South Central opens District

12B action next Tuesday against Marty Indian or Tripp-Delmont-Ar-

mour, while Avon starts District

Mt. Vernon-Plankinton 63,

MOUNT VERNON - Jared

Long scored 17 points as Mount

Vernon-Plankinton held off Han-

son 63-60 in regular season finale

action Thursday in Mount Vernon.

and Cote Hinker had 12 points for

after three quarters. Hanson (14-6) shot 70 percent

from the field in the second half

Huber. Jordan Marquardt added

11 points, while Trey Persson and

Both teams begin district ac-

College Women No. 24 NEBRASKA 57, MICHIGAN 39: ANN ARBOR, Mich. (AP) — Jordan Hooper scored 14 points and pulled down 12 rebounds to lead No. 24 Nebraska to builted the interview of 20 on and Michael to a the data

its eighth straight victory, 57-39 over Michigan on Thursday

Combusters (20-6, 10-3 Big Ten), who held Michigan to 28 percent shooting and committed only six fouls. Michigan didn't shoot a free throw the entire game.

Nya Jordan scored 12 points and grabbed 16 re-

bounds for the Wolverine (19-7, 8-5). Michigan opened the game on a 10-2 run and led 22-18 at halftime, but Nebraska answered with a 21-0 run

over the first 8:34 of the second half to lead 39-22 and

Lindsey Moore had 15 points and eight assists for the

and got 24 points from Matt

Jacob Paradeis both had six

points.

tion next week.

the Fillies (13-7), who led 45-36

Deric Denning added 15 points

.10 17 24 36 .10 25 39 49

11B action.

AVON (6-14) SOUTH CENTRAL (18-2)

Hanson 60

pushed into today, joining a pair of girls' district finals in Nebraska and five district finals in South Dakota going

The University of South Dakota women end the home portion of their first season under head coach Amy

On Sunday, the next wave of excitement begins, as USD will play host to the Summit League Indoor Track

There are plenty of sporting reasons to dig out your car and enjoy some great action. So pick up that shovel

and Field Championships, Sunday and Monday at the DakotaDome. Between USD and South Dakota State,

there is a ton of local and regional talent. North Dakota State also has a few top young men and women from

Press&Dakotan DAILY DOSE

Daily opinions from Sports Staff on loc tional high school and professiona

SCOREBOARD

BASKETBALL

District 1A Final Aberdeen Roncalli 53, Britton-Hecla

District 2A Final

District 3A Final

District 7A Final

District 14A Fina

Pine Ridge 52, Bennett County 37 District 2B Semis Warner 54, Hitchcock-Tulare 26

District 3B Semis

DeSmet 79, Great Plains Lutheran 26 Estelline 38, Castlewood 37 District 4B Semis

Oldham-Ramona/Rutland 52, Howard

Chester 48, Dell Rapids St. Mary 44

District 9B Championship Sanborn Central/Woonsocket 81,

District 13B Championship

POSTPONEMENTS-CANCELLATIONS District 8A Final

Sub-District C1-12 Final

POSTPONEMENTS-CANCELLATIONS Sub-District C1-1 Final

Sub-District C1-2 Final

Lincoln Lutheran vs. Lincoln Christian, ppd. to Feb 23.

Sub-District C1-5 Final

Grand Island Central Catholic Adams Central, ppd. to Feb 22. Sub-District C1-8 Final

Central/Newman Grove, ppd. to Feb 22.

Sub-District C1-9 Final Gibbon vs. Kearney Catholic, ppd. Sub-District C2-1 Final

County Central, ppd. to Feb 22

Nebraska City Lourdes vs. Johnson

Sub-District C2-2 Final Freeman vs. Sutton, ppd. to Feb 22.

Centennial vs. Milford, ppd. to Feb 22. Sub-District C1-6 Final

Norfolk Catholic vs. Boone

Syracuse vs. Falls City, ppd. to Feb

Kimball 54, Chadron 32 Sub-District D2-12 Final

Levton 62, Sioux County 33

Elk Point-Jefferson vs. Beresford, ppd.

vman 69 Kadoka Area 53

THURSDAY'S NEB. BOYS

James Valley Christian 43

Clark/Willow Lake 63, Florence/Henry

THURSDAY'S S.D. BOYS

South Central 49, Avon 36 Warner 59, Langford 54

THURSDAY'S S.D. GIRLS

Milbank 37. Webster 27

Harrisburg 51, Lennox 31

44

to Feb 22.

22.

BY JAMES D. CIMBUREK

james.cimburek@yankton.net

22 30 .423 10 1/2 22 33 .400 12

Pct 725

.611

.315

.660

.722

Pct GB

26 .536 13 1/2

GB

8 1/2

GB

GB

GB

5 1/2

7

.564 8 1/2 .463 14 .392 17 1/2

.473 12 1/2

.345 19 1/2

.327 20 1/2

.288 22 1/2

.278 23 1/2

.241 25 1/2

Southeast Division

W 37

29

15 37

15 39 41

Central Divisio

31

26 22

WESTERN CONFERENCE

W 43

35

30

24 19 29 36 .453 .345 18 24

39 34

31 25

20

Pacific Division

W 39 31

26 29

ednesday's Games Detroit 105, Charlotte 99

Memphis 88, Toronto 82

19 36 18 37

Dallas New Orleans 19 36 Northwest Division W L Pct

W L 33 21 Pct

22 27 34 .585 .491 .393 1 1/2

L 12

18

L 15

21 .618

24 29 31

L 17 23

23 .558

Philadelphia

Toronto

Miami

Atlanta

Orlando

Charlotte

Indiana

Chicago Milwaukee Detroit

Cleveland

San Antonio

Oklahoma City

Memphis

Houston

Dallas

Denver Utah Portland

Minnesota

L.A. Clippers Golden State

L.A. Lakers

Sacramento

Phoenix

Washington

If you need some motivation to get out and dig out your car this weekend, look at the sports calendar. A mix of playoff events will make going out and working out your shovel more than worth it

f you're not headed to Aberdeen or Watertown for state wrestling, the action starts this afternoon (Friday), as the state JV girls' hockey tournament comes to Alcoa Arena again this year. There are some talented young players scheduled to be on the ice this weekend, and the hometown Miracle would really love to see the bleach ers full of red-and-black clad fans cheering them on. That tournament runs through Sunday.

There are also some great area playoff games tonight, as two Sub-District boys' basketball finals were

Hoops

Ready To Dig Out For An Exciting Weekend

on across the area

and get to work.

From Page 9A

Kayla Kruse added 10 points and seven rebounds.

Williams on Saturday, hosting Western Illinois in a 2 p.m. tilt at the Dome.

the state of South Dakota, making it a homecoming for a ton of talented athletes

Harrisburg will play in the Region 4A final against the winner of Elk Point-Jefferson and Beresford in Tea.

District 9B

Sanborn Central-Woon. 81, **James Valley Christian 43**

HURON — Rachelle Moore and Morgan Selland each scored 14 points to lead Sanborn Central-Woonsocket past James Valley Christian 81-43 in the District 9B title game Thursday night in Huron.

Shelby Selland and Rachel Selland both added 12 points for SCW (21-1), which led 42-20 at halftime. Jaclyn Loban scored 16 points

for JVC, which finishes the season 11-10.

Boys

South Central 49, Avon 36 ELMIRA JACKALS — Signed F Tyler seworthy. READING ROYALS — Signed G

BURKE — Tyler Frank scored 22 points to lead South Central past Avon 49-36 in the regular sea-

son finale for both teams Thursday night in Burke. Josh Tuttle added 10 points for

the Cougars (18-2), who led 25-17 at halftime.

For the Pirates (6-14), Brandon Kocmich scored 18 points.

> time in net, going 7-9 with a .806 save percentage, including three shutouts.

Watertown Lakers

The second-seeded Lakers (17-2) of Watertown have benefited from a U-12 "feeder" program started a few years ago, according to JV head coach Keith Muhl.

"Our team is actually still pretty young, half of the girls are seventh-graders, but they're doing extremely well," Muhl said. "The only team we've lost to is Mitchell, and if we get those guys again, we'd like to avenge those losses.

The young Lakers are led by seventh-grader Tiffany Hamann, the state's leading scorer. The second-leading scorer for Watertown is junior Stephanie Kasten, who plays on the same line as Hamann.

Defensively, the Lakers' top line boasts a junior, two seventh-graders and a sixth-grader. Starting goalie Stacy Dunbar, a junior, along with Jasmine Hills (Jr.), have helped guide the vouna defense.

"We get kind of young there, but we've actually done just as well there," Muhl said. "We practice our varsity and JV together, so that speed factor has helped the younger girls One of the biggest areas of focus for Watertown has been on team defense, Muhl said. "We always talk about controlling the puck and the neutral zone; nothing easy for the other team," he said. "It's really paid off for the girls. Speed wise, we do have some fast girls, but for the most part we feel like we need to control the ice.

n the P&D al and na- l, college l sports.	

Sub-District C2-7 Final

Wakefield vs. Hartington Cedar Catholic, ppd. to Feb 22.

Sub-District C2-8 Final

Crofton vs. Creighton, ppd. to Feb 22. Sub-District C2-9 Final

Hastings St. Cecilia vs. Doniphan-mbull, ppd. to Feb 23.

Ravenna vs. Southern Valley, ppd. to

Sub-District C2-10 Final

Sub-District C2-11 Final Dundy County-Stratton vs. North Platte St. Patrick's, ppd. to Feb 23.

Sub-District D1-2 Final

Exeter/Milligan vs. Bruning-Daven-port/Shickley, ppd. to Feb 23. Sub-District D1-3 Final

Shelton vs. Kenesaw, ppd. to Feb 22. Sub-District D1-7 Final

Clearwater/Orchard vs. St. Mary's,

Loup City vs. Burwell, ppd. to Feb 23. Sub-District D1-9 Final

Alma vs. Overton, ppd. to Feb 22. Sub-District D1-10 Final Cambridge vs. Arapahoe, ppd. to Feb

SMC vs. Paxton, ppd. to Feb 22. Sub-District D2-1 Final Sterling vs. Falls City Sacred Heart,

Dorchester vs. Nebraska Lutheran,

Bancroft-Rosalie vs. Wynot, ppd. to

Hampton vs. Giltner, ppd. to Feb 22. Sub-District D2-8 Final

Pleasanton vs. Amherst, ppd. to Feb

Anselmo-Merna vs. Bertrand, ppd. to

Wauneta-Palisade vs. Wallace, ppd

Mullen vs. Sandhills/Thedford. ppd. to

L 19

Sub-District D2-7 Final

Sub-District D2-9 Final

Sub-District D2-10 Final

Sub-District D2-11 Final

Cook 66, Alliance 46

Sub-District D1-11 Final

Sub-District D2-2 Final

ppd. to Feb 23. Sub-District D2-5 Final

ppd. to Feb 23. Sub-District D1-8 Final

Feb 22.

23.

ppd. to Feb 22.

Feb 23.

22.

to Feb 23.

Feb 23.

New York

Brooklyn

Boston

AREA CALENDAR

Friday, February 22 BASKETBALL, BOYS' Neb. Sub-Districts — C2-7 at Ponca (Champi-onship —Hartington Cedar Catholic vs. Wakefield, 7 p.m.); C2-8 at O'Neill (Championship — Creighton vs. Crofton, 7 p.m.); Canton at Vermillion (7:45 p.m., KVTK-AM); Elk Point-Jefferson at West Central; Gregory at Wag-BASKETBALL, GIRLS' Neb. Districts — C2-4 at Wayne (Crofton vs. Homer, 7 p.m., KKYA-FM); D2-3 at Hartington (Wynot vs. Osmond, 7 p.m., KVHT-FM); S.D. Districts — 8A at Beresford (Championship — Beresford vs. Elk Point-Jefferson, 7 p.m.); 7B at Tea (Championship – Parker vs. Free-man, 8 p.m.); 8B at Tea (Championship – Centerville vs. Alcester-Hudson, 6:30 p.m.); 11B at Mitchell (Championship Hanson vs. Scotland, 8 p.m.); 12B at Mitchell (Championship — Tripp-Del-mont-Armour vs. South Central, 6:30 HOCKEY, GIRLS' JV State Tourn. at Yankton — Rushmore vs. Oahe (2 p.m.); Watertown vs. Sioux Center (4 p.m.); Sioux Falls vs. Brookings (6

Portland at L.A. Lakers, 9:30 p.m.

TRANSACTIONS

BASEBALL American League TEXAS RANGERS — Named Ivan Rodriguez special assistant to the general ger/instructor/ambassador National League WASHINGTON NATIONALS — Agreed to terms with RHP Chris Young on

a minor league contract. American Association WICHITA WINGNUTS — Signed LHP Anthony Capra. Traded RHP Josh Lowey to Somerset for cash and a player to be named.

NBA — Named Greg Taylor senior vice president for player development.

p.m.); Mitchell vs. Yankton (8 p.m.) HOCKEY, BANTAM State (10:30 a.m.); Cons. Semis (noon and 2 m.); Semifinals (4 & 6 p.m.); Seventh . at Sioux Falls; State 'B' Tourn. e (8 p.m.) ce (8 p.m.) HOCKEY, BANTAM State 'A' Im at Sioux Falls; State 'B' Tourn. at SWIMMING & DIVING, COLLEGE urn. at Sioux Falls; State 'E Summit League Championships at Rochester, Mich. (USD, 11 a.m.) Sioux Center SWIMMING & DIVING. COLLEGE WRESTLING, PREP S.D. State Iss A Tourn. at Watertown; S.D. State Iss B Tourn. at Aberdeen nmit League Cha WRESTLING, PREP S.D. State Class A Tourn, at Watertown; S.D. State

Saturday, February 23 BASKETBALL, MEN'S Great Class B Tourn, at Aberdeen Sunday, February 24 BASKETBALL, MEN'S ESPN acketBuster (USD at Montana State, .m., KVHT-FM) BASKETBALL, WOMEN'S West ern Illinois at USD (2 p.m., KVHT-FM, MidcoSN); Great Plains Athletic Conf.

HOCKEY, BOYS' JV Yankton at Huron (1 p.m.) HOCKEY, GIRLS' JV State Tourn, at Yankton — Fifth (8:30 a.m.); Third (11 a.m.); Championship (1:30 p.m.) HOCKEY, BANTAM State 'A' BASKETBALL, BOYS' S.D. Dists — 8B at Hurley (Alcester-Hudson Gayville-Volin, 6:30 p.m.); 11B at Menno (Scotland at Menno, 3 p.m.); 128 (Marty s. Tripp-Delmont-Armour at Armour, 7 p.m.; Andes Central at Colome, 7 p.m.); Beresford at Tea Area; Neb. Sub-Districts — D2-5 at Hartington (Championship — Wynot vs. Bancroft-Rosalie, 7 p.m., KVHT-FM) Tourn. at Sioux Falls; State 'B' Tourn. at Sioux Center TRACK & FIELD, COLLEGE IN-DOOR Summit League Championships at Vermillion (USD) HOCKEY, GIRLS' JV State Tourn.

Opening Ceremonie

ANAHEIM DUCKS — Reassigned RW Matt Kennedy from Norfolk (AHL) to ATLANTA HAWKS - Traded G Anthony Morrow to Dallas for G/F Dahntay Fort Wayne (FCHI) Named Brian Burke part-time pro scout. NEW YORK RANGERS — Reas-signed G Scott Stajcer from Greenville (ECHL) to Connecticut (AHL). GOLDEN STATE WARRIORS

Traded G Charles Jenkins and cash to Philadelphia for a protected second-round HOUSTON ROCKETS — Traded F ST. LOUIS BLUES - Assigned G Jake Allen to Peoria (AHL). SAN JOSE SHARKS — Reassigned RW Matt Pelech to Worcester (AHL). TORONTO MAPLE LEAFS — As-

Marcus Morris to Phoenix for a 2013 sec-ond-round draft pick. Traded F Patrick Pat-terson, C Cole Aldrich and G Toney Douglas to Sacramento for C Thomas Robinson, F Francisco Garcia and F Tyler signed F Brad Ross to Idaho (ECHL).

American Hockey League BINGHAMTON SENATORS — As-signed G Marc Cheverie to Elmira (AHL). HERSHEY BEARS — Loaned F T.J. MIAMI HEAT - Traded C Dexter Pittman, a 2013 second-round draft pick and cash considerations to Memphis for the draft rights to F Ricky Sanchez Svi NEW YORK KNICKS - Traded G/F Ronnie Brewer to Oklahoma City for a 2014 second-round draft pick and cash. OKLAHOMA CITY THUNDER —

Traded G Eric Maynor to Portland for the rights to F Georgios Printezis and cash. PHOENIX SUNS — Waived F Luke Corev Milan.

Natio Hockey Leagu

> Rushmore Thunder A strong defense has helped the Thunder

Abby Fenhaus has 21 goals and 11 assists,

ner to Reading (ECHL). ECHL

SOCCER

"We've improved tremendously over last year," said coach Vern Burress. "We have good

Cheyenne Trautman (10 goals, 6 assists), Darcy Paschke (4 goals, 9 assists) and Annabelle Schulz (6 goals, 5 assists) were also offensive leaders for the squad during the regular season. Caitlin King ranks second with eight assists. Maddie Schultz also had six goals for the Thunder.

Defensively, freshman Anna Veazey has been a force, going 7-0 with a .946 save percentage. "She's been a JV goalie for four years, and

has played varsity and JV this year," Burress said. "She keeps us in games that we probably got outplayed in.' Rushmore went 3-0 against Oahe during the first and second year skaters," said coach Mike Sassman. "I've been very impressed with their progress

Talon Waring (7 goals, 3 assists) and Abbie Ferreira (6 goals) have been the 1-2 punch for the Storm.

We're not an offensive powerhouse," Sassman said. "We've spread sṫuff around." The Storm have relied on a quartet of de-

fenders to handle the load. "Abbie Ferreira, Katie Movick, Lyndsay Sassman and Sarah Vander Werf have gotten it

done all year," Coach Sassman said. Sassman hopes to see his team play well

and skate off the ice with their heads held high. "Our goal throughout the year is that they remember that they're playing what, in our mind, is the greatest game there is. And whey you're playing a game, you have fun," he said. "My hope is that they show up with all the pieces that we've worked on throughout the season and put them together, and that the walk off feeling like they gave it their absolute best effort.

Sioux Falls Flyers

NOTE: The Sioux Falls coach could not be iched at presstime.

Nebraska remained second in the Big Ten standings behind No. 7 Penn State, while Michigan dropped into a third-place tie with No. 22 Purdue, Michigan State and Illinois. The top four teams receive first-round byes in the conference tournament.

cruised from there.

North American Soccer League NEW YORK COSMOS — Signed F Peri Marosevic and F Henry Lopez. PORTLAND TIMBERS — Signed M WASHINGTON WIZARDS — Traded G Jordan Crawford to Boston for C Jason Michael Nanchoff. Traded the first right of refusal to M Nigel Reo-Coker to Vancou-ver for 2014 and 2015 second-round draft Collins and G Leandro Barbosa FOOTBALL National Football League DETROIT LIONS — Named Terry picks Heffernan assistant offensive line coach. National Women's Soccer League HOCKEY PORTLAND THORNS - Sig

WINNIPEG GOLDEYES - Signed INF/OF Leonard Davis. Can-Am League ROCKLAND BOULDERS - Traded RHP Dan Jurik and a player to be named to Newark for OF Jerod Edmondson. EVANSVILLE OTTERS — Named Jarett Gardner pitching coach. FLORENCE FREEDOM — Signed SS Junior Arrojo to a contract extension.

Orlando at Memphis, 7 p.m. Dallas at New Orleans, 7 p.m. Minnesota at Oklahoma City, 7 p.m. Boston at Phoenix, 8 p.m. San Antonio at Golden State, 9:30

Indiana 125 New York 91 Houston 122, Oklahoma City 119 Minnesota 94, Philadelphia 87 Brooklyn 97, Milwaukee 94 Miami 103, Atlanta 90 Cleveland 105 New Orleans 100 Dallas 111, Orlando 96 Golden State 108, Phoenix 98 L.A. Lakers 113, Boston 99 Thursday's Games Miami at Chicago 8 n m San Antonio at L.A. Clippers, 10:30

p.m. Friday's Games

Jay's Games Chicago at Charlotte, 6 p.m. New York at Toronto, 6 p.m. Detroit at Indiana, 6 p.m. Denver at Washington, 6 p.m. Sacramento at Atlanta, 6:30 p.m. Houston at Brooklyn, 6:30 p.m. THURSDAY'S NEB. GIRLS District B-6 Semifinals NATIONAL BASKETBALL ASSOC. EASTERN CONFERENCE Atlantic Division Pct .627 GB 33 22 .600 1 28 26 .519 51/2 p.m.

Mitchell Marlins

Hockey

From Page 9A

"She played one or two games for the U-12 squad last year," Coach Peterson said. "She's stepped in and taken a liking to playing in goal. She's done a great job."

The Rangers have been led offensively by Jadyn Peterson, who leads the team in both goals (12) and assists (14). Klara Beinhorn (10 goals, 6 ássists), Shelby Meyer (7 goals, 7 àssists) and Ellison Hegdahl (9 goals, 5 assists) have also put up big numbers in the offensive third.

Seven different players have scored five or more goals on the season for the Rangers.

"Jadyn's top-five in the state in scoring and second in assists," Coach Peterson noted. "Otherwise we're pretty spread out throughout the team.

The Ranger defense is a mix of veterans and younger players.

What started in a season-opening road trip to Rapid City resulted in the first-ever Mitchell girls' hockey team going unbeaten in the regular season.

The top-seeded Marlins (20-0-1), coached by Randy Rezac, have only a 0-0 tie to Watertown on their resume this season. Mitchell also boasts one of the state's top offenses and defenses, as well as a senior goalie in Cara Beck.

The girls just got on a roll and got a taste for winning," Rezac said. "And they just kept on going. Our defense is a big key to that, and we had the most inexperienced girls at forwards, and now they're doing very well."

Mitchell is led offensively by freshman Kylie Barington, one of the state's top scorers, and sophomore Jacey Brunsen, among the leaders in assists despite missing the first part of the season with a knee injury.

Beck, who also serves as the back-up goalie to Mitchell's varsity team, will close her career this weekend at the JV tournament. Sixthgrader Katie Uithoven could also see some time at net for the Marlins. who will graduate both of their senior goalies after this season.

"Even Katie has had a couple of sh

"When we played down there a few weeks ago, they gave us a good run for our money," said. "We scored one goal and then another, and then the floodgates opened. We have to re-

The Capitals have developed strong team

The girls have really come together." she

The Oahe first line of Amy Gilkerson (6

goals, 2 assists), Morgan Puepke (9 goals, 5 as-

sists) and Sara Bachand (4 goals, 4 assists)

have led the way, with Brooke Fendrich (9

goals, 6 assists) giving the second line some

year. She's a great role model for the rest of our

girls," Morem said. "Amy is young, but she's a

lines, all four players have made an impact.

While the Capitals run only two defensive

"Jocelyn Gray, Emerson Mechaley (2 goals,

"Sara has played both varsity and JV this

chemistry and have put together some solid

numbers, according to head coach Danielle

said. "They've really worked well together."

Jones.

draft pick.

Honevcutt

Zeller

Signed RHP Mike Lawlor. WINDY CITY THUNDERBOLTS -Signed LHP Rich Hawkins. BASKETBALL National Basketball Association

spect them; can't over-look them.

Oahe Capitals

Morem.

scoring punch.

very good skater"

post a solid record on the season.

and Allie Burress has 16 goals and seven assists for a Rushmore squad that has started strong all season. The Thunder have a 34-11 edge in first period goals.

movement in the offensive zone."

"All of our girls have at least one year of JV under their belts," Peterson said. "They're all working pretty well. Hopefully we're peaking at the right time."

Brookings draws a Sioux Falls team that has plenty of star power, led by Hanna Mutschelknaus, who has 32 goals on the season.

They're a tough team that's young like us but has some good veterans," Peterson said. "We're 2-2 against them. That's about as evenly matched as a 4-5 matchup can get."

her games," Rezac said. "We wanted her to get her feet wet, to get some experience. It's our unfortunate luck to have two senior goalies, but we'll worry about next year after this weekend."

Before any championship talk can begin, Mitchell has to contend with the hometown Yankton Miracle tonight. Though the Marlins won all three regular season matchups and Yankton comes in winless, Rezac said his team realizes the challenge.

assist). Savana Boque (1 goal) and Grace Nedved (5 goals, 5 assists) have done a great job," Morem said. "They're all constantly watching the play, making good decisions on de-

Morem feels the matchup with the Rushmore Thunder is an even one.

"It should be an interesting game. Our skill level is about the same," she said. "If we continue to play like we have the last couple of weeks, we'll have no issues.

regular season, but two of those victories came in overtime. "It will be a tough first-round game against Oahe," Burress said. "They're a good group of

Like Yankton, the Sioux Center Storm have

a ton of young talent, with the emphasis on

girls. Hopefully we can come out ahead.

Sioux Center Storm

One of the top scorers in the state resides in Sioux Falls.

Hanna Mutschelknaus has 32 goals and 13 assists on the season, giving the Flyers the star power that few teams have at this level.

Robin Hatcher (11 goals, 5 assists) and Taylor Dawley (4 goals, 9 assists) have also been offensive factors. Kaitlyn Vockler also has six goals for the Flyers.

"young." "We're a first-year team with a number of Carson Haase has had the majority of the

Wrestling

From Page 9A

takes it to heart. Come state, some people are in for a big surprise.

Taylor, who finished sixth a year ago, draws Pine Ridge's Rob Stover (22-10) in the opening round. His losses - both by one point - came to Parkston's Brady Reiff (40-0), unbeaten and top-ranked at 220 in Class B, and Dell Rapids' Leon Maxwell (39-2)

'You can tell he's hungry for more," Hanson said.

Junior Blake Perryman (46-5) also takes a region title into his 138-pound opener with Huron eighth grader Nick Christensen (15-25).

"Blake has definitely come a long way in the last year," Hanson said. "He is wrestling with a lot of confidence."

Sophomore Brady Dam (17-12) qualified for the 145-pound field after not wrestling for the first month of the season. He will open against Rapid City Central's Blake Stone (47-3).

"Brady started after Christmas because of an injury from football," Hanson said. "It took him a few weeks to get in shape, but he's earned some big wins along the way and had a good region tournament."

Class B

Andes Central

A pair of eighth graders earned their way to state as Andes Central restored its stand-alone wrestling program. There was no Eagles varsity wrestling program a year ago, after Platte-Geddes and Corsica disolved their co-op with the school and went their separate ways.

Eighth grader Leo Hopkins has put together an impressive 26-9 record at 106 pounds. He will face Canton sophomore Jordan Sehr (36-15) in the opening round.

At heavyweight, Trezen Doren (9-13) is one of two eighth graders qualified in the big-man field. He also drew a wrestler from Canton, junior Tanner Broughton (41-8).

Beresford

A year ago, the Watchdogs introduced themselves to the Class B wrestling world, earning a ninth place finish. This year, Beresford plans to introduce itself to the state awards podium.

"Last year we were close to placing," said Beresford head coach Tyler Sorenson. "This year we don't want to leave anything to chance." The Watchdogs take eight wrestlers to Ab-

erdeen, three of which placed a year ago: senior Josh Manning (5th at 126) and juniors Justin

Haneke (2nd at 106) and Josh Casperson (7th at 160).

"Everyone knows we're building and that we have a good team," Sorenson said. "We only have one senior in the eight going to state." Manning (36-5) has earned three state tour-

nament medals during his career, and would like to cap that with a gold. He opens with Newell's Teigan Strohschein (26-9) at 132 pounds.

This is always a buisness trip for him. He's ready to roll," Sorenson said. "Austin Oyen from Tri-Vallev has beaten him four times, and the kid from Clark-Willow Lake (Jakob Weisbrod) is tough, but Josh didn't run away from that challenge. He's our leader - he isn't really outspoken but he busts his butt every day."

Haneke (38-3) will be looking to take one more step up the podium. Among the challenges for the junior, who opens at 120 pounds against a one-loss wrestler in Kurt Braun from Burke-Gregory, is that the wrestler who beat him in last year's final, Loudenburg, is also at 120.

"Justin's looking forward to going after it again," Sorenson said. "He's on a tough side of the bracket, with the first and second-ranked wrestlers in the state, but if he does what he's capable of he'll be right back in the finals."

Josh Casperson (31-9) moved up from 170 pounds to 182 pounds late in the year, but has responded well to that and other challenges. He opens against Groton junior Tyler Scott (23-11). He's a smart wrestler. He knows how to

win," Sorenson said. "He likes when people tell him he can't do something."

Junior Brad Bogue was a starter on the Watchdogs' basketball team a vear ago, but is headed to state wrestling this year with a 30-20 record. He draws Webster standout Nolan Richie (32-2) in the 126-pound opener.

"Last year I tried to get him out for wrestling. This year I didn't even have to ask - he asked me," Sorenson said of Bogue, who had wrestled earlier in his high school career. "He started out at 138 but when 126 opened up he cut weight and got to it. He's a lot of fun to coach.'

Junior Derek Wiebers (38-13) is only in his second year on the mats. The 220-pounder draws Britton-Hecla senior Matt Muth (29-5). 'He's made quite a jump," Sorenson said.

'He's been so close to breaking out. I'm hoping it can happen this weekend."

The Watchdogs have freshmen at 113 (Jared Lyle) and 285 (Tristan Lutter). Lyle (37-10) opens against Stanley County eighth grader Chad Whitley (25-13), while Lutter (25-19) faces Scotland sophomore Dan Stibral (33-4), who finished sixth in the weight class a year ago.

"Tristan's a big young kid that doesn't back down from anybody," Sorenson said. "Jared is probably our most improved wrestler. Last year he was a little green and undersized. This year he grew into the weight class, and he's beating all the guys that beat him earlier in the year.' Seventh grader Nick Casperson takes a 30record into his 106-pound opener against Miller-Highmore-Harrold eighth grader J.C. Forman (29-7).

"Nick doesn't wrestle like a seventh grader," Sorenson said. "If he brings his 'A' game, he'll do verv well.'

Bon Homme

While the Cavaliers did not get every wrestler they'd hoped to state, the team sent six to Aberdeen, including a pair of returning state placewinners

"We were hoping for three or four more that we thought had a legitimate chance. A couple of those were seniors, and that's tough for a coach to take," said Bon Homme head coach Mark Stoebner. "Our 113 (Alex Caba) and 145 (Austin Kaul) wrestlers had no room for error. even though they were ranked. They had to wrestle well to get through.

Senior Lincoln Stoebner (6th at 126) and junior Kaul (7th at 138) return after placing a year ago. Stoebner (36-3) remains at 126 and opens against Stanley County's Lukas Chase (25-16), while Kaul (14-4) moved up a class and ill face Faulkton's Riley Potter (33-11) at 145.

"It was big for Lincoln to win regions. This is his fourth state tournament, so he knows what's going on," Coach Stoebner said. "Austin picked up an injury in his first tournament, and it took him a while to get back. He has placed the last two years, and we think he's at a good spot physically.

Seniors Blase Vanecek and Ezra Bartlett also make one last run for the Cavaliers. Vanecek (31-4) draws Faulkton's Austin Thomas (30-18) at 170, while Bartlett (26-17) faces Custer's Clay Siegler (25-12) at 195.

"Blase has lost to (Wagner's) David Kocer three times and Trevor Lensing once. He spent most of the year at 160, but we decided it would be best for him to go to 170," Coach Stoebner said. "It was good to get Ezra in. He needs to be confident that he can win and score points."

The Cavaliers' other two wrestlers, sophomore Duncan Stoebner and freshman Alex Caba, are each in their third year at their respective weight classes and poised for a run to the medals stand. Caba (33-9) opens against Canton's John Lemer (30-13) at 113, while Stoebner takes his 37-0 record into his 106pound opener against Deuel's Devon Sievers (26-16)

"It's their time to have success," Coach Stoebner said.

Elk Point-Jefferson

The Huskies will send four wrestlers, including one returning placewinner, to Aberdeen.

The returning placewinner is the youngster of the group, freshman Jared Hueser, who finished sixth at 113 pounds a year ago. Now at 138 pounds, he takes a 30-11 record into his first-round match against Faulkton senior William Edgar (32-18).

EPJ takes two seniors to state, Jared Limoges (30-9) at 145 and Nick Weiss (32-10) at 152. Limoges draws Newell's Seth McCann (37-3), while Weis faces Warner-Northwestern's Adam Ochsner (32-11).

Also headed to state is junior 195-pounder C.J. Geary (28-7), who faces Redfield-Doland's Brett Christman (18-11) in the opening round.

Marion-Freeman

The Rebels send one wrestler to state, junior 170-pounder Cole Globke (12-20). He will face Philip's Clint Everett Stout (33-8) in the opener.

Parker

A pair of big boys, junior 195-pounder Alec Dagel and sophomore heavyweight Payton Jensen, represent the Pheasants in Aberdeen. Dagel (12-29) draws Kingsbury County standout Eugene Martin (42-1), while Jensen (33-14) faces Burke-Gregory eighth grader Colton Nelson (18-12).

Parkston

The Parkston Trojans send a dozen wrestlers to state, including five returning state placewinners, as they look for their first state

title in six vears. The Trojans dominated Region 3B, but could have done even more damage, according to

head coach Jared Digmann. "We had a good day. I thought we had a chance at 14 wrestlers, but we lost one to ill-ness the week of regions," he said. "We would have ended up with two seniors.'

That's right. The favorite to win the Class B title only have one senior on the state tournament roster.

"I think we have a good shot as a team," Dig-mann said. "We had 10 in the (region) championships, five firsts and five seconds, and that usually helps with the draw."

Among those five returning state placewinners is sophomore 220-pounder Brady Reiff, who takes a 40-0 record into his opening round match with Red Cloud's John Jung (28-14). Reiff finished fourth at 185 a year ago.

"Brady has scored a lot of extra points by getting pins this season," Digmann said of Reiff, who has 28 pins on the season. "He has a good draw, but he still has to show up and wrestle." Senior Myles Bialas, sixth at 132 a year ago.

and junior Mitch Heisinger, runner-up at 145 last season, also return with the goal of moving up the podium. Bialas (42-11) faces Potter County's Jace Everson (29-9) in the 138-pound opener, while Heisinger (41-4) opens against Sully Buttes' Jace Anderson (15-9) at 152

pounds.

"We knew Myles would be sitting in a decent position because he had the number one kid in the state in his region. He's sitting at 30 pins on the season, and is a tough competitor. If Bialas wrestles to his potential he could be in the championship," Digmann said. "We're not disappointed by Mitch's draw, but he will have to wrestle two good matches to get to the number one guy in the state (Zach Schuman of Tri-Valley). If Mitch wrestles to his ability he has a chance "

Sophomore Weslee Dvorak (5th at 120) and eighth grader Blake Bietz (3rd at 106) also return after collecting state hardware a year ago. Bietz (43-3) draws Garretson's Jacob Fitzgerald (32-13) at 113, while Dvorak (33-4) draws Clark-Willow Lake's Kevin Schuelke (23-23) at 145.

"Blake doesn't have the best draw, but when he's focused it's unbelievable what he can do,' Digmann said. "Weslee is one we expect a lot of points out of."

Also in the lower weights, the Trojans have sophomore Ethan Murtha (31-15) at 126, freshman Austin Ripp (21-15) at 132, eighth grader Logan Mahoney (33-10) at 106 and seventh grader Dawson Semmler (38-16) at 120. Mahoney faces Kingsbury County's Brody Harkness (33-20), Semmler draws Tri-Valley's Jacob Thom (41-11), Murtha faces Potter County's Brody Schatz (32-10) and Ripp draws Britton-Hecla's Ben Boyko (29-10).

"Logan's been wrestling tough all year. He's had to work hard all year just to get out of the room and onto the varsity mat," Digmann said. Dawson will need a good tournament to place. but I think he can place. Ethan's not in a bad spot despite finishing third at regions. Austin's wrestled right there with the top guys."

Also in the higher weights, junior Andrew Semmler (37-9) is at 195, and sophomores Miles Semmler (35-16) and Austin Bertram (36-8) are at 170 and 285, respectively. Miles Semmler draws Webster's Jared McClurg (37-4), Andrew Semmler faces Mobridge-Pollock's Chase Schoenhard (27-10) and Bertram draws Tri-Valley senior Dominick Burggraff (22-14).

"Miles finished fourth in the region, but that's one of the better draws you can hope for in that position. There are 10 good guys that could end up in the top eight in that class," Digmann said. Andrew's been wrestling well and could be in a high place, but will have to wrestle well in every match. Austin has 32 pins, well ahead of the school record (28 prior to this season).'

Scotland

The Highlanders will have just one representative at state, but he has an impressive resume.

Sophomore Dan Stibral (33-4) finished sixth at heavyweight a year ago, and is one of three wrestlers with four or fewer setbacks on the season. He draws Beresford freshman Tristan Lutter in the first round.

Wagner

The Red Raiders, fourth a year ago, take a veteran lineup to state. Of their eight state qualifiers in 2013, four are seniors and four are returning state placewinners.

The two returning senior state placewinners are Tyler Dion (2nd at 126) and Austin Soukup (8th at 138). Dion (33-2) draws Stanley County's Casey Heninger (22-6) at 138, while Soukup (31-8) draws Flandreau standout Jace Christiansen (44-3), a returning state champion, at 145.

Also making their final trip to state are seniors Sage and Dakota Zephier. Sage (16-4) opens against Custer's Chasen Cole (22-13) at 126, while Dakota draws Philip's Chance Knutson (26-10) at 182.

Returning after collecting state hardware a year ago are junior David Kocer (3rd at 145) and sophomore Trevor Lensing (8th at 170). Kocer (32-1) draws Canton's Jaydn Broughton at 160, while Lensing returns at 170, facing Groton's Tyler Scott (23-11).

Rounding out the Red Raider contingent are juniors Nick Dion and Brady Soulek. Dion takes a 15-13 mark into his 132-pound opener against Clark-Willow Lake's Jakob Weisbrod, while Soulek (26-14) faces Philip's Lane Blasius (29-3) in the 152-pound opener.

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