Press&Dakotan DAILY DOSE

Daily opinions from the P&D Sports Staff on local and national high school, college and professional sports.



Transportation Was The Qualifying Factor In Crofton Boys' Last Trip To State Basketball

BY JAMES D. CIMBUREK james.cimburek@yankton.net

To say that the Crofton boys' basketball program had never qualified for state prior to Monday night's victory over Hartington Cedar Catholic

But Crofton has played in not one, but two, state boys' basketball

In the 1920s, state tournament qualification was based not on your ability on the hardwood, but on your ability to make the trip to Lincoln,

Neb., for the tournament.

From 1917 to 1929, no fewer than 93 teams made that trip each year, peaking at 339 teams and 22 classes in 1926, according to NSAA Assistant Director Jim Angele. Teams that made the trip were paired up based on enrollment of the school and win-loss record. The sportswriters of the day put together the brackets, according to Angele.

That changed in 1930, when the field was parred down to two classes and 32 teams. One single-class 16-team tournament the following year, and the tournament built towards its current 48-team, six-class field, from

Looking through the NSAA archives online, there are a number of schools whose final trip to state occurred during those "open field" years: 111 according to my count. Only two of those schools still remain open in the format they were in 1929 and, of those, only one is not in a cooperative for athletics.

Verdigre, which hasn't been to state for boys' basketball since 1926, is the other. They, of course, have joined with Niobrara for athletics. So those of us making the trek to Lincoln for next Thursday's game

will see a little history. At least we don't have to take the train.

CHAMPS IN FOUR TOURNEYS



The Yankton Heat sixth grade boys' basketball team has scored division titles in four recent tournaments, held at Lennox, Mount Marty in Yankton, Vermillion and Norfolk, Neb. Team members include (front) Cole Sawatzke, Owen Feser, Jack Raab, Rex Ryken, Ethan Wishon, Nick Kurtenbach, Michael Frick, Miles Carda, (back) coaches Jim Sawatzke and Brian Carda. The team is sponsored by Steamway Cleaning, Olson's Pest Technicians, Vision Care Associates, C&C Mowing, Hair Studio and Plains Marketing.

Riesberg Headed To Kearney

KEARNEY, Neb. — Crofton standout Danielle Riesberg will take her speed to the University of Nebraska-Kearney track and field program, the institution announced on Tuesday. Riesberg was Nebraska Class D state runner-up in cross

country this past fall. She was a key part of a Crofton girls' cross country program that has won seven consecutive Class D team titles, finishing

fourth in 2011, ninth in 2010 and seventh in 2009. In 2012, she earned the 400-meter dash title in Class C at the Nebraska State Track and Field Championships. She also finished fourth in the 200-meter dash and was part of the Lady Warriors' third place 400-meter relay and eighth place 1600-

USD Women's Cross Country Team Earns All-Academic Honor

VERMILLION — South Dakota's women's cross country team has earned All-Academic Team status from the U.S. Track

and Field/Cross Country Coaches Association. The South Dakota women recorded a 3.71 cumulative GPA last fall, which was sixth-best out of the 200 programs receiving the honor. South Dakota also had the top GPA in the Summit

All-Academic team status is achieved by having a team cumulative GPA of 3.0 or higher and by having at least five runners

30 23

Central Division

33 .400 12

14 23

37 41 43

Pct GB

Pct GB

.741 — .582 8 1/2

.327 22 1/2 .281 25 1/2 .232 28

Boston

Toronto

Miami

Atlanta

Washington

Charlotte

Chicago

start in an NCAA regional championship.

Squirt Hockey Twinbill March 9 The Yankton squirt hockey team has added an 'A' and 'B' doubleheader 'friendly' with Sioux Center, Iowa, on Saturday,

Games will be at 7 and 8:15 p.m. at Alcoa Arena in Yankton.

Friends Softball Tourn. Cancelled WICHITA, Kan. — The Friends University Softball Tournament, in which Mount Marty was scheduled to particate, was cancelled by the host school.

MMC has not yet added any games to its schedule to replace those dates

Fox Run Golf Meetings Coming Up In March, April

Fox Run Golf Course has announced its upcoming meetings for its summer golf leagues. Each meeting will be held at 7 p.m. at the Fox Run clubhouse.

The ladies league meeting will be held Wednesday, March 13. The meeting for all men's leagues will be held on Thursday, March 14. The senior league meeting will be held on Thursday,

For more information, contact Fox Run Golf Course at 605-

668-5205.

Roger Haas Deadline Approaching

The 23rd annual Roger Haas Memorial Basketball Tournaments will be held over two weekends in March at sites across Yankton. The grades 4-5-9 tournament for boys and girls will be held Saturday, March 2, while the grades 6-7-8 tournament will be played March 22-23. The deadline for the 6-7-8 tournament is Friday, March 8.

The deadline for grades 4-5-9 has passed.

To register online, go to rogerhaas.com. For more information, contact Dale Hansen at 661-0004 or Curt Roth at 660-

L&C Adventure Race March 11

The inaugural Lewis & Clark Adventure Race will be held at the Lewis & Clark Scout Camp west of Yankton on Saturday,

March 11. This will be the first obstacle-style race in the area, and you'll find challenges you've never before encountered: Sacagawea Canoe Carry, Frontiersman Electroshock Therapy, Savage Sandbag Pass, the Beaver-Bash-Dash and more. You can enter individually, or with a friend or group.

information,m contact more 2013LCAR@gmail.com or visit http://lewisandclarkadventur-

SCOREBOARD

BASKETBALL

TUESDAY'S S.D. BOYS District 1AA First Round Brookings 50, Watertown 45 Sioux Falls Roosevelt 67, Siou osevelt 67, Sioux Falls O'Gor-

District 2AA First Round Brandon Valley 56, Sioux Falls Washington 43

Sioux Falls Lincoln 53, Yankton 50 First Round Huron 63. Mitchell 53 Pierre 61, Aberdeen Central 38

Rapid City Central 66, Douglas 49 District 3A First Round Redfield/Doland 48, Florence/Henry 46

District 4A First Round Deuel 64, Hamlin 47 Sioux Valley 56, Deubrook 36 District 5A

First Round Elkton-Lake Benton 62, Flandreau 59 Madison 101, Flandreau Indian 42 District 6A Dell Rapids 65, Garretson 51

Sioux Falls Christian 64, Baltic 32 District 9A

District 10A First Round Parkston 53, Wagner 45 District 12A

First Round Miller 78, Crow Creek 66 District 13A Winner 71, Todd County 56

District 14A First Round Little Wound 61, Bennett County 42 District 1B

Rosholt 58, Waverly-South Shore 46 District 2B

Langford 47, Hitchcock-Tulare 44 Warner 46. Leola/Frederick 43 District 3B

Howard 53. Oldham-Ramona/Rutland 45 55

Semifinals

Lower Brule 62, Sunshine Bible Academy Sully Buttes 76, Faulkton 31 Herreid/Selby Area 72, Ipswich 63

District 5B

ood 69, Great Plains Lutheran 49

Potter County 58, Eureka/Bowdle 39 District 7B

James Valley Christian 92, Wessington Ethan 58, Menno 42 District 12B

Dakota Christian 55, Colome 40 South Central 58, Tripp-Delmont/Armour 42

TUESDAY'S S.D. GIRLS Region 1A
Aberdeen Roncalli 43, Milbank 31
Region 4A

Harrisburg 56, Beresford 37 Region 7B Wall 36, Lyman 25 TUESDAY'S NEB. BOYS

A-6 Tournament Championship Papillion-LaVista South 49, Omaha Bryan B-1 Tournament Championship Waverly 46, Beatrice 39

B-2 Tournament Championship Gretna 61, Ralston 48 B-3 Tournament Championship South Sioux City 64, Bennington 47

B-4 Tournament Championship

Seward 55 B-5 Tournament Championship District D1-2 Final
High Plains Community 62, Ke
District D1-3 Final

Howells/Dodge 49, Randolph 46 District D1-4 Final Burwell 48, St. Marv's 38 District D1-5 Final District D1-6 Final

Paxton 94, Potter-Dix 37 District D2-1 Final District D2-2 Final Spalding/Spalding Academy 54, Humphrey

District D2-3 Final District D2-4 Final Giltner 59, Amherst 29

District D2-5 Final Wauneta-Palisade 62, Anselmo-Merna 47 District D2-6 Final

USA TODAY WOMEN'S TOP 25 POL The top 25 teams in the USA To Women's college basketball poll, with first-pl votes in parentheses, records through Feb. total points based on 25 points for a first-pl vote through one point for a 25th-place vote last week's ranking

1. Baylor (30)	27-1	774	1	
2. Notre Dame (1)	25-1	744	2	
3. UConn	25-2	712	3	
4. Duke	26-1	671	4	
Stanford	26-2	662	5	
California	25-2	622	6	
Penn State	23-3	583	9	
8. Tennessee	22-5	524	10	
9. Maryland	22-5	512	8	
10. Kentucky	23-4	508	7	
11. Georgia	23-4	458	12	
12. Dayton	24-1	411	14	
13. South Carolina	22-5	398	15	
14. Louisville	22-6	359	11	
15. Texas A&M	21-7	342	13	
16. UCLA	21-6	315	16	
North Carolina	25-4	298	17	
Delaware	24-3	243	19	
19. Colorado	22-5	182	23	
20. Syracuse	22-4	161	18	
21. Iowa State	19-6	139	24	
22. Purdue	20-7	92	21	
23. Green Bay	22-2	83	_	
24. Florida State	20-7	69	20	
Nebraska	21-6	66	_	
Others receiving votes: Oklahoma State 63,				
Toyas Toch 23 Princeto	on 17 Sout	h Florid	a 12	

San Diego State 11, Kansas 7, Marist 3, Oklahoma 3, Toledo 3, SMU 2, Gonzaga 1, Liberty 1

NATIONAL BASKETBALL ASSOC. EASTERN CONFERENCE Atlantic Division				
	W	L	Pct	GB
New York	33	20	.623	_
Brooklyn	34	24	.586	1 1/2

	Milwaukee	26	28	.481	8 1/2	Thursday's Games
LL	Detroit	22	37	.373	15	L.A. Clippers at Indiana, 6 p.m.
Today	Cleveland	18	38	.321	17 1/2	Philadelphia at Chicago, 7 p.m.
place						Minnesota at L.A. Lakers, 9:30 p.m.
piace 5. 25,						willinesola at L.A. Lakers, 9.30 p.m.
		W	L	Pct	GB	HAALEV
place	San Antonio	45	13	.776	_	HOCKEY
e and	Memphis	37	18	.673	6 1/2	Monday's Games
Pvs	Houston	31	27	.534	14	Ottawa 2, Montreal 1, SO
	Dallas	25	30	.455	18 1/2	Toronto 4, Philadelphia 2
1	New Orleans	20	38	.345	25	Nashville 5, Dallas 4, OT
Northwest Division				n		Chicago 3, Edmonton 2, OT
		W	L	Pct	GB	Los Angeles 5, Anaheim 2
4 5 6	Oklahoma City	41	15	.732	_	Tuesday's Games
0	Denver	36	22	.621	6	Dallas 5, Columbus 4, OT
9	Utah	31	26	.544	10 1/2	Washington 3, Carolina 0
	Portland	26	30	.464	15	Winnipeg 4, N.Y. Rangers 3
10	Minnesota	20	33	.377	19 1/2	Florida 6, Pittsburgh 4
ŏ	8 Minnesota 20 33 .3// Pacific Division					Buffalo 2, Tampa Bay 1
		W	L	Pct	GB	Boston 4, N.Y. Islanders 1
12	L.A. Clippers	40	18	.690	_	Calgary at Minnesota, 8 p.m.
14	Golden State	33	24	.579	6 1/2	Phoenix at Vancouver, 10 p.m.
15	L.A. Lakers	28	30	.483	12	Colorado at San Jose, 10:30 p.m.
11	Sacramento	19	38	.333	20 1/2	Wednesday's Games
13	Phoenix	18	39	.316	21 1/	Washington at Philadelphia, 6:30 p.m.
16 17	Monday's Games					Montreal at Toronto, 6:30 p.m.
	Machineton 00 Toronto 04			Detroit at Los Angeles, 9 p.m.		
19	Atlanta 114 Detroit 102			Nashville at Anaheim, 9 p.m.		
23	Denver 119, L			3		
18	Boston 110, U			-		TRANSACTIONS
24	Tuesday's Games		-			I MANSACTIONS

Orlando 98, Philadelphia 84 Indiana 108, Golden State 97

Sacramento at Miami, 7:30 p.m Brooklyn 101, New Orleans 97 Cleveland at Chicago, 8 p.m. Milwaukee at Dallas, 8:30 p.m. Minnesota at Phoenix, 9 p.m Charlotte at L.A. Clippers, 10:30 p.m Inesday's Games
Toronto at Cleveland, 6 p.m.

Sacramento at Orlando, 6 p.m Detroit at Washington, 6 p.m. Milwaukee at Houston, 7 p.m. Dallas at Memphis, 7 p.m.

New Orleans at Oklahoma City, 7 p.m. Golden State at New York, 7 p.m.

AREA CALENDAR

Wednesday, February 27

Phoenix at San Antonio 7:30 n m

Atlanta at Utah, 8 p.m. Denver at Portland, 9:30 p.m. Thursday's Games

American Association

AMARILLO SOX—Signed RHP Joe Newby. Acquired OF Cory Patton from San Angelo for a player to be named GARY SOUTHSHORE RAILCATS—Signed

RHP Will Krout and OF Adam Klein.

KANSAS CITY T-BONES—Signed OF

Brandon Jones, RHP Ethan Cole and OF Ken-

Can-Am League

LINCOLN SALTDOGS—Signed RHP Travis

Thursday, February 28
BASKETBALL, MEN'S USD at IUPUI (6:30 p.m., KVHT-

BASKETBALL, WOMEN'S USD at Omaha (7 p.m.,

BASKETBALL, BOYS' S.D. Districts — 8A at North Sioux City (Beresford vs. Dakota Valley, 6 p.m.; Vermillion vs. Elk

Regions — 5A at Wagner (Parkston vs. West Central, 7 p.m.); 4B at Tea (Centerville vs. Parker) TRACK & FIELD, COLLEGE INDOOR NAIA Champi-

BASKETBALL, GIRLS' S.D. Districts — 2AA (Brandon Valley at YHS, 7 p.m., KYNT-AM); Neb. State Tourn. at Lincoln — Class C2 (Corfon vs. North Bend Central, 2 p.m., KKYA-FM); Class D2 (Wynot vs. Giltner, 8:45 p.m., KVTK-AM); S.D.

NEWARK BEARS-Signed RHP Kyle Morrison and OF JJ Sherrill. Sold the contract of OF James Roche to the New York Mets. FRONTIER LEAGUE

LAKE ERIE CRUSHERS-Signed LHP Matt Rei ROCKFORD AVIATORS—Signed C Eric Bainer and OF Alvaro Ramirez. Released RHP

Nelson Curry.
SOUTHERN ILLINOIS MINERS—Signed RHP Brandon Cunniff to a contract extension WINDY CITY THUNDERBOLTS—Signed LHP Matt Wickswat.

BASKETBALL

National Basketball Association
MILWAUKEE BUCKS—Suspended C Samuel Dalembert one game for a violation of

National Hockey League
ANAHEIM DUCKS—Assigned F Peter Hol-

land to Norfolk (AHL). Recalled F Emerson Etem from Norfolk. FLORIDA PANTHERS—Recalled C Scott Timmins from San Antonio (AHL). LOS ANGELES KINGS—Traded LW Simon Gagne to Philadelphia for a conditional draft

MONTREAL CANADIENS—Acquired Michael Ryder and a third-round draft pick in 2013 from Dallas for F Erik Cole. NEW JERSEY DEVILS—Placed G Martin Brodeur on injured reserve, retroactive to Feb. 24. Recalled G Keith Kinkaid from Albany (AHL).

ST. LOUIS BLUES-Recalled F Andrew m Peoria (AHL). SAN JOSE SHARKS-Recalled F D Matt rin from Worcester (AHL).
WASHINGTON CAPITALS—Recalled

Casey Wellman from Hershey (AHL). American Hockey League AHL—Suspended Binghamton LW Darre Kramer three games for leaving the players bench on a legal line change for the purpose o starting an altercation in a Feb. 23 game vs. Al-

SOCCER Major League soccer
D.C. UNITED—Signed MF Marcos

Brian Foster to Cincinnati (ECHL).

Sanchez.
SAN JOSE EARTHQUAKES—Re-signed F

GRAND RAPID GRIIFINS-Announced LW

evor Parkes was reassigned to Toledo (ECHL). SAN ANTONIO RAMPAGE—Loaned G

Chris Wondolowski. VANCOUVER WHITECAPS—Agreed to terms with MF Gershon Koffiea on contract ex

DUKE—Named Re'quan Boyette running

Friday, March 1

BASKETBALL, BOYS' S.D. Districts — 2AA (YHS, 7 p.m., KYNT-XM); 10A at higher seed (Championship — 7 p.m.); 7B at Tea (Championship — 6:30 p.m.); 8B at Tea (Championship — 6:30 p.m.) BASKETBALL, GIRLS' Neb. State Tourn at Lincoln HOCKEY, BOYS' JV State Tourn at Park (** BIELD ** COEFS* INDOOR MAIA Championship — 6:30 p.m.)

TRACK & FIELD, COLLEGE INDOOR NAIA Champi

OKLAHOMA—Named Jerry Montgomer SACRED HEART—Named Bobby Valent

STANFORD-Named Morgan Turner tigh WESTERN KENTUCKY—Dismissed ser

C Teeng Akol from the basketball team

played good tough defense and we executed on the offense a little better."

We want to take it step by step but we want to raise the big one when we're done," Heimes said. It's a lot of fun to watch and coach."

Nathan Wieseler was a little more blunt as he en-

You can follow Chris Riley on Twitter at twitter.com/ChrisCRiley

Hoops

From Page 8

15) with 16 points. Clayton Dye added 15 points in the loss.

Canistota advances to the championship of District 7B on Friday. Bridgewater-Emery drops to the third place game on Friday, as well.

District 10A Parkston 53. Wagner 45

PARKSTON — Zach Scott scored 14 points and Spencer Lucas added 13 points as Parkston beat Wagner 53-45 in District 10A boys' basketball post-season action Tuesday night in Parkston. Kyle Hohn added 12 points for the Trojans

(12-9), who play Platte-Geddes for the district itle on Friday. In the season-ending loss for Wagner (10-

11), Will Hollmann scored 15 points and graphed 10 rehounds WAGNER (10-11) ... PARKSTON (12-9)...9 20 29 4517 32 43 53

Platte-Geddes 62, **Bon Homme 27**

PLATTE — Platte-Geddes defeated Bon Homme 62-27 in the semi-finals of District 10A on Tuesday.

Coby Johnson led Platte-Geddes (14-7) with 18 points and six rebounds. Hunter Johnson added 10 points and five rebounds Hunter Young was the lone lead scorer for

Bon Homme with six points and three boards. Platte-Geddes will play Parkston in the District 10A championship on Friday, Bon Homme ends their season with a 6-14 record. PLATTE-GEDDES (14-7) ... BON HOMME (6-14)..... 9 26 54 62

District 11B Ethan 58, Menno 42

ETHAN — Éthan defeated Meno 58-42 in the semi-finals of District 11B on Tuesday.

Blake Bartscher led Ethan (12-7) with 22 points, Jace Cooper and Anthony Huber each added 11 points in the victory.

Austin Herrboldt led Menno (8-13) with 15 points. Dylan Lehr added 10 points in the loss. Ethan advances to the championship of District 11B on Friday. Menno will play for third on Friday, teams and sites are to be announced.

District 12B South Central 58, Tri **Delmont-Armour 42**

BURKE — Tyler Frank recorded 32 points as South Central beat Tripp-Delmont-Armour 58-42 in the District 12B opener Tuesday night in

Sam Hazen posted 15 points and 12 rebounds for the Cougars (19-2), while Dakota Votaw dished out 10 assists. South Central will play in the district title game Friday night at the Mitchell Corn Palace. For the Nighthawks (8-13), Cody Hrdlicka scored 15 points and Trevor Payer had 10

District 9A McCook Central-Montrose

62, West Central 45 SÁLEM — McCook Central-Montrose defeated West Central 62-45 in the semi-finals of

(16-5) with 17 points. Bill Kapperman added 14 points in the victory.

Cody Bussel led West Central with nine points in the loss.

Will Gottloh and Jacob Heumiller led MCM

MCM advances to the championship of District 9A. West Central finished with a 2-19

record.

District 4A Deuel 64, Hamlin 47

CLEAR LAKE — Gage Schake scored 16 points and Deuel used a 19-point lead after the first quarter to roll past Hamlin 64-47 in District 4A action Tuesday night.

Trevor Cassels added 12 points and five rebounds for Deuel, which advances to face either Sioux Valley or Deubrook Area on Friday

For Hamlin, E.J. Drake had 12 points and six rebounds.

District 1AA **Brook. 50, Watertown 45** BROOKINGS — Tyler Nagy scored 25

points to lead Brookings past Watertown 50-45 n the District 1AA opener on Tuesday night. Braxton Carlson added 10 points and six rebounds for the Bobcats, who will play Sioux

ments from 22 medalists from the includes U.S. pole vaulter Jenn Suhr, long jumper Brittney Reese and hurdlers Dawn Wells and

> London medalists from 14 na-Des Moines in late April. "The money does help in

Falls Roosevelt for the 1AA title on Friday night. For Watertown, Tanner Heiser scored 15 points and Jesse Poppen added eight points. .10 22 33 50

District 2AA Brandon Valley 56,

S.F. Washington 43 BRANDON — The Brandon Valley Lynx defeated the Sioux Falls Washington Warriors 56-43 in the opening round of District 2AA on

Chase Marso led the Lynx (15-6) with 27 points. Nic Peterson added 10 points in the victory for Brandon Valley. Brett Stanley led the Warriors (4-17) with 14

points and six rebounds. Sam Siganos added

Brandon Valley will host Sioux Falls Lincoln for the District 3AA championship on Friday. Washington will travel to Yankton for the third place game on Friday, as well.

......11 25 34 5615 23 39 43 BRANDON VALLEY (15-6). WASHINGTON (4-17)...... **District 3AA**

Huron 63, Mitchell 53 HURON — Justin Decker scored 20 points and grabbed six rebounds to lead Huron past Mitchell 63-53 in the District 3AA opener Tues-

day night. Adam Zwanziger added 11 points and nine rebounds for the winning Tigers (15-6), which travels to Pierre on Friday night for the district

The fourth quarter was high scoring, as Huron had 30 points and Mitchell finished with For Mitchell (5-16), Beau Brown scored 24 points and Seth Cavanaugh added 14 points. The Kernels host Aberdeen Central on Friday.

...16 32 40 63

the Aberdeen Central Eagles 61-38 in the semifinals of District 3AA on Tuesday Lane Severyn led Pierre (16-5) with 20 points, six rebounds, and four assists. Zach Hanson

added 12 points and eight rebounds in the vic-

with 12 points and eight boards. Brady Mohr added eight points in the loss. Pierre will take on Huron for the District 3AA

championship on Friday. Aberdeen Central faces Mitchell on Friday for the thrid place game. PIERRE (16-5).. ABERDEEN CENTRAL (5-15)...

reach has expanded as well, with tions committed to competing in

Pierre 61, Aberdeen C. 38 PIERRE — The Pierre Governors defeated

Braden LeGrand led Aberdeen Central (5-15) a lot better defense.

> "Ryan has been playing well the last couple of games, Haynes said. "He started off well both offensively and defensively. They (Lincoln) have some guards

point run of their own, then outscored the Bucks 7-2 at the

start of the fourth quarter to take its largest lead, 45-40. Rucker and Brady Hale hit three-pointers on consecutive possessions, helping

Their half-court offense in par-

ticular has caused trouble, with

fenses and a glaring lack of confi-

an inability to solve zone de-

"The game wasn't decided on the last possession," Haynes said. "They had opportunities to win the ball game earlier and, if we take care of business at the

Pats 60-53 on Jan. 25. But Halseth said that whoever they play, though, the matchup would be tough. "In (Class) AA, other that (topranked) Roosevelt it's anybody's

We have 10. On any given night, somebody's ready to step up.' Yankton now faces a Washington squad that beat the Bucks 48-35 on Dec. 11, what seems like a lifetime ago for a squad that played second-ranked Pierre

"Friday is an all-character game," Haynes said. "It would be easy to throw in the towel after we played our hearts out tonight. But I know how my guys will re-

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Wynot will now look to improve upon last season's third-place finish at the state tournament.

ters his final high school postseason. 'We're looking to win state."

Gophers

From Page 8

Parker and C Sean O'Connell

plus a jarring block of Zeller's inside shot that knocked the 7footer to the court. Coach Tubby Smith took Mbakwe out for a breather, though, and the Hoosiers went on a 10-0 run capped by another behind-the-

arc swish from Hulls. Zeller, Indiana's leading scorer and the second-best shooter in the Big Ten behind Oladipo, was 0 for 4 from the field in the first half with two turnovers, two fouls and two points. Mbakwe picked up his second foul when Oladipo drew contact with 4:02 left before the break and sat until the buzzer. The Gophers scored only three points in the last 7

The Hoosiers started the week with a two-game lead in the loss column over Michigan State, Michigan and Wisconsin, poised for their first outright Big Ten regular season championship since going 17-1 in 1993 during Bob Knight's heyday as coach. With home games against Iowa and Ohio State, Indiana has a chance to clinch the title before the finale at Michigan on March

Six weeks ago, this game looked like one of the many marquee matchups that have marked Big Ten play this season, with a conference as strong as it's been in maybe decades. But while the Hoosiers kept winning after their 88-81 hold-on-at-the-end victory on Jan. 12 over then-No. 8 Minnesota, the Gophers sputtered.

their last two games, in defeat by 21 points at Iowa and 26 points at Ohio State. Even on this night, despite the significant improvement, they looked lost at times when Mbakwe wasn't on the court. So here they were after a much-needed weekend break in the schedule, back on their

dence, identity or purpose on so

many possessions over the last

few weeks. Their struggles were

never more pronounced than in

uniquely raised home court and trying desperately to boost spirits that have sagged under the weight of eight losses in their previous 11 games. Smith even had the team meet with a sports psychologist. Over their last 10 games, they averaged only 57 points and hadn't topped 58 in five games since Feb. 3. After being ranked in 11 straight polls, the Gophers didn't get one vote this week.

Bucks

minutes of the half.

shot.

us, it would be on a half-court

"Unfortunately, they did." The teams played to a 15-15 draw in the opening stanza, but Yankton used five three-pointers over the next 10 minutes to stretch to a 34-25 advantage.

'We always wanted to have ball pressure, and our help defense was leaving shooters open," said Lincoln head coach Jeff Halseth. "We talked about having different people help on the ball, and that helped us play

pointers during that run.

that are really hard to guard, and

set up the final flurry.

free throw line, it's not an issue.' The Patriots now face a Bran-

tournament," he said. "Everyone has four, five, six, seven losses.

within eight points two weeks

day, ready to play."

YANKTON (5-14)

J.J. Hejina 3-6 1-2 7, Brady Hale 1-2 0-0 3, Kellen Soulek 4-4 2-4 10, Michael Rucker 5-14 1-3 16, Andrew Hummel 1-3 0-0 2, Ryan Olson 4-8 2-4 12, Landon Breen 0-0 0-0 0. TOTALS: 18-37 6-13 50.

LINCOLN (11-10)
Caleb Rector 3-8 0-0 6, Calvin Krause 1-4 3-4 5, Addison
Park 5-11 0-11, Nermin Krdzalic 5-10 2-4 15, Adam Jaros 2-9
0-0 4, Connor Burchill 0-0 0-0 0, Luke Meyers 4-4 0-0 8, Malik Dunn 2-4 0-0 4. TOTALS: 22-50 5-8 53. 0-1, Jaros 0-4). Rebounds: Y 28 (Hejna 10), L 23 (Park 5). Personal Fouls: L 12, Y 10. Fouled Out: Hummel. Assists: Y 13 (Olson 5), L 10 (four with 2). Tumovers: Y 13. F. Blocked Shots: Y 1 (Soulek), L 0. Steals: L 7 (Krdzalic 3), Y 3.

"There's no doubt in my mind

that when they get to school

up. They'll come to practice

(today), they'll have their heads

ready to work after school. And

they'll come to the game on Fri-



7:40 am YCTC (Tara Gill, Julie Perakslis) 8:20 am Hy-Vee Foods (Chef Staci)

Thursday, February 28 7:40 am Yankton Conv/Vis (Lisa Scheve)

(Carmen Schramm)

in favor of the Penn Relays, which typically is held on the same weekend. But the Drake Relays said it currently has commit-

supermarket chain Hy-Vee. Many top track stars have

From Page 8

Relays

often skipped Drake in the past

London Games, with 16 of them slated to compete during the Friday night slate. "Friday night was more for the

high schools. It's for everyone now, and it's going to continue to climb all the way through Saturday," Brown said. Brown said the reigning gold medalist in the triple jump, Chris-

tian Taylor, has committed to

compete. He joins a roster that

Kelly Wells. The meet's international

> terms of gaining their interest. It helps to secure globally the world's best." Brown said.

Transmissions
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don Valley team that beat the

Olson had both of his three-

he played well." Lincoln responded with an 11-

> Yankton Transmission Specialists 2409 East Highway 50 (605) 665-1175

8:20 am Yankton Chamber