

Press & Dakotan DAILY DOSE

Daily opinions from the P&D Sports Staff on local and national high school, college and pro sports.



BY JEREMY HOECK
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A Westward Adventure To Rapid City...

By the time you read this, I'll be on my way to Rapid City. Not for state volleyball or state basketball or state track. But for a University of South Dakota basketball doubleheader. Sounds strange, right? At the basic level, yes, it's a unique situation. USD decided that it wanted to tap into the West River market, and one of the ideas that was generated was moving a basketball doubleheader to the largest city on that side of the state. By doing that, you almost had to move two games. One 2-hour game wouldn't get the job done; you wouldn't draw a crowd that would make the effort worth it. But by having two games, you naturally bring in more families — let's face it, people prefer doubleheaders. Moving home games is not a new concept at USD, though. As you remember, the Coyotes played North Dakota State in Sioux Falls last year. Many have argued about that decision ever since, not even just about the 54-0 rout by the Bison.

And then USD was forced to move a women's basketball home game this season to the Sanford Pentagon because the DakotaDome football turf was still down. That was known well in advance, but it still made for an interesting change. Now comes Rapid City. That's a whole different endeavor. Now you're moving two games five hours away. There are certainly more details to iron out with such a decision — we detailed many of those in Friday's story. It's definitely not the easiest trip to make if you're a beat writer, but nonetheless, I will be out there to cover the doubleheader. You'll be able to find updates on my Twitter account (@jhoeck) and full coverage in Monday's paper. Put simply, I wouldn't have made the trip if USD moved one game. But by having two games out there with plenty of story lines, you almost had to go. Once I'm out there, I'll feel more comfortable talking about the "success" or "disappointment" of moving two home games away from Vermillion. I've tried not to formulate a try opinion either way, other than I find it to be an interesting idea. You almost wonder if USD would consider it again, or if another school — perhaps South Dakota State — would undertake such an effort.

MMC Student-Athletes Earn NAIA Honors

Nine student-athletes from Mount Marty College, including five from the volleyball team, were recognized as All-America Scholar Athletes as the NAIA announced honors for soccer and volleyball on Friday. Volleyball honorees for MMC included senior Emily Schreuer (Alcester) and juniors Kristen Boyer (Norfolk, Neb.), Laura Groseth (Corsica), Caitlyn Ilig (Sioux Falls) and Courtney Miller (Mitchell). The four S.D. athletes make up half of the student-athletes native to South Dakota who received the honor in volleyball. The MMC women's soccer team had three honorees, seniors Julie (MF/D) and Jennifer (GK/F) Nelson (Plattsmouth, Neb.) and junior defender Alexandra Rojas (Wahoo, Neb.). James Elliott, a junior infielder from Lake Norden, was honored from the men's team. To be honored, a student-athlete must be a junior or senior academically, and have a 3.5 or bet-

SDSU's Heemstra Nominated For Good Works Team

INDIANAPOLIS — The National Association of Basketball Coaches (NABC), the Women's Basketball Coaches Association (WBCA) and Allstate Insurance Company announced the 2013 nominees for the 2014 Allstate NABC and WBCA Good Works Teams this week, and list that includes South Dakota State senior forward Marcus Heemstra. "We're very happy that Marcus received this nomination from the NABC," head coach Scott Nagy said. "We know what kind of person he is, what kind of basketball player he is and what he does in the community, so he's very deserving of this nomination." The award recognizes a select group of college basketball student-athletes who make significant contributions to the greater good of their communities through volunteerism and civic service.

In its second year, the Allstate NABC and WBCA Good Works Teams honor players at all levels of college basketball who represent the sport's finest in the areas of leadership and charitable achievements amongst their peers. The student-athletes nominated for this prestigious award embody the true spirit of teamwork and giving back. In addition to serving on the SAAC Leadership team in past seasons and working at Harvest Table in Brookings, Heemstra joined his teammates for a weeklong trip to Haiti last summer, where they distributed shoes and food to needy children and families.

DWU-Morningside Doubleheader Rescheduled For Feb. 3

SIoux CITY, Iowa — The Great Plains Athletic Conference basketball doubleheader featuring Dakota Wesleyan at Morningside, originally sched-

uled for Wednesday, has been rescheduled for Monday, Feb. 3, in Sioux City, Iowa.

The women's game will start at 6 p.m., with the men's game to be played at 8 p.m. The makeup date is just five days after the two teams have their other scheduled meeting, Jan. 29 in Mitchell.

Kobe Bryant Scheduled To Return To Lineup Sunday

EL SEGUNDO, Calif. (AP) — The Lakers expect to have Kobe Bryant back in their lineup when they face the Toronto Raptors on Sunday. The team posted a dramatic video on its Facebook page Friday indicating Bryant will be back Dec. 8. Bryant hasn't played this season while recovering from surgery in April on a torn Achilles tendon. Los Angeles signed the fourth-leading scorer in NBA history to a two-year contract extension last week. Bryant's new deal is reportedly worth \$48.5 million and takes him into his 20th season with the Lakers.

Temple To Cut 7 Sports, Including Baseball, Rowing

PHILADELPHIA (AP) — Temple University will cut seven varsity sports next year, including baseball, softball and men's crew, to save \$3 million and address gender gaps among its distribution of scholarship money. Nine coaches will lose their jobs, and more than 150 returning student-athletes will be affected, school officials said Friday. "We tried everything possible to avoid doing what we're doing today," said Athletic Director Kevin Clark, who addressed a room full of tearful athletes earlier in the day. "I feel like I'm taking their dreams away." However, he called it the right thing to do given a \$44 million budget for 24 varsity programs. Seven of those teams — five male and two female — will be cut in the 2013-2014 school year. The others are men's indoor and outdoor track and field, women's rowing and men's gymnastics.

SCOREBOARD

VOLLEYBALL

YANKTON PARKS & REC
WOMEN'S POWER LEAGUE
RESULTS: Skiers def. Surgeon Generals 2-1 21-10, 24-22, 16-21; JRD def. Drotzmann Construction 3-0 21-13, 21-15, 21-18; It Works! def. Schonebaum Construction (forfeit).
STANDINGS: JRD 4-0, Drotzmann Construction 3-1, Surgeon Generals 2-2, Schonebaum Construction 1-3, It Works! 1-3, Skiers 1-3.
WOMEN'S COMPETITIVE LEAGUE
RESULTS: Stammin' Hot def. The Associates 2-1 21-12, 12-21, 21-17; Walnut def. First Dakota Bank 2-1 21-10, 22-20, 19-21; New Pond & Landscaping def. Jo Dean's 3-0 21-7, 21-6, 21-8; Shoombs def. Jo Dean's 2-1 16-21, 22-24, 21-11; Mojo's def. TNT 2-1 16-21, 21-13, 21-15; Becker Body/JJ Benji's def. JJ Benji's 2-2 19-21, 21-16, 21-8; Bud Bumpers def. Shoombs 2-1 15-21, 21-10, 21-13; Yankton Motorsports def. Don't Bump to Strangers 3-1, New Pond & Landscaping 3-1, Bud Bumpers 3-1, Shoombs 3-2, Walnut 2-2, Becker Body/JJ Benji's 2-2, The Associates 1-3, JJ Benji's 1-3, Mojo's 1-3, TNT 1-3, Jo Dean's 1-4, First Dakota Bank 0-4.
WOMEN'S RECREATIONAL LEAGUE
RESULTS: Steven's Construction Hot Mess def. Riverside Outlets 2-1 21-12, 21-18, 15-21; Riverside Outlets def. Lady Rangers 2-1 21-14, 21-11, 21-13; Lewis & Clark Specialty Hospital def. Czeckers 3-0 21-15, 21-5, 21-11.
STANDINGS: Steven's Construction Hot Mess 4-0, Riverside Outlets 3-1, Lewis & Clark Specialty Hospital 3-1, Riverside Authority 2-2, Czeckers 0-4, Lady Rangers 0-4.

BASKETBALL

YANKTON PARKS & REC
MEANS COMPETITIVE LEAGUE
RESULTS: Flint Tropics def. Nash Potatoes 103-52; Neighborhood Dental/Kaiser Heating and Cooling def. Ben's Brewing Company 116-56.
STANDINGS: Flint Tropics 1-0, Neighborhood Dental-Kaiser Heating and Cooling 1-0, Nash Potatoes 0-1, Ben's Brewing Company 0-1, Hom Law Office 0-0.
FRIDAY'S NEB. BOYS
Aquinus 54, Raymond Central 45, Arapahoe 31, Hayes Center 23, Arcadia-Loup City 58, Pleasanton 27, Bancroft-Rosalie 68, Omaha Christian Academy 50, Bertrand 74, Axtell 67, Diller-Odell 37, Humboldt/Table Rock-Steinauer 14, Exeter/Milligan 47, Osceola 39, Fairbury 64, Lincoln Christian 50, Franklin 31, Harvard 20, Friend 50, Sutton 50, Garden County 52, Banner County 23, Gilmer 51, High Plains Community 42, Gretha 60, Elkhorn South 55, OT Heartland 48, Wilber-Clatonia 26, Hershey 37, Galtenburg 15.

WESTERN CONFERENCE TOURNAMENT CONSOLIDATION SEMINAR

Scottsbluff 53, Mitchell 42
Semifinal
Omaha Skut Catholic 61, Chadron 60
Torrington, Wyo. 53, Gering 48
FOOTBALL
NCAA FCS PLAYOFFS
Second Round, Saturday, Dec. 7
Fordham (12-2) at Towson (10-2), noon
Coastal Carolina (11-2) at Montana (10-2), 1 p.m.
New Hampshire (8-4) at Maine (10-2), 1 p.m.
Tennessee State (10-3) at Eastern Illinois (11-1), 1 p.m.
Furman (8-5) at North Dakota State (11-0), 2:30 p.m.
South Dakota State (9-4) at Eastern Washington (10-2), 3 p.m.
Jacksonville State (10-3) at McNeese State (10-2), 6 p.m.
Sam Houston State (9-4) at Southeastern Louisiana (10-2), 7 p.m.
NCAA DIVISION II PLAYOFFS
Quarterfinals, Saturday, Dec. 7
West Chester (12-1) at Shepherd (11-0), 11 a.m.
North Alabama (10-2) at Lenoir-Rhyne (11-1) vs. 11 a.m.
West Texas A&M (11-2) at Grand Valley State (11-2), noon
St. Cloud State (12-1) at Northwest Missouri State (12-0), noon
NAIA PLAYOFFS
Semifinals, Saturday, Dec. 8
Carroll (Mont.) (12-1) at Cumberland (Ky.) (12-0), 11 a.m.
Morningside (11-1) at Grand View (12-0), 1 p.m.
NATIONAL FOOTBALL LEAGUE
AMERICAN CONFERENCE
East
W L T Pct PF PA
New England 9 3 0 750 312 230
Miami 6 6 0 500 252 248
N.Y. Jets 5 7 0 417 189 310

FRIDAY'S NEB. GIRLS

Bellevue West 67, Kearney 38, Kimball Tournament
Dundy County-Stratton 76, Morrill 29, Western Conference Tournament
Consolation Semifinal
Sidney 79, Alliance 72
FRIDAY'S NEB. GIRLS
Ainsworth 39, Ord 35, Ansley-Litchfield 59, Amherst 25, Arapahoe 47, Hayes Center 34, Aurora 55, Bertrand 29, Axtell 39, Schuyler 49, Bennington 64, Nebraska City 43, Bishop Neumann 71, Archbishop Bergan 15, Blue Hill 64, Doniphan-Trumbull 33, Boone Central-Newman Grove 63, Hartington Cedar Catholic 41, Brady 50, Wauwata-Palisade 44, Bruning-Davenport/Shickley 44, Hampton 32, Burnwell 46, North Central 39, Creek Valley 46, Hyannis 41, Creighton 51, West Holt 34, Crofton 60, Laurel-Concord 46, Deshler 52, Laver-Lake 20, Diller-Odell 59, Humboldt/Table Rock-Steinauer 14, Exeter/Milligan 47, Osceola 39, Fairbury 64, Lincoln Christian 50, Franklin 31, Harvard 20, Friend 50, Sutton 50, Garden County 52, Banner County 23, Gilmer 51, High Plains Community 42, Gretha 60, Elkhorn South 55, OT Heartland 48, Wilber-Clatonia 26, Hershey 37, Galtenburg 15.

Girls

had a total of 14 points, with Tori Claussen adding eight points. Wausa hits the road to face Boyd County in Lynch Saturday, and Plainview travels to play against Elgin Public-Pope John Friday. PLAINVIEW (2-0).....8 25 34 50 WAUSA (0-1).....8 21 32 42

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AMERICAN CONFERENCE
East
W L T Pct PF PA
New England 9 3 0 750 312 230
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Boys

Verdigre and Stuart were tied 21-21. They finished the half still neck and neck with a score of 26-25 to Niobrara-Verdigre. Niobrara took a bigger lead in the third quarter with a score of 46-35. Nick White lead the Niobrara-Verdigre with 21 points. Steven LaPointe added to the score with 8 points. Hayden Liska grabbed 10 rebounds. No stats were reported for Stuart. Niobrara-Verdigre go on the road to Clearwater-Orchard on Friday the 13th. Stuart travels to Santape on Tuesday. NIOBRARA-VERDIGRE (1-0).....21 26 46 53 STUART (0-1).....21 25 35 50

AREA CALENDAR

Saturday, December 7		Sunday, December 8		Monday, December 9	
BASKETBALL, MEN'S USD vs. Wyoming at Rapid City (8:15 p.m., KVHT-FM); MMC at Doane (4 p.m., KYNT-AM)	BASKETBALL, WOMEN'S S.D. Mines vs. USD at Rapid City (6 p.m., KVHT-FM); MMC at Doane (2 p.m., KYNT-AM)	BASKETBALL, BOYS' Cedar Bluffs at Allen; Hartington Cedar Catholic at Homer; O'Neill St. Mary's at Hartington; OA-BCIG at Ponca; Wausa at Boyd County	BASKETBALL, GIRLS' Cedar Bluffs at Allen; O'Neill St. Mary's at Hartington; OA-BCIG at Ponca; Wausa at Boyd County	GYMNASTICS, GIRLS' Sioux Falls Inv. (YHS, 11 a.m.)	HOCKEY, BOYS' JV Sioux Center at Yankton (5 p.m.)
HOCKEY, GIRLS' JV Sioux Center at Yankton (3 p.m.)	HOCKEY, PEE WEE S.F. West at Yankton A (DH, 1:30 & 7 p.m.)	SWIMMING & DIVING, COLLEGE Rochester (Minn.) (USD, 10 a.m.)	TRACK & FIELD, COLLEGE OUTDOOR Fremont Half-Marathon (MMC, 11 a.m.)	WRESTLING, PREP Waterfront Dual Tour. (YHS, 10 a.m.); Canton Dual Tour. (Bon Homme-Scotland, 10 a.m.); Creighton Inv. (Creighton-Verdigre, Crofton, Hartington Cedar Catholic, Laurel-Concord-Coleridge, Parkston, Randolph); Red Rapids Team, (Alcester-Hudson, Benedict, Dakota Valley, Parker, 10 a.m.); Flandreau Inv. (Eik Point-Jefferson, 10 a.m.); Howells-Dodge Inv. (Ponca); Kimball-White Lake Team, at Kimball (Andes Central, Kimball-White Lake-Platte-Geddes, Marion-Freeman, Wagner, 9 a.m.); S.F. Roosevelt Tour. (9 a.m.)	Sunday, December 8 HOCKEY, BOYS' JV Sioux Center at Yankton (1 p.m., KYNT-AM)
HOCKEY, BANTAM Brookings at Yankton A (11 a.m.); Brookings at Yankton B (9 a.m.)	SWIMMING & DIVING, COLLEGE Rochester (Minn.) Inv. (USD, 10 a.m.)	Monday, December 9 BASKETBALL, WOMEN'S York at MMC (6 p.m., KYNT-AM)	BASKETBALL, BOYS' Trinity Grammar at Crofton	GYMNASTICS, GIRLS' J.V.M.S Mitchell at YHS (4 p.m.)	for F Brandon Mashinter, and assigned Mashinter to Rockford (AHL). DALLAS STARS — Placed D Trevor Daley on injured reserve. Reassigned F Travis Morin to Texas (AHL). NEW YORK RANGERS — Recalled F J.T. Miller from Hartford (AHL). TORONTO MAPLE LEAFS — Recalled D John-Michael Liles from Toronto (AHL). COLLEGE AUBURN — Agreed to terms with football coach Gus Malzahn on a six-year contract. DALLAS STARS — Placed D Trevor Daley on injured reserve. Reassigned F Travis Morin to Texas (AHL). NEW YORK RANGERS — Recalled F J.T. Miller from Hartford (AHL). TORONTO MAPLE LEAFS — Recalled D John-Michael Liles from Toronto (AHL). 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