

Volleyball: Gazelles Drop Opener At Brandon Valley

BRANDON – Brandon Valley downed Yankton 25-19, 25-19, 25-22 in the season and Eastern South Dakota Conference volleyball opener for both squads on Tuesday in Brandon.

While Yankton had several new faces in the varsity lineup, Gazelles head coach Tiffany Beste felt chemistry was not the main issue.

“We had some girls playing with different teammates than in the past, but I wouldn’t say that was our biggest issue,” she said. “Brandon Valley played tremendously well. We did some things well, but we need to be more crisp.

“We were competitive all night. We just were not as sharp as we need to be.”

Becky Frick had seven kills, five ace serves and seven digs to lead Yankton. Josie Sayler had four kills and three blocks. Ellie Fedders posted nine assists and Cameryn Specht had seven digs for the Gazelles.

The Gazelles continue on the road on Thursday at defending ESD champion Watertown (1-0), which beat Huron to open the season on Tuesday.

“We need to focus in practice on taking our skills to the next level,” Beste said. “It’s going to be a process.

Every practice we need to get better.”

Brandon Valley also swept the sub-varsity matches: 25-15, 25-13 in the JV match; 25-10, 25-15 in the sophomore match; 25-18, 25-17 in the freshmen ‘A’ match and 25-13, 25-10 in the freshmen ‘B’ match. No statistics were reported.

Hanson Early Bird

ALEXANDRIA — Freeman Academy and Andes Central-Dakota Christian will play for the championship of the Hanson Early Bird volleyball tournament after each squad earned two victories on

Tuesday.

Freeman Academy beat host Hanson in the opening round, then beat Sanborn Central-Woonsocket in the semifinals. Andes Central-Dakota Christian opened with a victory over Freeman, then beat Howard.

Play on Thursday will begin with consolation semifinals at 5:15 p.m., followed by fifth and seventh place matches at 6:45 p.m., and third place and championship matches at 8:15 p.m.

AC-DC 2, Howard 1

ALEXANDRIA — Kennedy Muckey

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Bucks Fall In Opener

BRANDON – The Yankton Bucks opened the 2015 boys’ golf season with a team score of 332 in a dual at the Brandon Golf Course on Tuesday. Brandon Valley won the event with a 306.

The Bucks were scheduled to open the season Aug. 17 at the Brandon Valley Invitational, but the meet was called due to rain.

Jackson Dziedzic of Brandon Valley earned medalist honors, shooting a 73 to edge teammate Taylor Fjerestad by two strokes. Yankton was led by

Brandon Sundleaf, who shot a 78. Mat Jensen carded an 82, A.J. Fernandez shot an 85 and Jimmie Cunningham carded an 87 to round out the Bucks’ scoring.

In JV action, Brandon Valley won 363-375. Yankton’s Michael Frick and Brandon Valley’s Lucas Schobert each shot 88.

TEAM: Brandon Valley 306, Yankton 332
INDIVIDUAL: Jackson Dziedzic BV 73, Taylor Fjerestad BV 75, Mason Sundleaf Y 78, Zane Swenson BV 78, Mitch Gusso BV 80, Mat Jensen Y 82, AJ Fernandez Y 85, Jimmie Cunningham Y 87

JV TEAM: Brandon Valley 363, Yankton 375
INDIVIDUAL: Michael Frick Y 88, Lucas Schobert BV 88, Jackson Faber BV 89, Lucas Swenson BV 92, Dalton Malbaum Y 94, Joel Kooser BV 94, Chris Eilers Y 95, Owen Feser Y 98, Brody Oliver BV 98, Matt Anderson BV 106, Chase Erickson Y 108, Austin Frick Y 116

MMC Women Take Debut

Soccer: Lancers Blank York 2-0

BY BEN HEGGE
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The Mount Marty Lancers opened up the 2015 season with 2-0 victory over the York Panthers on Tuesday afternoon at Easton Soccer Fields.

“Today was a great way to start out the season,” said Lancer head coach Peter Shepherd. “We were using a new formation, so it was nice to see our girls play so well together.”

The Lancers were very aggressive offensively taking 18 shots compared to just six for York.

“At times we may have been a bit too aggressive, but we have some girls with strong legs,” said Shepherd. “If we got a good look we took the shot.”

After a scoreless first half, the Lancer offense opened up the scoring in the second half with a goal from Breanne Kuehler with an assist from Carly Manahan.

Shortly after, Manahan scored a goal of her own when she found the back of the net on a free kick to give the Lancers a 2-0 lead.

“It was great to get the offense going in the second



Breanne Kuehler (center) celebrates with Mount Marty College teammates Annabelle Martin (9), Carly Manahan (middle right) and Kristin Maguire (right) after a goal in Tuesday’s game against York at Easton Field.

JEREMY HOECK/P&D



Mount Marty’s Mauricio Marquez, right, jumps in the air while making contact with a York player during Tuesday’s game at Easton Field.

JEREMY HOECK/P&D

Soccer: Panthers Power Past Mount Marty Men 5-0

BY BEN HEGGE
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The York College Panthers kicked off the 2015 season in dominating fashion with a 5-0 victory over Mount Marty.

The Panthers used a 26-2 advantage in shot attempts to overpower the Lancers on Tuesday afternoon.

“It’s nice to open up the season with a victory, especially when you can get one on the road,” said York head coach John Ireland.

Midway through the first half, Job Yapp scored the games first goal for the Panthers. Michael Ortiz would later capitalize on a penalty kick giving York a 2-0 lead after one half.

“We didn’t do a very good job of communicating defensively,” said Mount Marty head coach Peter Shepherd. “At times we were very reactive which exposed us.”

The Panthers scoring leader from a season ago, Job Yapp, connected on his second goal of the game to open up the second half.

“Job played a great game,” said

John Ireland. “He showed great leadership and did a fantastic job finishing on his runs.”

Both Tyree Goolsby and Tyler Wilt scored second half goals to shut the door on the Panthers 5-0 victory.

“Our guys did a really nice job running our high-pressure system,” said Ireland. “For the first game, I thought we did a really nice job of being aggressive.”

Tuesday’s game was the season opener for both teams. Next action for York will be a home game against Sterling College this Saturday, while the Lancers will hit the road for a in-state match up with Presentation on September 2.

“We are trying become more familiar with our new system every day, so today was a good measuring stick for us,” said Peter Shepherd. “We are going to work hard on our conditioning and prepare for what is ahead.”

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JV: Yankton 14-12, Lincoln 3-6

ST. LOUIS – The Yankton Gazelles pounded out 26 runs in a double-header sweep of Sioux Falls Lincoln in JV softball action on Monday.

In the opener, Chloe Koletzky had a double, two singles, three RBI and two runs scored to lead Yankton to a 14-3 victory.

Rachel Hamburg also doubled and singled, scoring three times. Tori Herrboldt had two hits and three runs scored. Maddie Hendrickson also had two hits. Trinity Fitch had a double, two RBI and two runs scored. Ciara Culhavy had a hit, two RBI and two runs scored. Taylor Bauder and Payton Vellek each had a hit and a RBI. Merlye Mason had a hit, and Elsie Marquardt had a run scored in the victory.

Culhavy picked up the win, allowing five hits while striking out one.

In the nightcap, Megan McCorkell had three hits, two RBI and three runs scored as Yankton doubled up Lincoln 12-6.

Marquardt had a hit, two RBI and two runs scored, and Koletzky had a double, two RBI and a run scored for Yankton. Hamburg had a double and two runs scored. Mason posted a hit. Bauder and Fitch each scored a run, and Vellek and Culhavy each drove in a run in the victory.

Vellek picked up the win, scattering nine hits while striking out three.



WILL VRAGOVIC/TAMPA BAY TIMES/TNS

The Minnesota Twins’ Trevor Plouffe (24) congratulates teammate Miguel Sano (22) on his three-run home run in the first inning against the Tampa Bay Rays at Tropicana Field in St. Petersburg, Fla., on Tuesday.

Twins Slug Past Rays 11-7

ST. PETERSBURG, Fla. (AP) — Brian Dozier, Miguel Sano and Eddie Rosario all homered as Minnesota beat the Tampa Bay Rays 11-7 Tuesday night for the Twins’ fifth straight win.

Dozier gave Minnesota a 7-5 advantage on a two-run drive off reliever Matt Andriese (3-4) in the fourth. It was his third homer in 11 at-bats against Tampa Bay this season.

Eduardo Escobar hit a

two-run double during a three-run fifth that extended the Twins’ lead to 10-6.

Tampa Bay catcher Curt Casali made it 10-7 on his ninth homer since the All-Star break and 10th overall later in the fifth, but appeared to take an awkward step near first base and had to leave the game after slowly going around the bases.

The Twins went ahead 11-7 on Rosario’s seventh-

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Bucks Blank Warriors 2-0

ST. LOUIS – The Yankton Bucks scored a second straight victory, blanking Sioux Falls Washington 2-0 in boys’ soccer action on Tuesday at Yankton Trails Park.

Isaac Schultz and Chase Huber scored the Yankton goals.

Trevor Rafferty preserved the shutout in goal, stopping seven shots.

Yankton hosts Sioux Falls O’Gorman on Thursday at Lewis & Clark Soccer Park. Start time is set for 4 p.m.

Yankton and Sioux Falls Washington played to a scoreless draw in JV action.

Girls: Washington 3, Yankton 0

ST. LOUIS – Sioux Falls Washington scored two first-half goals and held on for a 3-0 victory over Yankton in girls’ soccer action on Tuesday.

Haley Schild made 10 saves in goal for Yankton.

The Gazelles, 1-3, hosts Sioux Falls O’Gorman on Thursday. Start time is set for 6 p.m.

In the JV match, Washington edged Yankton 2-1.

Jaiden Boomsma scored the Gazelles’ goal off a pass from Madison Wuebben.

Defensively, Sadie Fedders stopped eight shots in goal for Yankton.

Volleyball Title Run Makes It Hard To Pick Against Penn State

BY ERIC OLSON
AP Sports Writer

The loss of two All-Americans and two other senior mainstays would foretell a rebuilding season for almost any volleyball team.

Not Penn State.

“Right now,” Stanford coach John Dunning said, “it’s Penn State against everybody else. Until a few more teams beat them, how could you not pick them No. 1 preseason, winning as much as they have the last five or six years? I’m fine with it. I voted for them. It’s where they should be.”

The Nittany Lions have won six of the last eight national championships and are 270-23 since 2007. The “down” years were 2012, when they lost in the national semifinals, and 2011, when they lost in the regional semifinals.

Coach Russ Rose, entering his 37th season at Penn State and the all-time winningest Division I coach, said there’s no secret to his ongoing success.

“Culture impacts things, and a university enables you to compete at a high level,” he said, “but at the end it comes down to the kids who are in uniform and how they handle all the noise and all the challenges that are in front of them.”

also

■ South Dakota Volleyball Program Preps To Open 2015 Season.

THURSDAY

which lost to the Lions in the NCAA semifinals last year after beating them in five sets in the regular season, bring back first-team All-Americans in Madi Bugg and Jordan Burgess and a second-team pick in Merete Lutz. Stanford also signed the nation’s No. 1 recruit in Hayley Hodson.

Ajanaku’s absence will force Dunning to adjust his offensive strategy. Last year, no team set the middle as much as the Cardinal did with Ajanaku.

The Cardinal will be challenged early, opening at home this weekend against Texas A&M and Minnesota and playing Illinois and Penn State in State College, Pennsylvania, next week.

Penn State no longer has American Volleyball Coaches Association national player of the year Micha Hancock, fellow All-American Nia Grant and regulars Dominique Gonzalez and

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