTHWESTERN 7, MOUNT MARTY 2

SINGLES: Vanessa Rockne MMC def. Frankie Eszes 7-5, 6-3; Kendra Cersosimo MMC def. Terry Odera 6-1, 6-1; Jami Koens NW def. Danielle Gill 6-1, 6-3; Hannah Stark NW def. Lauren Janssen 6-0, 6-1; Missy Yorchak NW def. Becky Koch 6-0, 6-2; Amanda Buell NW def. Michaela Ramm 6-0, 6-0

DOUBLES: Eszes-Koens NW def. Rockne-Cersosimo 8-2; Odera-Yorchak NW def. Gill-Janssen 8-4; Stark-Buell NW def. Koch-Ramm 8-2

Returning Champions Shine In SESD Small School

At the Southeast South Dakota Small School golf tournament on Thursday at Yankton's Fox Run Golf Course, defending champions showed why they were on top last year.

Defending Class A girls' champion Parkston posted the top four girls' scores in claiming the girls' team title. The Trojans' top two scores totaled 159, 26 strokes better than Andes Central. Wagner was a distant third at 201.

Sydney Bormann, the 2012 Class A girls' individual champion, shot a 79 to win by one stroke over teammate Jordan Bormann. Parkston's Logan Wagner (85) and Sydney Weber (87), and Andes Central's Kellie Winckler (88) rounded out the first five.

Last year's Class B boys' champion, Freeman's Arron Lickteig, shot a 1-under 71 to score a

two-stroke victory in the boys' individual competition. Baltic's Matt Moen (73) and Dylan Brende (74) were second and third, helping the Bulldogs to a 29-stroke victory in the team race.

Kimball's Russ Peck (79) finished fourth. Andes Central's J.J. Cooney, Canistota's Drew Seuberg and Parker's Patrick Gillespie each shot 80.

Freeman finished second in the team race at 264, with Platte-Geddes (268) third, Kimball (269) fourth and Viborg-Hurley (270) fifth.

BOYS' DIVISION
TEAM SCORES (3 golfers): Baltic 235; Freeman 264; Platte-Geddes 268; Kimball 269; Viborg-Hurley 270; Canistota 283; Andes Central 288; Avon 292; Parker 298; Mt. Vernon-Parkston 304; Irene-Wakonda 325; Centerville 345

TOP 15: Arron Lickteig, Freeman 71; Matt Moen, Baltic 73; Dylan Brende, Baltic 74; Russ Peck, Kimball 79; JJ Cooney, Andes Central 80; Drew Seubert, Canistota 80; Patrick Gillespie, Parker 80; Robert Jensen, Viborg-Hurley 81; Isaac Fuhrman, Canistota 85; Steve Medema, Kimball 85; Tate Van Zee, Platte-Geddes 86; Landon Larsen, Irene-Wakonda 88; Noah Brown, Baltic 88; Colton Plooster, Platte-Geddes 89; Cody Thompson, Viborg-Hurley 90

GIRLS' DIVISION

TEAM SCORES (2 golfers): Parkston 159; Andes Central 185; Wagner 201; Freeman 206; Irene-Wakonda 206; Platte-Geddes 207; Mt. Vernon-Parkston 211; Bridgewater-Emery 212; Bon Homme 227; Avon 256; Alcester-Hudson 264

TOP 15: Sydney Bormann, Parkston 79; Jordan Bormann, Parkston 80; Logan Wagner, Parkston 85; Sydney Weber, Parkston 87; Kellie Winckler, Andes Central 88; Alisha Abdirik, Scotland 95; Tristen Scherr, Wagner 96; Krista Winkler, Andes Central 97; Shelby Bauer, Freeman 98; Niki Nelson, Platte-Geddes 98; Maisie Hurd, Bridgewater-Emery 100; Makaela Karst, Mount Vernon-Parkston 102; Sydney Nielsen, Irene-Wakonda 102; Makayla Mohr, Irene-Wakonda 104; Kathleen Jaffer 105

Canton 192, Vermillion 196

VERMILLION — Canton's Lindsey Sorlie shot a 37 to help the C-Hawks to a four-stroke victory over Vermillion in a girls' golf dual on Thursday at The Bluffs Golf Course in Vermillion.

Canton finished at 192 in the nine-hole event.

Vermillion was led by Brooke Schwasinger's 44. Kate Brockvelt of Vermillion shot 46 to finish third.

INDIVIDUAL: Lindsey Sorlie C 37, Brooke Schwasinger V 44, Kate Brockvelt V 46, Kennedy Fossum C 47, Amanda Lofland C 51, Kayla Stammer V 53, Kyeleigh Moran V 53, Katie Herrera V 54, Kacie Jacobsen C 57

Detroit K Hanson Retiring

DETROIT (AP) — Jason Hanson wanted to keep on kicking. His body told him to stop.

The Detroit Lions kicker is retiring after 21 seasons, announcing his decision Thursday. The 42-year-old Hanson thought about returning, but problems with his heel prompted him to call it a career.

"It's time," Hanson said. "I gave serious thought and consideration to playing in 2013. While the determination and willpower are still there, the wear and tear on my body, especially the issues I had and still have with my heel, have convinced me that it's time to retire."

Hanson became the first player to play 300 games with one franchise, finishing with 327. He also set an NFL record last year when he played his 21st season with the same team.

Hanson made a record 52 field goals from at least 50 yards. He's third on the career scoring list at 2,150 points and third in field goals with 495. Hanson is the only player with 2,000 points for one franchise.

"Jason Hanson is the gold standard," Lions President Tom Lewand said. "He had an exemplary, Hall-of-Fame worthy career on the field, and for those of us fortunate to know him well, he is an even better person, teammate, friend, husband and father."

Hanson joined such players as Jerry Rice, George Blanda, Morten Andersen, Gary Anderson and Vinny Testaverde with 21 pro seasons.