

# Lancers Corral No. 4 Mustangs



The Mount Marty College women's basketball team celebrates its 77-68 upset of fourth-ranked Morningside College in GPAC women's action Wednesday night in Sioux City, Iowa.

JEREMY HOECK/P&D

**BY JEREMY HOECK**  
jeremy.hoeck@yankton.net

SIOUX CITY, Iowa — The ultimate goal of getting back to the national tournament required one key ingredient for the Mount Marty College women.

A defining victory.

The Lancers checked that item off the to-do list in dramatic fashion Wednesday night, pulling off a 77-68 upset of fourth-ranked Morningside in GPAC action in Sioux City, Iowa.

"We knew we needed to beat a ranked team at some time," said MMC junior guard April Winne, who posted 21 points, eight assists and seven rebounds.

"It was about time."

The final score, however, doesn't exactly detail how the Lancers (11-7, 6-4) pulled off one

of the biggest wins the program has experienced since reaching the NAIA Tournament two years ago.

Mount Marty dominated the end of the first half, surrendered a 15-point lead early in the second half, briefly trailed and regained the edge at the free throw line.

Combined, it marked the culmination of a good stretch for the Lancers.

"We've been feeling good about our team," head coach Tom Schlimgen said. "We played a good game at Briar Cliff (last week) but they shot the lights out.

"So I told the girls, 'I guess it's time for us to get a signature win.'"

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JAMES D. CIMBUREK/P&D

South Dakota's Polly Harrington, 33, powers the ball up against an Omaha defender during their Summit League women's basketball game on Dec. 30 at the DakotaDome in Vermillion.

## Basketball | Poppe's Double Duty

# Scouting, Prep Time Are Challenges

**BY JAMES D. CIMBUREK**  
james.cimburek@yankton.net

*EDITOR'S NOTE: This is the second part of a series following Avon basketball coach Brad Poppe throughout the 2012-13 season.*

AVON — As the Avon boys' basketball team goes through the final moments of their practice, they have the last drill of the day interrupted. The opponent for the Avon girls' team showed up a few minutes early, turning the end of practice into set-up time for the girls' game later that evening.

The moment is a reality in most small schools, where gym time is at a premium. What happened next, though, isn't typical for most small schools.

Coach Brad Poppe, after a quick change from his practice gear, transitioned to coaching the girls' team for their game against a highly-ranked opponent.

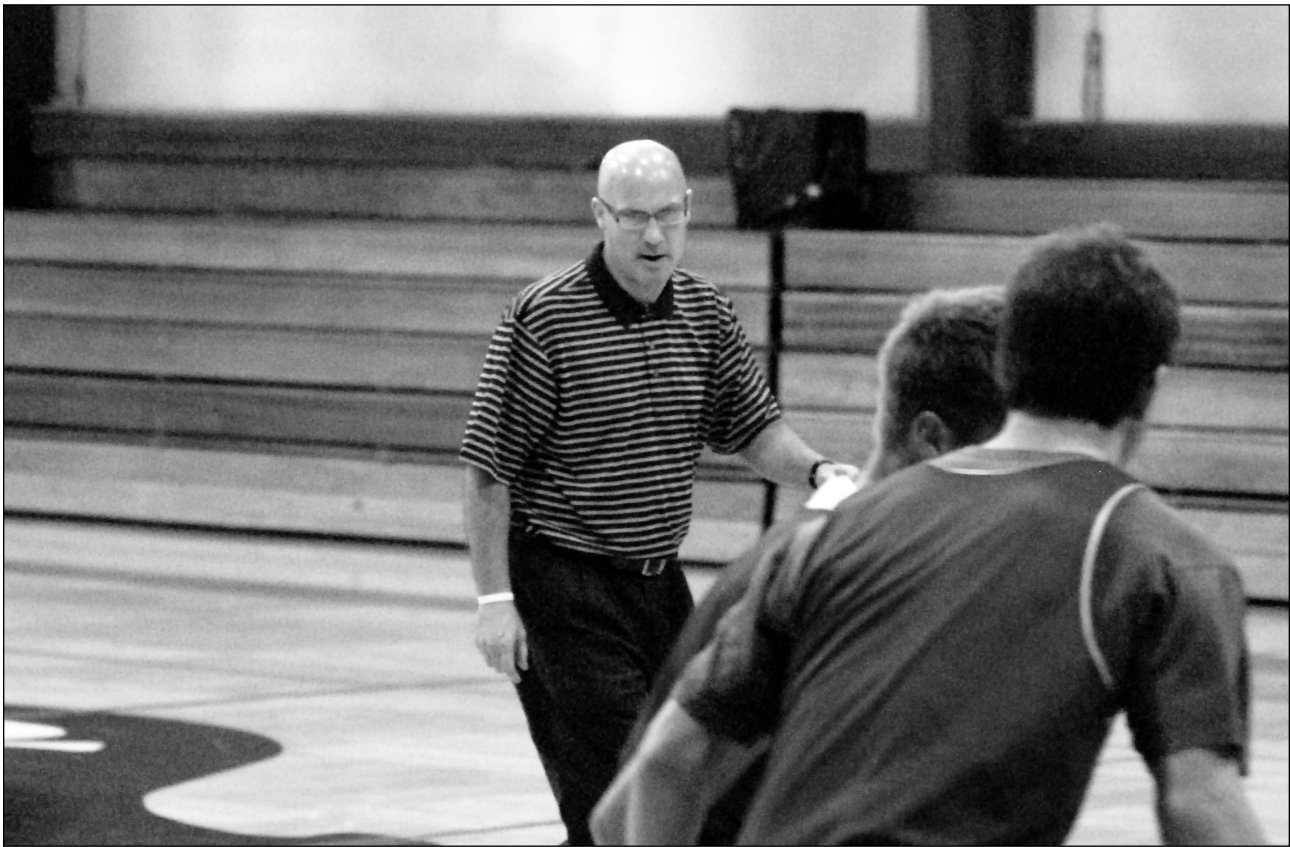
There are going to be a lot of days like this for Poppe this year. In January alone, his teams have games on 14 dates, only three of which are doubleheaders. That means that, if the Pirates or Lady Pirates are on the road, he is starting practice before handing the reins to his assistants, boys' assistant Paul Thiry or girls' assistant Amy Yost.

For Poppe, the one-game days actually are easier, even if the game is on the road.

"It's easier to transition from practice mode to game mode," he said. "Right now, with games starting to go, I don't have many days where there are two practices."

With both the boys' and girls' teams in the thick of their season, Poppe is finding that scouting has proven to be a challenge.

"I'm having to do more scout-



Avon basketball coach Brad Poppe watches a drill during a boys' basketball practice earlier this season (above). The practice was followed by a girls' game (left), something that Poppe and Avon have dealt with several times this season, as he is serving as the head coach for both programs. The schedule will become even more challenging later this month, as Avon has seven girls' games and five boys' games in a 17-day stretch, with only one night being a doubleheader.

JAMES D. CIMBUREK/P&D

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## Writers Shut Out Field For Baseball Hall

NEW YORK (AP) — No one was elected to the Hall of Fame this year. When voters closed the doors to Barry Bonds, Roger Clemens and Sammy Sosa, they also shut out everybody else.

For only the second time in four decades, baseball writers failed to give any player the 75 percent required for induction to Cooperstown, sending a powerful signal that stars of the Steroids Era will be held to a different standard.

All the awards and accomplishments collected over long careers by Bonds, Clemens and Sosa could not offset suspicions those feats were boosted by performance-enhancing drugs.

Voters also denied entry Wednesday to fellow newcomers Craig Biggio, Mike Piazza and Curt Schilling, along with holdovers Jack Morris, Jeff Bagwell and Lee Smith.

Among the most honored players of their generation, these standouts won't find their images among the 300 bronze plaques on the oak walls in Cooperstown, where — at least for now — the doors appear to be bolted shut on anyone tainted by PEDs.

"After what has been written and said over the last few years I'm not overly surprised," Clemens said in a statement he posted on Twitter.

Bonds, Clemens and Sosa retired after the 2007 season. They were eligible for the Hall for the first time and have up to 14 more years on the writers' ballot.

"Curt Schilling made a good point, everyone was guilty. Either you used PEDs, or you did nothing to stop their use," Hall of Famer Mike Schmidt said in an email to The Associated Press after this year's vote was announced. "This generation got rich. Seems there was a price to pay."

# College Basketball: Hastings Men Hold Off Concordia

SEWARD, Neb. — Hastings needed a strong second half to survive an upset bid by Concordia, winning 84-75 in Great Plains Athletic Conference men's basketball action on Wednesday.

Brett Wells scored 16 points and Dylan Flinn had 15 points for Hastings (15-5, 6-4 GPAC), which trailed 36-34 at the half.

For Concordia (5-11, 2-8 GPAC), Porter Birtel led five Bulldogs in

double figures with 17 points. Joel Haywood netted 14 points.

**UTAH VALLEY STATE 78, UMKC 66:** KANSAS CITY, Mo. (AP) — Nick Thompson, Alfonso Hubbard and Ben Aird scored 18 points each and Utah Valley State beat UMKC 78-66 Wednesday night.

Thompson was 8 of 9 from the field and had six assists and a team-high nine rebounds. Hubbard was 7 of 12 from the field, and Aird was 8 of 14.

Holtan Hunsaker scored 11 points. Jason Johnson added 10 for the Wolverines (8-10).

John Burke led UMKC with 15 points. Nelson Kirksey and Thomas Staton had 10 points apiece. Fred Chatmon and Brad Reid had six rebounds apiece for UMKC (4-13).

**NO. 2 MICHIGAN 62, NEBRASKA 47:** ANN ARBOR, Mich. (AP) — Glenn Robinson III had 14 points, including

a pair of crucial dunks in the second half, and No. 2 Michigan equalled its best start to a season with a 62-47 victory over Nebraska on Wednesday night.

Ray Gallegos scored 19 points for Nebraska (9-7, 0-3), which held the Wolverines to a 39 percent mark from the field. Michigan, which beat its first two conference opponents by 28 points apiece, went 3 of 17 from 3-point range.

**NO. 6 KANSAS 97, IOWA STATE 88, OT:** LAWRENCE, Kan. (AP) — Freshman Ben McLemore had a career-high 33 points, including a tying 3-pointer with a second left in regulation, and No. 6 Kansas rallied to beat Iowa State 97-89 in overtime Wednesday night.

McLemore was 10 of 12 from the field and perfect on six 3-pointers for the Jayhawks (13-1, 1-0 Big 12), who scored the first nine points of overtime to wrap up their 12th straight win.

**EVANSVILLE 62, NORTHERN IOWA 59:** CEDAR FALLS, Iowa (AP) — Colt Ryan scored 21 points, including two free throws with 18 seconds left that proved to be the game-winning points, as Evansville hung on Wednesday night for a 62-59 win over Northern Iowa.

## Women

**DORDT 81, DAKOTA STATE 79:** MADISON — Fresh off receiving votes in the NAIA Division II poll for the first time this season, Dordt survived a second half surge to beat Dakota State 81-79 in women's basketball action on Wednesday.

Dakota State outscored Dordt 45-38 in the second half after trailing 43-34 at the break. The victorious Defenders led by as many as 25 points before the Lady Trojans made their run.

Kayla Broekhuis scored 20 points, including 6-10 from three-point range, to lead Dordt (11-9). Brianna Spronk netted 15 points and had seven assists. Kara Van Dyke had 13 points, 10 rebounds and five blocked shots. Jasmin Schelhaas scored 11 points on 3-3 shooting from three-point range. Beresford native Elise Mareash added eight points and five rebounds in the win.

Kylie Westover scored a game-high 28 points to lead Dakota State (4-9). Alyson Drooger had 17 points. Cassie Jacobsen added 14 points.

**NO. 1 BAYLOR 67, NO. 25 IOWA ST. 39:** WACO, Texas (AP) — Brittney Griner scored the game's first five points and finished with 23 as Baylor led throughout in its first game since taking back the No. 1 spot, defeating 25th-ranked Iowa State 67-39 on Wednesday night.

Griner already had 11 points as Baylor (13-1, 3-0 Big 12) jumped out to a 16-3 lead in just over 8 minutes.

# Morningside Too Much For Lancer Men

**BY JEREMY HOECK**  
jeremy.hoeck@yankton.net

SIOUX CITY, Iowa — What began as a frustrating start was later a frustrating loss for the Mount Marty College men.

So much so that there weren't many answers.

Morningside blistered the nets for 62 percent in the first half and rolled to an 88-66 GPAC men's basketball win over the Lancers on Wednesday night in Sioux City, Iowa.

Facing a team one game ahead of them in the league standings, the Lancers (6-12, 2-8) instead turned the ball over 20 times and a hard time slowing down the Mustangs.

"We had a game plan but we just can't stick to it," MMC coach Jim Thorson said. "It's not good right now, we have to figure some things out with our guys."

Morningside, now 9-11 and 4-6, drained eight three-pointers in a one-sided first half, that saw the hometown Mustangs lead 51-28 at halftime.

The key, Morningside coach Jim Sykes said, was pressure.

"We watched enough film on them to see that they've changed offense and can really do some things," Sykes said. "We told our guys that if we pressure them, it could take them out of

their sets."

Danny Rudeen, the league's leading scorer for Morningside, was limited to 11 points. In his place, Tanner Miller scored 22 points and dished out six assists. Two others players reached double figures in a night dominated by the hosts.

Although fast-break points favored the Mustangs 8-0, they did a bulk of their damage in transition (14 steals) and in the paint (4 40-22) edge.

"They're so good in motion that if we turn it over, all of a sudden they're running," Thorson said. "That happened a few times in a row and then, boom, it's 10 points."

Mount Marty found a brief spurt midway through the second half when it hit three 3's and a long jumper in a 2-minute span.

The problem, though, was that the Lancers still trailed by 21 points.

"We called plays but they took us out of them right away," Thorson said. "It's tough to play when that happens, and we couldn't do much."

Of course, when you're up by as many as the Mustangs were for the entire second half, it could have been easy to be complacent. Not so, Sykes said, pointing to a 38-37 edge for the Lancers after halftime.

"The big thing there is seeing it as zero to zero," he said. "We looked at

like, 'Well, we lost the second half by one point.

"In a tight game, that could come back to get you."

Austin Harms led the Lancers with 10 points, while Chevy Fischer had nine points and nine rebounds off the bench. Saladin Smith chipped in with eight points and eight rebounds, while Joe Hieb and Jose Pena-Benjamin added eight points apiece.

The question now is, how do the Lancers respond Saturday at Doane.

"We'll see," Thorson said, taking a long pause. "I'm not sure what the answer is."

*You can follow Jeremy Hoeck on Twitter at twitter.com/jhoeck*

**MOUNT MARTY (6-12)**  
Saladin Smith 2-5 3-4 8, Scott Odekirik 1-1 2-2 4, Joe Hieb 3-7 2-2 8, Austin Harms 4-10 1-3 10, Jose Pena-Benjamin 4-7 0-1 8, Scott Sellers 2-3 0-0 4, Chris Richardson 2-5 0-0 6, Tyler Payer 1-3 0-0 3, Jeff Larsen 2-4 2-2 6, Chevy Fischer 3-7 2-2 9, Alex Irvine 0-0 0-0 0. TOTALS: 32-57 12-16 66.

**MORNINGSIDE (9-11)**  
Danny Rudeen 4-10 0-0 11, Tanner Miller 6-10 7-9 22, Trent Miller 1-1 0-0 2, Tyler Johnson 0-3 0-0 0, Kyle Nikkel 5-6 0-0 10, Jared Kolbush 5-7 2-4 13, Keithan Kam 0-2 0-0 0, Steve O'Neill 3-5 0-0 7, Ryan Strand 3-5 2-2 8, Shane Hennen 1-1 0-0 3, Andrew Christen 0-0 0-0 0, Drew Dau 3-4 2-2 8, James Wright 0-1 1-2 1, Garrett Smith-Keller 1-2 0-0 3. TOTALS: 32-57 14-19 88.

At the half: MC 51, MMC 28. Three-Pointers: MC 10-24 (Tanner Miller 3-5, Rudeen 3-7, Hennen 1-1, Kolbush 1-2, Smith-Keller 1-2, Johnson 0-3, Kam 0-2), MMC 6-17 (Richardson 2-3, Smith 1-2, Harms 1-3, Payer 1-3, Fischer 1-3, Hieb 0-2, Sellers 0-1). Rebounds: MMC 30 (Fischer 9), MC 29 (Kolbush 6). Personal Fouls: MC 14, MMC 14. Fouled Out: None. Technical Fouls: Richardson. Assists: MC 16 (Tanner Miller 6), MMC 12 (Richardson 3). Turnovers: MMC 20, MC 13. Blocked Shots: MMC 11, MC 1. Steals: MC 14 (Tanner Miller 7), MC 7 (Odekirik 3). Attendance: 1,000.



JEREMY HOECK/P&D

Mount Marty guard Joe Hieb, 20, pulls up for a jumper over Morningside defenders Tanner Miller, left, and Tyler Johnson during their GPAC men's game Wednesday night in Sioux City, Iowa.