Young Cancer Patient Jack Hoffman Scores TD In Husker Spring Game

BY ERIC OLSON

AP Sports Writer

LINCOLN, Neb. (AP) — Jack Hoffman just might go down as the biggest star of the Nebraska spring game.

And he's only 7 years old. Hoffman, of Atkinson, Neb., has won the hearts of fans and everyone in the football program for his courageous bout with brain cancer. Star running back Rex Burkhead befriended Jack last year and is the captain of the support network known as "Team Jack."

Wearing a miniature Burkhead uniform

complete with a No. 22 jersey, Jack ran onto the field late in Saturday's scrim-

On a fourth-and-1 play, he took a handoff from Taylor Martinez. Jack started running left, but Martinez redirected him. The little guy turned on a dime and followed a wall of blockers down the field.

Players from the Red and White squads left their sidelines and followed him into the end zone to mob him and lift him on their shoulders after his 69-yard touch-

The crowd of 60,174 at Memorial Stadium cheered as Jack celebrated - a moment that left his father, Andy, misty-eyed

Asked what he was thinking when he ran onto the field, Jack said, "Scoring a

touchdown.' And when he broke free and scored? "It felt awesome." And the crowd reaction? "Really awesome."

Football operations director Jeff Jamrog and fullback C.J. Zimmerer came up with the idea to get Jack involved in the spring game. Jamrog called the Hoffmans on Friday to tell them the Huskers had a special play planned for Jack.

Receivers coach Rich Fisher motioned

Jack over on the sideline to show him the play he drew up. Andy said that's when it hit him that his son really would get his day in the sun at Memorial Stadium.

"It was a lot of emotions right at once," Andy said. "Very emotional to see that. Husker fans have been so incredible to Jack and our family and especially to this

Jack was diagnosed with cancer in April 2011 and has had two surgeries. He's now on a two-week break from a 60-week chemotherapy regimen.

Andy said Jack is "doing great" and that an MRI at Children's Hospital in Boston

showed that the tumor has shrunk substantially in the past year.

"We're very optimistic for Jack," Andy

Burkhead, who is preparing for the NFL draft, said he got as much joy out of Jack's touchdown as he did for any of the ones he scored for the Huskers.

'Jack is a fighter, a strong kid," Burkhead said. "To see him run around and eniov the Husker experience, it's a dream come true, especially for kids in the state of Nebraska. For Jack to get down here and do it, I know it made his day."



DAVID LIAS/VERMILLION PLAIN TALK

Coyote infielder Matley Jones connects for a double during Saturday's softball action between USD and SDSU at Nygaard Field in Vermillion.

USD Completes Sweep Of South Dakota State

BY CHRIS RILEY sports@yankton.net

VERMILLION — South Dakota completed the season sweep over rival South Dakota State on a windy but sunny Saturday afternoon at Nygaard Field thanks to some early runs and an excellent pitching performance by the Coyotes' senior standout, Erica Denney.

Denney allowed just three hits and one run while going the distance to pick up her 14th victory of the season (14-4) as the Coyotes knocked off the Jackrabbits by a final of 7-1. With the win, USD leads the Summit League in wins with an 8-1 record, 25-12 overall.

A day after taking a doubleheader from the Jacks in a pair of one-run games, USD struck early and was never seriously challenged throughout the game.

"We all wanted to come out and take the series," Denney said. "It's a rivalry game but after the wins yesterday we all calmed down and played the way we NCAA TOURNAMENT usually play."

USD's Lindsey Boyd led off the bottom half of the first inning with a single and added a stolen base to move into scoring position. Two batters later, Coyotes' sophomore Allie Daly drove Boyd in for the 1-0

After a quiet second inning the Coyotes really opened things up in the third. Following a pair of oneout singles. Daly drive in a run with a double to give USD the 2-0 advantage. Sophomore Morgan Hancock then game to the plate and blasted a three-run homer to straightaway center to extend the lead to 5-1.

"When we're hitting well like that it helps out our defense at the same time and it calms me down and helps me do my job," Denney added. "I love scoring

That would be more than enough offense for Denney, as the Sioux City native struck out six and walked three in her seven innings of work, lowering

her ERA on the year to 2.28 in the process. The lone run that Denney allowed came in the

fourth inning on a solo blast by SDSU's Elyse Eitel.

Denney's teammates aided her effort by stellar defense, including a third-inning gem that saw Yanktonnative Christine Broders make a diving stop to her right and a strong throw over to first from the shortstop position to take away a base hit.

The Coyotes used a pair of base hits and a sacrifice fly in the sixth to add two more runs, and Denney shut the door in the ninth, allowing just six baserunners in seven innings.

Daly went 3-for-3 to lead the Coyotes. Daly and Hancock each finished with three RBI's apiece. Boyd and Katie Dinning finished with two hits apiece, while Dinning added an RBI.

Jennifer Sutton took the loss for SDSU, allowing five runs, all earned, and six hits over 2 1/3 innings. SDSU falls to 1-8 in league play with the loss, 11-21

The Coyotes are in action next on Friday as they host Fort Wayne in a doubleheader.

"We have big games next week," Denney said. "We don't want to look too far ahead.'

You can follow Chris Riley on Twitter at

twitter.com/ChrisCRiley

Bucks Go 3-1 On Western Trip

RAPID CITY — The Yankton Bucks used their speed to steal 22 bases in 23 attempts on the way to a 3-1 road trip in Sturgis and Rapid City over

Yankton, now 4-1 on the season, will host Mitchell on Thursday. Start

time is 6 p.m.

R.C. CENTRAL 13, YANKTON 10: Rapid City Central handed Yankton its first loss

of the season, outgunning the Bucks 13-10 on Sunday afternoon.

Tanner Termansen had two hits and three RBI, and Andrew Hummel (triple) and Zach
Benjamin each had a hit and two runs scored for Yankton. Dustin Hopper and Brady Hale each had a hit and a run scored. Mitch Gullikson also had a hit. Lane Sawatzke took the loss, pitching the first two innings. Hale threw four innings in

YANKTON 7. STEVENS 4: Tanner Termansen allowed two runs over five innings and Lane Sawatzke drove in four runs as Yankton bounced Stevens 7-4 on Sunday.

Termansen also had a hit and a RBI, and Zach Benjamin had two hits and two runs scored for Yankton. Andrew Hummel had a hit and three runs scored. Sam Wendte had a hit and a run scored, and Sawatzke and Mitch Gullikson also had hits in the victory.

Gullikson struck out three in two innings of relief. SATURDAY — YANKTON 5-9, STURĞIS 1-6: Zach Benjamin pitched four innings of no-hit baseball, striking out eight, to give the Bucks a good start on the way to a double-header sweep of Sturgis on Saturday.

Benjamin and Austin Johnson combined on a one-hitter with 11 strikeouts as Yankton won the opener 5-1. Johnson struck out three in three innings of work, allowing the

Mitch Gullikson and Kaleb Bromley each had two hits, with Gullikson also scoring for Yankton. Andrew Hummel, Tanner Termansen, Dustin Hopper and Will Steward also had hits, with Termanson scoring twice and Hummel scoring once. Benjamin added a RBI in

the victory.

In the nightcap, Lane Sawatzke, Mitch Mueller and Termansen each had a hit and drove in two runs in a 9-6 victory. Termansen also scored twice, with Mueller crossing the plate once. Hummel had a hit and two runs scored, and Sam Wendte scored twice in the

Greg Hauer pitched the final 3 2/3 in relief of Garrison Brockberg for the win.

Softball: Garrett Throws No-Hitter As Doane Sweeps MMC

CRETE, Neb. — Kylie Garrett tossed a five-inning no-hitter in the nightcap of a doubleheader sweep by Doane over Mount Marty in Great Plains

Athletic Conference softball action on Sunday.

Garrett struck out one and walked five in the 8-0 Doane win in the nightcap. Brooke Sampson went 2-3 with a home run to lead the Tiger of-

Jessica Finch took the loss, striking out three and walking two. In the opener, Doane scored in all six innings of a 12-4 victory. Sampson went 3-3 with a home run, two doubles and four RBI, and Shelby

Mendlik went 2-3 with a home run and three RBI. Megan Wingate picked up the win. Katie Groteluschen took the loss. MMC travels to Dakota Wesleyan on Tuesday. Start time is set for 3

p.m. in Mitchell.

MIDLAND 9-7, MMC 0-6: FREMONT, Neb. — Midland scored a big victory in the opener, then rallied to claim a doubleheader sweep of Mount Marty in GPAC softball ac-

In the opener, five different players had two hits each as Midland beat MMC 9-0. Lauren Orwig had the lone MMC hit. Sammy Hislop struck out nine to pick up the win. Jessica Finch took the loss. Midland rallied from a 6-0 deficit, then scored in the bottom of the tenth to claim a 7

6 victory in the nightcap.
Kayla Ritzdorf, Emily Kmiecik and Jami Redel had two hits each for Midland

For MMC, Sophia Lopez went 3-6 with three RBI. Olivia Rodriguez and Courtney Hansen each had two hits. Jamie Gregory, Karley Seuntjens, Gabi Cardenas and Maggie McMahon added hits for the Lancers.

Hislop, the fourth Midland pitcher, pitched four scoreless innings and struck out five to pick up the win. Hansen went the distance in the loss.

Augustana's Billeter Earns National Coaching Honor

ATLANTA — Augustana head men's basketball coach Tom Billeter is the recipient of the 2013 Clarence "Big House" Gaines National Coach of the Year award.

The award is presented annually to the top Division II men's basketball coach. One of the true legends of all-time, Clarence Gaines retired from Winston-Salem State University in 1993 with a record of 828-446. At the time, he was the winningest active basketball coach in NCAA history.

Billeter guided Augustana to a 22-9 record in 2012-13 and the team's

second straight NCAA Tournament appearance. Augustana has made 13 NCAA Tournament appearances in school history, including five in the last six years under the direction of Billeter. The Vikings went 15-7 in the NSIC this season to finish third in the final league standings. Augustana has never finished lower than sixth in the NSIC and has finished third three times and fourth once.

In 10 seasons at Augustana, Billeter owns a career record of 166-124, including 91-77 in conference games between. Billeter became the alltime winningest coach in Augustana history this season surpassing former head coach and current athletic director Bill Gross, who was 153-104 in

Billeter was presented the award last night at the CollegeInsider.com awards banquet in Atlanta, the site of the men's NCAA Basketball Cham-

Freshman Throws No-Hitter For Doane

SIOUX CENTER, Iowa — Freshman Austin Caspersen tossed a seven-inning no-hitter as Doane completed a doubleheader sweep of Dordt on Saturday in Great Plains Athletic Conference baseball action.

Caspersen extended his scoreless innings streak through his fifth straight appearance with the 2-0 victory. It was the second no-hitter for the Tigers this season. He struck out seven and walked three in the con-

Doane won the opener 2-1, as Tiger pitcher Nathan Roth was perfect The Tigers will host No. 9 Bellevue University on Tuesday in Crete.

Men's Softball Meeting Today The Yankton Men's Softball Association will hold a preseason meeting

tonight (Monday) at 7 p.m. at the Summit Activities Center meeting room.

Team numbers, practice games, start of season, scheduling, fee payments-deposits dates, rosters/waiver deadlines and other topics of interest will be discussed. If you are planning to have a team this season. please attend this meeting or contact Craig Shelburg as soon as possible

AREA CALENDAR

SCOREBOARD

TRACK & FIELD BRANDON VALLEY INV.

April 6 at Brandon GIRLS' DIVISION EVENT WINNERS: 100: Britney Calvillo, SC East 13.1; 200: Jessica Wirth, Yankton 27.5; 400: Ashley Tschappat, Washington 1:01.3; 800: Whitlee Larson, Yankton 2:25.0; 1600: Katie Patrick, Lincoln 5:29.4; 3200: Annie Kruse, Yankton 11:18.0: 100 HURDLES: Emme Sumner Brandon Valley 16.2; 300 HURDLES: Mearah Miedema, Washington 50.0; 400 RELAY: SC East 51.9; 800 RELAY: Brandon Valley 1:51.1; 1600 RELAY: Roosevelt 4:15.9; 3200 RELAY: Luverne 10:09.5: MEDLEY RELAY: Lincoln LUVERNE 1039-3; MEDLEY RELAY: LINCOIN 440-7; DISCUS: Allison Koehn, Brandon Valley 127-0; HIGH JUMP: Kelsey Fitzgerald, Yankton 5-1; LONG JUMP: Kailiyn Hadley, Brookings 17-17-5; POLE VAULT: Halley Murray, Brandon Valley 9-0; SHOT PUT: Michaela Mayer, Washington 44-0; TRIPLE JUMP: Alexis Gan

non, Brookings 36-9.25

BOYS' DIVISION

EVENT WINNERS: 100: Jon Ehde, Luvern 10.9: 200: Cam Holmes, Brandon Valley 22.5: 400: Cam Holmes, Brandon Valley 50.0; 800: Carter Lilly, SC East 1:58.3; 1600: Nathan Shroeder, Lincoln 4:34.1; 3200: Addison De-Haven, Brookings 9:31.1; 110 HURDLES: Brandon Gildemaster. Roosevelt 14.4: 300 HURDLES: Brandon Gildemaster, Rooseveli 40.8; 400 RELAY: Roosevelt 43.9; 800 RELAY: Luverne 1:30.1; 1600 RELAY: Washington 3:27.3; 3200 RELAY: Washington 8:11.0; MED-LEY RELAY: Roosevelt 3:47.5: DISCUS: Jack emcbke, Roosevelt 164-8; HIGH JUMP; Chris tian Parker, Washington 6-9; LONG JUMP: Mati VandeBerg, Brandon Valley 21-7; POLE VAULT Casey Skillingstad, Yankton 11-6; SHOT PUT Jack Lembcke, Roosevelt 58-0; TRIPLE JUMP: Matt VandeBerg, Brandon Valley 43-8

BASKETBALL

National Semifinals

Saturday, April 6 Louisville 72, Wichita State 68 Michigan 61, Syracuse 56 higan 61, Syracuse 56

NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP Monday, April 8 Louisville (34-5) vs. Michigan (31-7), 8 p.m.

NCAA MEN'S DIV. II TOURN

CHAMPIONSHIP At Atlanta Sunday, April 7 Drury 74, Metro State 73

NCAA WOMEN'S TOURNAMENT FINAL FOUR At New Orleans Arena, New Orleans NATIONAL SEMIFINALS Sunday, April 7 Louisville 64, California 57

NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP

Tuesday, April 9 Louisville (29-8) vs. Connecticut (34-4), 6:30

WOMEN'S NIT CHAMPIONSHIP Saturday, April 6

NAT. BASKETBALL ASSOC. EASTERN CONFERENCE

Atlantic Division

W
L
50 26
44 32
40 37
31 45
29 48 **Pct GB** .658 — .579 6 .519 10 1/2 x-Brooklyn x-Boston .408 19 .377 21 1/2 Pct .789 GB **L** 16 z-Miami x-Atlanta Washington Orlando .538 19 .377 31 1/2 .244 42 .234 42 1/2 Charlotte Central Division Pct

GB 29 34 39 52 y-Indiana x-Chicago x-Milwaukee 5 1/2 .487 10 1/2 .333 22 1/2 Detroit .316 23 1/2 WESTERN CONFERENCE Pct 20 25 34 39 50 .740 — .675 5 .558 14 .487 19 1/2 .342 30 1/2 x-San Antonio New Orleans Northwest Division Pct .727 .688 GB 3

37 43 47 33 Portland .434 22 1/2 .382 26 1/2 y-L.A. Clippers Golden State 33 .571 L.A. Lakers .519 x-clinched playoff spot; y-clinched division; z-clinched conference Friday's Games Cleveland 97, Boston 91 New York 101, Milwaukee 83 Philadelphia 101, Atlanta 90

Chicago 87, Orlando 86 Toronto 95, Minnesota 93 Utah 95, New Orleans 83 Golden State 111, Phoenix 107 Dallas 117. Sacramento 108 L.A. Lakers 86, Memphis 84 Houston 116, Portland 98 Saturday's Games Washington 104, Indiana 85

Brooklyn 105, Charlotte 96 Miami 106, Philadelphia 87 Minnesota 107, Detroit 101 San Antonio 99, Atlanta 97 Milwaukee 100, Toronto 83 Denver 132, Houston 114 nday's Games New York 125, Oklahoma City 120

L.A. Clippers 109, L.A. Lakers 95 Memphis 89, Sacramento 87 Boston 107, Washington 96 Cleveland 91, Orlando 85 Detroit 99, Chicago 85 Utah 97, Golden State 90 New Orleans at Phoenix, 8 p.m. Dallas at Portland, 8 p.m.

Washington at New York, 6:30 p.m Philadelphia at Brooklyn, 6:30 p.m. Milwaukee at Miami, 6:30 p.m Charlotte at Memphis, 7 p.m. Oklahoma City at Utah, 8 p.m.

AUTO RACING

NASCAR SPRINT CUP STP GAS BOOSTER 500 Sunday At Martinsville Speedway, Ridge-

I. (1) Jimmie Johnson, Chevrolet, 500 laps,

2. (15) Clint Bowyer, Toyota, 500, 107.6, 42,

2. (13) Clifft Bowyer, Toyota, 500, 107.0, 42, \$159,693.
3. (6) Jeff Gordon, Chevrolet, 500, 117.2, 41, \$146,446. 4. (5) Kasey Kahne, Chevrolet, 500, 112.8. 5. (11) Kyle Busch, Toyota, 500, 118.5, 40, \$145,278.

6. (7) Brad Keselowski, Ford, 500, 104.9, 38, \$141,586.

7, (13) Jamie McMurray, Chevrolet, 500, 105.3, 37, \$116,915. 8. (2) Marcos Ambrose, Ford, 500, 86.5, 37, \$118,134. 9. (22) Greg Biffle, Ford, 500, 83.9, 35, 10. (35) Mark Martin, Toyota, 500, 73.9, 34, \$104,420.

BASEBALL

AMERICAN LEAGUE Friday's Games
Detroit 8, N.Y. Yankees 3

Texas 3, L.A. Angels 2
Baltimore 9, Minnesota 5
Kansas City 13, Philadelphia 4 Tampa Bay 4, Cleveland 0
Oakland 8, Houston 3
Seattle 8, Chicago White Sox 7, 10 innings Saturday's Games Toronto 5, Boston 0

Chicago White Sox 4, Seattle 3 L.A. Angels 8, Texas 4 Detroit 8, N.Y. Yankees 4 Philadelphia 4, Kansas City 3 Minnesota 6. Baltimore 5 Tampa Bay 6, Cleveland 0 Oakland 6, Houston 3 Sunday's Games N.Y. Yankees 7, Detroit 0

Boston 13. Toronto 0 Kansas City 9, Philadelphia 8 Minnesota 4, Baltimore 3 Cleveland 13, Tampa Bay 0 Oakland 9, Houston 3 Chicago White Sox 4, Seattle 3, 10 innings L.A. Angels at Texas, 8:05 p.m. Monday's Games

Baltimore (W.Chen 0-0) at Boston (Buch-

holz 1-0), 1:05 p.m.

Gottsleben said that SDSU is starting to show signs that it will be ready to compete at the Summit

'South Dakota State's a really good team, and they will be in the mix at the conference meet," he said. "They had a bit of a struggle indoors, had some kids hurt and stuff like that, but they'll be there at the end.

standout Jessica Ripp finished fifth in the long jump (16-9 1/4).

rek on Twitter at twitter.com/aceman904

N.Y. Yankees (Kuroda 0-1) at Cleveland L.A. Dodgers 1, Pittsburgh 0 (Jimenez 0-0), 3:05 p.m. Sunday's Games (Jimenez 0-0), 3:05 p.m.
Minnesota (Correia 0-0) at Kansas City
(E.Santana 0-1), 3:10 p.m.
Tampa Bay (Hellickson 0-0) at Texas
(Ogando 1-0), 7:05 p.m.

Houston (Humber 0-1) at Seattle (J.Saunders 0-1), 9:10 p.m.

NATIONAL LEAGUE

Friday's Games
Kansas City 13, Philadelphia 4
Colorado 5, San Diego 2
San Francisco 1, St. Louis 0
Miami 7, N.Y. Mets 5 Cincinnati 15, Washington 0 Atlanta 4, Chicago Cubs 1 Arizona 3, Milwaukee 1 L.A. Dodgers 3, Pittsburgh 0

Saturday's Games N.Y. Mets 7, Miami 3 Washington 7, Cincinnati 6, 11 innings St. Louis 6, San Francisco 3 Philadelphia 4, Kansas City 3 Arizona 9, Milwaukee 2 Atlanta 6, Chicago Cubs 5 Colorado 6, San Diego 3

N.Y. Mets 4. Miami 3 Cincinnati 6, Washington 3 Atlanta 5, Chicago Cubs 1 Kansas City 9, Philadelphia 8 Arizona 8, Milwaukee 7, 11 innings

L.A. Dodgers 6, Pittsburgh 2 Colorado 9, San Diego 1 St. Louis 14, San Francisco 3 Monday's Games Milwaukee (Estrada 0-0) at Chicago Cubs (E.Jackson 0-1), 1:20 p.m. Cincinnati (Latos 0-0) at St. Louis (J.Garcia 1-0), 3:15 p.m. N.Y. Mets (Harvey 1-0) at Philadelphia (Hal-

laday 0-1), 6:05 p.m. Atlanta (Maholm 1-0) at Miami (Slowey 0-1), 6:10 p.m.
Pittsburgh (W.Rodriguez 1-0) at Arizona (Cahill 0-1), 8:40 p.m. Colorado (De La Rosa 0-0) at San Fran-

cisco (Bumgarner 1-0), 9:15 p.m. **TRANSACTIONS**

Inv. at Lakeview GC, Mitchell (Andes Central Monday, April 8 BASEBALL, PREP Dakota Valley at nn. at Lakeview Ge, mitchel (mides Gental, Avon, Freeman, Platte-Geddes, Scotland, Tripp-Delmont, 9:30 a.m.); Laurel-Concord-Coleridge/Randolph at Creighton GOLF, GIRLS' Mount Vernon-Plankin-ton Inv. at Lakeview GC, Mitchell (Andes Central, Avon, Freeman, Platte-Geddes,

Andes at MVPW GOLF, MEN'S GPAC #3 at Lincoln, Neb. GOLF, WOMEN'S Kansas City Tourn.

LOS ANGELES ANGELS-Agreed to terms with OF Bill Hall on a minor league contract.

MINNESOTA TWINS—Placed RHP Cole

GOLF, BOYS' Mount Vernon-Plankinton

De Vries on the 15-day DL, retroactive to March 30. Recalled LHP Pedro Hernandez from Rochester (IL). Reinstated RHP Anthony Swarzak from the 15-day DL.
TORONTO BLUE JAYS—Claimed RHP
Edgar Gonzalez off waivers from Houston.
Transferred RHP Dustin McGowan to the 60-day

National League
ATLANTA BRAVES—Placed 1B Freddie
Freeman on the 15-day DL. Called up INF Blake
DeWitt from Gwinnett (IL).
NEW YORK METS—Transferred LHP

Johan Santana from the 15- to the 60-day DL Optioned RHP Jeurys Familia to Las Vegas (PCL). Selected the contract of LHP Aaron Laf-

Scotland, Tripp-Delmont, 9:30 a.m.)

(PCL). Selection fey from Las Vegas. BASKETBALL National Basketball Association
GOLDEN STATE WARRIORS—Signed G

Scott Machado to a 10-day contract.
MIAMI HEAT—Recalled F Jarvis Varnado
from Sioux Falls (NBADL). COLLÉGE CENTRAL MICHIGAN—Named Archie

NCAA Championship: Two Solid Backcourts In Title Game ATLANTA (AP) — Monday since the late 1980s. have been augmented up front by freshman Montrezi Harris and the Control of the Control

night's NCAA championship pairs up two teams aren't exactly mirror images of each other, but they sure

mantle as the tournament's overall No. 1 seed, will take on Michigan, a No. 4 seed that knocked off the likes of Kansas, Florida and Syracuse on its way to the title game. backcourts and one guard in par-

ticular. Michigan's Trey Burke was The Associated Press' player of the year and though his scoring has been down in the tournament, he still directs the offense. Louisville's Russ Smith has been dominating the Cardinals' scoring and is the player who keeps the crowd on the

Both teams have impressive frontcourts and though it's a different style, both rely on their de-

A look at the teams who will play for the national title, a prize neither school has brought home since the late 1980s.

BACKCOURT — Michigan comes at you with a young team that feeds off Burke, its leader. If there is a knock on

the sophomore it's his inconsistency from game to game. In the five tournament games he has ranged from six points to 23 and those all came in the second half and overtime in the win over top-seeded Kansas. He has not shot better than 50 percent in any game and was 1 for 8 from the field against Syracuse. Tim Hardaway Jr. and Nik Stauskas have kept up the scoring when Burke doesn't and a big surprise was the solid minutes from freshman Caris LeVert in the semifinal. Smith and Peyton Siva dominate the minutes for the Cardinals in the backcourt and they are the core of the

pressure defense that wears down opponents. They do force turnovers throughout the game but it's the relentless pressure that changes the way teams play in the final minutes. Wichita State only committed 11 turnovers but the bulk of those came in the final minutes. Smith is averaging 25.0 points in the tournament and he has 15 steals in the five games. Siva has been struggling with his shot — 1 for 12 from 3-point range in the tournament — but he is still averaging 8.6 points and leads the team with 23 assists. Losing Kevin Ware to the broken leg against Duke has taken away a big part of the pressure defense. **EDGE: LOUISVILLE**

tourney and all he's done since then is average 16.0 points and 11.6 rebounds while shooting 69.8 percent from the field. Glenn Robinson III is averaging 12.8 points and 6.2 rebounds and has taken advantage of all the attention paid to McGary for some easy points, especially on offensive Louisville's big man in the middle. Gorgui Deing, has

to bounce back from a scoreless semifinal and put up numbers like the 8.8 points and 7.2 rebounds he's aver-

aged in the tournament. He has 12 blocks and seven

steals and with his wingspan he's a big part of the pressure defense. Chane Behanan and Wayne Blackshear

FRONTCOURT: Mitch McGary is working his way into Michigan lore with an incredible NCAA tournament. The freshmen forward didn't crack the starting lineup until the

rely, who gave the Cardinals some good minutes against Wichita State, EDGE: MICHIGAN

BENCH: Michigan's biggest contribution from its reserves in the tournament has been the outside shooting of Spike Albrecht who has yet to miss in five 3-point attempts.

have been augmented up front by freshman Montrezl Har-

LeVert came through against Syracuse. Louisville unloaded its bench against Wichita State and with Luke Hancock leading the way, the Cardinals' reserves scored 34 of the team's 72 points. Hancock, who had scored in double figures once in the tournament when he has 10 points against Duke, chipped in 20 points on 6of-9 shooting while Harrell had eight points on 4-for-4 shooting. The surprise of all was Tim Henderson, who had scored six points since Christmas and matched that total

on two huge 3-pointers against Wichita State. **EDGE: LOUISVILLE** considered among the top coaches in the country and his teams reflect his demeanor on the sideline, calm and in

Rick Pitino is trying to become the first coach to win a national championship at two schools, having won it all with Kentucky in 1996. His team's style is a lot like his on the sideline, in control on the outside but going at a frenetic pace on the inside. EDGE: LOUISVILLE INTANGIBLES: Michigan's last two championship game appearances were losses, the second of which

ended with Chris Webber calling a timeout the Wolverines didn't have in a tight game against North Carolina. Louisville has inspiration sitting on the bench in Ware Just a week after the country saw his horrific injury in the regional final, he is on crutches and with his teammates in his home state. The picture of Ware and his father hug-

ging after the semifinal win will be shown for years to EDGE: LOUISVILLE. PICK: The difference should be Louisville's relentless pressure but, remember, Burke is due for a big game. Still, the Cardinals should be able to end the season on a 16-

From Page 7

runs on 11 hits. He also struck out

four Warriors. "I was really impressed with Midland in the first game," Bernatow said. "They came out swinging and hit the ball well against Cass (Key-Darlington).

Even though the MMC baseball

team dropped the opener, Berna-

tow was still optimistic about the second game. "In this conference you can't really look at records," he said. "The GPAC is crazy, you can't play these games on paper. We weren't down at all, though. We told them that we couldn't get swept. It's an ex-

the post-season tournament. Senior Josh Cleveland started the game for the Lancers in the second of the twinbill. Cleveland battled all day and found himself digging out of jams for the Lancers.

pectation and a standard to get to

'Josh (Cleveland) did a good job today," Bernatow said. "We did a little change to our rotation and we felt we put ourselves in a little better line of success with a senior out there.' In the first two innings, Cleve-

land fanned the first six Midland batters. However, in the third inning, the Warriors were able to break Cleveland's momentum with a run on four hits. The Lancers were able to get out of the jam with runners on second and third. Senior right fielder Mathias

the contest.

Again in the fourth, Cleveland and the Lancer defense were able to get out of another jam. A sixfour-three double play saved the

inning for Mount Marty.

strike bunt for hit led to a bases clearing three RBI double for Midland, which gave them a 5-2 lead. Miller responded for MMC again with a rocket to the left field

In the fifth inning, a risky two-

fence. The two RBI double cut the Midland lead down to one. In the sixth, with runners in scoring position, Cleveland used a sly pick-off move to Hollenback to get out of the inning and give the

Lancers some hope in the bottom

ture to their advantage in the last

Mount Marty used mother na-

two innings. With the rain pouring down the Lancers only needed a run to continue play. In the bottom of the seventh, Carlson ripped a double to the gap to start the inning off for Mount Marty. Miller laid down a sacrifice

bunt to eventually score Carlson off an RBI single by O'Connell. Yankton native and sophomore Nik Davis took a fastball past the shortstop to bring home pinch runner Ryan Buck and seal the victory

for the Lancers. Cleveland picked up the win for

Miller led the Lancers, going four-for-seven with a homer-run and two RBI's during the twinbill. "Jared (Miller) has been solid

all year for us," Bernatow said. "He's a team guy, he could go fourfor-four and if we don't win he's unhappy. But, he could go one-for-four and the team wins, he's happy. He's just fun to coach

game winning streak.

and a great leader on offense." The Lancers (11-17, 5-3 in GPAC) will take the momentum from this contest to their next game, against in-state and NCAA Division I foe South Dakota State on Wednesday.

"Playing some division one teams is something we strive to do," Bernatow said. "It's a nice opportunity for our guys to play against that level of play. We were able to get our first win against a division one program (North Dakota) earlier this season. It'd be great to do that again." The Lancers resume GPAC play

on Saturday as the head to Crete, Neb. to take on Doane. Midland moved to 18-17, 2-6 in GPAC play.

You can follow Nick Robinson on Twitter at twitter.com/theFRAN-CHISE_9.



Duals From Page 7

coming week for the Sioux City Relays, and will send athletes to the Mount Marty Twilight and Howard Wood Dakota Relays.

about coming back over here for the Mount Marty meet," Huber said. "This is really a great facility. The Williams family, Bob Winter, all those guys put something together here that's pretty special. Brooke Garner led the South Dakota State women, breaking her

school record in the hammer (198-

11) and winning the discus with a

"We're actually pretty excited

toss of 170-5. Carly Carper led the SDSU sprint corps, leading a 1-2-3 finish in the 100 (11.99) and anchoring the Jackrabbits to victory in the 400 relay (49.47).

mer Yankton standout Krista Creager placed fourth in the 800

Phillip LaVallee (800, 1:59.80) and Connor Berg (high jump, 6-6) were also winners for the Jackrab-

Also for the SDSU women, for-

The Jackrabbit men were led by freshman Jeremiah Ary, who won the triple jump (48-6) and finished second in the long jump (22-10).

His triple jump mark ranks sixth in

Jackrabbit history.

bit men. Berg's winning mark was a personal best. Also for the SDSU men, former Bloomfield, Neb., standout Austin

Hamm finished third in the steeplechase (10:06.42).

League Championships.

For Omaha, former Creighton

You can follow James D. Cimbu-

Godsil smacked a two-RBI single to give Mount Marty their first lead of

aren't opposites either. Louisville, which held up its

Both teams rely heavily on their

edge of their seats with one "Russdiculous" move after another.

fense to get their offense going.

.ancers