



P&D FILE PHOTO
Mount Marty guard Logan Wagner pulls up for a three-pointer during a home game earlier this season. Wagner, a freshman from Parkston, is averaging 11.6 points per game, and has scored 16.5 points per contest over the last eight games. MMC hosts Briar Cliff tonight (Wednesday).

Wagner Finding Her Rhythm For MMC

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Through six games of her college career, Logan Wagner was averaging five points a game and struggling to find an offensive rhythm. In time, however, that all changed for the freshman guard for the Mount Marty College women's basketball team.

"It definitely takes some time," Wagner said Tuesday. "It takes you a while to get acclimated to everything, to know what your role is."

Sooner than she had expected, the Parkston native was playing big minutes for the Lancers (7-8), who host No. 19-ranked Briar Cliff tonight (Wednesday) at 6 p.m. at Cimpl Arena.

The reason for more time on the court? Injuries.

Mount Marty has battled through not one, not two, but a handful of injuries to key players this season — including all-conference point guard April Winne for the season. Suddenly, out of necessity, Wagner was thrown into a starting role.

"I knew I had to step up," she said. "And not just me, everybody's felt that way. I feel like we've done that to a certain extent."

Wagner has reached double figures in points in each of her last eight games, and has averaged 16.5 points in that span. She is also nearly as dangerous inside the three-point line (44 percent) as she is from long range (42 percent). For the season, she averages 11.6 points — third on the team.

In short, Wagner has fit in nicely to a Mount Marty system that has traditionally ranked among the nation's best in three-point shooting.

Even if there was no choice but the 5-foot-7 shooter to fit in right away.

"You almost have to when you're thrown into that situation," Wagner said. "You can either progress or fold."

"You have to take that opportunity; take that challenge."

With so many injuries — as many as eight players have missed time with injury — at this point in the season, the Lancers have turned to newcomers for big minutes.

"That's what we tell our kids, that everybody's misfortune is someone else's fortune," head coach Tom Schlingmen said Tuesday. "It gives them an opportunity to shine."

There wasn't one particular play or one particular game that served as the turning point, but Wagner said it was a collective stretch that proved she could play at this level.

"Once you realize that, 'Yeah, I can do this,' it just gives you confidence," she said.

And that's one thing Wagner has never lacked, according to Schlingmen — who also has Wagner for women's golf at MMC.

"If you watch her work out, she spends a lot of extra time in the gym, and she even does some extra stuff," Schlingmen said. "We know she's always been that way, the Parskton coaches always told us."

"But it's not an accident that some kids are great shooters."

With the Lancers' style predicated on having solid shooters (from positions one through five), missing key pieces naturally hurts, Wagner said.

"You'd think we've used up all of our bad luck," she joked.

"It's a bummer, because you know your teammates are suffering, and it's also hard for the team, because we know those people make us better."

At some point in the next handful of weeks, Mount Marty expects to get sophomore Holly Hegge (9.1 ppg) and freshman Kieran O'Malley (11.7 ppg) back.

Until then, the Lancers are left to find a formula to contend with the likes of Briar Cliff.

"Until you get out there and see how fast-paced the game is, it can take you a while," Schlingmen said. "That's the scary thing for us, we'll have a lot of young kids on the floor."

Another tradition for the MMC women? They have tended to pull one major upset a season, if not a couple. Last season, for example, the Lancers beat fourth-ranked Morningside.

Briar Cliff, though, plays a frenetic pace — with full-court pressure — that could cause problems for a young team.

"We have to handle the ball; handle their pressure," Wagner said. "It's about time for an upset."

"It's about time for one of those."

You can follow Jeremy Hoeck on Twitter at twitter.com/jhoeck. Discuss this story at www.yankton.net.

Vermillion Boys Remain Unbeaten, Beat EPJ

ELK POINT — Cooper Williams made just one shot from the field but scored 18 points to help lead the unbeaten Vermillion Tanagers past Elk Point-Jefferson 61-46 in boys' basketball action Tuesday night.

Williams was 15-of-16 at the free throw line, while Tyrell Harper added 18 points and nine rebounds for Vermillion (6-0). Jayce Huska chipped in with 13 points.

The Tanagers broke open a 37-32 game after three quarters with 24 points in the fourth quarter.

In the loss for the hometown Huskies (0-5), Andrew Flynn scored 16 points and grabbed five rebounds, while Adam

Shanks had 11 points and eight rebounds.

Both teams return to action Thursday, with Vermillion at home against West Central and EPJ at Hinton, Iowa.

VERMILLION (6-0)	14	28	37	61
ELK POINT-JEFFERSON (0-5)	12	22	32	46

Ponca 50, Crofton 47

CROFTON, Neb. — Aaron Carlson and Connor Brandt each scored 17 points as the Ponca Indians overcame a 3-point lead after three quarters to beat Crofton 50-47 on Tuesday night.

Brook Mueller scored 17 points and grabbed seven rebounds for the Warriors (4-5), who led 36-33 heading into the fourth quarter.

Evan Wockman added 11 points and six rebounds for Crofton, while Eric Kleinschmit had 10 points and nine rebounds.

Crofton hosts Battle Creek on Thursday and Ponca visits Allen on Friday.

PONCA (4-7)	6	16	33	50
CROFTON (4-5)	14	25	36	47

Freeman 57, Alcester-Hudson 48

FREEMAN — Freeman took control of the second quarter and topped Alcester-Hudson 57-48 on Tuesday night in Freeman.

For Alcester-Hudson, Mitchell Johnson scored 17 points. Grant Johnson added 15 points and seven rebounds. Erik Barnes snatched 11 rebounds.

Brennan Schmidt led Freeman with 20 points and seven rebounds. Close behind him was Cole Paulson with 18 points and eight rebounds.

Freeman travels to Emery Friday and Alcester-Hudson hosts Menno on the same day.

Mennno 53, Irene Wakonda 48

IRENE — The Menno Wolves beat the

Irene-Wakonda Eagles 53-48 in boy's basketball Tuesday.

In the win for the Wolves, Gabe King led the team with 23 points and nine rebounds. Garrett Anderson grabbed 15 rebounds and Kevin Hinseth made five steals.

For the Eagles, Chet Peterson scored 17 points, Dylan Lehr scored 13 points and Dustin Lehr scored 12 points and grabbed eight rebounds.

Next Menno will play Bridgewater-Emery and Irene-Wakonda will play Gayville-Volin Friday.

MENNO (2-3)	5	28	41	53
IRENE-WAKONDA (0-6)	8	17	35	48

Viborg-Hurley 58, Tripp-Delmont-Armour 49

TRIPP — Viborg-Hurley beat Tripp-Delmont-Armour 58-49 in boys' basketball action Tuesday.

In the win for Viborg-Hurley, Jack

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Bucks Bounce Bobcats



JAMES D. CIMBUREK/P&D
Yankton's Brady Hale lays the ball in for two during the Bucks' victory over Brookings in Eastern South Dakota Conference boys' basketball action on Tuesday.

Scotland Girls Down Gayville-Volin

GAYVILLE — The Scotland Highlanders beat the Gayville-Volin Raiders 47-41 in girl's basketball action Tuesday.

In the win for the Lady Highlanders (2-4), Carley Scorepa scored 22 points and grabbed 13 rebounds, and Hanna Mark grabbed 17 rebounds.

For the Raiders (4-2), Kelia Barta scored 16 points and had five assists.

Next Scotland will play Avon Thirsdays and Gayville-Volin will play Irene Wakonda Friday.

SCOTLAND (2-4)	8	20	36	47
GAYVILLE-VOLIN (4-2)	12	25	36	41

Bon Homme 59, Parker 43

TYNDALL — The Bon Homme Lady Cavaliers beat the Parker Pheasants 59-43 in girl's basketball Tuesday.

In the win for the lady Cavaliers, Kelsey Sutura scored 24 points and Emily Pechous scored 11 points with 12 rebounds and four assists.

For the Pheasants, Haley Holzwarth scored 11 points and Hannah Carlson scored nine points with five rebounds.

Next Bon Homme will play Wagner on Friday and Parker will play Irene-Wakonda on Jan. 13.

PARKER	8	21	33	43
BON HOMME (3-4)	16	31	49	59

Crofton 64, Ponca 24

CROFTON, Neb. — Crofton pulled ahead of Ponca early in the game Tuesday night in Crofton and came out the victor with a score of 64-24.

For Ponca, Kianna Kramper scored nine points and Brooke McCluskey added six to the total.

Monica Arens put up 13 points for Crofton and grabbed four rebounds. Maria Wortman cashed in 11 points and snatched 13 re-

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Girls: Brookings Powers Past Yankton

BROOKINGS — The Brookings Bobcats pulled away after the first quarter to claim a 55-35 victory over Yankton in Eastern South Dakota Conference girls' basketball action on Tuesday.

"I thought we played a good quarter and a half," said Yankton head coach Doug Pesicka. "We were competitive. We were scrappy. We were making plays at both ends."

"It's something we can build on."

But the Yankton defense started to struggle in the second quarter, allowing the Bobcats to outscore the Gazelles 19-7 in the period.

"We didn't rebound. We didn't rotate well," he said.

"Brookings took advantage of that, and we ended up getting down by 14 at halftime."

Sara Tvedt went 9-10 from the field, finishing with 20 points and 11 rebounds to lead Brookings. Sidney Berreth scored 12 points in the victory.

For Yankton, Andi Sprakel led the way with 14 points. Becky Frick added eight points.

"Both did a nice job at making plays. Becky was working on the inside. Andi was making some nice drives and pulling up for jumpers," Pesicka said. "They both did a nice job offensively to lead us."

Yankton will look to bounce back on Thursday, as the Gazelles host ESD and Class AA newcomer Harrisburg. The Tigers, 4-1 and coached by former Vermillion mentor Nick Mayer, were the Class A champions a year ago.

"They present a different challenge. They're a team that likes to full-court press and trap you all 94 feet," Pesicka said. "They get after you and make you turn the ball over. We have our work cut out for us."

Yankton won the JV game 43-32 behind 13 points from Sarah Rockne.

The Gazelles also won the sophomore game, 51-26. For YHS, Ellie Fedders scored 12 points. Josie Saylor had 10 points and Julie Soto added six points.

YANKTON (2-4, 2-3)

Andi Sprakel 6-12 2-2 14, Whitlee Larson 1-4 3-4 5, Becky Frick 4-9 0-0 8, Morgan Tessier 1-4 3-4 5, Sophie Drotzman 0-2 0-0 0, Sarah Rockne 0-3 1-2 1, Anna Gulick 0-1 0-0 0, Lindsey Hale 1-1 0-0 2, Kami Corman 0-0 0-0 0, Allie Murphy 0-0 0-0 0, Carson Smith 0-0 0-0 0, Danielle Schmidt 0-0 0-0 0. Totals 13-36 9-12 35.

BROOKINGS (5-2, 3-1 ESD)

Kaitlyn Hadley 3-5 1-2 9, Lauren Coughlin 3-10 0-0 8, Sidney Berreth 4-9 3-4 12, Sara Tvedt 9-10 2-4 20, Maddy Reed 1-2 0-0 2, Kara McDougall 1-4 0-0 2, Mariah Livingston 0-1 0-0 0, Makenna Mahanke 0-1 0-0 0, Colleen Hieb 0-1 0-0 0, Mack Teal 0-2 0-0 0, Haley Hale 1-3 0-0 2. Totals 22-48 6-10 55.

YANKTON

3-point goals — Y 0-3 (Sprakel 0-1, Larson 0-1, Rockne 0-1); B 5-15 (Hadley 2-3, Coughlin 2-4, Berreth 1-6, McDougall 0-1, Hieb 0-1). Rebounds — Y 27 (Frick 4); B 27 (Tvedt 11). Assists — Y 1 (Sprakel); B 9 (Berreth 3). Steals — Y 5 (Tessier 3); B 11 (Coughlin 3, Berreth 3). Blocks — B 4 (Hale 2). Turnovers — Y 21; B 11. Total fouls — Y 9; B 11. Fouled out — None.



TROY MARONEY/BROOKINGS REGISTER
Yankton's Becky Frick splits Brookings' Sara Tvedt (30) and Lauren Coughlin for a bucket in the first half of the Gazelles' 55-35 loss to the Bobcats on Tuesday night at Bob Jostad Gymnasium in Brookings.