

Press & Dakotan DAILY DOSE

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



BY JEREMY HOECK
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In what is now referred to as the South Dakota Showdown Series, home teams have ruled the Division I matchups between the USD and SDSU men's basketball teams. The Coyotes win at the DakotaDome and the Jackrabbits win at Frost Arena. Does that change today (Saturday) when they square off at 4 p.m. in Vermillion? I'm not sure. The recipe for USD winning the last two meetings at the dome has been this: Quick start and hang on in the second half. Consider: • In 2011-12, the Coyotes came out strong, leading 29-8 before ten minutes had elapsed and took a 34-24 lead into halftime. The

Coyotes Relying On Homecourt Advantage Against Jackrabbits

Jacks then out-scored the hosts by six in the second half, but fell short by four points, 72-68. Last season, the Coyotes cruised to a 17-point lead at half-time, only to see the Jacks out-score them by 14 in the second half. Again, SDSU came up just short, 74-71. A full 40-minute game will understandably be key for either side today. The Coyotes haven't fared all that well in close games (they have losses by 5, 8, 1, 2, 4 and 3 points), but the Jacks don't have Nate Wollers to rely on for big plays in the second half — as has been the case in both previous meetings in Vermillion. While relatively young, this season's version of the Coyotes plays with more energy; it's easily visible — SDSU fans will see that. USD's regular rotation features five sophomores, three juniors (including two in their first seasons with the Coyotes), and two seniors. There's just not a lot of experience to rely on.

The Jackrabbits, meanwhile, are significantly more seasoned, with four seniors that have obviously played in a lot of big-time games. Now, you could argue that North Dakota State — which won in Vermillion on Thursday — was probably the most veteran team in the conference and still had struggles with the Coyotes. This is where energy and atmosphere come into play; those "intangibles" we always talk about. The DakotaDome will again see a big crowd today, and it's been obvious that such an environment has had direct influence on USD's play on the court — this young group of Coyotes are more emotional. More than anything else, rivalry aside, the Coyotes need a win more than the Jackrabbits do right now. USD started league play with three wins, but has now dropped three in a row. Simply put, picking up a victory today for USD is more important than anything involved with beating a rival. At least that's what the Coyotes would tell you.

Yankton Baseball Hall Of Fame Banquet Feb. 7

The Yankton Baseball Association will hold its third annual Hall of Fame banquet and fundraiser on Friday, Feb. 7, in the banquet room at Minerva's. The event begins with a social hour at 6 p.m., followed by dinner at 7 p.m. and the induction ceremony at 7:40 p.m. A live auction will follow. Over 50 items will be on the auction block, including ticket packages for both the Kansas City Royals and Minnesota Twins, autographed items from Alex Gordon, Dick Green, Yankton's own and 2013 MLB draftee Layne Somsen and the all-stars from the 1997 Seattle Mariners; a one-year membership to the Summit Athletics Center, a guided fishing trip and much more. Tickets are available at First Chiropractic and J.J. Benji's.

Anderson was a local pitcher who went on to sign with the New York Yankees in the late 1940s. The 1960 Yankton team advanced to the Teener World Series, beating a Williston, N.D., team led by former NBA player and coaching great Phil Jackson, in the district final. Six of the 15 members of that team still live in Yankton. The event begins with a social hour at 6 p.m., followed by dinner at 7 p.m. and the induction ceremony at 7:40 p.m. A live auction will follow. Over 50 items will be on the auction block, including ticket packages for both the Kansas City Royals and Minnesota Twins, autographed items from Alex Gordon, Dick Green, Yankton's own and 2013 MLB draftee Layne Somsen and the all-stars from the 1997 Seattle Mariners; a one-year membership to the Summit Athletics Center, a guided fishing trip and much more. Tickets are available at First Chiropractic and J.J. Benji's.

Jackrabbit Athletic Scholarship Auction April 26

BROOKINGS — The annual Jackrabbit Athletic Scholarship Auction will be held on Saturday, April 26 at Frost Arena. The annual event begins at 4 p.m., with a social hour and silent auction. A steak dinner and live auction follow later in the evening. Single tickets are available through the SDSU ticket office. Group packages are also available through March 20. In 2013, more than 600 people attended the Jackrabbit

Athletic Scholarship Auction and raised a record amount of \$505,000 — the equivalent of 35 full, in-state scholarships. New to this year's event is bidding for silent auction items will be conducted through mobile bidding, allowing people not able to attend the auction to bid on a wide array of items, including one-of-a-kind Jackrabbit memorabilia. To register for mobile bidding, log on to jackrabbit.myab.co For more information or to donate items, call 1-866-GO JACKS, or e-mail Sara Schneider (Sara.Schneider@sdusu-foundation.org).

Eden Prairie Coach Named Shula HS Coach Of Year

EDEN PRAIRIE, Minn. (AP) — Eden Prairie coach Mike Grant has been named the Don Shula NFL High School Coach of the Year.

Grant was one of three high school football coaches from across the country named as finalists. The award honors exemplary high school football coaches and is named after Don Shula, the winningest coach in NFL history. Grant is the son of former Minnesota Vikings coach Bud Grant. He was nominated by the Vikings. As the national State Award winner, Mike Grant will receive \$25,000, of which \$15,000 will go to his high school's football program. He also is a guest of the NFL during the Super Bowl. The other finalists were Tri-Central High School football coach George Gilbert of Kirkin, Ind., and Katy, Texas, High School football coach Gary Joseph.

SCOREBOARD

SWIMMING

MARINERS TRI-STATE MEET

Jan. 25 at Sioux City, Iowa

NOTE: Yankton results only. Races are in yards.

BOYS' 8-UNDER

25 100 BACKSTROKE: 6, Cohan Pietz 25.01

50 100 BACKSTROKE: 3, Cohan Pietz 54.22

25 BREASTSTROKE: 3, Cohan Pietz 27.75

50 FREESTYLE: 5, Cohan Pietz 21.34

50 FREESTYLE: 6, Cohan Pietz 49.09

GIRLS' 8-UNDER

25 100 BACKSTROKE: 9, Brië Luken 26.24

50 100 BACKSTROKE: 3, Brië Luken 58.77; 4, Savannah Frank 59.31

25 FREESTYLE: 6, Savannah Frank 28.97

50 FREESTYLE: 2, Brië Luken 19.40

50 FREESTYLE: 5, Brië Luken 44.35

100 FREESTYLE: 2, Savannah Frank 1:48.90

BOYS' 9-10

50 100 BACKSTROKE: 3, Tim Merchen 40.18

100 BACKSTROKE: 1, Tim Merchen 1:27.94

50 BREASTSTROKE: 8, Tim Merchen 55.72; 13, Coleman Frank 1:02.62

100 BREASTSTROKE: 2, Coleman Frank 2:17.82

50 BUTTERFLY: 10, Coleman Frank 56.14

50 FREESTYLE: 7, Tim Merchen 35.03

200 FREESTYLE: 2, Tim Merchen 2:49.14

GIRLS' 9-10

100 100 BACKSTROKE: 1, Madiysin Bietz 1:37.33

50 100 BACKSTROKE: 2, Madiysin Bietz 48.06

50 FREESTYLE: 3, Madiysin Bietz 35.80

50 FREESTYLE: 2, Madiysin Bietz 1:23.80

200 FREESTYLE: 3, Madiysin Bietz 3:01.40

BOYS' 11-12

100 100 BACKSTROKE: 1, Layne Bunnis 1:18.14; 5, Ryan Trail 2:06.80

100 BREASTSTROKE: 3, Ryan Trail 2:12.03

200 BREASTSTROKE: 1, Layne Bunnis 3:04.95

50 BUTTERFLY: 5, Chase Bunnis 45.75

50 BUTTERFLY: 2, Chase Bunnis 1:57.67

50 FREESTYLE: 12, Ryan Trail 43.09

100 FREESTYLE: 6, Chase Bunnis 1:24.98; 8, Ryan Trail 1:48.59

200 FREESTYLE: 1, Layne Bunnis 2:42.22; 4, Chase Bunnis 3:11.97

500 FREESTYLE: 1, Layne Bunnis 6:09.80

100 INDIVIDUAL MEDLEY: 5, Ryan Trail 2:11.59

200 INDIVIDUAL MEDLEY: 1, Layne Bunnis 2:42.42

GIRLS' 11-12

50 100 BREASTSTROKE: 17, Grace Taggart 1:11.54

100 BREASTSTROKE: 2, Hannah Nelson 1:35.80

50 BUTTERFLY: 4, Hannah Nelson 39.68; 11, Grace Taggart 1:01.14

50 FREESTYLE: 19, Grace Taggart 43.12

100 FREESTYLE: 5, Hannah Nelson 1:14.51; 12, Grace Taggart 1:49.52

200 FREESTYLE: 4, Hannah Nelson 2:43.79

200 INDIVIDUAL MEDLEY: 5, Hannah Nelson 3:02.83

BOYS' 9-12

50 FREESTYLE RELAY: 4, Chase Bunnis, Coleman Frank, Ryan Trail, Tim Merchen 2:45.58

GIRLS' 13-14

200 100 BACKSTROKE: 1, Katie Hauser 2:52.59

100 BREASTSTROKE: 1, Katie Hauser 1:27.32

50 FREESTYLE: 4, Katie Hauser 31.03

100 FREESTYLE: 4, Katie Hauser 1:08.22

200 FREESTYLE: 2, Katie Hauser 3:07.44

GIRLS' 13-OVER

200 FREESTYLE RELAY: 2, Katie Hauser, Addison Peitz, Adrienne Kusek, Julie DeWitt 1:57.97

BOYS' 15-OVER

50 BUTTERFLY: 1, Joseph Kelly 57.86

200 BUTTERFLY: 1, Joseph Kelly

SNOWFOX WINTER CLASSIC

Jan. 24-26 at Sioux Falls

COMBINED TEAM SCORES, S.F. Snowfox 2:14.5, S.F. Seals 809, Southwestern Swim Club 405, Vermillion Area Swim Team 306, Brookings Swim Club 205, Mitchell Aquatic Club 147, Water-ton Area Swim Club 115.5, Yankton Swim Team 113, Pierre Swim Team 44, Madison Swim Club 31, Huron Park & Rec Woodboogs 16

NOTE: Results for Yankton (Y) and Vermillion Area (V) Swim Teams only.

GIRLS' 6-UNDER

HIGH POINT STANDINGS: Rebekah Sharples-Schmidt 1, Vermillion 50; Kennedy Cauwels 38; Aspen White, Huron 12; Taliya Van Holland, Vermillion 10

25 100 BACKSTROKE: 2, Rebekah Sharples-Schmidt V 28.39

50 FREESTYLE: 1, Rebekah Sharples-Schmidt 24.95

50 FREESTYLE: 2, Rebekah Sharples-Schmidt V 52.75; 4, Taliya Van Holland V 1:27.08

100 FREESTYLE: 1, Rebekah Sharples-Schmidt V 1:59.84

200 FREESTYLE: 1, Rebekah Sharples-Schmidt V 3:50.88

GIRLS' 6-UNDER

HIGH POINT STANDINGS: Evan Schott, Yankton 54; Greyson Cauwels, Seals 31; Andrew Dierks, Seals 27

25 100 BACKSTROKE: 1, Evan Schott Y 23.66

50 BUTTERFLY: 1, Evan Schott Y 25.39

50 BREASTSTROKE: 1, Evan Schott Y 57.53

50 FREESTYLE: 1, Evan Schott Y 19.89

100 FREESTYLE: 1, Evan Schott Y 1:40.69

GIRLS' 7-8

HIGH POINT STANDINGS: Ali Dierks, Seals 63; Andrea Ortega, Water-ton 44; Laura Schultz, Brookings 44; Sydney Anel, Snowfox 43; Alyssa Kafka, Snowfox 31.5

HIGH POINT STANDINGS: Evan Gran, Seals 63; Gannon Cauwels, Seals 47; Andrew Sharples-Schmidt, Vermillion 37; Joey Timmer, Snowfox 34; Oskar Hein, Snowfox 34

25 100 BACKSTROKE: 4, Douglas Sharples-Schmidt V 25.19; 5, Andrew Sharples-Schmidt V 28.26

50 FREESTYLE: 4, Andrew Sharples-Schmidt 50.26

50 BREASTSTROKE: 1, Andrew Sharples-Schmidt V 28.49

25 FREESTYLE: 2, Douglas Sharples-Schmidt 19.67

50 FREESTYLE: 3, Andrew Sharples-Schmidt 48.25; 4, Douglas Sharples-Schmidt 48.44

50 FREESTYLE: 2, Andrew Sharples-Schmidt 1:42.03; 2, Douglas Sharples-Schmidt 1:48.17

200 FREESTYLE: 2, Douglas Sharples-Schmidt 3:49.58; 3, Andrew Sharples-Schmidt 3:58.94

GIRLS' 9-10

HIGH POINT STANDINGS: Alena Rodriguez, Snowfox 61; Emma Schott, Yankton 59; Sofia Hein, Snowfox 44; Grace Abdalla, Seals 39; Haley Brandt, Southwestern 28

50 FREESTYLE: 1, Emma Schott Y 1:33.46

50 BREASTSTROKE: 1, Emma Schott Y 42.21

50 BUTTERFLY: 1, Emma Schott Y 31.69

100 FREESTYLE: 1, Emma Schott Y

BOYS' 9-10

HIGH POINT STANDINGS: Burke Lausung, Snowfox 61; Eli Pelzer, Seals 54; Jack Schultz, Brookings 53; Gabe Vinz, Seals 37; Deven Brenner, Snowfox 35

GIRLS' 11-12

HIGH POINT STANDINGS: Kaitie Pardy, Snowfox 53; Kristina Pike, Seals 48; Nissa Bentz, Southwest 48; Madison Witte, Southwest 40; Corinne Pelzer, Seals 33

50 BACKSTROKE: 5, Toria Andre V 37.24; 6, Annika Holdhusen V 37.40

100 BACKSTROKE: 3, Annika Holdhusen V 1:19.21; 6, Toria Andre V 1:22.78

50 BREASTSTROKE: 4, Anna Van Holland V 40.58; 9, Annika Holdhusen V 43.90; 10, Toria Andre V 44.73

50 BUTTERFLY: 9, Annika Holdhusen V 38.50

50 FREESTYLE: 5, Anna Van Holland V 31.51; 6, Anna Andre V 31.56; 7, Annika Holdhusen V 32.11

100 FREESTYLE: 7, Toria Andre V 1:14.27

200 FREESTYLE: 6, Toria Andre V 2:16.51

50 FREESTYLE: 1, Annika Holdhusen V 7:21.63

100 INDIVIDUAL MEDLEY: 9, Annika Holdhusen V 1:22.16; 12, Toria Andre V 1:24.65

200 INDIVIDUAL MEDLEY: 9, Anna Van Holland V 2:39.57

BOYS' 11-12

HIGH POINT STANDINGS: Gilbert DeWitte 63; Andrew Verson, Snowfox 48; Micah Westendorf 43; Sam Johnson, Snowfox 34; Lucas Langerock, Water-ton 33

50 BREASTSTROKE: 9, Hunter Lavin V 47.66

100 BREASTSTROKE: 3, Hunter Lavin V 1:37.70

100 FREESTYLE: 11, Hunter Lavin V 1:14.48

200 FREESTYLE: 5, Hunter Lavin V 2:37.38

500 FREESTYLE: 8, Hunter Lavin V 7:05.61

100 INDIVIDUAL MEDLEY: 9, Hunter Lavin V 2:00

200 INDIVIDUAL MEDLEY: 3, Hunter Lavin V 3:01.56

GIRLS' 13-14

HIGH POINT STANDINGS: Lexie Malimanek, Vermillion 59; Sophia Sather, Snowfox 34; Marlee Dravland, Pierre 29; Maycee Olson, Watertown 28; Alex Nelson, Snowfox 27

50 BREASTSTROKE: 1, Lexie Malimanek V 1:31.40

HIGH POINT STANDINGS: Trevor Brenner, Snowfox 63; Matthew Dunn, Southwest 51; Nathan Vinz, Unattached 43; Mark Chontos, Seals 41; Damon Verson, Snowfox 41

100 BACKSTROKE: 1, Lexie Malimanek V 1:04.32

200 BACKSTROKE: 1, Lexie Malimanek V 2:40.24

50 FREESTYLE: 1, Lexie Malimanek V 27.07

100 FREESTYLE: 1, Lexie Malimanek V 57.76

500 FREESTYLE: 1, Maddie Lavin V 5:38.52

400 INDIVIDUAL MEDLEY: 1, Maddie Lavin V 4:58.14; 2, Lexie Malimanek V 5:00.46

BOYS' 14-UNDER

100 BUTTERFLY: 6, Max Wergin V 1:22.68

200 FREESTYLE: 12, Max Wergin V 2:42.73

500 FREESTYLE: 6, Max Wergin V 7:32.31

GIRLS' 15-16

HIGH POINT STANDINGS: Ashley Dunn, Southwest 56; Kady Harris, Snowfox 41; Cora Sather, Snowfox 41; Claire Washenberger, Snowfox 38; Karlie Brown, Mitchell 35

100 BACKSTROKE: 4, Anna Hackemer V 1:09.47

50 FREESTYLE: 1, Anna Hackemer V 27.39

100 FREESTYLE: 4, Anna Hackemer V 1:00.70

500 FREESTYLE: 4, Anna Hackemer V 6:12.58

BOYS' 15-16

HIGH POINT STANDINGS: Kenny Austin, Snowfox 56; Seth Verson, Snowfox 54; Sean Hurley, Snowfox 42; Garrett

FRIDAY'S S.D. BOYS

Chamberlain 70, Moberg-Pollock 47

Grain Area 72, Webster 42

Hartington 43, Millbank Park 31

Hartington Cedar Catholic, Neb. 66, Wagner 46

Higmore-Harold 59, Iroquois 34

Huron 51, Watertown 40

Kadoka Area 46, Bison 41

Langford 76, Northwestern 33

McIntosh 63, Lemmon 54

New Underwood 59, Edgemont 25

Pine Ridge 51, White River 48

Rapid City Stevens 67, Scottsbluff, Neb. 45

Wesington Central/Woonsocket 65, Wesington Springs 48

South Central 44, Tripp-DeMont/Armour 39

Todd County 70, McLaughlin 67

Wolsey-Wesington 87, Kimball/White Lake 47

Yankton 65, Mitchell 42

Dakota Oyate Challenge

Consolation Semifinal

Flandreau Indian 87, Tospayee Topa 41

Takini 86, Crazy Horse 44

Semifinal

Tospayee Zina Tribal 47, Omaha Nation, Neb. 44

FRIDAY'S S.D. GIRLS

Arlington 58, Colman-Egan 42

Avon 47, Parkston 34

Chamberlain 62, Moberg-Pollock 21

Clark/Wilow Lake 57, Deuel 25

Dakota Valley 49, Sioux Falls Christian 40

Estelline 62, James Valley Christian 29

Faulkton 56, Hitchcock-Tulare 53

Higmore-Harold 59, Iroquois 21

Kadoka Area 47, Bison 39

Mitchell 68, Yankton 42

New Underwood 60, Edgemont 29