

# Press&Dakotan DAILY DOSE

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



**BY NICK ROBINSON**  
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Wow, what a fast two and a half years it has been here at the Yankton *Press and Dakotan*. It's crazy to look back at how many events I've covered and how much I have grown as a person and a writer. And I'd be a liar if I told you I wouldn't miss it, the people I work with, the athletes and coaches I have gotten to know over the years. I really couldn't believe at first that I was getting paid to go to an event and write about it. One thing my journalist will tell you is that it's not about the money. This is something I truly have found a love for and hopefully could be in my future.

One thing I have learned from all of this is that it's a process. Just like in sports, nothing is given and you have to find something each time to get better at, or you will be left in the dust.

This fall, I was content with my writing and it came back to bite me while covering the Yankton Bucks football team on their magical run to the Dakota Dome. I was pulled from covering the team a few weeks in and I was ready to give up and call it quits. But it hit me, if I quit at a local paper in South Dakota, what would my fate be chasing my dream of working for a professional sports team? I bit my tongue and got back to the basics. Boy, was it one of

## Robinson Bids Farewell To Readers

the better decisions I have ever made. I got back on the beat and treated each time like it was the state championship, so if that came (which it did), I would be ready. All my life I have taken the easy way out, but not this time. That made me realize that if you want something bad enough, you'll grind it out and find a way to get it.

I cannot go any further without thanking my bosses James Cimbreuk and Jeremy Hock. There have been times when we have wanted to give up on each other, but the bond I have with these guys is like nothing else. I have learned so much from them and cannot thank them enough for guiding me to the point I am at now. I also would like to thank former staffers Chris Riley and Emily Niebrugge for helping me out and current journalist Randy Dockendorf.

Next, to the person who got me into writing, Mrs. Teri Mandel at the Yankton High School. She saw something in me that other teachers didn't and in all honesty, if it wasn't for her, I do not know where I would be in life. Words cannot describe how thankful I am for her and what she has done for me.

Lastly my family, who supported me and helped me when times were tough. I couldn't have done anything without them. It's always nice to get a phone call from family about an article I wrote.

You hear it a lot, but this isn't a goodbye, it's a see you later. I loved covering Yankton and area teams, but it's time to spread my wings and fly. Once 2015 starts, I will be going to school in Minneapolis to pursue a degree in sports marketing and public relations. I can't wait for what the future brings.

## SCOREBOARD

### WRESTLING

#### FRIDAY'S S.D. SCORES

Rapid City Central 56, Douglas/New Underwood 12

**The Clash (Rochester, Minn.)**

**Pool B Bracket**

FIRST ROUND: St. Peter's Prep (N.J.) 44, Parkston 21  
COINS, SEMIS: Parkston 43, Vacaville (Calif.) 33

FIFTH PLACE: Grand Island (Neb.) 43, Parkston 30

### BASKETBALL

#### FRIDAY'S S.D. BOYS

Aberdeen Central 88, Mitchell 80  
Alcester-Hudson 64, Avon 46  
Herreid/Selby Area 75, Edmunds Central 28

#### Bennington Tournament

Irene-Wakonda 69, Beresford 58  
Lemmon 46, Belle Fourche 39  
Merrino 46, Freeman Academy 16  
McBride-Palock 61, Sully Buttes 54  
Redfield/Doland 54, Wessington Springs 46

#### Dakota Holiday Tournament

Britton-Hecla 56, Edgeley-Kulm-Montpelier, N.D. 42  
Ellendale, N.D. 63, Leola/Frederick 53

#### Sanford Classic

Sioux Falls Lincoln 64, St. Paul Central, Minn. 25  
Sioux Falls O'Gorman 63, St. Paul Highland Park, Minn. 33

#### Sioux Falls Washington 59, Prior Lake, Minn. 58

St. Thomas More 42, Sioux Valley 37  
West Lyon, Inwood, Iowa 60, Viborg-Hurley 46

#### Western Christian, Hull, Iowa 54, Lennox 35

#### FRIDAY'S S.D. GIRLS

Avon 43, Alcester-Hudson 41  
Beresford 64, Irene-Wakonda 56  
Chester 51, Garrettsville 36  
Douglas 57, Custer 43  
Freeman Academy 41, Menno 39  
Herreid/Selby Area 66, Edmunds Central 12

#### Highmore-Harold 62, Ipswich 46

Madison 58, Debutrook 50  
Mitchell 43, Aberdeen Central 38  
Redfield/Doland 51, Wessington Springs 27

#### Sioux Falls O'Gorman 61, Harrisburg 46

Sturgis 55, Spearfish 47  
Vermillion 53, Tea Area 40  
Waltertown 47, Huron 46  
White River 60, Lyman 43

#### Dakota Holiday Tournament

Edgley-Kulm-Montpelier, N.D. 56, Britton-Hecla 34  
Ellendale, N.D. 42, Leola/Frederick 41

#### FRIDAY'S NEB. BOYS

Axtell 59, Harvard 39  
Deshrer 59, Lewiston 35  
Elkhorn Mount Michael 60, Ashland-Greenwood 45  
Giltner 73, Palmer 34

#### Grand Island Central Catholic 38, Grand Island Northwest 25

Logan View 42, Douglas County West 34  
McCool Junction 37, Lawrence-Nelson 30

#### Omaha North 52, Papillion-LaVista South 32

Wilcox-Hildreth 72, Northern Valley, Kan. 42

#### Bennington Tournament

Adams Central 69, Broken Bow 33  
Bennington 73, Boone Central/Newman Grove 64

#### Brady Tournament

Anselmo-Merna 61, Eustis-Farnam 29  
Brady 53, Wauwata-Palisade 29

#### Cabela's Angler's Shootout

Chase County 53, Wheatland, Wyo. 42  
Gering 62, Hershey 22

#### Creighton Tournament (Holiday)

Harrington-Newcastle 62, Wausa 23  
Emerson-Hubbard Tip-Off Tournament  
Lyons-Decatur Northeast 56, Omaha National 50

#### Harrison Tournament

Crawford 48, Banner County 37  
Sioux County 67, Morrill 45

#### Lutheran Invitational Tournament

Lincoln Lutheran 68, Heartland 60, OT

#### Malcolm Tournament

Centennial 50, Malcolm 22  
Exterier/Milligan 54, Tekamah-Herman 49

#### Paxton Tournament

Paxton 70, Maywood 21  
Pleasanton Tournament  
Pleasanton 52, Arapahoe 41

#### FRIDAY'S NEB. GIRLS

Axtell 63, Harvard 41  
Britton Hill 68, Southern Valley 30  
Crofton 84, O'Neill 14  
Deshrer 54, Lewiston 35  
Gibson 60, Edward 32

#### Giltner 38, Palmer 25

Guardian Angels 65, Wahoo 35  
Lawrence-Nelson 47, McCool Junction 10

#### Omaha Westside 47, Bellevue East 40

Papillion-LaVista South 48, Omaha North 52

#### Plattsmouth 55, Omaha Cross Catholic 53

Twin River 43, Battle Creek 37  
West Point-Beemer 62, Fort Calhoun 52

#### Wilcox-Hildreth 49, Northern Valley, Kan. 40

Wisner-Pilger 52, Madison 35

#### Bennington Tournament

Adams Central 52, Bennington 40  
Boon Central/Newman Grove 42, Broken Bow 27

#### Brady Tournament

Eustis-Farnam 42, Anselmo-Merna 41

#### Wauwata-Palisade 52, Brady 37

Central City 50, Laramie, Wyo. 29  
Hershey 52, Gering 41  
Sidney 47, Gothenburg 16  
Wheatland, Wyo. 38, Chase County 30

#### Creighton Tournament (Holiday)

Creighton 35, Boyd County 34  
Harrington-Newcastle 47, Wausa 36  
Emerson-Hubbard Tip-Off Tournament  
Emerson-Hubbard 66, Scribner-Snyder 35

#### Omaha Nation 46, Lyons-Decatur Northeast 41

#### Harrison Tournament

Crawford 61, Banner County 15  
Morrill 44, Sioux County 17

#### Lutheran Invitational Tournament

Omaha Concordia 63, Heartland Lutheran 33

#### Malcolm Tournament

Malcolm 57, Centennial 17  
Tekamah-Herman 38, Exeter/Milligan 33

#### Paxton Tournament

Paxton 40, Maywood 27

#### Perkins County Tournament

Wallace 52, Perkins County 29

#### Riverside Tournament

Championship  
Elgin Public/Pope John 41, Riverside 30

### COLLEGE BOWL GAMES

#### Saturday, Dec. 29

**NEW ORLEANS:** Louisiana-Lafayette 16, Nevada 3  
**NEW MEXICO:** Utah State 21, UTEP 6

#### LAS VEGAS:

Utah 45, Colorado State 10  
**FAMOUS IDAHO POTATO:** Air Force 38, Western Michigan 24  
**CAMELIA:** Bowling Green 33, South Alabama 28

#### MIAMI BEACH:

Memphis 55, BYU 48, 2OT  
**BOCA RATON:** Marshall 52, North Carolina 23

#### POINSETTIA:

Navy 17, San Diego State 16  
**BAHAMAS:** Western Kentucky 49, Central Michigan 48

#### HAWAII:

Rice 30, Fresno State 6  
**HEART OF DALLAS:** Louisiana Tech 35, Illinois 18  
**QUICK LANE:** Rutgers 40, North Carolina 21

#### ST. PETERSBURG:

N.C. State 34, UCF 27  
**MILITARY:** Virginia Tech 33, Cincinnati 17

#### SUN:

Arizona State 36, Duke 31  
**INDEPENDENCE:** South Carolina 24, Miami 21

#### PINSTRIP:

Penn State 31, Boston College 30, OT  
**HOLIDAY:** Southern Cal 45, Nebraska 42

#### LIBERTY:

Texas A&M 45, West Virginia 37  
**RUSSELL ATHLETIC:** Clemson 40, Oklahoma 6

#### TEXAS:

Arkansas 31, Texas 7  
**FECHA:** TCU 42, Mississippi 3  
**BOISE STATE:** Boise State 38, Arizona 30  
**ORANGE:** Georgia Tech 49, Mississippi State 34

#### THURSDAY, JAN. 1

**OUTBACK:** Wisconsin 34, Auburn 31, OT  
**COTTON:** Michigan State 42, Baylor 41

#### CITRUS:

Missouri 33, Minnesota 17  
**FRIDAY, JAN. 2**

#### 7:30 p.m. (ESPN)

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## AREA CALENDAR

### Saturday, January 3

**BASKETBALL, MEN'S** Nebraska Wesleyan at MMA 6 p.m., KYNT-AM  
**BASKETBALL, WOMEN'S** Nebraska Wesleyan at MMC (2 p.m., KYNT-AM)

**BASKETBALL, BOYS' YHS** at Mitchell (6 p.m., KYNT-AM, KVHT-FM); Creighton Holiday Tour. (Third — 4:15 p.m.; Championship — 7:45 p.m.); Knight Holiday Classic at Fremont (Hartington Cedar Catholic); Bon Homme at Freeman; Centerville at Scotland; Elk Point-Jefferson at Dell Rapids; Laurel-Concord-Corledge at Bloomfield; Parkston at Andes Central; Vermillion at Tri-Valley (3:45 p.m., KVTK-AM); Wynot at Ponca

**BASKETBALL, GIRLS' YHS** at Mitchell (1:30 p.m.)  
**HOCKEY, BOYS' J** Sioux Falls II at Yankton (7 p.m.)  
**HOCKEY, BOYS' JV** Sioux Falls at Yankton (5 p.m., Armory)

**BASKETBALL, BOYS' SOPH** YHS at Mitchell (3:15 p.m., Armory)

### ARMED FORCES:

Houston 35, Pittsburgh 34  
**TAX SLAYER:** Tennessee 45, Iowa 28

**ALAMO:** UCLA 40, Kansas State 35  
**CACTUS:** Oklahoma State (6-6) vs. Washington (8-5), 9:15 p.m. (ESPN)  
**Saturday, Jan. 3**

**BIRMINGHAM:** Florida (6-5) vs. East Carolina (8-4), noon (ESPN)  
**GODADDY:** Toledo (8-4) vs. Arkansas State (7-5), 8 p.m. (ESPN)

### NFL PLAYOFFS

**WILD-CARD PLAYOFFS**  
**Saturday, Jan. 3**  
Arizona at Carolina, 3:35 p.m. (ESPN)  
Baltimore at Pittsburgh, 7:15 p.m. (NBC)

**Sunday, Jan. 4**  
Cincinnati at Indianapolis, 12:05 (CBS)  
Detroit at Dallas, 3:40 p.m. (FOX)

**DIVISIONAL PLAYOFFS**  
**Saturday, Jan. 10**  
Baltimore, Indianapolis or Cincinnati at New England, 3:35 p.m. (NBC)  
Arizona, Detroit or Carolina at Seattle, 7:15 p.m. (FOX)

**Sunday, Jan. 11**  
Arizona, Dallas or Carolina at Green Bay, 12:05 p.m. (FOX)  
Indianapolis, Cincinnati or Pittsburgh at Denver, 3:40 p.m. (CBS)

**2014 ALL-PRO TEAM**  
NEW YORK (AP) — The Associated Press 2014 NFL All-Pro team selected by a national panel of 50 media members:

**OFFENSE**  
Quarterback—Aaron Rodgers, Green Bay  
Running Backs—DeMarco Murray, Dallas; Le'Veon Bell, Pittsburgh.  
Fullback—John Kuhn, Green Bay.  
Tight End—Rob Gronkowski, New England.

**DEFENSE**  
Ends—Calais Campbell, Arizona; Cameron Wake, Miami, and Fletcher Cox, Philadelphia.  
Tackles—Gerald McCoy, Tampa Bay; J.J. Watt, Houston.  
Outside Linebackers—Von Miller, Denver; Connor Barwin, Philadelphia.  
Inside Linebackers—C.J. Mosley, Baltimore; DeAndre Levy, Detroit, and Lawrence Timmons, Pittsburgh.  
Cornerbacks—Chris Harris Jr., Denver; Brent Grimes, Miami.  
Safety—Kam Chancellor, Seattle; Glover Quin, Detroit.  
Punter—Johnny Hekker, St. Louis.

**TRANSACTONS**  
**BASEBALL**  
**AMERICAN LEAGUE**  
TORONTO BLUE JAYS — Named Dane Johnson bullpen coach, Eric Owens assistant hitting coach, Sal Fasano minor league pitching coordinator, Darold Knowles rehabilitation pitching coach and Rick Langford senior pitching advisor. Promoted Heather Conroy to manager, major league administration and Joe Sheehan to manager, baseball research and development.

**FOOTBALL**  
**NATIONAL FOOTBALL LEAGUE**  
GREEN BAY PACKERS — Promoted Eliot Wolf to director of player personnel.  
**Arena Football League**  
SPOKANE SHOCK — Re-signed defensive backs coach William Mulder to a one-year contract.