

Gazelles Win In Opener

Yankton Holds Off Arrows 57-54

WATERTOWN — The Yankton Gazelles jumped out to an early lead and kept the Arrows at bay the rest of the night, beating Watertown 57-54 in the girls' basketball and Eastern South Dakota Conference openers for both squads.

"At least it was entertaining. Both teams got up and down the floor," said Yankton head coach Doug Pesicka after the victory. "Both coaches would probably confess that they didn't think they'd score that many points."

Sophomore Sophie Drotzmann scored 13 points to lead a balanced Yankton attack. Freshman Lindsey Hale

netted 11 points, with sophomore Becky Frick adding 10 points in the win. Senior Morgan Tessier grabbed a game-high 11 rebounds.

"We had a lot of kids contribute to the win," Pesicka said. "We did some good things coming out of time outs. We made adjustments and did a good job of executing when we needed to."

Molly DeSpiegler scored a game-high 18 points for Watertown. Danielle Duncan grabbed 10 rebounds.

Yankton is off until its home opener on Dec. 17. The game will open a flurry of action before the Christmas break, as the Gazelles travel to Brandon Valley on Dec. 19

and Sioux Falls Washington on Dec. 20.

Yankton won the sophomore game 46-45 behind 11 points each from Ellie Fedders and Josie Saylor. Brianna Benjamin had five rebounds.

For Watertown, Alexa Gloe scored a game-high 24 points.

Watertown held off Yankton 49-42 in the JV game, behind 11 points from Chelsey Borkhuis and 10 points from Laura Socha.

For Yankton, Benjamin had 10 points and Ashley Van Meeteren posted seven points and five rebounds.

YANKTON (1-0)
Andi Sprakel 3-11 2-4 8, Whitlee Larson 2-10 1-3 5, Anna Gulick 0-1 0-0 0, Lindsey Hale 3-8 4-11 11, Becky Frick 4-6 2-2 10, Kami Comemann 1-1 0-1 2, Morgan Tessier 2-10 4-4 8, Sophie Drotzmann 5-8 3-4 13. Totals 20-55 16-22 57.
WATERTOWN (0-1)
Tatum Hemiller 0-2 0-0 0, Morgan Jurgens 0-0 2-2 2, Macy Denzer 2-5 2-8 6, Elli Stevenson 4-12 0-0 9, Madigan Moore 2-2 0-0 4, Molly DeSpiegler 8-11 2-2

18, Danielle Duncan 2-7 0-2 5, Chelsey Borkhuis 0-1 0-0 0, Logan Kludt 0-2 0-0 0, McKenzie Werner 4-8 0-1 8, Laura Socha 1-1 0-1 2. Totals 23-51 6-16 54.
YANKTON18 34 42 57
WATERTOWN13 31 41 54
Three-point goals — Yankton 1-3 (Hale 1-2, Larson 0-1), Watertown 2-6 (Stevenson 1-2, Duncan 1-4). Total fouls — Yankton 16, Watertown 18. Fouled out — Yankton (Larson), FG Shooting — Yankton 20-55 (36 percent), Watertown 23-51 (45 percent). Rebounds — Yankton 26 (Tessier 11), Watertown 32 (Duncan 10). Turnovers — Yankton 21, Watertown 23.

Pesicka At QB Club

The Yankton Quarterback Club will meet Wednesday at noon at the Elks Lodge, 504 West 27th Street, Yankton.

This week's speaker is Yankton girls' basketball coach Doug Pesicka, who will talk about the Gazelles and their ongoing season. Yankton opens the 2013-14 season at Watertown today (Tuesday).

The public is invited to attend.



RICH REMMERS/WATERTOWN PUBLIC OPINION
Yankton's Andi Sprakel drives around Watertown's Macy Denzer during their ESD girls' basketball game on Tuesday in Watertown.

USD Pounds Panthers

BY JEREMY HOECK

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VERMILLION — If Creighton was the turning point, the University of South Dakota women have sprinted around the corner.

To the tune of four straight wins and four games of 80-plus points on offense.

"Coach always talks about that we're slowly turning the corner, and I think it's true," said junior Raeshel Contreras, who scored a game-high 21 points in USD's 87-67 rout of Northern Iowa on Tuesday night at the DakotaDome.

Since a 48-point outing at Creighton two weeks ago, the Coyotes (6-5) have scored 82, 81, 81 and 87 points — with three of those wins against Division I teams.

"We're finally all getting to know each other's personnel, who can do this and who can come off the bench," Contreras, one of those reserves, added.

As has been the case during its stretch, USD has gotten big contributions from a number of players. Four reached double figures Tuesday, with Contreras, Polly Harrington (18), Tia Hemiller (11) and Margaret McCloud (10).

For good measure, the Coyotes also out-rebounded the Panthers 44-28.

"We're just starting to click. The chemistry is starting to be there now," Harrington

ton said. "The younger kids are starting to get to the know the system and starting to know everything."

"Everything is just fusing together."

Although one of the key stats surrounding the program is that USD is now 18-2 over the past two seasons when scoring at least 70 points, defense is the catalyst, according to head coach Amy Williams.

"I certainly don't think we'll ever hang our hat on scoring 80 plus points," Williams said. "That's nice when we do it, and we become difficult to guard, but we're going to need to hang our hat on playing great defense."

Northern Iowa (3-7) — which lost by 36 points at South Dakota earlier this season — was ultimately done in by poor shooting in the first half.

Although the Coyotes started 2-of-11 from the field, they used a 15-2 run to build a double digit cushion. The Panthers, meanwhile, never got going in the first half. They were 14-of-32 from the field.

In a second half that was really never in jeopardy (the closest UNI got was within 11), the Coyotes kept up the pressure on the glass. Six players had at least four rebounds, led by Lisa Loeffler



JAMES D. CIMBUREK/P&D
South Dakota's Raeshel Contreras, 23, is fouled by Northern Iowa's Brooke Brown, 22, as Contreras went in for a shot during their women's basketball game on Tuesday at the DakotaDome.

Kansas State Men Escape Coyotes 64-62

MANHATTAN, Kan. (AP) — Marcus Foster had 18 points and Shane Southwell contributed 17 points and six rebounds as Kansas State beat South Dakota 64-62 on Tuesday night.

Kansas State (6-3) overcame a poor second-half performance from the foul line to top the Coyotes. While holding a 63-62 lead with 2 seconds left, Thomas Gipson converted on the first of two free throws to seal the victory.

Trevor Gruis matched his season high with 18 points for South Dakota (3-6), while Adam Thoseby added a season-high 16.

South Dakota opened strong, charging to a 15-4 lead with 10:59 remaining in the first half. Having returned four of its five starters from last season, the Coyotes used their experience to punish a depleted Kansas State frontcourt with 16 points in the paint in the first half.

The Wildcats twice cut the lead to three but South Dakota maintained a five-point advantage at the break.

Foster's 4-for-7 shooting from 3-point range kept Kansas State within breathing range.

But the Coyotes limited the defending Big 12 champions to 32 percent shooting in the first half while also forcing 11 turnovers.

Having seen limited offense before the break, Gipson opened up the second half with two consecutive baskets while Omari Lawrence added two of his nine second-half points.

Neither team was able to stake its claim on the lead as the second half alone carried 17 lead changes and four ties.

A 3-pointer from Southwell gave the Wildcats a 59-57 advantage with 4:52 left. The Wildcats held the lead for the remainder of the contest.

Maintaining its edge on rebounding proved to be crucial for the Wildcats. Four different players grabbed at least five rebounds including Gipson leading the way with eight.

South Dakota attempted to close the gap by putting

Yankton Wrestlers Go 2-1 At Lennox

LENNOX — The Yankton Bucks went 2-1, beating Lincoln 53-27 and host Lennox 50-27 in a wrestling quadrangular at Lennox on Tuesday.

Washington handed the Bucks their only setback, a 42-39 decision. In that matchup, Vornhagen (103) and Casey Skillingstad (145) won by pin.

Spencer Huber (132), Jordan Lucht (152), Ryan Sternhagen (160) and Cody Hanzlik (170) won by pin for Yankton in the victory over Lincoln. Skillingstad won by technical fall.

Against Lennox, Skillingstad, Lucht and Hanzlik won by pin. Noah Vetter won by technical fall.

The Bucks, now 3-5 on the season, travel to Vermillion for a quadrangular on Friday. The Bucks will face Brandon Valley and Dakota Valley in addition to the Tanagers in the event, which begins at 5:30 p.m.

WASHINGTON 42, YANKTON 39 — 106 — Vornhagen Y pin. Sebasta SFW 0:46; 113 — Erickson Y by forfeit; 120 — Vetter Y dec. O'Connor SFW 11:4; 126 — Lucht Y by forfeit; 132 — Huber Y by forfeit; 138 — Bruegman Y by forfeit; 145 — Skillingstad Y pin. Fitzsimmons SFW 1:32; 152 — Freese SFW pin. Lucht Y 3:59; 160 — Reiter SFW pin. Sternhagen Y 1:50; 170 — Simpson SFW pin. Darcy Y 3:32; 182 — York SFW pin. Hanzlik Y 5:06; 195 — Marietta SFW pin. Folkers Y 3:56; 220 — Crisp-Peterson SFW by forfeit; 285 — Vroman SFW by forfeit.

YANKTON 53, LINCOLN 27 — 106 — Vornhagen Y by forfeit; 113 — Bedell SFL by forfeit; 120 — Lacy Y by forfeit; 126 — Vetter Y by forfeit; 132 — Huber Y pin. Boas SFL 1:29; 138 — Castilleja SFL pin. Bruegman Y 1:51; 145 — Skillingstad Y tech. fall. Jamison SFL 17:2; 152 — Lucht Y pin. Paulson SFL 1:15; 160 — Sternhagen Y pin. Sudeuga SFL 0:53; 170 — Hanzlik Y pin. Williams SFL 1:17; 182 — Lynde Y by forfeit; 195 — Westly SFL dec. Folkers Y 7:5; 220 — Bakari SFL pin. Hanzlik Y 4:39; 285 — Sylasa SFL pin. Binder Y 2:44.
YANKTON 50, LENNOX 27 — 106 — Vornhagen Y beat

Hanzlik L 7:4; 113 — Stoebner L by forfeit; 120 — Vetter Y tech. fall. Halouska L 19:4; 126 — Lucht Y by forfeit; 132 — Mazourek L dec. Huber Y 12:9; 138 — Stein L pin. Bruegman Y 4:3; 145 — Skillingstad Y pin. Olland L 0:39; 152 — Lucht Y pin. Kock L 5:0; 160 — Kiose L pin. Sternhagen Y 1:54; 170 — Hanzlik Y pin. Ford L 2:48; 182 — Lynde Y by forfeit; 195 — Folkers Y by forfeit; 220 — Hanzlik Y by forfeit; 285 — Dewitt L pin. Binder Y 5:4.

Sioux Valley Quad

VOLGA — The Howard Tigers went 3-0 in a wrestling quad hosted by Sioux Valley on Tuesday.

The Tigers beat host Sioux Valley 42-27, Mount Vernon-Plankinton-Corsica 48-24 and Marion-Freeman 48-24 on the day. MVPC went 2-1, beating Sioux Valley 54-28 and Marion-Freeman 48-16. Host Sioux Valley downed Marion-Freeman 48-24 in the other match on the night.

Minnesota Beats SDSU 75-59

MINNEAPOLIS (AP) — Austin Hollins scored 20 points and grabbed a career-high 14 rebounds as Minnesota pulled away from South Dakota State for a 75-59 victory Tuesday night.

DeAndre Mathieu added 15 points, and Elliott Eliason had 10 points, 12 rebounds and two blocks for the Gophers (9-2), who had 21 assists and only seven turnovers. They held a 40-30 rebounding advantage.

Jordan Dykstra led the Jackrabbits (4-7) with 16 points and 16 rebounds, and Chad White added 15 points.

The Gophers had a special guest behind their bench, with coach Richard Pitino's father, Rick Pitino, wearing a maroon-and-gold scarf over a matching Minnesota jacket and shirt. The Louisville coach took advantage of a night off to travel north and support his son's new team, and he loved every bit the coach in his seat, clapping emphatically, in-

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