

Go Omaha! Manning Gives Neb. City Game Shoutouts

OMAHA, Neb. (AP) — Peyton Manning can't stop shouting about Nebraska's largest city.

The Denver Broncos quarterback used the word "Omaha" loudly and often during Sunday's playoff victory over the San Diego Chargers.

According to an NFL.com video montage, Manning barked "Omaha" before the ball was snapped 44 times during the game.

The reason for the word choice, if there is one, is known only to Manning and the Broncos.

But it provided some unexpected publicity for the city of 427,000, perhaps best known as the home of both billionaire Warren Buffett and the Fortune 500 insurance company Mutual of Omaha (sponsor of the old TV show "Wild Kingdom").

"I think it shows Peyton Manning really loves Omaha,"

Mayor Jean Stothert said Monday. "I'll personally take him on a tour. He has an official invitation now."

Omaha was a trending topic on Twitter during the game, and the Greater Omaha Convention and Visitors Bureau jumped aboard, tweeting: "We certainly appreciate all the love from Peyton Manning :)"

Greater Omaha Chamber of Commerce President and CEO David Brown said he

was watching the game, and he wondered how his agency could capitalize.

Brown said he wants to explore the possibility of hiring Manning, one of the sporting world's top pitchers, to shoot a promotional ad for Omaha.

"We'd be foolish not to," Brown said, adding that he realizes Manning's fee probably would be prohibitive.

OMAHA | PAGE 8

MVP Girls Upend Avon

MOUNT VERNON — Avon ran into some foul trouble Monday night and fell to Mount Vernon-Plankinton 60-55 in Mount Vernon.

Mount Vernon-Plankinton made 17 out of their 27 free throws, while Avon scored six on their 12 attempts.

Becca Glanzer cashed 17 points for Mount Vernon-Plankinton. Megan Bultsma added 16 points to the win.

For Avon, Chesney Nagel led the game with 18 points and eight rebounds. Close behind was Ariana Oorlog with 16 points. Hedi Cap added 11 points and grabbed six rebounds.

Mount Vernon-Plankinton (6-3) crosses the state boarder to take on Crofton Saturday, and Avon (7-2) plays Mitchell Christian next Tuesday.

Mount Vernon Plankinton won the JV game 48-22.

Centerville 61, Scotland 54, OT

SCOTLAND — Shannon O'Malley posted 22 points and eight steals and Kristina Laska had a double-double as Centerville downed Scotland 61-54 in overtime on Monday in Scotland.

Scotland outscored the Tornados 16-12 in the fourth quarter to force overtime, but Centerville held a 12-5 edge in the extra period.

Gabby Larson scored 12 points and Laska had 11 points and 10 rebounds in the win.

Hannah Mogck led Scotland with 20 points and eight rebounds. Amber Alvey had 12 points, six assists and three steals. Carley Skorepa posted 10 points, 12 rebounds and four assists. Shelby Van Driel added nine rebounds.

Centerville travels to Wakonda to face Irene-Wakonda on Thursday. Scotland hosts Andes Central on Friday.

Scotland won the JV game 31-20.

CENTERVILLE (3-8).....12 20 37 49 61
SCOTLAND (2-6).....12 23 33 49 54

Freeman 58, Bon Homme 47

TYNDALL — Freeman and Bon Homme went into the second half within two points of each other. Freeman had a big third quarter and claimed the victory 58-47.

For Freeman, Erika Sage led the game with 24 points. Cailey Roth cashed in 14 points and 14 rebounds, and Nicole Saarie added 11 to the win.

Kelsey Sutura put up 14 points for Bon Homme. Emily Pechous netted 12 and snatched 14 rebounds. Liz Kubal tallied 11.

Bon Homme won the JV game 42-26.

Freeman hosts Marion Thursday, and Bon Homme hits the road for South Central Tuesday.

FREEMAN (7-2).....11 25 43 58
BON HOMME (3-6).....11 23 31 47

Tri-Valley 55, Beresford 40

BERESFORD — Tri-Valley took a slight lead in the beginning of its contest against Beresford Monday night and held on to it to win 55-40.

Emma Johnson led Tri-Valley with 12 points and eight rebounds. Abbie Heiberger snatched 10 rebounds.

For Beresford, both Shelby Bickett and Arianna Lyle scored eight points.

Tri-Valley plays Chamberlain Saturday in Mitchell in the Hanson Classic. Beres-

GIRLS | PAGE 8



Viborg-Hurley's Abby Hora fires a shot against the defense of Alcester-Hudson's Lindsey Terpstra during their girls' basketball game on Monday in Viborg.

JAMES D. CIMBUREK/P&D

Hanson Boys Topple Trojans

PARKSTON — Hanson battled past Parkston 71-68 in boys' basketball action on Monday.

For Hanson, Jordan Marquardt tallied 20 points. Sam Vanderstouwe put up 16 and Taylor Nichols netted 14 points and grabbed seven rebounds. Jacob Paradies added 11 points and six rebounds to the win.

Jalen Hurley led Parkston in points with 22. Zach Scott

cashied in 18 and Ty Kinneberg added eight points and six rebounds. Dillan Thuringer also snatched six rebounds.

Hanson hosts Howard next Tuesday, and Parkston travels to Wagner Thursday.

HANSON (7-2).....16 34 49 71
PARKSTON (5-2).....14 32 51 68

Gregory 63, Andes Central 38

LAKE ANDES — Gregory blew out

Andes Central Monday night 63-38.

For Gregory, Gavin Thomas cashed in 20 points and snatched eight rebounds and Coday Katke netted 13 points.

Aaron Swanson scored eight points and grabbed a game high of 12 rebounds for Andes Central. Darrin Hopkins, Zach Courmoyer and Chris Bad hand each tallied seven points.

Gregory won the B game 49-21.

Gregory hosts Wagner Tuesday and Andes Central travels to Scotland Friday.

GREGORY (5-2).....16 35 51 63
ANDES CENTRAL (2-4).....10 18 31 38



P&D FILE PHOTO

Alcester-Hudson seventh grader Heidi Renken competes on the uneven parallel bars during the Winter Wonderland gymnastics meet in December. Renken is the first gymnast to compete under the Alcester-Hudson banner.

Alcester-Hudson Opens Doors For Young Gymnast

Family, School Work Together To Allow Seventh Grader To Continue Competing In Sport She Loves

BY PETER CHAPMAN
sports@yankton.net

Twelve-year-old Heidi Renken has competed in club gymnastics competition and has had a passion for the sport since she was three years old. Now, in seventh grade, Heidi is using her talents at Alcester-Hudson to compete in varsity level high school competition this year.

Heidi's decision to leave club competition came from a desire to participate in other high school sports while still competing in gymnastics. The problem is that club training would not allow time for Heidi to compete in both due the sports season overlap.

After looking at a couple of alternative competition options, Kim Renken, Heidi's mother and traveling coach, decided to approach the school board with a proposal to sign Heidi up independently to compete for Alcester-Hudson.

"We got contacted by the parents of this girl, and they were wondering if the school would sponsor gymnastics, in name, so that we could get Heidi into some of the local events around here instead of having to travel far away to some of the weekend tournaments and stuff like that," Alcester-Hudson Athletic Director Mike Seivert said.

The proposal stated that the school would pay entry fees for competitions and for her uniform, while Heidi's mother would be her coach at competitions and take care of transportation.

"They were wondering about where she would train and all that," Kim said. "We said she would continue to train with her club and her regular coaches, but this would give her more competitive experience and this would also allow her to participate in other sports as she gets older."

In order to practice, Heidi and her mom drive to The Turn Around gymnastics gym in Le Mars, Iowa.

Kim said that Heidi trains for five hours a week, on Tuesdays and Thursdays, making the 30-mile trip to the gym three times a week; twice for Heidi and once to take her younger daughter to club practice.

As Heidi's travelling coach, Kim has taken the state required coaching classes online and has started coaching her younger daughter's Monday club sessions. This way she can be more helpful when at competitions with Heidi.

"It's been a huge commitment," Kim said. "But it's one of those things that as long as we're doing it, we might as well get the most out of it that we can while we can."

Seivert said that this could be a program where other young girls who are interested, who are at clubs in places like La Mars could compete in high school competition as well. But right now Heidi is the only gymnast that Alcester Hudson has.

Heidi has competed at three competitions so far and has three remaining this season. She will next compete at the Madison Invitational Saturday.

Follow Peter Chapman on Twitter at twitter.com/PEChapman. Discuss this article at www.yankton.net/.

Mitchell, Area Coaches Among Finalists For National Awards

SIoux FALLS — Yankton's Dan Mitchell and several other area coaches are finalists for National Coach of the Year honors, as the National High School Athletics Coaches Association announced its awards finalists on Monday.

To be considered for this award a nominee has been determined to have outstanding coaching longevity and win-loss record, championship years, awards received and service to the coaching profession and to the athletes of the State of South Dakota.

Mitchell, earlier this month named the South Dakota High School Coaches Association's Assistant Coach of the Year for boys' sports, is a finalist for that same award at the national level.

The area also produced a finalist for Assistant Coach of the Year for girls' sports, Scotland's Mary Ellen Luiken.

Among the national Coach

of the Year finalists are Parker's Phil Bjorneberg for boys' cross country and Vermillion's Mark Doty for gymnastics. Dakota Valley's Bill Clements is a finalist for Athletic Director of the Year.

Each finalist will be honored at the NHSACA National Awards Banquet, June 18 in Jackson Hole, Wyo., during the organization's 49th annual convention.

Parker's Rod Garrison and Rapid City's Jim Haar will be inducted into the NHSACA Hall of Fame, June 17, at the national convention.

Parker's Rod Garrison and Rapid City's Jim Haar will be inducted into the NHSACA Hall of Fame, June 17, at the national convention.

Other Coach of the Year finalists from South Dakota included Kim Nelson of Sioux Falls Roosevelt (football), Paul Hendry of Rapid City Stevens (girls' track & field), Don Barnes of Sioux Falls O'Gorman (golf), Steve Keszler of Sturgis (wrestling) and Phil Hunt of Stevens (golf).

1,000 Points For Alcester-Hudson's Doering



Alcester-Hudson senior Shenia Doering, center, scored her 1,000th career point during Friday's game against Menno. Doering is pictured with her parents (left), Brett and Shana, head coach Shannon Hames and assistant coach Eric Bauder.

PAUL BUUM/ALCESTER UNION & HUDSONITE