

Yankton Soccer Teams Make Season Debuts Today

BUCKS SOCCER		
8/19	at Watertown	7 p.m.
8/22	Huron	6 p.m.
8/28	at S.F. O'Gorman	8 p.m.
9/2	Mitchell	6 p.m.
9/4	S.F. Roosevelt	6 p.m.
9/9	at Brookings	5 p.m.
9/11	Harrisburg	6 p.m.
9/16	at Brandon Valley	8 p.m.
9/20	Aberdeen Central	2 p.m.
9/23	Freeman Academy	8 p.m.
9/26	at Pierre	4 p.m.
9/30	Playoffs First Round	
10/4	Playoffs Second Round	
10/11	State AA at Mitchell	

Veteran Bucks Ready To Go

BY JAMES D. CIMBUREK
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The Yankton Bucks boys' soccer team may be new to the South Dakota High School Activities Association. That doesn't mean they are new to soccer.

The Bucks boast nine seniors and veteran coach Warren Brenner as they open the 2014 campaign today (Tuesday) at Watertown.

"We've been playing to-

gether for a long time," said senior defender Connor Chambers. "We get along very well."

Chambers will be expected to anchor the defense with the graduation of Derek Brenner a year ago.

"Connor has been in our defense for years," Coach Brenner said. "This year we want him to take a leadership

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GAZELLES SOCCER		
8/19	at Watertown	7 p.m.
8/22	Huron	4 p.m.
8/28	at S.F. O'Gorman	6 p.m.
9/2	Mitchell	4 p.m.
9/4	S.F. Roosevelt	4 p.m.
9/9	at Brookings	6 p.m.
9/11	Harrisburg	4 p.m.
9/16	at Brandon Valley	6 p.m.
9/20	Aberdeen Central	noon
9/23	Vermillion	6 p.m.
9/26	at Pierre	6 p.m.
9/30	Playoffs First Round	
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Gazelles Mix Experience, Youth

BY JAMES D. CIMBUREK
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With a good mix of veterans and younger talent, the Yankton Gazelles feel good about their first season under head coach Tyler Schuring. The Gazelles open the 2014 season today (Tuesday) at Watertown.

"Overall we lost one senior from last year," said Schuring, who coached the JV squad a year ago in the

program's final season under the club banner. "We are right in that perfect age, where we're not all seniors and we have younger girls that will get the opportunity to gain experience."

"Yankton should be in a good position for the next few years."

The Gazelles return six seniors, five of which return on the defense: Danielle Beck-

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Australian Volleyball Player Making Herself At Home At Mount Marty

BY JEREMY HOECK
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The furthest away from home Laura Cattle had previously been was a jaunt to New Zealand.

It was technically an overseas trip, but nothing like the Australian volleyball player would experience on her journey to Yankton.

The native of West Wyalong, New South Wales, Australia (population 2,600) has not only found a home in Yankton (population 14,500), she has found a home with the Mount Marty College volleyball team.

"I looked up Yankton and saw it was a small town, and knew it'd suit me better," Cattle, a freshman, said Saturday afternoon at Riverboat Days — where she was being escorted around by head coach Candice Climer.

Cattle, a 6-foot-1 right side hitter and middle blocker, figures to eventually suit the MMC volleyball program just fine, joked Climer.

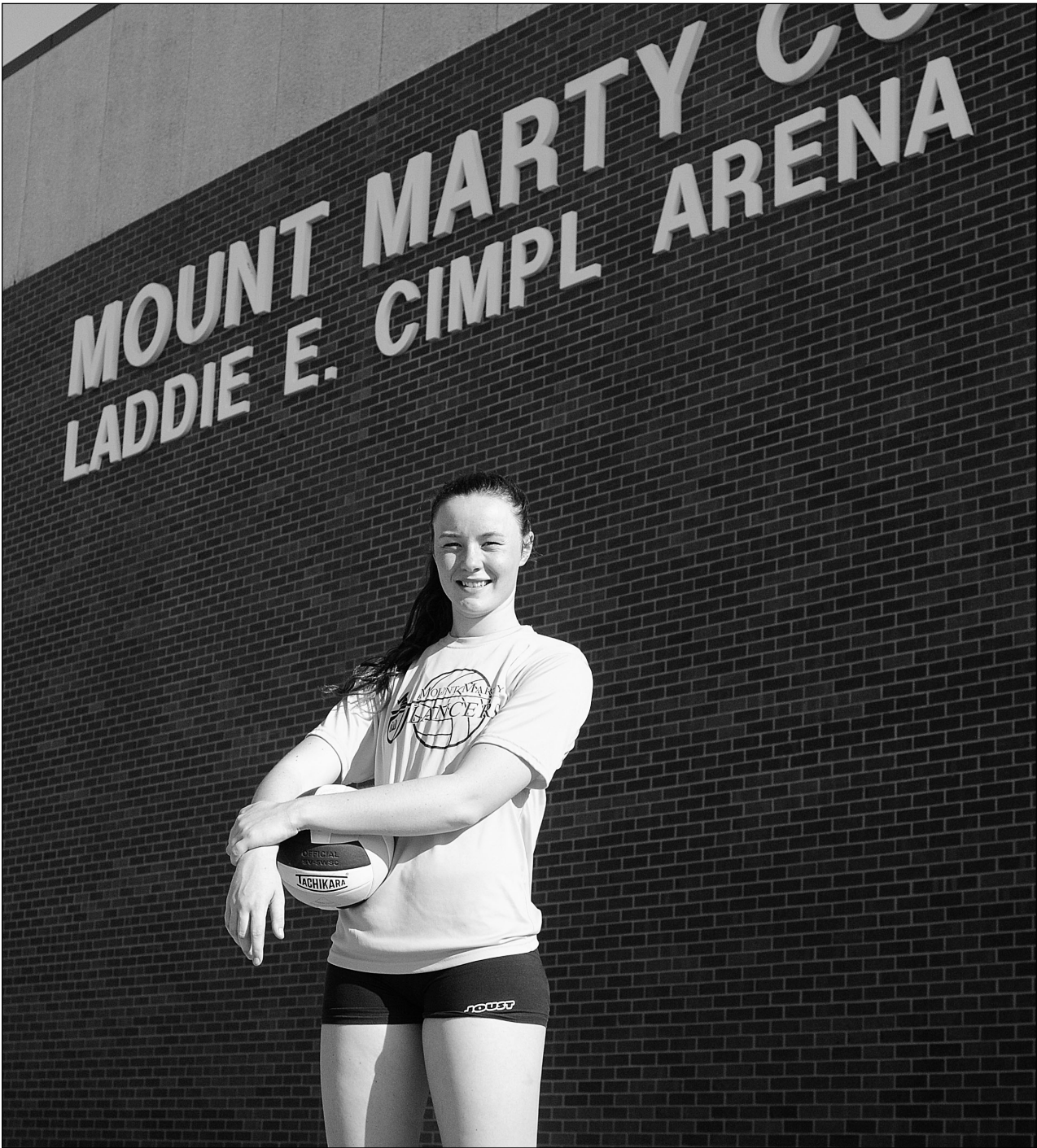
An Australian recruiting service sent out clips and information on Cattle to a number of small colleges in the United States. That began an ongoing conversation, Climer said.

"With some of those, you get emails and then you don't hear back," the fifth-year coach said. "When I saw 'six-one left-handed hitter,' I thought, 'Let's try.'"

Within a couple months, Cattle was set to enroll at Mount Marty.

"It was very exciting," she said. "There were lots of promising messages to begin with, but when we continued to talk, it became realistic."

It was an effort that paid off, Climer added.



JEREMY HOECK/P&D

Laura Cattle is a 6-foot-1 freshman right side hitter and middle blocker for the Mount Marty College volleyball team. She is a native of West Wyalong, New South Wales, Australia.

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S.D. Little Leaguers Bond, Get Global Experience

BY RICHARD ANDERSON
Rapid City Journal

RAPID CITY, S.D. (AP) — Whether the players are Little Leaguers or Major Leaguers, earning a spot on an All-Star team has a way of turning past enemies into future friends.

That has proven true with the Canyon Lake Little League All-Stars, who first came together as a team well over a month ago.

Many of the players have come from being opponents who played on competing teams during the regular season, to now becoming comrades playing in the Little League World Series in South Williamsport, Pennsylvania.

But the World Series experience has brought another benefit that culminated Monday when Canyon Lake beat the Czech Republic 5-3 in a consolation game — a connection to other cultures.

But the ties between the Canyon Lake All-Stars developed first.

Some liken the bonding that occurs during three weeks on the road to a brotherhood.

"They now have bonded as a team; they will always have this friendship," Canyon Lake coach Rich

Hegre told the Rapid City Journal (<http://bit.ly/1kOyenF>). "Whether they don't see each other in school or if they do, they will always have a friendship. It's more like a brotherhood; we've been on the road for three weeks. They get crabby at each other, but it is like they are family now. That, in itself, will live far beyond memories."

Player Dylan Richey said guys have gotten closer during the tournament, which has led to a pair of defeats and title elimination and culminated with Monday's consolation game.

It's not like they previously disliked each other. Richey talks about the fact that many of the players played against one another throughout the years, including this season. Then, they were trying to beat each other.

"Now we are friends," Richey said. "It's for one league, one city."

The team got to know itself in a hurry as it prepared for the South Dakota/North Dakota District Tournament.

Two-a-day practices got them kick-started in the right direction, and it led to a run that was supported locally and televised nationally.

"As a team, we got to know each

other really fast and it has helped us out on the field," third baseman/pitcher Blake Weaver said.

But while on the road for the last three weeks, like most siblings, the players didn't always see eye-to-eye on things.

"We're more like brothers than friends," shortstop/pitcher Matthew Hegre said. "We get into arguments, but we always get out of them. It's just the way it goes, I guess."

The Rapid City players not only befriended each other in a hurry, the same happened at regionals and now in the Little League World Series. They are making new friends from different parts of the country and the world.

Friendships are common since they are all housed together — eight American teams and eight international teams.

When the All-Stars are not playing, practicing, or just hanging at the ballpark, they spend a lot of time in the rec room. Naturally, it takes on a competitive basis.

"We like to play ping pong against other teams," Weaver said. "Australia is the best; they are really good."

The Rapid City team has developed a bit of a bond with the Australian squad.

"We're friends with Australia; we got to know them in the rec room. They're cool," Matthew Hegre said.

Hanging out with players from different countries not only has been fun for the group, but it has been educational, so to speak.

"It's fun to teach other kids different languages and have them teach us different languages. I haven't learned any Japanese, but I have learned a couple of Spanish words," Weaver said.

Weaver acknowledges that he didn't expect to become friends with players from other teams, let alone other countries, because baseball can be so competitive.

"I thought we would just come here and play games, and be like rivals," Weaver said. "Now, everybody is like friends. It's just really cool to see how other people are interacting with each other."

When it is all said and done, and the Canyon Lake teams is back in Rapid City getting ready for school or fall sports, they'll look back and remember fondly the journey, especially making it to South Williamsport.

"We'll always still have the connection of Williamsport and how it happened," Richey said.

Andrew White III Headed To Nebraska

LINCOLN, Neb. (AP) — Andrew White III has transferred from Kansas to Nebraska.

Nebraska coach Tim Miles said Monday that White would join his program after playing two seasons for the Jayhawks. White had said in May he would leave Kansas to find a program where he could get more playing time. He picked the Cornhuskers over Maryland, Richmond, Notre Dame, Wake Forest, Miami and Florida State.

The 6-foot-7, 210-pounder from Richmond, Virginia, will have to sit out this season under transfer rules. He'll have two years of eligibility remaining.

White appeared in 19 games last season, averaging 2.3 points and 5.9 minutes. He averaged 2.2 points and 5 minutes in 25 games as a freshman.

Center Grasu Anchors Oregon's Offense

EUGENE, Ore. (AP) — Oregon senior center Hroniss Grasu never would have played football if his parents had their way.

Steve and Mariana Grasu, immigrants from Romania, preferred soccer over American football, which they saw as too dangerous.

It was only reluctantly that Grasu was allowed to kick for his high school team, and when a coach put him on the offensive line, well, he didn't exactly mention it to his folks.

It was a long, silent ride home when the Grasus attended their son's first game.

"They enjoy it now," he said, laughing. "They come to every single game, home and away. I think I've got the family hooked on football."

Lucky for Oregon the Grasus allowed their son to keep playing. Now a senior, Grasu is unquestionably the No. 3 Ducks' anchor, according to quarterback Marcus Mariota.

Grasu, who is 6-foot-3 and just shy of 300 pounds, is considered one of the best players at his position in the nation, and he's on the preseason watch lists for the Outland and Rimington trophies.

He leads a strong group of linemen that helped Oregon lead the Pac-12 in rushing, scoring and total offense last season. The line was to return all five starters, but Tyler Johnstone injured his right knee during fall camp and is out for the season.

"We've got so many guys on this team who are on the same page as me,

guys that have a lot of experience and a lot of playing time. But we have so much work to get done," Grasu said. "We've always got to get a new standard, reach a new standard, and then set another one."

Grasu grew up in the Los Angeles area, where his parents own a chain of pizza parlors. His older brother, Nico, was a kicker at Washington State.

He became Oregon's starting center as a redshirt freshman after beating out Karrington Armstrong for the job. At the time, then-coach Chip Kelly said the best compliment he could give Grasu was that he never had to think about him.

Sioux Valley Inv.

VOLGA — Aberdeen Roncalli scored a 317 to win the six-team Sioux Valley Invitational boys' golf tournament, held on Monday at Meadow Creek Golf Course.

Sioux Valley finished second at 343. Roncalli's Keaton Deiter (70) and Gabe Heller (76) finished 1-2 in the individual rankings. Sioux Valley's Nate Algood and Roncalli's Zach Streier each shot 81.

TEAM SCORES: Aberdeen Roncalli 317, Sioux Valley 343, Sisseton 360, Brookings 372, Groton 432, Redfield Doland 452.

TOP 15: Keaton Deiter, Roncalli 70; Gabe Heller, Roncalli 76; Nate Algood, Sioux Valley 81; Zach Streier, Roncalli 81; Carston Archer, Sisseton 83; Nick Strasburg, Sioux Valley 84; Austin Delbert, Sioux Valley 86; Nate Nielson, Sisseton 89; Ethan Kranhold, Sisseton 89; Dane Munson, Brookings 90; Austin Kalkes, Roncalli 90; Balke Kjeldsen, Brookings 91; Noah Puetz, Sioux Valley 92; Alex Miley, Brookings 93; Tom Cotton, Sioux Valley 94.

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