

# Press & Dakotan

## DAILY DOSE

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



We've all heard coaches and administrators from Mount Marty College and other schools in the Great Plains Athletic Conference talk about how competitive the GPAC is, especially in women's basketball.

The league will likely get four teams into the national tournament again this year. One sports-related website, though, thinks it should be even more.

Based on the most recent NAIA rankings on maseyratings.com, the GPAC boasts not four of the top 25 teams in the nation, but five of the top 11: No. 1 Morningside (same as NAIA poll), No. 3 Concordia (same as NAIA poll), No. 5 Hastings, No. 7 Briar Cliff and No. 11 Northwestern. Mount Marty, which hasn't gotten a vote in a single poll all season despite being 19-11, ranks 16th. Dakota Wesleyan (23rd) and Doane (25th) also rank among the top NAIA Division II women's teams according to the formula that tries to predict team and league success. (Future GPAC member St. Mary's, 12th in the lat-

## How Good Is GPAC Women's Basketball?

est NAIA poll, actually ranks 27th according to Massey.)

If you are wondering about the formula, let me know that his formula was included in the old BCS computer ratings, so the math is well-respected in sports circles.

So what does that mean?

It means that two or three GPAC teams that probably deserved to be in Sioux City next month won't be. While the GPAC has respect nationally, those who vote in the NAIA polls are not about to give the GPAC seven teams while their league becomes a one or two bid league. Voters aren't going to make a complete travesty of things by only voting one (or zero) GPAC teams in the top 25, but their willingness to admit the GPAC is by far the best league in the nation only goes so far.

What that means for teams like Mount Marty, Doane or Dakota Wesleyan is that you'd better win the GPAC Tournament if you want a spot at the table next month. It can be done — MMC has played at least one close game with, or beaten, all but one opponent in the league.

That road for MMC begins at Concordia tonight (Wednesday). Where it ends, we'll see.

## SCOREBOARD

### BASKETBALL

#### TUESDAY'S S.D. BOYS

Aberdeen Central 44, Brandon Valley 43  
Custer 62, Hill City 44  
Huron 58, Pierre 56  
Rapid City Christian 72, Lead-Deadwood 59  
Sioux Falls Lincoln 63, Sioux Falls Roosevelt 50  
Sioux Falls Washington 83, Sioux Falls O'Connor 71  
Sturgis 66, Douglas 55  
Watertown 73, Harrisburg 65

#### TUESDAY'S S.D. GIRLS

Aberdeen Central 47, Brandon Valley 34  
Harrisburg 54, Watertown 44  
Pierre 72, Huron 55  
Rapid City Stevens 57, Rapid City Central 45  
Sioux Falls Roosevelt 57, Sioux Falls Lincoln 37  
**Region 1A**  
Aberdeen Roncalli 55, Tiopsa Zina Tribal 53  
Grotton Area 50, Sisseton 38  
Milbank 34, Britton-Hecla 27  
**Region 2A**  
Clark/Willow Lake 56, Deuel 15  
Deurbrook 65, Edfield/Doland 46  
**Region 3A**  
Flandreau 53, Garretson 44  
Madison 84, Flandreau Indian 14  
**Region 4A**  
Beresford 51, Tea Area 42  
Dakota Valley 74, Canton 31  
Lennox 36, Vermillion 35  
**Region 5A**  
McCook Central/Montrose 68, Bon Homme 38  
Tri-Valley 55, Wagner 48  
West Central 62, Parkston 46  
**Region 6A**  
Chamberlain 54, Miller 49  
Mortridge-Pollock 76, Crow Creek 42  
**Region 7A**  
Little Wound 67, Bennett County 51  
**District 1B Semifinals**  
Summit 56, Great Plains Lutheran 27  
Wilmot 87, Waverly-South Shore 53  
**District 2B Semifinals**  
Northwestern 60, Leola/Frederick 40  
Warner 56, Waubay 16  
**District 3B Semifinals**  
Herried/Selby Area 59, Potter County 35  
Ipswich 53, Faulkton 27  
**District 4B Semifinals**  
Highmore-Harrold 65, Sunshine Bible Academy 43  
Sully Buttes 56, Hitchcock-Tulare 25  
**District 5B**  
Estelline 38, Florence/Henry 33  
Lakota Preston 44, Avillion 34  
**District 6B Semifinals**  
James Valley Christian 54, Wessington Springs 38  
Sanborn Central/Woonsocket 59, Wolsley-Wessington 72  
**District 7B**  
Balic 58, Dell Rapids St. Mary 40  
Cibola-Roman/Rutland 59, Colman-Egan 42  
**District 8B Semifinals**  
Freeman 41, Menno 31  
Parker 46, Scotland 32  
**District 9B Semifinals**  
Centerville 54, Gayville-Volin 46  
Viborg-Hurley 55, Irene-Wakonda 46  
**District 10B Semifinals**  
Dakota Christian 42, Platte-Geddes 27  
Kimball/White Lake 56, Tripp-Delmont/Armour 45  
**District 12B Semifinals**  
Avon 59, Gregory 38  
Burke/South Central 84, Marty Indian 30  
**District 13B Semifinals**  
Jones County 48, Stanley County 19  
**District 14B Semifinals**  
New Underwood 56, Oelrichs 49  
Wall 70, Philip 39

#### TUESDAY'S NEB. BOYS

Crete 62, Nebraska City 43  
Gretina 62, Omaha Gross Catholic 43  
Omaha Skutt Catholic 52, Ralston 42  
**Sub-District C1-1 Semifinals**  
Falls City 64, Auburn 31

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## Twins

From Page 11

teen upper and lower body. "Hopefully none of us give up any runs so the choice is really hard for the Twins to make and it's a good position for them to be in," May said. Right-hander Tim Stauffer was signed for \$2.2 million after spending last year in the bullpen with the San Diego Padres, but he has made 73 major league starts and will

have an opportunity, too. So will Pelfrey, whose rough 2013 season was compounded in 2014 by elbow trouble that kept him to five starts. Then there's Tommy Milone, the only left-hander in the mix and one with two-plus years of decent performance as a starter for the Oakland Athletics. Acquired last summer, Milone struggled, like May and many others who tried to fill the back spots in the rotation. Milone had soreness in his neck that was later found to be a be-

nign tumor. "I wouldn't pinpoint my neck issue being the reasons why I wasn't very effective when I came here last year. I think I just didn't pitch well," Milone said. "It might have been coming into a new team in the middle of the season, trying to do too much and impress everybody and be a pitcher that they want me to be. But now I feel comfortable. It's a new year, a clean slate." That's what the Twins are banking on, too.

## Lancers

From Page 11

Morningside (30-0). The Bulldogs swept the season series and have won eight straight over the Lancers, but MMC challenged Concordia in the first meeting and for part of the second. In the first meeting, MMC had scoring chances late but fell 63-59. The Bulldogs, who force 29 turnovers a game, recorded a season-low seven steals in that meeting. "In our first meeting we really defended well," Schlimgen said. "We had a chance to tie it with a wide open three with about 20 seconds left." When the teams met in Seward, Nebraska, Concordia took control late in the first half and pulled away to a 92-61 rout. The game was tied at 31 with four minutes left in the first half. "We played 16 really good minutes. They went on a run to end the first half, and we didn't recover. We were mentally beaten," Schlimgen said. "I think we're a lot tougher team now. We think we've got a chance to go there and do something big."

The Bulldogs are led by 2014 GPAC Player of the Year Bailey Morris, who is averaging 18.8 points and 5.1 assists per game. Hartington Cedar Catholic grad Tracy Peitz (11.1 ppg, 4.1 rpg) and Becky Mueller (10.9 ppg) also average in double figures for the Bulldogs, who average 85.8 points per game as a team. Surviving Concordia's pressure defense and keeping them from opening the floodgates offensively will be key for MMC. "We have to have everyone on the same page," Hegge said. "We're going to be ready on Wednesday. I'm excited for the game." While a win over the Bulldogs — which would be MMC's 20th victory — would not assure the Lancers an at-large berth, MMC is looking to get that victory and see what happens. "We can beat anybody in the conference, in the nation, if we are all playing well," Winne said. The MMC-Concordia game is at 7 p.m. today (Wednesday) in Seward. The winner will face either Doane (13-17) or 12th-ranked Hastings (21-7) in the semifinals on Saturday. Other first-round games today include Dakota Wes-

leyan (14-16) at top-ranked Morningside (30-0) and Northwestern (17-11) at 17th-ranked Briar Cliff (22-8). The tournament championship is set for Tuesday, March 2. The tournament champion will receive the GPAC's second automatic berth into the NAIA Division II Tournament, March 11-17 in Sioux City, Iowa. Should Morningside win the GPAC Tournament, the second berth goes to the tournament runner-up. You can follow James D. Cimburek on Twitter at twitter.com/JCimburek. Discuss this story at www.yankton.net

## AREA CALENDAR

**Wednesday, February 25**  
**BASKETBALL, MEN'S** Denver at USD (7 p.m., KVHT-FM, MidcoSN); GPAC Quarterfinals  
**BASKETBALL, WOMEN'S** GPAC Quarterfinals — MMC at Concordia (7 p.m., KYNT-AM)  
**Thursday, February 26**  
**BASKETBALL, WOMEN'S** IUPUI at USD (7 p.m., KVHT-FM)  
**BASKETBALL, BOYS'** Neb. Sub-Districts — C-2 at Randall (Championship — Semifinal winners, 7 p.m.); C-2-8 at O'Neill (Championship — Semifinal winners, 7 p.m.); D1-5 at Wisner (Championship — Semifinal winners, 7 p.m.); D2-3 at Ponca (Championship — Semifinal winners, 7 p.m.); D2-4 at Creighton (Championship — Semifinal winners, 7 p.m.); Avon vs. Burke-South Central at Burke; Beresford at Tea Area; Freeman at Parker; Platte-Geddes at Gregory; Tripp-

Delmont-Armour at Coloma  
**BASKETBALL, GIRLS'** S.D. Regions: 4A at Elk Point (Lennox/Vermillion winner vs. Elk Point-Jefferson, 6 p.m.); Beresford/Tea Area winner vs. Dakota Valley/Canton winner, 7:45 p.m.; 5A (Tri-Valley/Wagner winner vs. Mount Vernon-Plankinton at Mount Vernon, 7 p.m.; West Central/Parkston winner vs. McCook Central-Montrose/Bon Homme winner at high seed, 7 p.m.)  
**Friday, February 27**  
**BASKETBALL, BOYS'** Canton at Vermillion (7:45 p.m., KVTK-AM); Dakota Valley at Lennox  
**BASKETBALL, GIRLS'** S.D. Districts — 2AA Play-in (YHS, 7 p.m., KYNT-AM, KVHT-FM); 9B at Menno (Championship — 7 p.m.); 10B at Beresford (Championship — 7 p.m.); 11B at Mitchell (Championship — 8 p.m.); 12B at Mitchell (Championship — 6:30 p.m.); Neb. Districts — C2-4 at Wausa (Crofton vs. Plainview, 7 p.m., KKYA-FM); D1-3 at Wayne (Creighton vs. Emerson-

Hubbard, 7 p.m.); D2-2 at Battle Creek (Wynot vs. Stuart, 7 p.m.)  
**BOWLING, CLUB HS** State Tour. at Sport Bowl, Sioux Falls (Yankton, Vermillion)  
**HOCKEY, BOYS'** Sioux Falls I at Yankton (7 p.m.)  
**HOCKEY, GIRLS'** JV S.D. State Tour. at Pierre — Yankton vs. Rushmore (1 p.m.)  
**SOFTBALL, COLLEGE** North Florida Tour. (USD vs. Kansas, 1:30 p.m.; USD vs. North Florida, 6 p.m.)  
**SWIMMING, YOUTH** S.D. State Short Course Championships at Pierre (Yankton)  
**TRACK & FIELD, COLLEGE INDOOR** Summit League Championships at Fargo (USD)  
**WRESTLING, PREP** S.D. State Class A Tour. at Sioux Falls; S.D. State Class B Tour. at Rapid City; Neb. Dual Championships at Kearney

## SPORTS DIGEST

### MMC Men Sign Two West River Guards

A pair of West River standouts will attend Mount Marty College and play basketball for the Lancers, according to an announcement by the institution on Tuesday.

Justin Prue of White River and Josh Afdahl of Faith will join the Lancers for the 2015-16 men's basketball season. "We are excited for both of these young guards to come in and help build our culture and tradition," said MMC head coach Andrew Baker. Prue, a 5-10 guard, is averaging 21 points and seven assists per game for the Tigers. The 2014 Lakota Nations Invitational MVP, Prue has been a part of state championship teams in 2012 and 2013. "Justin is a born leader who comes from a great winning program at White River," Baker said. "He has the ability to lead his team and can score the ball in a variety of ways."

Afdahl, a 6-1 guard/forward, averages seven points, six rebounds and four assists per game for the Longhorns, a state tournament qualifier in 2014. He earned second-team all-conference and his team's Sportsman-ship Counts Award in 2014. "Josh is the ultimate teammate who continues to do whatever is needed to help his team win," Baker said. Afdahl, the son of Joel Claudine Afdahl, plans to study recreation management at MMC. He will receive an MMC Academic Honors Scholarship as well as a basketball scholarship at Mount Marty College.

Prue, the son of Alex and Wanda Prue, is currently undecided on a major. He will receive an MMC Academic scholarship as well as a basketball scholarship.

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### USD's Snyder Earns Summit League Honor

ELMHURST, Ill. — South Dakota senior Cody Snyder was named the Summit League Men's Indoor Track and Field Athlete of the Week for the period ended Feb. 22, as released by the league office on Tuesday.

This marks Snyder's third Athlete of the Week honor in his career, but the first during the indoor season. Snyder threw a personal best of 61 feet, 2.25 inches in the men's shot put as the Coyotes hosted the USD Twilight in the DakotaDome on Friday. His mark tops the Summit League this season and broke school, state and facility records. Snyder and the Coyotes compete at the Summit League Championships this weekend in Fargo, N.D. Fort Wayne's Brittany Beard earned women's honors.

### USD Women's Swimming & Diving Team Earns Scholar All-America Honor

VERMILLION — South Dakota women's swimming and diving has received College Swimming Coaches Association of America (CSCAA) Scholar All-America honors for the 2014 fall semester. The Coyotes held a team GPA of 3.38. This marks the second-straight semester that the Coyote women have earned the honor. The award is presented to programs

### YHS Student House FOR SALE



32'x50' Three bedroom home. Built during the 2014-2015 school year by Yankton High School Building Trades Class.

### OPEN HOUSE

February 25th • 3:30-5:00PM  
Sealed bids due by 1:30pm on March 3, 2015  
For details and bid form, go to: [ysd.k12.sd.us/studenthouse](http://ysd.k12.sd.us/studenthouse) or contact the Business office at (605)665-3980 and ask for Jason Bietz, Business Manager

### 2 YHS Student Built Storage Sheds FOR SALE



(2) 8'x12' student-built storage sheds. 2"x4" walls, 16" OC; 2"x4" treated floor joist w/3/4" cdx plywood; 2"x4" roof joists 16" OC w/30 yr. Landmark shingles. Built during the 2014-2015 school year by Yankton High School Intro to Building Trades Class. Sealed bids due by 1:30pm on March 3, 2015 For details and bid form contact the Business Office at (605)665-3980

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