

# North Dakota Takes Two From MMC In Opener

## UND's Thome Tosses No-Hitter In Opener

MINNEAPOLIS, Minn. — NCAA Division I North Dakota swept Mount Marty College in college baseball action on Monday in the Metrodome. The games marked the season openers for both squads.

In the opener, UND sophomore Andrew Thome recorded the sixth no-hitter in school history as UND won 2-1.

MMC's run scored its lone run on a throwing error after a hit-by-pitch and a walk.

Thome struck out nine and walked two in the win, his fifth career complete game without an earned run allowed. It was the first no-hitter for UND since John Shonka no-hit Rockhurst in a seven-inning contest in 2003.

Kris Kwak, Jeff Campbell and Patrick Riewer had hits for UND. Campbell drove in a run.

Mathias Godsil scored the lone Lancer run.

Dominic Wieseler pitched five innings, allowing one run, in the loss. He struck out four batters. Josh Cleveland pitched two innings, allowing one unearned run and striking out three.

In the nightcap, UND scored seven runs in the second inning and held on for a 10-6 victory. The game went six innings due to time constraints.

Tyler Follis had three hits and Campbell had a three-run home run for UND.

Zac Hollenback had two hits, a double and a triple, and three runs scored to lead

Mount Marty. Jared Miller doubled and singled, driving in two runs. Tyler Edler had a two-run double. Riley Stack also had two hits. Godsil, Derrik Nelson and Mike O'Connell added hits for the Lancers.

Alex Twenge pitched five innings, allowing four runs, in the win. A.J. Griffith took the loss, allowing seven runs over two innings.

The two teams square off again today (Tuesday), with a 7:30 a.m. start to their doubleheader at the Metrodome.

# Danica At A Key Career Moment After Life Changes

## Patrick Claimed Daytona 500 Pole On Sunday

By JENNA FRYER  
AP Auto Racing Writer

DAYTONA BEACH, Fla. (AP) — For so long, Danica Patrick was just a pretty girl in a fast car surrounded by a crack marketing staff who parlayed a few golden moments on the track into worldwide fame.

Her sexy Super Bowl ads and the revealing magazine shoots quickly outnumbered her actual career accomplishments. They still do, and she routinely takes Twitter broadsides from a fan base that has resented her since she first dabbled in NASCAR three years ago. Her fiercely competitive nature and desire to keep her personal life private created the perception she is cold, standoffish.

Patrick has never flinched, and she's not flinching now on the doorstep of the biggest moment of her NASCAR career. She learned long ago to not care what people think about her, to tune out the critics and plug away at her race craft and at building the Danica empire.

All of that should help her in the pressure cooker of Daytona this week. After all, she's used to the spotlight more than almost any driver in history.

She already has a major accomplishment to tuck in her belt: She is the first woman in history to win the pole at NASCAR's top level. That it came at the Daytona 500, "The Great American Race," is somehow fitting because it's Patrick. The face of auto racing to many casual fans is now going to be the face of NASCAR every day this week leading into Sunday's season-opener.

It comes during a rebirth for the 30-year-old Patrick.

Something shifted last season, when she realized a happy ending wasn't going to come in her seemingly picture-perfect life. All the effort and energy dedicated to maintaining Danicamania wasn't making her happy.

So she made significant life changes, splitting from her 47-year-old husband after seven years of marriage. In January came confirmation of what everyone in NASCAR already assumed — she was dating fellow Sprint Cup rookie Ricky Stenhouse Jr., a cowboy-hat wearing Mississippi native who takes her to Professional Bull Riding and gave her her own blinged-out cowgirl belt buckle.

Patrick came into the season with a new man, a new outlook on life and a determination to be happy on and off the track. Where that takes her is anyone's guess because Patrick, so certain all those years she was a race car driver and had no interest in having children, is suddenly murky on motherhood.

"I don't know. I always used to say no. Now, I don't know. I'm in a whole new situation now," she told The Associated Press. "I do know I wouldn't compromise my career. I would not stop racing for that. If I did want to stop racing for that, then I would lose my passion for racing and it would be that point in time when I would want to stop racing."

Seemingly icy all those years, Patrick is suddenly an open book. She's done a total 180 and is putting herself out there much like a head-over-heels-in-love schoolgirl.

"People tell me I've changed. Maybe. I'm happy," she said. "You get kind of giddy about it, almost. Ricky and I like talking about each other. But life is just simpler now. I feel like I don't have to think as much. There was always an element of me that felt like I had to do the right thing all the time. Now I feel like I want to be me. I want to be relaxed, less calculated. My return on investment was not right, and I am done overthinking things."

If it seems as though Patrick has an opportunity at a fresh start, she is adamant that is not how she views this period of change.

"I think everything you do lasts. It is who you are and where you've been and I wouldn't be here today if not for all the things I've done up until this point," she said. "But there are definitely some starting overs that are clear and obvious. I think I'm just doing what it takes to be happy and feeling at peace with what you do and who you are."

"I always tell everyone, kids or adults, to just be yourself and be honest and I felt like I wasn't doing that myself."

Patrick may sound like she's suddenly found herself, but there's still a ton she hasn't figured out. She doesn't know how long she wants to race, but says she could see herself in NASCAR another 10 years.

"I always thought I'd race for 10 years, but then I did seven in IndyCar and now I've done two in NASCAR," she said. "So I am closing in on that 10 years of professional

# LET THE MADNESS BEGIN



The Irene-Wakonda student section and bench react after the Eagles tied the game at the end of regulation, sending it to overtime. The Eagles beat Gayville-Volin 48-45 in overtime on Monday in Gayville to advance to tonight's (Tuesday) semifinal round of the District 8B Girls' Basketball Tournament.

JAMES D. CIMBUREK/P&D

# Eagles Edge GV In District Opener

GAYVILLE — Irene-Wakonda got a putback at the buzzer to send the game into overtime, then survived a back-and-forth extra period to edge Gayville-Volin 48-45 in the opening round of the District 8B Girls' Basketball Tournament on Monday at Gayville-Volin High School.

The victory earned the Eagles a matchup with top-seeded Centerville today (Tuesday) in Gayville. The contest will start at 6 p.m., followed by Alcester-Hudson against Viborg-Hurley.

Caitlin Hinseth led Irene-Wakonda with 13 points. Makayla Mohr added 11 points in the victory.

For Gayville-Volin, Genny Clark scored a game-high 15 points. Kelia Barta added 13 points.

GAYVILLE-VOLIN.....10 14 29 41 45  
IRENE-WAKONDA.....9 20 27 41 48

TDA advances to play top-seeded Dakota Christian on Tuesday night in Corsica.

TRIPP-DELMONT-ARMOUR (3-18).....10 27 41 62  
MARTY (10-10).....5 19 34 44

## District 5B

Sunshine Bible 47, Faulkton 43, OT

MILLER — Tricia Wilken scored a game-high 25 points to lead Sunshine Bible to a 47-43 victory over Faulkton in the opening round of the District 5B Girls' Basketball Tournament on Monday.

Cassie Beckwith had eight points and eight rebounds, and Shanna Moreland had 10 rebounds for SBA (10-10), which faces Sully Buttes in the semifinals today (Tuesday). Wilken also had nine rebounds in the win.

For Faulkton (7-12), Megan Haberling led the way with 14 points, eight rebounds and four steals. Kaitlin Heitmann had 13 points and five assists. Kelsey Lee also have four steals in the effort.

FAULKTON.....7 22 27 41 43  
SUNSHINE BIBLE.....7 16 24 41 47

## Culver's DWU Classic

Ethan 45, Freeman 44

MITCHELL — Ethan survived a late surge to outlast Freeman 45-44 at the Culver's Dakota Wesleyan Classic on Monday at the Corn Palace.

Ethan led 42-35 with 3:24 to play, but the Flyers served to within two with just under a minute to play. Freeman cut the deficit to one with three seconds left but could get no closer.

Blake Bartscher led Ethan with 12 points. Colton Bierle netted 11 points, Anthony Huber had 10 points and eight rebounds, and Jace Connor had eight points and eight rebounds in the win.

For Freeman, Shaun Becker and Brennan Schmidt each had nine points, with Schmidt and Caleb Lang each collecting eight rebounds.

Ethan, 11-7, travels to Scotland on Thursday. Freeman (13-7), which saw its three-game win streak snapped, is off until Districts.

FREEMAN (13-7).....7 20 31 44  
ETHAN (11-7).....10 22 36 45

Viborg-Hurley 61, South Central 39

MITCHELL — Andrew Hora posted a double-double, finishing with 19 points and 10 rebounds to lead Viborg-Hurley to a 61-39 rout of South Central at the Culver's Dakota Wesleyan Classic on Monday at the Corn Palace.

Viborg-Hurley was scheduled to play in the original classic on Feb. 9, but their schedule opponent cancelled out.

Also for the victorious

Cougars, Trevor Jacobsen finished with 10 points and five assists. Jack Huether and Seth Andersen each had nine points in the win.

Dakota Votaw and Frank Tyler each had 13 points for South Central.

Viborg-Hurley, 18-2, takes a seven-game win streak into the District 8B Tournament next week. South Central, 17-2 after having its 14-game win streak snapped, hosts Avon on Thursday in Burke to finish the regular season.

VIBORG-HURLEY (18-2).....21 31 46 61  
SOUTH CENTRAL (17-2).....3 17 24 39

## Regular Season

Platte-Geddes 48, Gregory 34

GREGORY — Platte-Geddes got off to a strong start, claiming a 30-10 halftime lead on the way to a 48-34 victory over Gregory in boys' basketball action on Monday.

Coby Johnson led Platte-Geddes with 17 points and nine rebounds. Richard Sternberg added 11 points.

Mitchel Klundt led Gregory with six points.

Platte-Geddes, 13-7, is off until the opening game of the District 10A Tournament, Feb. 26 against Bon Homme. Gregory, 5-14, travels to Wagner on Friday.

PLATTE-GEDDES (13-7).....17 30 42 48  
GREGORY (5-14).....2 10 20 34

Parkston 65, Parker 45

PARKER — The Parkston Trojans shot 63.6 percent from the field in the second half, putting together a 24-10 run in the fourth quarter without missing a shot to

claim a 65-45 victory over Parker in boys' basketball action on Monday.

Spencer Lukes posted game-highs of 24 points and 10 rebounds to lead Parkston. Zach Scott had 14 points. Dillan Thuringer netted 10 points. Tanner Weber had nine rebounds and five assists, and Kyle Hohn added five assists in the victory.

For Parker, Jake Anderson and Zach O'Keefe each had 12 points, with Anderson also grabbing eight rebounds. Karter Lingen added 10 points.

Both teams are off until District play.

PARKSTON (11-9).....10 24 41 65  
PARKER (10-10).....8 19 35 45

Menno 66, Andes Central 46

LAKE ANDES — Chet Peterson scored a game-high 26 points to power Menno to a 66-46 victory over Andes Central in the regular season finale for both squads.

Austin Herrboldt added 13 points and four assists for Menno. Peterson also had six steals in the win.

For Andes Central, Neulan Dion led the way with 12 points. Darrin Hopkins had seven rebounds and Zach Cournoyer added four assists for the Eagles.

MENNO (5-12).....9 34 49 66  
ANDES CENTRAL (8-12).....8 23 35 46

Hanson 58, Scotland 36

ALEXANDRIA — The Hanson Beavers jumped out to a 29-17 halftime lead and pulled away to a 58-36 victory over Scotland in boys' basketball action on Monday.

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# GETTING THEIR SPLASH ON

Yankton played host to the Tri-State Short-Course Swim Championships on Saturday at the Summit Center. Photos from the meet are online at [spotted.yankton.net](http://spotted.yankton.net). Results will be posted at a later date.

LEFT: Yankton's Joseph Kelly competes in the boys' 9-over 100-yard breaststroke during the Tri-State Championships swim meet on Saturday at the Summit Center.

JAMES D. CIMBUREK/P&D