

Yankton To Host State JV Girls' Hockey Tourney

YAIA Steps In To Bring Event To Alcoa Arena On Feb. 24-26

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For the second time since the Yankton Area Ice Association put its first sheet of ice at Alcoa Arena, the YAIA will step in to host a state tournament.

The South Dakota Amateur Hockey Association informed the YAIA Thursday evening that Yankton will host the 2012 girls' junior varsity tournament, scheduled for Feb. 24-26.

Yankton stepped in to host the 2009 Bantam 'C' Tournament after the city scheduled to host it was unable to fulfill that obligation. In 2011, Yankton played host to the PeeWee 'B' Tournament.

This year, facilities issues and the lack of a junior varsity girls' team in Huron meant the event needed to be moved. While the official announcement that Huron would not host the tournament came last week, the YAIA had already discussed the possibility of trying to bring the event to Alcoa Arena.

"At that time the board said, 'Yeah, if we have an opportunity, let's go for it,'" said YAIA president Laura Baumeister. "When it did materialize a week ago, it was an instant 'yes' from us."

The announcement was well-received by the Miracle girls, according to head coach Michael Freeman.

"The girls were very excited," he

said. "They're really looking forward to it, especially the seniors, since they'll get to play their last games at home."

The two previous tournaments hosted by Yankton, especially last year's PeeWee tournament, will help Yankton prepare for another bid.

"With last year's tournament, we had an organized coordinator that put together a three-ring binder together of, 'You need these committees and you need to get this done by this date,' really good organizational structure," Baumeister said. "So now this year, when we have the girls' junior varsity parents working with their tournament, they're working off that same notebook."

Another thing that will help Yankton prepare is the fact that the team has just six matches left.

"We are lucky, from a certain standpoint, that the majority of our games are out of the way," Freeman said. "We have six games the rest of the (regular) season, so it will be nice to have some time to work in getting ready for the tournament. If we had 12 games left, it would be stressful."

One thing Yankton is able to provide that many of the other cities in South Dakota is a place to stay warm off the ice.

"I think the fans especially like our big warming house, which is the big 4-H building," Baumeister said. "In some other communities, it's just this small

area where families congregate ahead of the game or after the game."

The large 4-H building also opens up opportunities for off-the-ice entertainment.

"We're able to have a lot of different types of hospitality in that area" Baumeister noted. "People remarked last year that they enjoyed the variety that we offered."

The team and the team parents will also input to help make the tournament their own, Baumeister noted.

"We're leaving it up to the players themselves if they want to do something fun and different," she said. "There are different things that they can put a per-

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Beresford, Tri-Valley To Play For Big Sioux Title

COLTON — The Tri-Valley Mustangs earned themselves a spot in the Big Sioux Conference Championship with a 47-34 win over the Dakota Valley Panthers.

Nicole Fritz led Tri-Valley with nine points, Brittney Will scored eight points, and Sammy Kasowski pulled down nine rebounds.

Dakota Valley was led by Jayde Bergman's 12 points and 10 rebounds. Allison Sexton had 13 rebounds and Abbie Huber had eight assists for the Panthers.

Tri-Valley will play Beresford in the Championship Game. Beresford beat Canton 57-26 in the Dell Rapids semifinal

Elk Point-Jefferson 58, Tea Area 49

COLTON — Keely Bertram poured 26 points in for the Elk Point-Jefferson Huskies as they beat the Tea Area Titans 58-49 in the Big Sioux Conference Girls' Basketball Tournament on Friday night in Colton.

Audrey Truhe scored 11 points, had eight assists, and seven rebounds for the Huskies. Haylee Erickson managed to grab 10 rebounds for EP-J.

Tea Area was led by Haleigh Gunn with 15 points and eight rebounds. Morgan Heirigs had 14 points for the Titans.

EPJ will face Dell Rapids for fifth place. Dell Rapids edged Sioux Falls Christian 50-49 in Dell Rapids.

| | | | | |
|--------------------------|----|----|----|----|
| TEA AREA..... | 7 | 21 | 34 | 49 |
| ELK POINT-JEFFERSON..... | 19 | 33 | 51 | 58 |

Regular Season

Laurel-Concord-Col. 63, Creighton 50

LAUREL — Despite both teams ending the night with three double-digit scorers, the Creighton, Neb. Bulldogs fell to the Laurel-Concord-Coleridge, Neb. Bears on Friday night.

The Bears' Jade Cunningham ended the night on a double-double with 14 points and 13 rebounds. Mandy Nelson came close with 13 points and eight rebounds while Katie Gubbels added 12 points.

Abby Schwindt led for the Bulldogs with 13 points. Becca Egglering chipped in 12 points while Maddi Oltjenbruns added 10.

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Tigers Trip Bucks 45-18



JAMES D. CIMBUREK/P&D

Yankton's Spencer Huber tries to put Huron's Jesse Mikrut to his back during their 113-pound match in an Eastern South Dakota Conference dual Friday at the Summit Center. Huber scored a victory, but Huron claimed a 45-18 team win.

Wynot Edges Winnebago In L&C Conference Showdown

WYNOT — Nathan Wieseler's 15 points helped lead the Wynot Blue Devils to a close boys' basketball victory over the Winnebago Indians on Friday night.

Austin Wieseler earned a double-double for the Blue Devils with 10 points and 10 rebounds. Chris Schmidt grabbed 11 rebounds.

Brandon Blackfish led the Indians with 12 points.

Both teams play again on Tuesday when Wynot faces Gayville-Volin and Winnebago takes on Ponca.

Winnebago won the JV match-up 60-33.

| | | | | |
|----------------------|----|----|----|----|
| WYNOT (13-1)..... | 7 | 18 | 24 | 37 |
| WINNEBAGO (8-4)..... | 12 | 25 | 27 | 36 |

Crofton 60, Neligh-Oakdale 41

NELIGH — A balanced scoring effort by the Crofton Warriors led

them to victory over the Neligh-Oakdale Warriors 60-41 on Friday night.

In the battle of the Warriors, Crofton's Ben Hegge, Tom Pietz, and Eric Kleinschmit each scored 11 points while Pietz and Kleinschmit pulled down 10 and 11 rebounds, respectively.

Evan Workman also chipped in with 10 points for the Warriors (6-6).

For Neligh-Oakdale (1-11), Trevor Wright led with 16 points and Dylan Wheeler added 12.

Crofton's next match-up is Lutheran High Northeast on Saturday and Neligh-Oakdale with face Clearwater-Orchard on Tuesday.

Crofton also dominated the JV game 53-8.

| | | | | |
|----------------------------|----|----|----|----|
| CROFTON (6-6)..... | 13 | 23 | 42 | 60 |
| NELIGH-OAKDALE (1-11)..... | 3 | 19 | 31 | 41 |

Bridgewater-Emery 54, Menno 36

MENNO — A trio of Bridgewater-Emery Huskies combined to score 43 points to lead the Huskies past the Menno Wolves 54-36 in a Cornbelt Conference matchup.

Clayton Dye led Bridgewater-Emery with 16 points, Seth Wethor had 14 points, and Jacob Schweitzer ended with 13 points to lead the Huskies. Bridgewater-Emery only turned the ball over seven times on the night.

Menno was led by Austin Herboldt's 17 points. David Schelske grabbed 11 rebounds and Ben Fischer contributed nine points for the Wolves.

Bridgewater-Emery won the junior varsity game 31-25.

Menno will play at Ethan on Jan. 16. Bridgewater-Emery will be

at the Tri-Valley Classic against Freeman Academy.

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|-----------------------------------|----|----|----|----|
| BRIDGEWATER-EMERY (6-3, 3-2)..... | 15 | 25 | 37 | 54 |
| MENNO (3-5, 1-2)..... | 17 | 19 | 24 | 36 |

Freeman 69, Marion 17

MARION — Freeman was too much for Marion to handle on Friday night as the Flyers overpowered the Bears 69-17 in the boys' basketball match-up.

Freeman was led by Shaun Becker with 12 points and five assists. Chet Peterson scored 11 points while Arron Lickteig added 10.

Joey Pessia was the leading scorer for the Bears with seven points and six rebounds. Jacob Wuertz grabbed eight rebounds.

Freeman will face Centerville next on Tuesday and Marion will take on Scotland on Thursday.

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|--------------------|----|----|----|----|
| FREEMAN (5-3)..... | 26 | 42 | 55 | 69 |
| MARION (1-8)..... | 5 | 5 | 12 | 17 |

S. Central 70, Gregory 39

BURKE — A strong group of scorers carried the South Central Cougars past the Gregory Gorillas 70-39 on Friday night.

The Cougars had four players in double figures led by Tyler Frank with 13 points. Jordan Janousek, Josh Tuttle, and Dakota Votaw each scored 10 points apiece.

Dylan Voigt led the Gorillas with 11 points and Jaden Bartling grabbed seven rebounds.

South Central travels to Winner on Monday night while Gregory faces Chamberlain on Tuesday.

MCM 52, Sioux Valley 37

SALEM — After a water main break moved the Big East Confer-

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MIKE CARROLL/HURON PLAINSMAN

Yankton's Bryan Youngberg dribbles against Huron's Zack Cranston during their Eastern South Dakota Conference boys' basketball game Friday at the Huron Arena. Huron led 28-13 at the half on the way to a 49-36 victory over the Bucks. Yankton travels to Sioux Falls Lincoln today (Saturday).

Slow Start Sinks Yankton At Huron

HURON — The Yankton Bucks boys' basketball team had problems finding the basket in the first half of their Eastern South Dakota Conference matchup with the Huron Tigers on Friday night.

The Bucks outscored Huron 23-21 in the second half, but a 28-13 deficit at halftime was too much to overcome as the Bucks fell 49-36 to Huron. The loss drops Yankton's season record to 1-8 overall and they are 1-7 in ESD play. Huron improves to 5-5 overall and 2-5 in the ESD.

"We definitely dug ourselves a deep hole early," head coach Randy Gross said. "We had 17 turnovers in the first half, and most of those were unforced turnovers."

Yankton ended the game with a 15-point fourth quarter, nearly doubling their output from the

first three quarters combined.

"We hung around and battled," Gross said. "We got at it more defensively and that led to scores on the other end."

Bryan Youngberg led the Bucks scoring with nine points, while Kellen Soulek followed with eight points and six rebounds.

Huron's Luke Carr had a strong showing with 14 points, eight rebounds, and five steals. Spencer Stahly contributed 11 points for the Tigers in the victory.

Despite the loss Gross felt some good came from the game.

"We can take from this game that we need to take care of the ball and make better decisions. It is too tough to dig yourself out of a hole that is created by too many turnovers."

Yankton will now have to re-

bound quickly as they face SF Lincoln today at 3:30 p.m. in Sioux Falls. SF Lincoln is atop the standings in Class AA District 2, which Yankton belongs to. Lincoln is currently 5-1, their only loss was a 40-39 decision at SF O'Gorman.

The quick turn around is what Gross feels may be best for the team at this point.

"We don't have to sit around and think about this loss all week. We get to get on the floor the next day and show what we took away from the game at Huron."

Gross also spoke about Lincoln.

"They are a good team who returns a lot of players from last year's team. They really like to get in you and pressure you. Every possession is crucial in

this game."

In sub-varsity action the JV Bucks fell to Huron 64-57. Drew Kanopasek led the way with 13 points, as well as JJ Hejna with 13 points.

The Sophomores lost to Huron 56-54 in double-overtime. Landon Breen scored 24 and Ryan Olson had 14 points.

The Freshman Bucks lost to Huron as well, 43-32. John Dandenbring scored seven points and Conner Chambers had six points.

YANKTON (1-8)
Jackson Passo 2 2-4 6; Connor Fitzsimmons 1 0-0 3; Bryan Youngberg 4 0-0 9; Connor Vlasman 2 1-2 5; Michael Rucker 0 1-2 1; JJ Hejna 2 0-0 4; Kellen Soulek 4 0-0 8. Totals: 15-4-8 36.

HURON (5-5)
Luke Carr 7 0-0 14; Spencer Stahly 4 0-0 11; Deion 3 0-0 9; Adam Zwanziger 2 0-0 4; Clark Wirtle 2 0-0 5; Justin Decker 3 0-1 6. Totals: 21 0-1 49.

YANKTON.....6 13 21 36

HURON.....17 28 38 49

Rebounds: Y 32 (Jackson Seitzinger 8, Soulek 6); H 23 (Carr 8). Three-point goals: Y 2 (Fitzsimmons 1, Youngberg 1); H 7 (Faulks 3, Stahly 3). Assists Y 8; H 12. Steals: Y 6; H 13. Turnovers: Y 22; H 16. Fouls: Y 9; H 13.

MOUNT MARTY
LANCER
BASKETBALL

Mount Marty vs. Doane

2:00 p.m. Women/4:00 p.m. Men • Jan. 14, 2011 • Laddie E. Cimpl Arena • 1105 W. 8th St. • Yankton

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