



MIKE CARROLL/HURON PLAINSMAN

Yankton's Kelsey Butler puts up a shot against Huron's Calla Rounds during their game Thursday at Huron Arena.

Huron Avenges Loss To Gazelles 48-43

HURON — The Huron Tigers held Yankton to 26 shooting in the first half and jumped out to a 25-12 halftime lead on the way to a 48-43 victory over the Gazelles in Eastern South Dakota Conference girls' basketball action on Tuesday.

The victory avenged Huron's 46-39 loss to Yankton on Jan. 3, which was the Gazelles' first win of the season. It also ended the Tigers' seven-game losing streak.

Jacey Hupp was the lone player in double figures for Huron, going 4-5 from the field to score 11 points off the bench for the Tigers. Katelyn Allerdings grabbed 11 rebounds and had three steals. Jazmin Newton scored nine points in the victory.

For Yankton, Morgan Tessier scored 12 points and eight rebounds. Mikala Hora had 11 points and six steals. Kelsey Fitzgerald had nine rebounds and four steals.

Yankton shot just 3-26 from the field and 0-5 from outside in the first half.

"We didn't shoot well in the first half," said Yankton head coach Doug Pesicka. "I think we had a much better effort in the second half."

Both teams face Brandon Valley next. Yankton, 3-11 overall and 3-7 in the ESD, travels to Brandon Valley today (Friday).

"It doesn't get any easier going to Brandon Valley," Pesicka said. "Hopefully we get on the bus ready to play a basketball game when we go to Brandon Valley."

Huron, 3-14 overall and 3-8 in the ESD, hosts the Lynx on Saturday.

Huron won the sophomore game 45-19. For Yankton, Brianna Benjamin had five points.

Yankton rolled to a 48-27 victory in the freshman game. Haley Schild led the Gazelles with nine points. Kate Weinandt and Ashley Van Meeteren each had eight points in the victory.

YANKTON (3-11)
Andi Sprakel 2-7 0-0 4, Mikala Hora 5-11 1-1 11, Kelsey Fitzgerald 0-10 5-6 5, Morgan Tessier 3-10 6-9 12, Kelsey Butler 1-5 0-2 2, Brianna Newman 0-0 0-0 0, Whitelee Larson 2-3 1-2 5, Jessica Wirth 0-1 0-0 0, Becky Frick 2-5 0-0 4. TOTALS: 15-52 13-20 43.

HURON (3-14)
Brittany Steffen 1-3 1-4 3, MaKayla Goergen 2-5 0-0 5, Sarah Carr 1-3 4-6 6, Jazmin Newton 3-4 1-3 9, Katelyn Allerdings 2-2 4-6, Taya Butterfield 0-0 0-0 0, Jacey Hupp 4-5 3-4 11, Levi Eckmann 0-0 0-0 0, Bailey Rathjen 2-6 1-2 7, Calla Rounds 0-1 1-2 1. TOTALS: 15-29 13-25 48.

YANKTON 4 12 28 43
HURON 11 25 38 48

Three-Pointers: H 5-12 (Newton 2-2, Rathjen 2-5, Goergen 1-2, Hupp 0-1, Steffen 0-2), Y 0-8 (Sprakel 0-1, Butler 0-1, Larson 0-1, Wirth 0-1, Hora 0-2, Tessier 0-2). Rebounds: H 35 (Allerdings 11), Y 30 (Fitzgerald 9). Personal Fouls: Y 19, H 16. Fouled Out: Hora, Assists: H 10 (three with 2), Y 6 (Fitzgerald 2). Blocked Shots: Y 3 (Fitzgerald 2), H 2 (Allerdings 2). Steals: Y 17 (Hora 6), H 6 (Allerdings 3).

Crofton 60, Norfolk Catholic 35

CROFTON, Neb. — Crofton senior Bridget Arens scored 22 points to lead the Lady Warriors to their 20th win of the season and became the leading scorer in school history in Crofton's 60-35 win over Norfolk Catholic on Thursday night.

Arens, who has committed to play basketball at the University of South Dakota, also added five rebounds as the Lady Warriors remain undefeated this season (20-0). Bridget hit a pair of free throws early in the fourth quarter to break Amber Hegge's record (1,212 points) and now has 1,217 points for her career.

Sophomore Quinn Wragge added 16 points and four assists in the win while Allison Arens recorded 14 points and four assists.

The Lady Warriors took an 18-5 first-quarter lead and led 38-24 after three periods of play before putting the game out of reach in the fourth. Michaela Barry led Norfolk Catholic with 11 points.

Crofton, who also won the JV contest, plays at Randolph today (Friday) as the Lady Warriors wrap up their regular season.

Norfolk Catholic, 12-9, hosts Boon Central-Newman Grove on Tuesday.

NORFOLK CATHOLIC (12-9) 5 14 24 35
CROFTON (20-0) 18 28 38 60

Parkston 43, Lennox 40

PARKSTON — Logan Wagner and Alexis Horstman led the Parkston Lady Trojans to a 43-40 win over Lennox in Class A girls' basketball action on Thursday night in Parkston.

Wagner scored 17 points while Horstman added 14 points as Parkston improves to 11-6 this season.

Lennox got 12 points from Kirsten Klinger and 10 from Kayla Kruse. Kruse also added seven rebounds.

Parkston hosts Bridgewater-Emery on Saturday evening while Lennox (8-10) hosts Tea Area at noon on Saturday.

LENNOX (8-10) 6 14 31 40
PARKSTON (11-6) 14 26 34 43

Bloomfield 47, Allen 46

ALLEN, Neb. — Bloomfield's Autumn Luger scored 14 points Thursday night to lead her team to a 47-46 win against Allen in Allen.

Kenna Fiedler added 11 points for Bloomfield, while Philomena Lamers put up nine points.

Candice Rastede scored a total of 16 points for Allen, with Lindsey Jones contributing 15 points and Brittany Sullivan had 10 points.

Bloomfield and Allen will meet in the opening round of the Sub-District D1-6 Monday in Wausa.

BLOOMFIELD (6-13) 8 22 31 47
ALLEN (5-13) 12 18 32 46

Winner 59, Platte-Geddes 49

PLATTE — The Winner Warriors jumped out to a 35-24 halftime lead and claimed a 59-49 victory over Platte-Geddes in girls' basketball action on Thursday.

Sara Husher posted 13 points, five rebounds and five steals to lead a balanced Winner attack. Kelsey Bertram finished with 12 points and five steals. Katie Mathis had 11 points and six rebounds. Cassidy Hanson added eight points and a game-high 11 rebounds in the victory.

For Platte-Geddes, Josie DeGroot scored a game-high 18 points and had eight rebounds to lead the way. Kelly Knudson had 14 points and seven rebounds. Shelby Rabenberg added seven points and six rebounds.

Winner, 11-6, travels to McLaughlin today (Friday). Platte-Geddes travels to Southeast South Dakota Conference and District 10A rival Wag-

GIRLS | PAGE 9A

USD's Herbster 'Surprised' At KC Leaving Summit

Kangaroos Set To Leave For WAC After This Season

BY JEREMY HOECK
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From nine, up to ten, now back down to nine.

Just over two months after adding a new member (Denver), the Summit League lost another school Thursday when Missouri-Kansas City announced it was bolting for the Western Athletic Conference (WAC), effective July 1 of this year.

Naturally, the news took University of South Dakota officials by surprise.

"I'm surprised. Shocked, no, but surprised, yes," interim athletic director David Herbster said Thursday

night. "Right now, with this ever-changing landscape, nothing should shock us anymore, but this one surprised me."

Kansas City, a the second-longest tenured member of the Summit League at 19 years, informed the Summit League of its decision Wednesday, Herbster said. The Kangaroos have been USD's travel partner for the past two years, but were set to be travel partners with Denver — which announced a move to the Summit last November.

Kansas City will become the ninth member of the WAC for the 2013-14 year, joining

Cal State-Bakersfield, Chicago State, Grand Canyon, Idaho, New Mexico State, Seattle, Texas-Pan American and Utah Valley.

A spread-out conference such as the WAC will, clearly, eliminate bus rides in league play for Kansas City, Herbster pointed out.

"We hadn't heard a lot about them potentially looking to leave," he said. "Leaving to go that far west is a little surprising."

The loss of the Kangaroos would give the Summit League nine members, as well, for 2013-14. Remaining schools include Denver, Fort Wayne, IUPUI, Nebraska-

Omaha, North Dakota State, Oakland, USD, South Dakota State and Western Illinois.

"We wish UMKC all the best in the future," said Summit League commissioner Tom Douple in a statement released by the league office. "We remain steadfast in strengthening our league and are excited about the University of Denver joining us as a new member in 2013-14."

Kansas City said school officials will not speak publicly until a news conference next Thursday.

When Summit League officials gather in Sioux Falls in March for the basketball tournament, they will "get a pulse of the membership," Herbster said, adding that ex-

pansion will likely be a hot topic of discussion.

"That is what we will charge our commissioner with, affirming a strong and viable conference. Membership is a big part of that," Herbster said. "With everybody, you've got to escalate and have some conversations."

The departure of Kansas City also means schools like USD will have to "go back to the drawing board" in regards to adjusting schedules, Herbster said — just as USD did after the addition of Denver.

While the Summit League

SUMMIT | PAGE 9A

Poppe, Pirates Keeping Energy Up



ABOVE: Avon head coach Brad Poppe talks to senior Adian Schryvers during the Pirates' basketball doubleheader with Viborg-Hurley on Tuesday in Viborg. With boys' assistant coach Paul Thury home due to illness, Poppe did triple duty on Tuesday, coaching the JV boys' game along with both the boys' and girls' varsity games.

RIGHT: Poppe tapes up an ankle for one of his girls' players prior to Tuesday's doubleheader at Viborg-Hurley.

JAMES D. CIMBUREK/P&D

Busy Schedule Not Slowing Down Avon Basketball Teams

BY JAMES D. CIMBUREK
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EDITOR'S NOTE: This is the fourth part of a continuing series following the Avon basketball programs during the 2012-13 season.

VIBORG — The Avon Lady Pirates may be showing a little of the wear-and-tear of a hectic late-season stretch, but Brad Poppe was doing his best not to, even with a few extra duties thrown his way that day.

The girls wrapped up a stretch of four games in five days — condensed by a day thanks to last week's cold snap — by making the second of the team's two-longest school night road trips of the season. After escaping Freeman by one on Monday, the team traveled a little bit further to get to Viborg on Tuesday to face the Viborg-Hurley Cougars, part of a doubleheader with the boys.

On this night, Poppe found himself also coaching the JV boys' game, as boys' assistant Paul Thury was home due to illness. Girls' assistant Amy Yost stepped in as an assistant for the boys' game after leading the JV girls to a two-point victory.

"We talked during the day, trying to figure out how we'd make it work," she said. "He asked me if I wouldn't mind being on the bench (for the varsity boys' game). Sometimes it's nice to have that person to bounce ideas off, even to vent to."

"I don't know if I had a whole lot of effect, but I kept track of time outs and fouls."

The incident was just one of many this winter as players and coaches help out to make Poppe's duties as head coach of both teams work as smoothly as possible. Part of that is helping the players focus on that day, which is especially important when games stack up like they did for the girls in the past week.

"He keeps us focusing on things day-by-day," said senior Emily Mudder. "He doesn't let us think about things too far ahead. During this stretch, we've spent more time talking about that night's game on the bus."

POPPE | PAGE 9A

Wuertz Powers Wolters Scores 53 As Jacks Upend Fort Wayne Bears Past GV

MARION — Jacob Wuertz put up a total of 26 points to lead the Marion Bears in a 63-36 win against the Gayville-Volin Raiders Thursday night in Marion.

Wuertz also recorded 11 rebounds in the win, while Nick Gortmaker added 13 points, 11 steals and seven assists. Lincoln Lange-rock also added 12 points.

For the Raiders, Zach Anderson and Ryan Adams each scored nine points.

The Bears travel to face Freeman Academy Monday, while Gayville-Volin hosts Centerville today (Friday).

GAYVILLE-VOLIN (0-16) 10 20 30 36
MARION (2-14) 20 33 50 63

Mount Vernon-Plankinton 91, Bridgewater-Emery 52

MOUNT VERNON — Jared Long and Kellam Karst led the Mount Vernon-Plankinton Titans in a 91-52 win against the Bridgewater-Emery Huskies Thursday night in Mount Vernon.

Long and Karst each scored 13 points and had four rebounds in the win, with Nick Lawson adding 12 points and six rebounds. Deric Denning also contributed 10 points and three assists.

Clayton Dye scored 17 total points and had seven rebounds for the Huskies, while Jacob Schweitzer added 15 points and two rebounds.

Bridgewater-Emery hits the road to face Centerville Monday, while Mount Vernon participates in the DWU Classic in Mitchell Saturday.

BRIDGEWATER-EMERY (5-11) 17 31 39 52
MOUNT VERNON (11-5) 24 52 70 91

BOYS | PAGE 9A

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MOUNT VERNON (11-5) 24 52 70 91

Wolters Scores 53 As Jacks Upend Fort Wayne

FORT WAYNE, Ind. (AP) — Nate Wolters scored a school-record 53 points and broke another mark with nine 3-pointers as South Dakota State defeated IPFW 80-74 Thursday night.

Wolters' point total is the highest this season by a Division I player, bettering a 47-point performance by Oakland's Travis Bader on Jan. 24 against IUPUI. He broke Dave Thomas' school record of 44 points (March 10, 1973 vs. Coe College) and Randy Suarez's mark of eight 3-pointers (Feb. 7, 1987 vs. Augustana).

Wolters was 9 for 14 from beyond the arc, 17 for 28 overall and 10 for 11 at the free-throw line. He scored 38 of his points in the second half, helping South Dakota State (19-6, 10-2 Summit) shoot 64 percent from the floor and overcome an 11-point deficit.

"They were sagging off of me and my shot felt pretty good tonight," Wolters said. "I was able to knock a couple down and just got into a little bit of a rhythm."

"It's a good accomplishment, but it's a big win for us. We had to have it. ... They played tough, but we were able to put together a big second half and pull away."

Wolters' 3-pointer with 1:47 remaining gave the Jackrabbits their first lead of the half, 70-68, and helped them finish the game on a 13-6 run. He added his sixth 3-pointer of the second half with 58 seconds remaining to put South Dakota State ahead 73-69 and hit 5 of 6 free throws in the final 90 seconds.

"What happened tonight is the result of a lot of time in the gym for Nate, and sometimes kids get in a zone, they feel it, and it doesn't matter what they do, you can't stop them," South Dakota State

coach Scott Nagy said. "That was the case tonight, and Nate knew it, the players knew it, I knew it."

Frank Gaines led IPFW (10-15, 3-8) with 29 points, and Luis Jacobo had 14. The Mastadons lost despite hitting 9 of 20 3-point attempts and outrebounding the Jackrabbits 37-29.

The 53-point performance is the third-highest in Summit League history, trailing only North Dakota State's Ben Woodside (60 vs. Stephen F. Austin, Dec. 12, 2008) and Kansas City's Michael Watson (54 vs. Oral Roberts, Feb. 22, 2003).

S. DAKOTA ST. (19-6)
Wolters 17-28 10-11 53, Carlson 1-2 1-2 3, White 1-5 1-2 4, Fiegen 4-9 3-6 11, Dykstra 1-4 0-0 2, Prince 1-5 3-5 5, Horstman 0-1 0-0 0, Henstra 1-2 0-0 2. Totals 26-56 18-24 80.
IPFW (10-15)
Blair 2-3 2-2 6, Gaines 11-22 2-4 29, Jacobo 5-11 3-3 14, Kibloski 2-5 0-6, Reed 1-5 2-4 4, McCray 1-1 0-2 2, Hines 3-5 0-0 6, Edwards 3-5 0-0 7. Totals 28-57 9-15 74.

Half-time—IPFW 37-29, 3-Point Goals—S. Dakota St. 10-19 (Wolters 9-14, White 1-4, Dykstra 0-1), IPFW 9-20 (Gaines 5-8, Kibloski 2-4, Edwards 1-1, Jacobo 1-7). Fouled Out—None. Rebounds—S. Dakota St. 29 (Fiegen 6), IPFW 37 (Hines 11). Assists—S. Dakota St. 10 (Wolters 3), IPFW 14 (Blair 5). Total Fouls—S. Dakota St. 16, IPFW 20. A—1,362.

Kampe is in his 29th season with Oakland, and the Golden Grizzlies have finished in the top three in the Summit League standings for six straight seasons. They're in fourth place right now but have won five of six.

WESTERN ILLINOIS 68, NEBRASKA-OMAHA 50: MACOMB, Ill. (AP) — Terrell Parks had 12 points and 16 rebounds and Western Illinois scored the first 20 points of the game en route to a 68-50 victory over Nebraska-Omaha on Thursday night.

The Leathernecks (18-5, 10-2 Summit) hit 9 of 15 shots during the game-opening run and finished the half shooting 59 percent from the floor while taking a 35-15 lead into the break.

Adam Link added 12 points and Don McAvoy had 11 for Western Illinois, which increased its lead to as many as 33 points in the second half.

Justin Simmons and Tyler Egli led Nebraska-Omaha (8-18, 5-8) with 10 points each. The Mavericks shot just 33 percent from the field, their second-lowest performance of the season.

Women

S.D. STATE 72, FORT WAYNE 62: BROOKINGS — A trio of Jackrabbits scored in double figures as South Dakota State defeated Fort Wayne on Thursday night in Brookings in Summit League basketball action.

Katie Lingle led the Jacks with 18 points and nine rebounds. Gabrielle Boever added 13 points and Ashley posted 11 points and seven rebounds.

SDSU shot 51 percent from the field for the game but made just 12 of 23 free-throw attempts.

With the victory, the Jackrabbits improve to 18-6 this season and 10-1 in the Summit League. SDSU hosts Oakland on Saturday night.

N.D. STATE 73, OAKLAND 68: FARGO, N.D. — Dani Degagne scored 21 points Thursday night to lead North Dakota State in the 73-68 victory against Oakland in Fargo.

Degagne also added eight rebounds and three assists in the win, with Katie Birkel adding 20 points and five assists.

Annemarie Hamlet and Elena Popkey each had a total of 16 points for Oakland. Hamlet had five rebounds and Popkey with seven rebounds and three assists. Victoria Lipscomb also recorded 14 points and four assists.