Press&Dakotan DAILY DOSE

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



BY JAMES D. CIMBUREK

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In recent weeks, there have been some interesting comments about the SDHSAA's new power points system for basketball and volleyball. The main reason; because Eastern South Dakota Conference teams with more wins are going to get stuck behind Sioux Falls programs with fewer wins.

For example, 11-9 Washington will be the one-seed in District 2AA boys, ahead of 12-8 Brandon Valley and Yankton. Should Lincoln beat Roosevelt tonight (Thursday), the Patriots will jump ahead of all three, bumping the Bucks into a play-in game with Harrisburg on Saturday.

One of the complaints has referred to the fact that the Sioux Falls schools play several out-of-state programs: Washington played five and Lincoln played six of their 20 games against non-S.D. opponents. But that argument isn't as sound as some would lead you to believe.

While Lincoln got a boost from its out-of-state foes — a power point average of 43.0 compared to an in-state average of 39.538 — Washington and the Roosevelt girls, the other lower-record team with

Tourn, at Brookings (Yankton, Vermil-

HOCKEY, GIRLS' JV S.D. State

HOCKEY, BANTAM S.D. State A

TRACK & FIELD, COLLEGE IN-DOOR Summit League Championships at Fort Wayne, Ind. (USD)

Class A Tourn. at Rapid City; S.D. State Class B Tourn. at Aberdeen

WRESTLING, PREP S.D. State

Saturday, March 1
ARCHERY, COLLEGE Indoor

ionals at Yankton (MMC)

BASEBALL, COLLEGE Waldorf

BASKETBALL, MEN'S USD at

BASKETBALL, WOMEN'S

at Plains Athletic Conf. Semifinals BASKETBALL, BOYS' S.D. Dis-

HOCKEY, GIRLS' JV S.D. State

South Dakota State (4 p.m., KVHT-FM. WNAX-AM, Midco SN); Great

a higher seed, did not. In fact, both the Warrior boys and Rough Rider girls have lower power point averages against out-of-state competition.

With the Sioux Falls schools wanting to limit their West River travel — and the smaller AA schools West River not wanting to play Sioux Falls anyway — it's hard for those schools to put together a schedule without drawing on cities like Marshall, Minn., and Sioux City, lowa, for opponents.

Before the ESD starts clamoring for changes to the power point system after just one year, maybe it should look within. ESD boys' teams went a combined 14-22 in non-league games, with 11 of those 14 wins coming from three programs: Harrisburg, Huron and Pierre. One more win for Harrisburg or Watertown, or two more wins for Aberdeen give the ESD a boost across the board.

Whether you go tweak the new point system, go back to the old point system — 50 for a win, 0 for a loss — or, as one old coach said to me recently, go back to the random draw system that was used back in the 1960s, one thing is constant: You still have to win two games (or three, if you have the playin), to get to state, then win three games in three days to win it all.

If you do that, no one will care what your seed was.

Regardless Of Seeding Formula, Teams Still Have To Win

SCOREBOARD

BASKETBALL WEDNEDAY'S S.D. BOYS St. Francis Indian 94, Lower Brule

AUTO RACING NASCAR SPRINT CUP

2014 SCHEDULE Feb. 15 — x-Sprint Unlimited (Denny Hamlin) Feb. 20 — x-Budweiser Duel 1 (Matt

Feb. 20 — x-Budweiser Duel 2

(Denny Hamlin) Feb. 23 — Daytona 500 (Dale Earnhardt Jr.) March 2 — Subway Fresh Fit 500,

Avondale, Ariz. March 9 — Kobalt 400, Las Vegas. March 16 — Food City 500, Bristol,

Tenn.

March 23 — Auto Club 400,

March 30 — STP Gas Booster 300, Martinsville, Va.

April 6 — NRA 500, Fort Worth,

April 12 - Bojangles' Southern 500, Darlington, S.C.
April 26 — Toyota Owners 400, Richmond, Va. May 4 — Aaron's 499, Talladega,

May 10 — STP 400, Kansas City,

Kan.
May 16 — x-Sprint Showdown, Con-May 17 — x-Sprint All-Star Race,

May 25 — Coca-Cola 600, Concord, June 1 — Autism Speaks 400, June 8 — Part in the Poconos 400,

 Quicken Loans 400, Brooklyn, Mich. June 22 — Toyota/Save Mart 350. Sonoma, Calif.

June 28 — Quaker State 400, Sparta, Ky.
July 5 — Coke Zero 400, Daytona July 13 — Camping World RV Sales

301, Loudon, N.H.
July 27 — Brickyard 400, Indianapo-

Aug. 3 - GoBowling.com 400, Long Aug. 10 — Cheez-It 355 at the Glen,

Watkins Glen, N.Y.
Aug. 17 — Pure Michigan 400, Brooklyn, Mich. Aug. 23 — Irwin Tools Night Race, Bristol, Tenn.

Aug. 31 — AdvoCare 500 at Atlanta,

Sept. 6 — Federated Auto Parts 400. Sept. 14 — GEICO 400, Joliet, III. Sept. 21 — Sylvania 300, Loudon,

Sept. 28 - AAA 400, Dover, Del.

Kansas City, Kan.
Oct. 11 — Bank of America 500,
Concord, N.C.

Oct. 19 — Camping World RV Sales 500, Talladega, Ala.
Oct. 26 — Goody's Headache Relief Shot 500, Martinsville, va.
Nov. 2 — AAA Texas 500, Fort

Nov. 9 - AdvoCare 500, Avondale,

Nov. 16 — Ford EcoBoost 400,

2014 DRIVER STANDINGS

3. Brad Keselowski, 42.

4. Jeff Gordon, 40. 5 Jimmie Johnson 40

6. Matt Kenseth, 38. 7. Ricky Stenhouse Jr., 37.

13. Jamie McMurray, 30 14. Bobby Labonte, 29.

9. Austin Dillon, 36.

16. Carl Edwards, 28. 18. Kyle Busch, 26. 19. Terry Labonte, 24. 20. Kurt Busch, 24.

TRANSACTIONS BASEBALL

American League
CHICAGO WHITE SOX — Claimed RHP Maikel Cleto off waivers from Kansas City. Designated INF Jake El-

more for assignment.

LOS ANGELES ANGELS — Agreed to terms with OF Mike Trout on a one-year contract.

TEXAS RANGERS — Agreed to terms with LHPs Pedro Figueroa,

Michael Kirkman, Joseph Ortiz and Rob-bie Ross, Jr., RHPs Miles Mikolas, Ben Rowen, Nick Tepesch, Shawn Tolleson and Matt West, C Robinson Chirinos, INF Jurickson Profar and OF Alex Castellanos on one-vear contracts

Minor League Baseball
MILB — Named Dusty Dellinger interim director of Professional Baseball Umpire Corp. American Association

LINCOLN SALTDOGS — Released RHP Mike Burns and LHP Moises Melendez. SIOUX CITY EXPLORERS —

Signed INF Andres Perez. Atlantic League LONG ISLAND DUCKS -RHP Bobby Blevins

Can-Am League
NEW JERSEY JACKALS — Traded LHP Sergio Espinosa to Camden for a player to be named.

ROCKLAND BOULDERS — Signed
RHP Taylor Robinson and 1B/OF Robert

Frontier League
GATEWAY GRIZZLIES — Signed
RHP Cody Stiles.
NORMAL CORNBELTERS — Signed INF Josh Band and OF Thomas

SOUTHERN ILLINOIS MINERS — Signed LHPs Matt Bywater and Eric Fredrick and RHPs David Kubiak and TRAVERSE CITY BEACH BUMS —

Placed 2B Ryan Still on the retired list. **BASKETBALL** National Basketball Association MEMPHIS GRIZZLIES — Reas-ned G Jamaal Franklin to Fort Wayne

SACRAMENTO KINGS — Signed G Orlando Johnson to a 10-day contract. WASHINGTON WIZARDS -

Signed Drew Gooden to a 10-day con-FOOTBALL

National Football League CLEVELAND BROWNS - Re-GREEN BAY PACKERS — Signed RB Michael Hill. Re-signed S Chris

PHILADELPHIA EAGLES — Agreed to terms with OT Jason Peters on a five-year contract.

Canadian Football League

EDMONTON ESKIMOS — Signed

LB Deon Lacey, RB Denodus O'Bryant and LB Ryan Rau.

HOCKEY

National Hockey League

COLUMBUS BLUE JACKETS — Activated F Marian Gaborik off injured reserve. Recalled D Cody Goloubef from

Springfield (AHL).

DETROIT RED WINGS — Assigned D Ryan Sproul to Grand Rapids (AHL). MINNESOTA WILD — Acquired F
Brad Winchester from Chicago for D
Brian Connelly. Recalled G John Curry and F Stephane Veilleux from Iowa

AREA CALENDAR

Thursday, February 27 BASKETBALL, MEN'S USD at

BASKETBALL, WOMEN'S North Dakota State at USD (7 p.m.,

RV1K-AM)

BASKETBALL, BOYS' Neb.

Sub-Districts — C2-4 at Wayne
(Championship — Winnebago vs.
Homer, 7 p.m.); C2-9 at Wausa
(Championship — C2-9 at Wausa (Championship — Hartington Cedar Catholic vs. Crofton, 7 p.m., KKYA-FM); D1-4 at Ponca (Championship Randolph vs. Bloomfield, 7 p.m.);
 D2-5 at Championship — Wynot vs. Wausa, 7 p.m.); Burke-South Central at Avon; Colome vs. Tripp-Delmont-Armour at Armour; Gregory at Platte-Geddes; Marion at Gayville-Volin;

Parker at Freeman

BASKETBALL, GIRLS' S.D.

Regions — 4A at Elk Point (Vermillion at Elk Point-Jefferson, 6 p.m.,

KVTK.com; Lennox vs. Dakota Valley, 7:45 p.m.); 5A (Wagner at West Central, 7 p.m.; Mount Vernon-Plankinton at Tri-Valley, 7 p.m.)

Friday, February 28
ARCHERY, COLLEGE Indoor ionals at Yankton (MMC) **BASEBALL, COLLEGE** Clarke

BASKETBALL, BOYS' Dakota ; Vermillion at Canton (7:30 p.m.,

BASKETBALL, GIRLS' S.D. Districts — 2AA (YHS at Brandon Val-ley, 7 p.m., KYNT-AM, KVHT-FM); 9B ley, 7 p.111., NTN1-AM, NT1-FM), 9B at Freeman (Championship — Freeman vs. Scotland, 7 p.m.); 10B at Tea (Championship — Gayville-Volin vs. Alcester-Hudson, 7 p.m.); 11B at Mitchell (Championship — Kimball-White Lake vs. Corsica-Stickney, 6:30 p.m.); 12B at Mitchell (Championship — Avon vs. Burke-South Central, 8 p.m.); Neb. District Finals — C2-5 at Spencer (Crofton vs. Ainsworth, 7 p.m., KKYA-FM); D2-3 at Wausa (Wynot vs. Ewing. 7 p.m.)

BOWLING, HS CLUB S.D. State

rn. at Sioux Falls (Yankton) HOCKEY, BANTAM S.D. State A TRACK & FIELD, COLLEGE IN-DOOR Summit League Championships at Fort Wayne, Ind. (USD) **State A** WRESTLING, PREP S.D. State Class A Tourn. at Rapid City; S.D. State Class B Tourn. at Aberdeen

From Page 7

Huber, who qualfied for

state in 2012 but missed state

last year due to injury, opens

The Bucks take three first-

"That was one of the goals

time state qualifiers out west,

junior Ryan Sternhagen (160)

and sophomores Cody Vorn-

hagen (106) and Bashir Abd-

they set for themselves,"

foes. Sternhagen (12-28)

hagen (24-20) draws

Josh Moore (32-14).

Hage said of qualifying for

state. "Being on the podium

All three take on familiar

draws Aberdeen Central sen-

ior Tyson Mitzel (32-5), Vorn-

Brookings sophomore Jacob

Puppe (36-4) and Abd-Al-

erdeen Central sophomore

"Administration always

does a good job of schedul-

comes to post-season, we've

either scouted or competed

The less experienced

ing," Hage said. "When it

against anyone we might

Kreem (12-22) faces Ab-

126-pound competition

Bailey Mennis (31-15).

Al-Kreem (113).

is another."

against Madison freshman

Sunday, March 2
ARCHERY, COLLEGE Indoor BASEBALL, COLLEGE Brian Cliff vs. MMC at Sabetha, Kan. (11 BASKETBALL, WOMEN'S uth Dakota State at USD (2 p.m. 'HT-FM, WNAX-FM) HOCKEY, GIRLS' JV S.D. State rn. at Sioux Falls (Yankton) HOCKEY, BANTAM S.D. State A urn. at Pierre (Yankton); S.D. State Tourn. at Huron (Yankton)

(AHL). Placed D Marco Scandella and F recruiting coordinator Jason Makrinos to Jason Zucker on injured reserve. MONTREAL CANADIENS — Re-HL).

NASHVILLE PREDATORS signed G Pekka Rinne to Norfolk on a

conditioning assignment.
OTTAWA SENATORS — Recalled G drew Hammond from Binghamton (AHL).
TAMPA BAY LIGHTNING — Re-

called F Vladislav Namestnikov from Syracuse (AHL). Assigned G Anders Lindback to Syracuse for conditioning. WASHINGTON CAPITALS — Recalled LW Nicolas Deschamps and D Julien Brouillette from Hershey (AHL). American Hockey League
BRIDGEPORT SOUND TIGERS —
Signed F Joey Martin and F Justin

Mercier to professional tryout agree-HAMILTON BULLDOGS — Recalled

Major League Soccer MLS — Named Nelson Rodriguez ident of Chivas USA. SEATTLE SOUNDERS — Signed D

Jimmy Ockford and loaned him to New York (NASL) for the 2014 season. COLLEGE NCAA — Named Janet Cone and Bernard Muir to the Division I Men's Bas-ketball Committee, effective for the 2014-

OHIO - Named Deane Webb vol-CONCORDIA (ILL.) — Named Joe Jacoby offensive line coach.
SLIPPERY ROCK — Announced the resignation of defensive backs coach and

become co-defensive coordinator/defensive backs coach at Duquesne. ST. NORBERT - Named Dan Mc-

nounced the retirement of athletic direc-

Big 12 Tourney Sold Out In KC

KANSAS CITY, Mo. (AP) - Next Sprint Center has sold out for the fifth secutive year, though standingroom tickets may become available closer to the event.

The tournament, which was played at Kemper Arena for years, also sold out when it returned to Kansas City in 2008. It's also been played at American Airlines Center in Dallas and Ford Center, now the Chesapeake Energy Arena, in Okla-As other conferences struggle to

sell tickets, that has never been an issue for the Big 12 in Kansas City. has been awarded the tournament

Bucks would do well to follow the examples of Yankton's This year's tournament begins March 12. The championship game is two veterans, Hage noted.

"Hopefully the three new guys pay special attention to the attitude and preparation of those two," he said. "They need to be confident and try to make opponents wrestle our style. If they do that, there's a chance of getting an

Vermillion's Brett Bye controls the match during the Dakota XII Conference Tournament earlier this

season. Brett Bye takes an undefeated record into state at 152 pounds, while his brother Regan is a

later rounds. Competition begins Friday morning, with championship rounds set for Saturday afternoon at the Rushmore Plaza Civic Center.

upset in the first round or in

Vermillion

With one returning state champion, one undefeated wrestler and five others who have state meet experience, the Vermillion Tanagers have high expectations as they head to state.

The Tanagers will take eight wrestlers to Rapid City, with eighth grader Trey Hage, the son of Yankton head coach Ryan Hage, being the lone Tanager without a state meet under his belt. "The wrestlers that were

seeded (in regions) made it through," said Vermillion head coach Hazen Bye. "There are always a couple on the edge that you'd like to get through."

Regan Bye (43-3) is the defending state champion at 145 pounds. His twin brother Brett takes a 44-0 record into action at 152 pounds, where he finished third a year ago. (Interestingly, the only other

unbeaten wrestler in Class A, Aberdeen Central's John Frisco, was second at 152 a year ago.).

Vermillion sends two wrestlers to state, Alex Osborne (33-13) at 170 pounds and Seth Heine (29-18) at 182 pounds. Also qualified are junior Brandon Hertz (31-14) at 160, freshmen Kyle Seibel (27-19) at 113 and Carter Kratz (20-9) at 132, and Trey Hage (37-11) at 106.

Coach Bye has high hopes for the Tanagers.

"I'd like to see eight places," he said. "Realistically, I think we can put two in the finals and place five. For that to happy, they have to trust in their training and themselves. and stay focused.

"The rest will take care of itself."

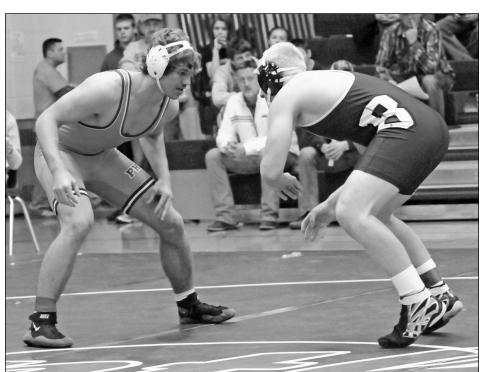
Dakota Valley

Vermillion sends just two wrestlers to Rapid City, but the duo have combined for 79 victories on the season. Senior Blake Perryman (38-

6) is a returning state placewinner, having finished third at 138 a year ago. He will compete at 145 pounds in his final go-around.

Junior Brady Dam (41-16) will compete at 152 pounds for the Panthers.

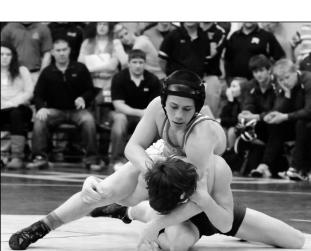
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P&D FILE PHOTOS ABOVE: Parkston's Brady Reiff, left, and Beresford's Tristan Lutter square off during a meet earlier this year. Both Reiff, the defending state champion at 220 pounds, and Lutter are qualified for state.

LEFT: Bon Homme-Scotland's **Duncan Stoebner works to con**trol Totino-Grace's Jaxon Summers during their 113-pound semifinal at the Jerry Opbroek Invitational wrestling tournament. Stoebner is a returning

From Page 7

Class B

we can win, also some tough ones," he said. "If we go out and compete like we can, we should have a great tournament.

Elk Point-Jefferson

The Huskies come into state off of one of their better performances of the year, something that has head coach Danny Hutcheson encouraged.

The first-year coach said that, while he expected each of his eight qualifiers to make the tournament, he was impressed with how they got there. "The thing that was a surprise is that every one of our wrestlers showed up and competed to the best of his ability," Hutch-

eson said. "It is rare that you have a team.

compete at their peak from top to bottom when it counts most, and that is what happened at our region meet." The Huskies return state placewinners from a year ago, senior C.J. Geary (182 pounds, 39-9; 5th at 195 a year ago) and sophomore Jared Hueser (145 pounds, 34-13; 8th at 138 a year ago). Hutcheson

at state These guvs have experience at the state meet and they feel very good about the way their bracket is set up," he said. They each have a very realistic chance of making the finals."

Forsling (195 pounds, 31-5) to lead EPJ

Also qualified for the Huskies are junior Cody Davis (152 pounds, 19-26). sophomores Roman Fehr (113 pounds, 34-16) and Andrew Teply (285 pounds, 25-22), and freshmen Dylan Colt (106 pounds, 32-12) and Alex Norby (132 pounds, 17-8). With eight qualifiers, Hutcheson expects the Huskies to contend for a spot on the podium.

"Our goal from day one was to place in the top eight as a team. With eight gressive. If we do those things we will meet our goal.

Bon Homme-Scotland A year ago, Bon Homme finished sixth as a team and Scotland brought home one medal. Together this year, coach Mark Stoebner is hoping for a great team

The goal is always top-eight," he said. "If we do well, there's no reason we shouldn't get there.

"The top three are a little better than anyone else, but fourth through eighth is wide open.' Junior Duncan Stoebner (113 pounds,

37-1) is a returning state champion, having claimed the 106-pound title a year ago. Sophomore Alex Caba (120 pounds, 32-5) wrestled in the 113-pound championship last season. Scotland's lone medalist a year ago, Dan Stibral (3rd at heavyweight), takes a 36-0 record into state this season.

good seasons from seniors Moises Lozano (138 pounds, 23-20) and Austin Kaul (145 pounds, 38-5), sophomore Kreg Kepplinger (220 pounds, 20-22) and freshman Stas Sutera (106 pounds, 37-"We've had some really good individexpects those two and junior Lukas

Bon Homme-Scotland has also gotten

uals who have had success all year," Coach Stoebner said. "I expect them to be successful at state as well.

Wagner

Even though the Red Raiders aren't taking the large contingents they are used to taking to state, Wagner still expects to take home plenty of individual hardware, according to coach Brady Nolz.

Seniors David Kocer (170 pounds, 33-1) and Brady Soulek (152 pounds, 27-13), and junior Trevor Lensing (195 pounds, 30-5) are no strangers to state ... or to the awards stand. Kocer won the 160-pound title a year ago, while Lensing was in the 170-pound final.

"This will be David's fifth state tournament, the third or fourth for Brady and Trevor's third," Nolzsaid. "They are definitely no strangers to state. I expect them to put our two young guys under their wing this weekend."

The two young guys are sophomore Logan Kafka (16-18) at 132 pounds and freshman Ben Soukup (27-16) at 106

While the Red Raiders may not have enough wrestlers to contend for a team title. Nolz expects them to wrestle as hard as they have all season.

"Don't change how we've wrestled all year," he said.

Parker

The Pheasants return one state medalist, junior heavyweight Payton Jensen (35-7), who fin-

ished seventh a year ago.
Also qualified for state are senior Justice Verhey (220 pounds, 25-7), sophomore Kordell Buyck (170 pounds, 29-21) and freshman Chase Andersen (106 pounds, 29-13).

A trio of freshmen will take the mat for Andes Central, including region champion Leo Hopkins

Andes Central

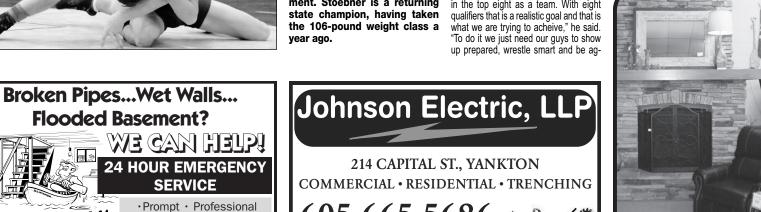
(35-7) at 120 pounds. Also qualified for the Eagles are Zach Rucktaeschel (132 pounds, 29-15) and Trezen Doren (285 pounds, 36-10).

Marion-Freeman Senior Cole Globke (195 pounds, 17-14) and junior Michael Cremer (138 pounds, 33-17) head

Alcester-Hudson The Cubs have one qualifier, junior Colin Walth (23-14) at 152 pounds.

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