

Physical Watertown Holds Off Gazelles 34-28



RICH REMMERS/WATERTOWN PUBLIC OPINION
Yankton's Becky Frick (22) grabs a loose ball in front of Watertown's Shayli Kirsch (3) as Yankton's Andi Sprakel looks on.

WATERTOWN — The Yankton Gazelles fought back from a 20-7 deficit, but ran out of gas down the stretch as Watertown beat Yankton 34-28 in Eastern South Dakota Conference girls' basketball action on Friday at the Watertown Civic Arena.

Watertown held the Gazelles to seven points through the first two and a half quarters before Yankton went on a 13-0 run to tie the game early in the fourth quarter. Yankton took a 27-26 lead before the Arrows took control down the stretch.

"Watertown is an older, more physical squad and, for two and a half quarters, they pushed us around," said Yankton head coach Doug Pesicka. "I take my hat off to our kids. They were able to battle back and take a lead.

"To me, that's a positive sign." Ashtin McClemons and Mandy Tetzlaff each had eight points for Watertown. Tetzlaff also had five rebounds.

For Yankton, Kelsey Fitzgerald led the way with 13 points and seven rebounds. Morgan Tessier had seven points and seven rebounds.

Yankton will look for its first victory of the season on Tuesday at home, facing a veteran Sioux Falls Washington club. For the Gazelles, who due to injury have one player who saw significant playing time a year ago in the rotation, growth cannot be assessed solely on wins and losses.

"We know we're a work in progress," Pesicka said. "We've told our players that how we are going to guage our success is on how much we improve

"There are moments where we look like we have a lot to do, but there are moments that give us a feeling of hope."

Watertown claimed the JV game 58-19 behind 14 points from Danielle Gottsleben. Sarah Rockne led Yankton with seven points.

Yankton took the sophomore game 44-34. Danielle Schmidt scored a game-high 16 points and grabbed five rebounds for Yankton. Jaclyn Arens also had five rebounds for the Gazelles. Tatum Hemiller led Watertown with eight points and five rebounds.

Watertown claimed freshmen game 44-26. For Yankton. Kate Weinandt had seven points and Sophie Drotzmann had seven rebounds.

YANKTON (0-2)
Brianna Newman 0-1 0-0 0, Andi Sprakel 0-4 1-2 1, Jessica Wirth 0-2 0-0 0, Becky Frick 1-1 1-2 3, Kelsey Fitzgerald 5-12 3-5 13, Morgan Tessier 3-6 0-0 7, Kelsey Butler 1-3 2-2 4. Totals 10-29 7-11 28.

WATERTOWN (1-0)
Shayli Kirsch 2-6 0-0 5, Elli Stevenson 1-6 1-3 4, Danielle Duncan 1-4 0-0 2, Logan Kludd 0-1 0-2 0, Emily Pengilly 3-10 0-0 7, Ashtin McClemons 4-12 0-0 8, Mandy Tetzlaff 4-9 0-1 8. Totals 15-48 1-6 34.

YANKTON.....7 7 15 28
WATERTOWN.....5 12 20 34

Three-point goals — Yankton (Tessier), Watertown 3 (Pengilly, Kirsch, Stevenson). Total fouls — Yankton 15, Watertown 15. Fouled out — None. FG Shooting — Yankton 10-29 (35 percent), Watertown 15-48 (31 percent). Rebounds — Yankton 28 (Fitzgerald 7, Tessier 7), Watertown 22 (Tetzlaff 5). Turnovers — Yankton 9, Watertown 6.

Bloomfield Downs 'Cats

BLOOMFIELD, Neb. — Autumn Luger led Bloomfield in a girls' basketball victory against Winside 36-25 in Friday night basketball action in Bloomfield.

Luger put up 15 points, six rebounds, four steals and one assist. Philomena Lammers had eight points, 11 rebounds and two steals, while Ashley Fiedler made seven points, six assists, six steals and two rebounds.

For Winside, Nazya Thies had five points on the night and Malory Stubbs had six points.

Bloomfield faces Niobrara-Verdigre at home today (Saturday) and Winside will hit the road to play Bancroft-Rosalie.

WINSIDE.....4 11 15 25
BLOOMFIELD.....12 24 30 36

Wakefield 47, Wausa 33

WAUSA, Neb. — Wakefield used a big third quarter to seal a 47-33 victory over Wausa on Friday night in Nebraska girls' basketball action.

Wakefield outscored the Lady Vikings 21-7 in the third frame, which was enough to ensure that they would win their second game of the season. They were led by Lauren Lehmkuhl who scored 24 points in the win.

Wausa had no players in double figures but Brittanii Clausen scored eight while Abbi Hegge added six points and six other Lady Vikings scored at least two.

Wausa, 1-3, travels to Tilden to take on Elkhorn Valley today (Saturday) at 6:15 p.m.

WAKEFIELD (2-1).....5 20 41 47
WAUSA (1-3).....7 16 23 33

Beresford 71, Bon Homme 31

TYNDALL — Beresford outscored Bon Homme 53-23 after the first quarter to take a convincing 71-31 victory over the Cavaliers in Class A girls' basketball action on Friday night in Tyndall.

Senior Taryn Twite recorded a double-double with 17 points and 10 rebounds to lead the Watchdogs. Fellow senior Alyson Johnsen chipped in 13 points and eight assists while Hayley Hansen was also in double figures with 10 points.

For Bon Homme, who fell to 1-1, junior Kelsey Sutera scored 10 points and grabbed seven rebounds.

Beresford, 2-0, plays at Dakota Valley on Monday while Bon Homme will travel to Vermillion on Tuesday to take on the Tanagers.

Beresford also win the JV contest (45-22) and the C-Game (36-26).

BERESFORD (2-0).....18 38 58 71
BON HOMME (1-1).....8 16 22 31

Harrisburg 74, Vermillion 24

VERMILLION — With nine points, four rebounds and three assists, Morgan Krier led the Harrisburg Tigers in a win against the Vermillion Tanagers 74-24 in Vermillion.

Danni Honner had 11 points for the night, while Brittany Blakney made 10 points.

For the Tanagers, Josie Huber put up 15 points and Brooke Schwainger had five points. Blaire Gilykion also contributed four assists, four steals and two rebounds.

Vermillion travels to face Bon Homme on Tuesday, and the Tigers will host Winner today (Saturday).

HARRISBURG (2-0).....18 38 55 74
VERMILLION (0-1).....7 13 22 24

Parkston 61, Tea Area 33

PARKSTON — The Parkston Pheasants defeated the Tea Area Lady Titans 61-33 Friday night in Parkston.

Erica Herrold had a total of 12 points and 14 rebounds for the night, and Justine Alley had 11 points. Sadie Schoenfelder also contributed six points and 11 rebounds.

For the Lady Titans, Amanda Haasch had 13 points and Kandyn Roemen had 15 rebounds.

Parkston travels to Hanson on Monday, while Tea Area faces Deubrook Area at home today (Saturday).

Andes Central 39, Colome 21

LAKE ANDES — Andes Central jumped out to a 12-4 first-quarter lead and never looked back as they easily defeated Colome 39-21 on Thursday night in Class B, District 12 girls' basketball action.

Senior guard Kellie Winckler led the Lady Eagles with a double-double, scoring 19 points and grabbing 11 rebounds while also finishing the game with five assists, three steals and five blocks. Andes Central shot 48 percent from the field as a team.

For the Cowgirls, senior Tiffany Hauf scored nine points as Colome made only nine of fifty-four shots from the field.

Andes Central, 2-0, hosts Mitchell Christian on Friday.

Colome, 0-2, hosts Marty on Tuesday.

COLOME (0-2).....4 14 18 21
ANDES CENTRAL (2-0).....12 18 35 39

Arrows Stop Bucks In Opener

Heiser Scores 18 In 63-35 WHS Win

BY JEREMY HOECK

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If there were questions coming into the new season for the Yankton Bucks basketball team with a new starting lineup and a new coach, one key question was answered after the opener.

Where do the Bucks need to improve?

"At least we learned where we're at and where we need to get better," said first-year head coach Chris Haynes, whose new-look squad dropped a 63-35 contest to Watertown in Friday night's debut at the Summit Center.

"We've got a long way to go, that's for sure."

It figured to be anything but easy for the Bucks (0-1), who had to replace five starters. Between breaking in a new offense and working on the on-court chemistry at the same time, there were plenty of debuts to go around.

"The first one is always the most stressful," said junior Landon Breen, who led with 10 points, all after halftime. "You want to come out and play well, especially for your coach. It was nerve-wracking."

Watertown, on the other hand, had no such experience or offensive issues.

The Arrows (1-0), who got a game-high 18 points from first team All-State guard Tanner Heiser, drained eight three-pointers on the night and never trailed.

"There's always a bunch of questions in the first game, and hopefully we answered a couple," Watertown coach Brian Norberg said. "Getting a win like this on the road is always a good thing."

Despite a festive pre-game atmosphere for the debut of Haynes and the new-look Bucks, the hometown squad never really found any rhythm and struggled to score.

By the time someone other than Andrew Hummel — who made the first two baskets — scored for the Bucks, the Arrows were already up 12-6. The Watertown cushion reached 16-9 after one quarter and quickly reached double figures in the second quarter.

The Arrows drained three of their five 3's in the frame, and looked the part of an experienced team. Yankton, meanwhile, played like a first game for a bunch of new starters — there were around 10 turnovers and just one made jump shot in the opening half.

"I didn't think we competed to the level you need in this conference, on both ends," Haynes said. "We didn't get out on shooters, and Watertown did pretty much whatever it wanted."

A 20-4 run from 2:13 left in the second quarter to the 2:10 mark of the third quarter ballooned the Watertown lead to 26, and the Bucks never got it under 20.

Ryan Olson sank a three-pointer at the third-quarter buzzer, but the 21-point deficit ultimately proved too much to overcome — especially given the way the Arrows were shooting.

"They were lights out shooting," Breen said. "I didn't think we played bad defense, but credit to them, they hit those shots and we didn't."

Brody Ries and Trever Jutting finished with nine points apiece for Watertown, which will take its hot three-point shooting to Aberdeen Central next Tuesday.

"I thought we took a few too many threes than I'd prefer," Norberg said. "We have to find more balance. Yankton did a good job taking away our inside, so that's something we have to work on."

Hummel finished with eight points before leaving with an ankle injury early in the third quarter, while Olson had six points. J.J. Hejna scored four points, while Troy Hunhoff, Kellen Soulek, Brady Hale and Michael Rucker also found the score sheet.

Although the Bucks kick off a four-game road swing tonight (Saturday) at Brandon Valley, there is one piece of good news to come out of Friday night's performance.

"The best news is that we can forget about this one right away," Haynes said. "We'll go lick our wounds and be ready to get back at it."

Yankton won the JV game 40-39 behind 10 points from Lane Sawatzke, Chipper Granflaten and Brady Hale. Tanner Termansen and Derek Brenner both grabbed five rebounds. Nate DeSpiegler led the Arrows with nine points and seven rebounds.

Watertown won the sophomore game 47-44 behind 11 points from Hunter Wokey. Yankton got 16 points from Austin Johnson, who hit five threes, and 10 points from Luke Rockne.

The Arrows were victorious in both freshman games, 45-40 in the 'A' contest and 44-32 in the 'B' showdown. Reid Sawatzke led the Bucks 'A' team with 13 points, while Levi Schmidt scored nine points in the 'B' game.

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



JAMES D. CIMBUREK/P&D
Yankton's Ryan Olson goes up for a shot during the first quarter of the Bucks' Eastern South Dakota Conference and season opener against Watertown on Friday at the Summit Center.

Viborg-Hurley Boys Escape Freeman In Opener

FREEMAN — With 26 points, Trevor Jacobsen led the Viborg-Hurley Cougars in a season-opening boys' basketball win against the Freeman Flyers 72-71 on Friday night.

Jack Huether had 17 points on the night and Andrew Hora put up 13 points and eight rebounds.

For the Flyers, Jordan Rinehart had 23 points, while Shaun Becker had 17 points and eight rebounds for the night. Cole Paulson made 16 points and Caleb Lang recorded 10 points and eight rebounds.

Freeman hosts Bon Hoomie on Monday and the Cougars face Scotland in Hurley.

VIBORG-HURLEY (1-0).....20 37 55 72
FREEMAN (0-1).....9 30 52 71

Alcester-Hudson 42, Freeman Academy 41

FREEMAN — With 15 points and 11 rebounds, Grant Johnson led the Alcester-Hudson Cubs in a 42-41 win against the Freeman Academy Bobcats in Friday night basketball action.

Alcester-Hudson's Mitchell Johnson added 11 rebounds in the game.

For the Bobcats, Noah Yoder had 13 points, Ben Tarlson added nine points, and Gabriel Iesenbeis had nine points and nine rebounds.

Alcester-Hudson will face Parker on Thursday in Parker, and the Bobcats travel to Ramona to play Oldham-Ramona-Rutland today (Saturday).

ALCESTER-HUDSON (1-0).....11 18 32 42

FREEMAN ACADEMY (0-1).....10 18 29 41

Bon Homme 57, Beresford 50

TYNDALL — Juniors Mike Mesman and Scott Van Winkle each scored 14 points to lead Bon Homme to a season-opening victory over Beresford on Friday night in Tyndall. The Cavaliers led 40-39 entering the fourth quarter but outscored Beresford 17-11 in that final period to seal the 57-50 victory.

Junior Austin Meester led the Watchdogs with 19 points and nine rebounds while Kory Diefendorf added 10 points.

Beresford won the JV game (39-35) while Bon Homme claimed the C-Game (47-17).

Bon Homme, 1-0, plays at Free-

man on Monday. Beresford, 0-1, hosts Dell Rapids on Tuesday.

BERESFORD (0-1).....8 25 39 50
BON HOMME (1-0).....12 28 40 57

Wausa 56, Wakefield 46

WAUSA, Neb. — The Wausa Vikings improved to 4-0 early in their 2012-2013 season with a 56-46 victory on Wakefield on Friday night in Nebraska boys' basketball action.

Austin Conn used a 9-10 free throw effort to score 15 points for the Vikings while teammate Reid Friedrich also chipped in 15 points. Marcus Clausen was also in double figures for the Vikings, finishing the game with 14 points.

The Vikings trailed 13-10 after one quarter but outscored Wakefield 46-33 the rest of the way.

Wakefield won the JV game.

Wausa plays at Elkhorn Valley today (Saturday).

WAKEFIELD (2-1).....13 23 35 46
WAUSA (4-0).....10 28 40 56

Vermillion 56, Harrisburg 49

VERMILLION — Vermillion held Harrisburg to just eight points in the fourth quarter of Friday night's game to overcome a late deficit and rally for the 56-49 victory in season opener for both squads.

Trailing 41-37 entering the fourth quarter, the Tanagers outscored the Tigers 19-8 in the final period to move to 1-0 on the year. Senior J.T. Sorensen scored 17 points and grabbed eight rebounds to lead the Tanagers while