



JEREMY HOECK/P&D
Mikala Hora, 14, of Yankton has her drive blocked from behind by Kristin Sabers of Mitchell during their ESD girls' game Tuesday night at the Summit Center.

Miller, Mitchell Roll Past Gazelles In ESD Girls' Action

BY CHRIS RILEY
sports@yankton.net

The Yankton Gazelles ran into top-ranked Mitchell just as the Kernels are gearing up for a repeat state championship run and the end result was not a pretty one for the red and white faithful.

Junior Macy Miller scored 30 points to lead the Kernels (18-2) to a 61-33 victory of Yankton on Tuesday night at the Summit Center in the final regular season game for each squad.

Miller was 11-of-12 from the field and also grabbed seven rebounds as the Kernels shot 53 percent for the game. Senior Kerri Young added 17 points and eight boards as Mitchell enters district play riding a 13-game winning streak.

"They are a very good basketball team, there is no doubt about it," Yankton coach Doug Pesicka said. "We just turned the ball over pretty easy and the thing about Mitchell is they make you pay on turnovers."

GAZELLES | PAGE 8

MMC Baseball Picks Up Win Over Division I Foe

MINNEAPOLIS — In what was a landmark day for Mount Marty College baseball, the Lancers split a pair of games with NCAA Division I North Dakota on Tuesday at the Metrodome in Minneapolis.

The Lancers (1-3) won 7-5 in the first game and dropped game two 6-5 in nine innings.

In the opener early Tuesday morning, MMC got home runs from Jared Miller and Tyler Pekarek and used a 5-run third inning to take control. Zac Hollenback, Mathias Godsil and Miller all had two hits.

Cassidy Key-Darlington allowed four runs in 5 1/3 innings to get the win.

In game two, North Dakota's Patrick Riewer was 4-5 in the extra-inning victory.

Sam Sparen was 2-4 for the Lancers, while Tyler Edler drove in two runs. Asau Rodriguez pitched the first four innings and was relieved in the fifth by Taylor Klapperich.

MMC heads to Kansas this weekend for a pair of doubleheaders in Topeka, Kan.

GPAC Basketball Tournament

MMC Women Ready For Red Raiders

BY JEREMY HOECK
jeremy.hoeck@yankton.net

A year later, almost to the day, the storyline is nearly exactly the same for the Mount Marty College women's basketball team.

Five straight losses to close the regular season. A first-round game in the Great Plains Athletic Conference (GPAC) Tournament against a perennial national power.

This year, the Lancers (16-13), seeded sixth in the post-season tournament, will travel to Orange City, Iowa, for a matchup tonight (Wednesday) at 6 p.m. against Northwestern.

Though Mount Marty comes in on a losing streak, just like last year prior to a game at Morningside, the team feels confident with their pairing, according to senior forward Brittany Little.

"I'm really excited that we got them," Little said Monday. "We'll match up good with them, I think, if

we come prepared and play with that high energy we had before."

The odds are stacked significantly against the Lancers. Third-seeded Northwestern (21-6), winners of six straight, are the three-time defending NAIA national champions.

And, for good measure, the Red Raiders have beaten Mount Marty 13 straight times.

"Obviously we have our work cut out for us," MMC coach Tom Schlimgen said. "We're trying to tweak some things. It's been a tough stretch; you try to be a psychologist and a basketball coach at the same time."

That stretch of games to close the regular season saw the Lancers lose to

chat

Join In The P&D Sports Chat Today At 3:30 To Talk GPAC, Other Area Action.
yankton.net

Briar Cliff, Northwestern, Hastings, Morningside and Concordia — last Saturday — by an average margin of 20 points.

Playing a key role in that stretch was uncharacteristic cold shooting from Mount Marty.

In those five games, the Lancers combined to shoot 33 percent from the field and 25 percent on three-pointers. Leading scorers Taylor Forsch and April Winne were 27 and 21 percent, respectively, in that span.

"Our percentage has not been good, our top kids are way below our average," Schlimgen said. "Our confidence level isn't too high after something like that."

Though the chilly stats on three-pointers, where the Lancers still rank among the top 20 nationally, those frustrations can carry over on defense, Little said.

"I'm not sure what's up with that," she said. "Teams were pressing us, so I think that has something to do with

the shooting.

"When the shots don't go down, you get down on yourself and it's hard to play defense," she added. "When they start hitting shots, it gets to you."

Over the last six seasons, Northwestern has done exactly that against Mount Marty. The Red Raiders have been on the winning end of every matchup since 2007.

"This would be the best time to beat them," Little said. "I have a good feeling about it. We'll have to stop De Jong; she's an awesome player, but I think we'll be fine."

De Jong is Northwestern's senior forward Kendra De Jong, who averages a double-double (17.3 ppg, 10.4 rpg) and has helped the Red Raiders rank in the top five nationally in shooting percentage, assists per game and rebounding margin.

"They're active as heck, their post

LANCERS | PAGE 8

Bucks Pop Kernels 50-42



JEREMY HOECK/P&D
Andrew Hummel, 12, of Yankton tries to drive around the defense of Mitchell's Beau Brown during their ESD boys' game Tuesday night at the Summit Center.

BY VANCE JANAK
P&D Correspondent

Even as the losses mounted, Chris Haynes never saw his team quit trying.

Yankton senior JJ Heyna scored 12 points while Ryan Olson and Michael Rucker each added nine points to help the Bucks end the regular season with a 50-42 victory over the Mitchell Kernels on Tuesday night that snapped a seven-game losing streak. The win was Yankton's first since beating Sioux Falls O'Gorman on Jan. 24 — ending the Bucks' four-game losing slide at the Summit Activities Center — and it sent its five seniors out with a victory in the final home game of the season.

"The win validates all the hard work. Our kids have done a great job of coming in and working hard even though we've had an up-and-down season, more downs than ups," said Haynes after the Bucks improved to 5-14. "It was great to have our seniors go out on the right note because they're the ones that have been leading us all year and doing a good job of keeping things in perspective and keeping us positive no matter if we were winning or losing. It's nice to send them out with a win."

It didn't look so good in the first half.

The Bucks overcame a seven-point first-half by outscoring the Kernels 15-5 to end the first half and start the second half. That spurt helped Yankton go from down 20-13 with 3:29 left in the second quarter to up 28-25 with 6:36 left in the third quarter.

"We did a great job of getting back into the game and getting some momentum going into the half," Haynes said. "If Mitchell would have been able to extend that late in the second quarter and into the third, it would have been tough to come back from it. It was nice to see our guys respond and make some plays before half."

Freshman Reid Sawatzke came off the bench to hit a triple from the right wing to get things going while senior Michael Rucker followed with a 3 on the next possession. Landon Breen and Hejna concluded the first-half portion of the run with baskets in the post to get Yankton within 25-23 at halftime.

"They hit a couple of big shots that gave them some momentum," Mitchell coach Tom Young said. "Then they came out and scored really easy to get it going in the second half."

BOYS | PAGE 8

BUCKS | PAGE 8

Boys: Wynot, Cedar, Crofton Win In Playoffs

HARTINGTON, Neb. — Wynot defeated Walthill 69-56 in Hartington on Tuesday night in the second round of the D2-5 Sub-District basketball tourney.

The Blue Devils got 25 points from Jackson Sudbeck in the win.

Wynot, 20-3, will play in the D2-5 title game on Thursday in Hartington at 7 p.m.

Walthill sees their season end with a 4-16 record.

WALTHILL (4-16).....10 21 48 56
WYNOT (20-3).....13 34 56 69

Bancroft-Rosalie 64, Lyons-Decatur 57

HARTINGTON, Neb. — Brady Petersen scored 21 points and three other players reached double figures for Bancroft-Rosalie in a 64-57 Sub-District win over Lyons-Decatur on Tuesday night.

Preston Peters had 16 points in the win, while Nicholas Sjuts and Carsten Tietz each scored 13 points. For Lyons-Decatur, Drew Zitek scored 19 points and

Alex Brewer had 12 points.
BANCROFT-ROSALIE.....12 27 43 64
LYONS-DECATUR.....15 23 43 57

Sub-District C2-7

Cedar Catholic 73, Homer 46
PONCA, Neb. — Cedar Catholic defeated Homer 73-46 in the opening round of Sub-District C2-7 on Tuesday night.

James Kaiser led Cedar Catholic (20-7) with 18 points. Logan Feilmeier posted 14 points. Grant Howell added 12 points in the victory.

Dakota Kulver led Homer with 11 points in the loss. Cedar Catholic advances to the Sub-District C2-7 championship on Thursday in Ponca. Homer ended their season with a 7-16 record.

CEDAR CATHOLIC (20-7).....13 32 53 73
HOMER (7-16).....11 25 32 46

Wakefield 45, Laurel-Concord-Coleridge 42

PONCA, Neb. — Jacob Lunz had 17 points to lead Wakefield past Laurel-Concord-Coleridge 45-42 in Sub-District C2-7 action Tuesday night.

Evan Nicholson and Jonathan Bodlak each had nine points for Wakefield.

For LCC, Kyle Kardell scored 15 points, Zach Shear had 10 points and Dillon Wolfram added eight points.
LAUREL-CONCORD-COLERIDGE.....8 14 24 42
WAKEFIELD.....14 20 29 45

Sub-District C2-8

Crofton 32, Boyd County 26

O'NEILL, Neb. — Crofton defeated Boyd County 32-26 in the semi-finals of Sub-District C2-8 on Tuesday.

Ben Hegge led Crofton (9-14) with 15 points and six rebounds. Justin Janssen added six points and three assists in the victory.

Dexter Black led Boyd County with 18 points and two assists in the loss. Crofton advances to the championship of Sub-District C2-8 on Thursday against Creighton. Boyd County ended their season with a 9-12 record.

CROFTON (9-14).....9 11 23 32
BOYD COUNTY (9-12).....2 10 17 26



JAMES D. CIMBUREK/P&D
Scotland's Samantha Geiman drives against the defense of Avon's Amanda Reiff during their semifinal matchup in the District 11B Girls' Basketball Tournament on Tuesday at the Corn Palace in Mitchell.

Girls: Avon Wins District Opener In Double OT

MITCHELL — Scotland outlasted Avon in double-overtime to advance to the District 11B title game against Hanson in the Corn Palace on Friday.

With score tied at 47-47 at the end of regulation, the two teams needed a pair of extra periods after reaching a 51-51 tie after the first overtime before Scotland finally pulled ahead for the 61-57 win.

Carley Skorepa led the Lady Highlanders with 20 points and six rebounds. Aisha Abbink added 16 points.

Chesney Nagel scored 31 points for Avon, as the Pirates see their season end with a 15-6 overall record.

AVON (15-6).....16 24 38 47 51 57
SCOTLAND (15-9).....12 28 37 47 51 61

Hanson 50, Ethan 40

MITCHELL — Hanson defeated Ethan by a final of 50-40 in second-round District 11B girls' basketball action on Tuesday at the Corn Palace.

Cassidy Graham led Hanson (19-2) with 24 points. Kynedi Cheeseman added 14 points and eight rebounds.

For Ethan, Darbi Gustafson scored 15 points. Hanson will play the winner of the

Avon/Scotland game on Friday night at the Corn Palace.
ETHAN.....9 14 28 40
HANSON.....5 31 41 50

District 8B

Centerville 74, I-Wak. 42
GAYVILLE — Behind 37 points from Kieran O'Malley, Centerville was able to rout Irene-Wakonda 74-42 in District 8B action on Tuesday night in Gayville.

Logan Weiseler helped lead Centerville (18-4) with 12 points in the victory. Makayla Mohr led Irene-Wakonda with 12 points. Caitlyn Hinseth added 10 points in the loss.

Centerville advances to the championship of District 8B on Friday against Alcester-Hudson in Tea. Irene-Wakonda ended their season with a 5-15 record.

CENTERVILLE (18-4).....22 36 60 74
IRENE-WAKONDA (5-15).....8 18 29 42

Alcester-Hudson 38, Viborg-Hurley 36

GAYVILLE — Alcester-Hudson defeated Viborg-Hurley 38-36 in the opening round of District 8B.

Kourtney McKee led Alcester-Hudson (12-8) with 12 points. Taylor Kiose added 10 points in the victory.

Abby Hora was the lone lead scorer with 16 points in the loss for Viborg-Hurley.

Alcester-Hudson advances to take on Centerville on Friday in Tea in the District 8B championship. Viborg-Hurley ended their season with

a 12-10 record.
ALCESTER-HUDSON (12-8).....6 20 29 38
VIBORG-HURLEY (12-10).....19 26 30 36

District 8A

Beresford 51, Verm. 27
BERESFORD — Beresford defeated Vermillion 51-27 in district 8A girls' basketball action Tuesday night.

Alyson Johnsen led Beresford (15-6) with 17 points. Johnsen also recorded her 1,000th career point. Taryn Twite added 11 points and eight rebounds in the victory.

Josie Huber was the lone lead scorer for Vermillion with 13 points in the loss.

Beresford will advance to the championship of district 8A and will face Elk Point-Jefferson on Thursday. Vermillion ended their season at 10-11.

BERESFORD (15-6).....15 32 47 51
VERMILLION (10-11).....5 10 21 27

Elk Point-Jefferson 50, Dakota Valley 34

BERESFORD — Keely Bertram scored 17 points and grabbed eight rebounds to lead Elk Point-Jefferson 50-34 past Dakota Valley in District 8A action Tuesday night.

Amy Zeller added 11 points and Haylee Erickson had 10 points for EPJ (14-7).

For Dakota Valley, which ends its season at 12-9, McKenzie Mennenga scored eight points.
DAKOTA VALLEY (12-9).....7 18 26 34
ELK POINT-JEFFERSON (14-7).....11 25 41 50

District 10A

Wagner 55, Bon Homme 37

WAGNER — Nicole Weber's 18 points led Wagner to a 55-37 victory over Bon Homme on Tuesday night in District 10A girls' basketball action.

Jessa Doom added 15 points and seven rebounds for the Red Raiders, who improve to 16-5 this year.

For the Cavaliers, Shawna Rezac scored eight points. Bon Homme finishes their season 8-13.

Wagner will host Parkston on Thursday for a chance to advance to the region tournament.
BON HOMME (8-13).....11 18 30 37
WAGNER (16-5).....12 20 35 55

Parkston 66, Platte-Ged. 52

PARKSTON — Erica Herold recorded a double-double with 18 points and 12 rebounds to lead Parkston past Platte-Geddes 66-52 in District 10A action on Tuesday night in Parkston.

Logan Wagner and McKenzie Weidenbach both added 17 points for the Trojans (15-6), who led 31-18 at halftime.

For the Black Panthers (13-8), Kelly Knudson had 20 points and seven rebounds. Josie DeGroot scored 15 points and Shelby Rabenberg chipped in with 13 points and eight rebounds.

PLATTE-GEDDES (13-8).....10 18 42 52
PARKSTON (15-6).....16 31 49 66

GIRLS | PAGE 8