

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



BY JEREMY HOECK jeremy.hoeck@yankton.net

SIoux FALLS — Imagine being Jill Young or Jennie Sunnarborg and being recruited to South Dakota State, all the while not knowing your career would result in not one, not two, not three, but four NCAA Tournament berths. Would you have it believed it either? Yet, that's exactly what the seniors have done. Both played key roles in Tuesday's Summit League Tournament championship for the Jackrabbits, 78-77 in overtime over UMKC.

SDSU Seniors Young, Sunnarborg Leave Quite A Legacy

Young hit two clutch free throws with 7.1 seconds in overtime to give SDSU the lead and Sunnarborg scored 10 of her 12 points in the second half. The only two seniors for the Jackrabbits, they certainly leave a legacy for SDSU — which won its first Summit League crown when they were freshmen. "Legacy is a great word for those seniors," coach Aaron Johnston said. "Four times; that's unbelievable." It's also a record. No team earned two, let alone four, NCAA Tournament berths in its first year of eligibility. Next season, the University of South Dakota will join the post-season party and will look to start its own streak, but until then, it's obvious which program in the nation has led its league in such a way.

SCOREBOARD

Table with basketball scores for Class AA, Class B, and Summit League regions. Includes teams like Brookings, Yankton, and Sioux Falls.

Hanson Stops TDA For Region 6B Championship

BY JILANNE DOOM sports@yankton.net

Marquardt would again sink back to back three until Smith stole the ball with a minute left to play in the quarter and go coast to coast, coming up with Hanson's first two point basket of the night. TDA held the ball for the final possession but was unable to get a shot off, ending the quarter 13-9 in Hanson's favor.

But Hanson would not let the tied score last long as they scored four difficult baskets in a row, two by Marquardt and two by junior Matt Huber on athletic post moves. The Nighthawks' Trevor Payer finally stifled Hanson's run with a three and TDA again held the ball for the last possession but were unable to convert, ending the third 35-31.

said. "But we just had to contain Fink and that was going to win us the game. We had two or three guys on Fink, and he still dominated." TDA's Fink led all scorers on the night with 17 points and his teammate Reece Weber added 10. The Nighthawks finished their season 16-7. For Hanson, who advances to 18-5, Jordan Marquardt led with 16 points and Smith chipped in 12. Senior Jacob Bartscher grabbed seven rebounds.

Region 4B

From Page 8

two points, I mean, that is tremendous," said Jolley. "We have known those kids (Viborg-Hurley) for a long time. I hope they represent our region well and win it all at State, said Jolley.

Region 5A

From Page 8

"Any given night we are as good as anyone," Grady said. "Our goal at the beginning of the year was to make it to the state tournament and we accomplished that tonight."

Bucks

From Page 8

Brookings led in the first quarter with 21 points, and Doherty ended with 16 points and nine rebounds. Yankton was led by Seitzinger's 11 points, and Youngberg also scored 11 points.

Region 4A

From Page 8

and when we shoot it like that, we're pretty good." Dakota Valley (20-3) will begin their 'A' championship pursuit March 15.

SDSU

From Page 8

uation. I knew because of the crowd, they would never let the game get away from them, and they didn't." Spurred by a 15-4 run over the end of the first half and into the second half, the Leathernecks still frustrated the favored Jacks with a patient, defensive-minded attack.

Jacks

From Page 8

"Without that run, we certainly don't come back," Johnston said. That the Jacks did, late in regulation, setting the stage for overtime in front of the third-highest attendance for a women's championship final.

Region 4A

From Page 8

pointers for 56-percent and shot 59-percent overall as they were 30-51 from the field.

SDSU

From Page 8

Western Illinois built a 38-28 lead with 13:18 remaining. As if waiting for that kind of adversity, SDSU took off from there.

Jacks

From Page 8

Asked later if she thought her career would include four Summit League titles in four years, Sunnarborg joked that, no.

Region 4A

From Page 8

Tea Area finishes their season with a 15-9 mark and a District 7 Championship.

SDSU

From Page 8

W. ILLINOIS (18-14) Entegano 4-12 0-0 8, Houpt 3-9 0-0 9, Parks 3-7 2-4 8, Tyler 9-14 0-2 19, Clark III 2-9 0-0 6, Packer 0-0 0-0 0, Roberts-Burnett 0-0 0-0 0, Geburu 0-0 0-0 0, McAvoy 0-1 0-0 0. Totals 21-52 2-6 50.

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