

MMC Baseball Opens Season Today At Home



P&D FILE PHOTO

Mount Marty shortstop Derrik Nelson fires the ball to first base during a Lancer home game in the 2014 season. Nelson is one of 15 seniors for the Lancers, who open the 2015 season today (Friday) at home with three games against Presentation College.

Lancers To Play Three Against Presentation

BY JAMES D. CIMBUREK
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For the blue and gold of the Mount Marty College baseball team, one of the biggest factors in their 2015 season might be green.

As in the green of the newly-placed artificial turf on their home park, now known as "Riverside Field at Bob Tereshinski Stadium."

MMC will christen the new turf today (Friday) with a triple-header against Presentation, beginning at noon. While the Lancers originally had not been scheduled to

play at home until a month from now, the warm forecast and a snowstorm that blew through Kansas earlier this week opened up that option.

The turf has also helped the team get outside much sooner than usual, said head coach Andy Bernatow.

"We've been blessed, very fortunate," he said. "In January we had only three inside practices. We are ahead of schedule."

MMC returns 15 seniors for a squad that was picked fifth in the Great Plains Athletic Conference.

"It's been a fun bunch of

kids to work with," he said. "We're hoping this can be a special season."

Pitching

The Lancers return all but two of their varsity pitchers from a year ago, graduating starter Dom Wieseler and reliever Jon Haas.

Seniors Kyle Nickolite (5-3, 3.55 ERA, 24 K in 63 1/3 IP) and A.J. Griffith (2-4, 5.48 ERA, 29 K in 42 2/3 IP), junior Dustin Haffeman (3-1, 4.73 ERA, 22 K in 40 IP) and sophomore Alex Mogensen (5-4,

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Wrestling | Region 2A Tournament

Tanagers Lead; Bucks 6th

BY JEREMY HOECK
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TEA — The Region 2A Tournament was a new experience to many of the wrestlers for Yankton High School.

And after seeing 11 of his 12 wrestlers advance to the second day with a chance to advance to the state tournament, head coach Ryan Hage was understandably pleased with his young group.

"It's a new experience for a majority of these guys," Hage said after Thursday night's action at the Region 2A Tournament in Tea.

"And they came out and wrestled well."

Yankton, which sits in sixth place, saw two wrestlers reach the finals in their respective weight classes, Cody Vornhagen at 113 pounds and Spencer Huber at 126 in record-breaking fashion.

The other nine wrestlers advanced to the consolation semifinals, needing a win in tonight's (Tuesday) first round to qualify for state.

Bashir Abd-Al-Kreem (120), Skylar Elle (132), Luke Lammers (138), Jamee Bruegman (145), Jordan Lucht (152), Ray Wermers (160), Brock Folkers (195), Cole Diedrichsen (220) and Reese Anderson (285) all rebounded from first-round losses to move forward in the consolation bracket.

The only Yankton wrestler not to move on to the second day of action was Kyle Schmidt, who lost twice at 170.

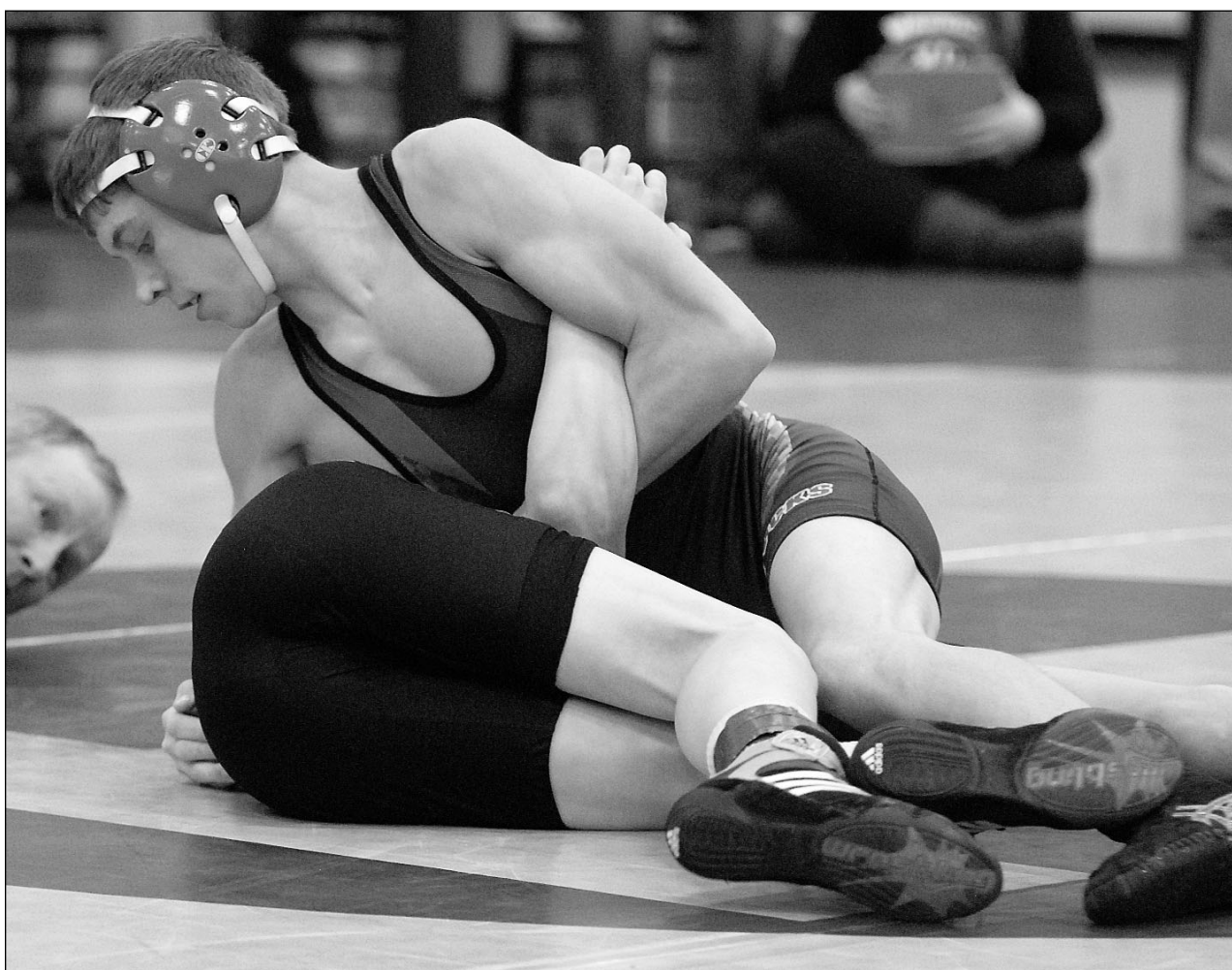
"The kids are giving us effort," Hage said. "Those guys on the back side know it's going to take a win in the first round to get to state."

The other highlight of the night for the Bucks was Huber setting the school record for pins in a season. The top-ranked wrestler at 126 won twice by fall Thursday and now stands at 27 for the season — breaking the previous YHS record of 26 by Andy Johnson.

"That's a notable thing for Spencer," Hage said. "It's definitely a goal he had in mind."

Vermillion stands in first place in the team scores, with 129.5 points after day one, just ahead of Brandon Valley (128.5).

Harrisburg is third at 83, followed by Sioux Falls Washing-



The Road To State

Vermillion, Yankton and Dakota Valley began their quests for berths in the South Dakota State Class A Wrestling Tournament with the opening rounds of the Region 2A Tournament on Thursday at Tea. Vermillion holds a slim lead over Brandon Valley in the team standings after day one. Yankton is sixth in the nine-team field, while Dakota Valley is tied for eighth. The tournament concludes today (Friday) in Tea.

ABOVE: Yankton's Cody Vornhagen finishes off Morgan Wambein of Sioux Falls Washington during their 113-pound match Thursday at the Region 2A Wrestling Tournament in Tea.

LEFT: Vermillion wrestling coach Hazen Bye celebrates after Noah Walker beat Yankton's Luke Lammers 8-6 in overtime of their 138-pound match on Thursday at the Region 2A Wrestling Tournament in Tea.

JEREMY HOECK/P&D

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Girls' Basketball: Yankton Battle Past Brandon Valley 44-39

BRANDON — The Yankton Gazelles snapped a four-game losing streak with a 44-39 victory over Brandon Valley in Eastern South Dakota Conference girls' basketball action on Thursday.

The Gazelles avenged a 45-32 loss to Brandon Valley on Jan. 10.

"This was a great team victory for us," said Yankton head coach Trey Krier. "They girls came out and executed. We knew we would have to pick up the pace, and we got them into a full-court game."

A trio of sophomores led the Yankton offense. Madason Tessier and Lindsey Hale each scored 13 points. Josie Saylor went 5-5 from the field to finish with 10 points. Andi Sprakel had 10 rebounds in the victory.

"We got Josie in the paint and producing, which opens up a lot of things for us," Krier said. "We had some kids put us on their backs tonight."

For Brandon Valley, Kasara Pollema scored nine points off the bench to lead the way. Elsie Zajicek had nine rebounds.

Yankton, 7-12, finishes the regular season at Pierre on Saturday. The Governors downed Yankton 52-41 on Jan. 16.

It will be the third game of the week for Yankton, which lost to Roosevelt on Tuesday.

"I was a little nervous (with the short layoff) after the Roosevelt game," Krier said. "After this one, we won't have enough time to get too out of sync with what we did tonight."

Brandon Valley edged Yankton 39-38 in the JV game. For Yankton, Linze

Cowman scored 11 points and Aurora Papstein had eight points and seven rebounds to lead the way. Emily Oswald added six points and 10 rebounds for the Gazelles.

YANKTON (7-12)
Kamri Cornemann 1-5 0-0 2, Sophie Drotzmann 1-5 0-1 2, Andi Sprakel 1-8 1-2 4, Madason Tessier 6-11 0-1 13, Lindsey Hale 5-9 0-0 13, Brianna Benjamin 0-0 0-0 0, Emily Oswald 0-2 0-0 0, Linze Cowman 0-0 0-0 0, Josie Saylor 5-5 0-0 10. TOTALS: 19-45 1-4 44.

BRANDON VALLEY (8-11)
Taylor Thorson 1-8 1-4 3, Emily Harris 2-6 0-0 5, Sydney Buchheim 0-2 0-0 0, Courtney Bickley 1-4 0-0 2, Carley Kuefer 2-8 0-0 4, Becca Koehn 2-4 0-0 6, Emma Terveer 2-5 0-2 6, Paige Drenth 0-0 0-0 0, Ali Woodward 0-0 0-0 0, Emily Anderson 0-0 0-0 0, Elsie Zajicek 1-4 2-5 4, Lilli Jasper 0-1 0-0 0, Kasara Pollema 3-5 0-0 9. TOTALS: 14-43 3-11 39.

YANKTON 41 22 32 44
BRANDON VALLEY 37 24 28 39

Three-Pointers: BV 8-16 (Pollema 3-5, Koehn 2-3, Terveer 2-3, Harris 1-3, Thorson 0-1, Bickley 0-1), Y 5-12 (Hale 3-4, Tessier 1-1, Sprakel 1-6, Drotzmann 0-1). Rebounds: Y 42 (Sprakel 10), BV 26 (Zajicek 9). Personal Fouls: BV 12, Y 10. Fouled Out: None. Assists: Y 13 (three with 3), BV 13 (Buchheim 4). Turnovers: Y 21, BV 10. Blocked Shots: Y 1 (Saylor), BV 0. Steals: BV 7 (Bickley 2), Y 4 (Hale 2).

Both teams have completed their regular season and will now play in regions beginning Tuesday.

MARION (3-15) 41 16 26 37
VIBORG-HURLEY (16-4) 22 40 55 70

BERESFORD 51, S.F. Christian 37

BERESFORD — Becca Nelson and Holly Van-Gelder each scored 11 points Thursday night, leading the Beresford Watchdogs to a 51-37 win against the Sioux Falls Christian Chargers in Beresford.

Paige DeJong scored 12 points for the Chargers, who participate in regions next week in Tea.

Beresford hosts Tea Area Tuesday.

SIoux FALLS CHRISTIAN (9-11) 3 18 28 37
BERESFORD (11-9) 12 16 26 51

Mount Vernon-Plankinton 49, Parkston 32

PLANKINTON — Megan Bulisma scored 18 points and had nine rebounds Thursday night to lead the Mount Vernon-Plankinton Titans to a 49-32 win against the Parkston Trojans in Plankinton.

Makaela Karst added 15 points and four assists in the win, with Payleen O'Day recording 10 points.

Jessica Alley and Paige Semmler each scored eight points for the Trojans, with Justene Alley adding another seven points.

Both teams have completed their regular season and will now play in regions.

PARKSTON (10-10) 2 11 21 32
MOUNT VERNON-PLANKINTON (18-2) 33 25 38 49

Tea Area 55, Parker 45

PARKER — Four players scored in double digits Thursday night, leading to a Tea Area victory against Parker 55-45 in Parker.

Karlee McKinney scored 13 points and had three steals for the Tea Area Titans, while Nicole Horsley and Sidney Clayberg each added 11 points. Horsley also had five rebounds, and Kamyln Roemen added 10 points and three rebounds.

Rylie Christensen scored 14 points and had 12 rebounds for the Pheasants, with Lauren Hunstad adding another 12 points and five rebounds.

Parker's regular season is now complete, while the Titans host Elk Point-Jefferson Saturday.

TEA AREA (6-13) 33 26 40 55
PARKER (7-14) 11 19 27 45

Tri-Valley 46, Baltic 24

BALTIC — Sammy Kasowski scored 13 points Thursday night to lead the Tri-Valley Mustangs to a 46-24 win against the Baltic Bulldogs in Baltic.

Maggie Heiberger had six rebounds in the win, with Samantha Sommer putting up six assists.

Maddie Polzen scored eight points and had six rebounds for the Bulldogs, with Rachel Abersorn recording six rebounds.

Both teams have completed their regular season and will now play in regions.

TRI-VALLEY (14-6) 14 21 38 46
BALTIC (2-17) 5 11 15 24

Bucks Roll Past Lynx 44-28

BRANDON — The Yankton Bucks avenged an earlier loss to Brandon Valley in a big way, rolling past the Lynx 44-28 in Eastern South Dakota Conference boys' basketball action on Thursday.

Brandon Valley won the first meeting 39-30 on Jan. 10. The 28 points Thursday was a season low for the Lynx, who dropped to 9-9 on the season.

"This is a funny game sometimes," said Yankton head coach Chris Haynes. "All of our shots were going in, and Brandon Valley's weren't."

Brady Sorenson drained five three-pointers on the way to 15 points for Yankton. Keenan LaCroix added 14 points.

"I thought Brady and Keenan were really good tonight. They were making plays and being aggressive," Haynes said. "There were opportunities for both of them because of the situation we're in, and both have taking advantage of it."

Yankton, now 13-6 on the season, finishes the regular season at Pierre on Saturday. The Bucks beat the Governors 39-37 on Jan. 16 at home.

"That will be a totally opposite game to tonight," Haynes said. "Pierre will pressure us the entire game, and that's a hard atmos-

phere to play in. It gets loud, gets rocking in there.

"We have to keep our composure and play through their runs."

In the JV game, Brandon Valley scored a 53-40 decision. For the Bucks, Jordan Payer scored 12 points and Jared Rafferty had 11 points to lead the way.

The Lynx also won the sophomore game 48-36. For Yankton, Payer scored 11 points, while Justin Leader and Michael Heine netted six points each.

Yankton won the freshmen 'A' game 49-32. For the Bucks, Cole Brummer scored 15 points and Brady Dangler added 14 points to lead the way.

Brandon Valley won the freshmen 'B' game 54-37. For Yankton, Cameron and Casey Krejci each had eight points.

Irene-Wakonda 70, Bridgewater-Emery 68

BRIDGEWATER — Gabe King managed a double-double with 21 points and 15 rebounds Thursday night to lead the Irene-Wakonda Eagles to a close 70-68 win against the Bridgewater-Emery Huskies in Bridgewater.

King also had seven blocks, while Levi Van Beek added 20 points in the win. Pate Gale had eight assists.

Sam Arend had a total of 21 points for the

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