

Record Falls As Lancer Women Win Home Finale



Mount Marty guard Cassidy Gebhart drives around Grace University defender Destiny Gamble during their non-conference game Saturday at Cimpr Arena.

BY EMILY NIEBRUGGE
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As a group of players who focus on team goals, the Mount Marty Lancers showed up in record breaking fashions Saturday.

Aside from claiming a 90-37 win against the Grace Royals at the Laddie E. Cimpr Arena, MMC also broke the previous school record for three-pointers as a team.

"It's nice to see when people receive awards, but our team goals have always come before our personal goals," said head coach Tom Schlimgen. "It was a nice way for our seniors to play their last game on the floor. They're all quality kids, and I'm going to miss them."

A three-pointer from Mount Marty's Kelsey Schmidt tied the record at 269 threes Saturday just under three minutes into the

game, and a shot from Logan Wagner roughly 10 minutes later broke the previous record, on a day none other than Wagner's birthday.

"When you think of Mount Marty you think of three-point shots, especially this year," said Wagner, who had no idea going into the game they had the potential to break the record. "It's really special."

The Lancers — who now have 278 threes on the season — accomplished everything they wanted with the win, showing up to play offensively and defensively, leading the Royals 49-18 just in the first half.

MMC's Cheyenne Lambley led the Lancers at the half with 10 points and five rebounds, while Alex Kneeland recorded nine points. Wagner had eight points and two assists.

For Grace, Diane Oue-

draogo was kept to eight points and two rebounds at the half. Grace forced 17 turnovers in the first half.

"We knew we were playing a team who's not as good as us," Schlimgen said. "We wanted to be solid, and in the second half we wanted to stay consistent."

The Lancers did just that for senior day at home, holding the Royals to 37 points and getting the rest of their bench players out on the court.

Kneeland ended the day with a total of 20 points and three assists, while Lambley contributed 16 points and six rebounds. Wagner recorded a total of 12 points.

Grace's Ouedraogo scored 13 points in total and had five rebounds, with Destiny Gamble adding seven points and

Royals Hold Off Lancers

BY EMILY NIEBRUGGE
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While it may not have been enough to pull off a win for the Mount Marty Lancers Saturday afternoon, the men came back from trailing the Grace Royals to compete and stick with their opponent.

Mount Marty fell to Grace 64-56, but did manage to keep with them offensively until the last few minutes of the game.

"We did a good job executing today," said head coach Andrew Baker. "The backboards hurt us, but we did see some resiliency."

Despite the Royals jumping out to a 20-10 lead with just under seven minutes to play in the first half, the Lancers managed to catch up with two points each from Seamus O'Malley and Lorenzo Davis by the end of the first half.

Grace led by just three points going into the locker room, 28-25.

Mount Marty's Seamus O'Malley led at the half with eight points, while Cody Willett followed with six points and five rebounds.

Grace's Justin McBride led with nine points, while Hakeem Stewart had seven points and six rebounds in the first half.

"It was fun to click and work well together," Willett said. "It helped our defense and we played with confidence."

That confidence led to the Lancers leading the Royals six times in the second half. But 49 rebounds to the Lancers 29 rebounds gave Grace an advantage to pull out a 64-56 win at the end.

But the win didn't come without a fast paced Lancer team with high energy.

Willett ended the night with a total of 20 points and eight rebounds, with Bud Smith and KJ DeCristino each adding another eight points.

Grace's Stewart had a total of 26 points and 12 rebounds, while McBride added 12 points.

"That's how it should be every night," Baker said. "That's our culture, and we've got great kids who are always tough and play hard. We just need to play a little smarter."

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GRACE (2-23)
Hakeem Stewart 9-14 8-10 26, Aytunde Akinbote 2-9 1-2 5, Jarrod Sheffield 0-8 0-1 0, Jami Santiel 1-12 2-4, Jacob Heck 4-8 0-0 12, Treston Mayo 1-3 3-4 5, Jordan Kelly 0-0 1-1 1, Austin Shappell 0-1 0-0 0, Sage Penner 1-1 0-2, Edgar Baez 0-1 0-0 0, Ray Suero 0-0 0-0 0. TOTALS: 22-54 16-21 64.
MOUNT MARTY (2-24)
Blake Bartscher 1-4 2-3 4, KJ DeCristino 3-9 0-0 8, Jalen Hurley 1-5 2-2 4, Alex Irvine 2-3 1-2 5, Cody Willett 6-14 2-2 20, Dere Denning 0-5 0-0 0, Lorenzo Davis 1-2 0-2, Bud Smith 2-11 0-0 5, Seamus O'Malley 3-6 0-0 8. TOTALS: 3-6 7-10 56.
Halftime: Grace 28-25. Three-Pointers: MMC 11-36 (Bartscher 0-2, DeCristino 2-7, Hurley 0-2, Willett 6-12, Denning 0-5, Smith 1-4, O'Malley 2-4), G 4-13 (Stewart 0-1, Sheffield 0-2, Heck 0-1, McBride 4-7, Shappell 0-1, Baez 0-1). Rebounds: G 49 (Stewart 12), MMC 29 (Willett 8). Assists: G 14 (Sheffield 6), MMC 12 (Bartscher 4). Turnovers: G 13, MMC 12. Personal Fouls: MMC 19, G 18. Fouled Out: None. Attendance: 329.

Gymnastics | S.D. State Meet Individual Competition

Area Gymnasts Shine

BY JAMES D. CIMBUREK
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WATERTOWN — After the Gazelles struggled during the team competition, head coach Luke Youmans was not sure how the kids would bounce back.

It went quite well. Seventh grader Jaiden Boomsma earned two medals and several other Gazelles had solid individual performances in the individual competition of the South Dakota State Gymnastics Meet on Saturday at the Watertown Civic Arena.

"We had some kids today that really did a great job of competing," Youmans said. "We wanted to go home with some hardware, and we had some individuals do some big things today."

Boomsma earned a fifth place finish on the vault, the first top-five mark by a Gazelle since Michelle Slowey placed fourth on floor exercise and fifth on bars in 1998. Earlier in the day, she finished 11th on the balance beam, her only other event.

For Boomsma, who has been battling a hip injury, a light competition day played to her advantage.

"It was easy today," she said. "I had time to recover. With two events, it was easier to concentrate on them."

The beam finish helped propel Boomsma on vault, she noted.

"It got me pumped up for vault," she said. "I knew if I could do good things on beam, I could do good things on vault."

After a break, Boomsma came back with a strong first vault, then improved it on her second attempt.

"I kept my mind straight. I knew what I needed to do to get a good score," she said. "I

just ran fast as I could and hoped I'd stick the landing.

"And that's just what I did." Also for the Gazelles, sophomore Haleigh Diede placed 24th in the all-around with a 33.225, scoring 8.725 on the vault, 8.75 on the floor, 8.1 on the bars and 7.65 on the balance beam. Sophomores Kaitlin Guthmiller and Morgan Mason scored 7.425 and 7.225 on the balance beam, their only event of the day.

The Gazelles did not have a senior or junior on this year's team, something that has Youmans excited about the future.

"It builds that anticipation for next year," he said. "It's easy to go to them and say, 'Hey, look at where you are at. You're right at that level.'"

"Hopefully we can use the momentum from today as a springboard for the next nine months, until we get back into a competitive season again."

Rapid City Central's Chelsey Christensen won the all-around, scoring 38.625 to edge Stevens' Shay Trimble by one-tenth of a point. Christensen also won on floor exercise (9.7) and bars (9.7). Trimble won on balance beam (9.65) and vault (9.725).

Class A

Area teams combined to put seven gymnasts on the awards stand in the all-around on Saturday, led by seventh grader Jada Plastow's fourth place finish (34.4). Jenni Giles of Madison easily won the all-around with a 36.75, also winning on floor (9.475), bars (9.125) and vault (9.275). Britton-Hecla's Brooke Skoglund won on beam (9.05).

Wagner-Bon Homme seniors Chelsey Hisek (34.2) and



Yankton's Jaiden Boomsma competes on the balance beam during the Class AA individual competition at the South Dakota State Gymnastics Meet on Saturday at the Watertown Civic Arena. Boomsma finished 11th on the beam and fifth on the vault to lead the Gazelles.

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ESD Basketball: Aberdeen Central Sweeps Past Yankton

Golden Eagle Girls Avenge 30T Loss To Gazelles

BY ADRIENNE KUSEK
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The Yankton Gazelles fell to the Aberdeen Central Golden Eagles 53-43 in Eastern South Dakota Conference girls' basketball action on Saturday at the Summit Center.

At their last meeting, the Gazelles downed the Eagles 49-47 in triple overtime.

"Anytime you can play in the ESD on the road and come away with a win you need to feel good about it," Aberdeen Central head coach Dawn Seiler said.

At the end of the first quarter, Aberdeen Central led Yankton 14-7.

"At the two minute mark of the first quarter we kind of noticed we started picking up the energy and picking up the intensity," Yankton head coach Trey Krier said.

At the half the Eagles were up 27-16.

"We got some easy baskets because we move the ball so well up the floor, so we got some baskets in transition," Seiler said.

"Anytime any team can get out in transition and create easy looks then you can build a little bit of a lead."

To end the third quarter, Aberdeen was ahead 44-29.

"This was the first time in seventeen games that we were able to pick up on our full court press," Krier said.

"We played a lot better defensively in the second half, and made them do some things they didn't want to do and made them stretch out



Yankton's Madason Tessier, front, is pressured by Aberdeen Central defenders Renae Bragg, left, and Karlie Gardner during their ESD girls' game Saturday at the Summit Center.

some possessions," he said. Paiton Burchard led the Eagles with 21 points and seven rebounds. Brianna Kusler totaled 19 points, and Mia Bergan added seven to the win.

"When we swung the ball and when we reversed the ball we got some good looks from our post players," Seiler said.

For Yankton both Brianna Benjamin and Josie Sayler netted eight points. Lindsey Hale added seven and Becky Frick snatched seven rebounds.

"We didn't have anybody who was head and shoulders over everybody else because we played together," Krier said.

"Bri Benjamin did a great job of sparking us on the offensive end by what she did on the defensive, and the rest of them kind of jumped on that. Sophie Drotzmann played a lot more physical than she played in the first 17 games which is something we've been asking

Boys: Hale-Less Bucks Fall On Road

BY JACQUE SCOBY
Aberdeen American News

ABERDEEN — While Yankton was missing its star, Aberdeen Central was lengthening its lead.

The Golden Eagles took a firmer grasp on the top spot in the Eastern South Dakota Conference boys' basketball standings with a 66-44 victory over the Bucks Saturday night at Golden Eagles Arena.

In a battle between the top two teams in the league, Central took advantage of the absence of Yankton senior Brady Hale plus a hot hand all around shooting the ball to improve to 12-1 in ESD play. Yankton suffered its third conference loss and is now 11-3 in the ESD.

"Having Brady Hale out, obviously, that's going to give us a little advantage, but they're always tough to play," said Central senior Logan LeGrand, who hit two of Central's 10 three-pointers on the night and finished with 14 points. "We knew what we had to do. This was a huge game to get a two-game cushion in the conference."

Yankton hung around throughout the first quarter, but suffered a second-quarter lull that allowed the Golden Eagles to stretch what was at time a one-possession game into a double-digit cushion by halftime.

The Bucks couldn't quite recover. "They shot it well on us tonight," said Yankton head



Yankton's Bradey Sorenson comes up with a loose ball after a scramble near mid-court during the Bucks' matchup with Aberdeen Central on Saturday in Aberdeen. Sorenson, who started in the place of an injured Brady Hale, scored 18 points in a 66-44 loss to the ESD-leading Golden Eagles.

coach Chris Haynes. "We did not do a good job defensively. They're a good offensive team and we knew that coming in, but we're obviously disappointed in our defensive effort tonight."

Central finished the night going 23-for-41 from the floor and 10-for-21 from three-point range. Anthony Bachmeier, Jacob Goehring, LeGrand, Nick Goeman, Cannon Hannigan and Cole Bergan all tossed in

at least one trey, making it hard for Yankton to identify shooters.

"We shot it well the last two games," said Central head coach Brent Norberg. "You always wonder, if you shot it well on Thursday, wonder if we're going to be able to do it again and we shot it even better today. I thought our shot

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