

# Press&Dakotan DAILY DOSE

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



BY JEREMY HOECK  
jeremy.hoeck@yankton.net

When you have such varying degrees of emotion following a sporting event and fans become involved on the field of play, it's only inevitable those situations turn ugly.

That exact thing happened Thursday night in Orem, Utah. A player for New Mexico State threw a basketball at a Utah Valley player out of frustration at the end of their game (won by UVU in overtime), and it all boiled out on the court after fans rushed out of the stands.

In short: Punches were thrown, and NMSU players and fans had to be separated. Fortunately, there were no reports of any serious injuries.

University of South Dakota fans will remember Utah Valley — its same men's basketball team played in Vermillion back in December — and the location, the Great West Conference tournaments were once held in Orem.

But my question is rather simple: Are we surprised this happened? No? OK good, it's far from surprising. In fact, I'm amazed this doesn't happen more often.

Think of all the times you're watching SportsCenter and you see

## Should Be No Surprise That Court-Storming Led To Fight

footage of an upset victory, where the home crowd — typically the students — rushes the court in celebration.

What you usually don't see is the opposing team off the court. In most cases, the losing team's coaching staff and players are making their way back to the locker room. It's during those moments where emotions could boil over: You have the frustration of the losing team mixed with the elation of the home fans.

While watching the highlights of Thursday's fight, I got to thinking about something. Could I see that happening at a high school or college game around our area?

Yes, definitely.

Take Yankton High School, for example. There is a South Dakota state post-season policy in place that punishes schools whose fans prematurely rush the court. Sports editor James Cimburek and I couldn't remember a time when Yankton students ran on to the basketball court after an upset win.

A football field, though, presents a different challenge because of the open space. Someone — or a group of people — could hop the fence and rush the field, and could conceivably get tangled up with opposing coaches or players.

Nebraska football fans will remember the name Kellen Huston, who was suspended after punching a Missouri fan during a crowd-

storming back in 2003.

The best such example, of course, is the so-called 'Malice At The Palace' during a 2003 NBA game in Detroit, where Indiana Pacers players fought with fans. That was a situation where emotions clearly spilled over into the stands; though that was mostly Ron Artest reacting to a cup of water being thrown at him and attacking fans — and it turns out, the wrong fan at the onset.

Although that situation in Detroit was perhaps a unique situation, you could see where it could happen in a situation like a basketball game. Even at the DakotaDome in Vermillion, the University of South Dakota student section is located right near the visiting bench. Both times the Coyote men's basketball team beat South Dakota State at the DakotaDome, USD students rushed the floor — though by that point, the Jackrabbit coaches and players were almost back in their locker room.

But think about it. A fight like Thursday night in Utah could obviously happen around here.

No state policy on number of security on hand will prevent such a situation taking place. Not in a highly-intense, emotional atmosphere, where things happen in the heat of the moment that are apologized for later.

You just obviously hope something serious doesn't happen.

## Nebraska, Creighton Volleyball To Play Exhibition In Wayne

WAYNE, Neb. — The volleyball teams from the University of Nebraska and Creighton University will play an exhibition on Saturday, April 26, in an event billed, "Rumble in Rice." Start time is set for 2 p.m. in Rice Auditorium on the Wayne State College campus.

Tickets may be purchased through the Wayne State volleyball office or by going online at www.wscvolleyballcamps.com. 50 percent of all proceeds from the event will go to the re-construction of the Wayne Summer Sports Complex that was destroyed by the Oct. 4 tornado that hit the Wayne, Neb., area.

For further information on the event, contact the Wayne State volleyball office at 402-375-7303.

## SDSU Softball Tournament At Evansville Cancelled

Unplayable field conditions in Evansville, Ind.,

forced Evansville to cancel its softball tournament scheduled for this weekend.

Scheduled to play four games at the event, South Dakota State gets the weekend off before returning to action next weekend at the Southeast Games, hosted by Southeast Missouri State, in Cape Girardeau, Mo.

The Jackrabbits, who ride a four game winning streak into their next game, may add more games to the upcoming schedule, so stay with GoJacks.com for the latest changes.

## Jackrabbit Athletics Introduces New Strategic Plan

BROOKINGS — Recognizing recent accomplishments while eyeing long-term success in the future, South Dakota State University Athletics has unveiled its new strategic plan, The Jackrabbit Way.

"Our new strategic plan reinforces many of the same core values and principles that have long been in place within Jackrabbit Athletics and also provides a roadmap to move our programs to an elite level within Division I over the next five years,"

said Director of Athletics Justin Sell.

The Jackrabbit Way was developed in concert with Impact 2018 — the University-wide strategic plan that was introduced in 2013. The Jackrabbit Way also contains many key components of the 2025 Master Plan for Athletic Facilities, most notably the Sanford-Jackrabbit Athletic Complex indoor training and competition facility currently under construction and a proposed new football stadium.

Over the past year, university administrators and athletic department staff members worked with CarrSports Consulting, LLC, to develop The Jackrabbit Way. Jackrabbit Athletics has had a long association working with CarrSports Consulting, starting with SDSU's exploration of moving to Division I in the early 2000s.

## Augie Promotes Bergstrom To D.C.

SIoux FALLS — Augustana College head football coach Jerry Olszewski announced Friday that Brian Bergstrom, linebackers coach and special teams coordinator in 2013, has been promoted

to defensive coordinator. The move follows Minnesota State University, Mankato's announcement of the hiring of Jake Dickert as defensive coordinator on Thursday.

Dickert, who joined Olszewski's staff in 2013 and coached the defensive backs last season, led the Viking defense to an impressive season in his first at Augustana. The Vikings finished the season ranking 20th in the country and third in the NSIC allowing just 19.5 points per game. Augustana finished third in the NSIC and 27th in the nation allowing 329.3 yards per game, third in the NSIC and 44th in the nation giving up just 135.5 rushing yards per game.

## Huskers Honor 1911-12 Team With Throwback Unis

LINCOLN, Neb. (AP) — The Nebraska men's basketball team will wear throwback uniforms honoring the 1911-12 Cornhuskers for Saturday's game against Northwestern in Lincoln.

The 1911-12 Huskers won 14 of 15 games and were coached by the legendary E.O. "Jumbo" Stiehm (STEM). Stiehm became the first coach

in Missouri Valley Conference history to win both football and basketball titles in the same year.

The uniforms feature cream-colored tops and bottoms with a white accent stripe and an 'N' logo across the middle of the jersey. The 1911-12 jerseys did not have numbers. The number on the throwbacks is below the stripe as well as on the back.

About 50 former players, coaches and staff are returning to Lincoln for a private reception Friday and a tour of facilities. They'll be introduced at halftime.

## Pelini Goes Over \$3M In Pay

LINCOLN, Neb. (AP) — Nebraska football coach Bo Pelini is crossing the \$3 million threshold in annual salary.

According to terms of Pelini's contract signed in 2012, he'll receive a \$100,000 raise on Saturday. That will take his annual salary from \$2.975 million to \$3.075 million.

Pelini is 57-24 in six seasons at Nebraska. Former athletic director Tom Osborne extended Pelini's contract through February 2018 before he retired in December 2012.

## SCOREBOARD

BASKETBALL		34		
<b>FRIDAY'S S.D. BOYS</b>				
Aberdeen Christian 84, Northwest 38	Canton 64, Vermillion 50	Custer 64, Spearfish 48	Herried/Selby Area 65, Edmunds Central 33	
Langford 57, Waverly-South Shore 37	Leola/Frederick 62, Ipswich 55	McCook Central/Montrose 46, Baltic 29	New Underwood 50, Jones County 46, OT	
Sioux Falls Christian 73, Tri-Valley 52	Warner 59, Rosholt 39	White River 78, Lyman 32	Wilmot 58, Waubay 45	
Winner 78, Crow Creek 46				
<b>FRIDAY'S S.D. GIRLS</b>				
<b>District 2AA First Round</b>				
Brandon Valley 53, Yankton 52	<b>District 9B Championship</b>			
Freeman 51, Scotland 31	<b>District 10B Championship</b>			
Gayville-Volin 56, Alcester-Hudson 44	<b>District 11B Championship</b>			
Kimball/White Lake 50, 48	<b>District 12B Championship</b>			
Corsica/Siskyou 46	<b>District 15B Championship</b>			
McLaughlin 62, Timber Lake 51				
<b>FRIDAY'S NEB. GIRLS</b>				
<b>A-5 Tournament</b>				
Millard West 83, Omaha Northwest 43	<b>B-1 Tournament Finals</b>			
Lincoln Plus X 42, Norris 39	<b>B-2 Tournament Finals</b>			
Gretna 52, Omaha Gross Catholic 39	<b>B-3 Tournament Finals</b>			
Omaha Duchesne Academy 45, Blair				
<b>B-4 Tournament Finals</b>				
York 40, Beatrice 36	<b>B-5 Tournament Finals</b>			
Grand Island Northwest 57, Holdrege 36	<b>B-6 Tournament Finals</b>			
Sidney 45, Gering 43	<b>C-1-1 District Final</b>			
Lincoln Lutheran 49, Syracuse 36	<b>C-1-2 District Final</b>			
Platteview 61, Bishop Neumann 58	<b>C-1-3 District Final</b>			
Fairbury 44, Columbus Scotus 38	<b>C-1-4 District Final</b>			
Paicines 58, Wayne 39	<b>C-1-5 District Final</b>			
Minden 58, Grand Island Central Catholic 17	<b>C-1-6 District Final</b>			
Chadron 50, Hershey 21	<b>C-2-1 District Final</b>			
Philadelph 15, 43 259 17	<b>C-2-2 District Final</b>			
Homer 63, Pender 61	<b>C-2-3 District Final</b>			
Humphrey/Lindsay Holy Family 53, Shelby/Rising City 44	<b>C-2-4 District Final</b>			
Hastings St. Cecilia 55, Sutton 37	<b>C-2-5 District Final</b>			
Crofton 64, Ainsworth 23	<b>C-2-6 District Final</b>			
Dundy County-Stratton 62, Ravenna 44	<b>D-1-1 District Final</b>			
Friend 63, Brumby-Davenport/Shickley 49	<b>D-1-2 District Final</b>			
Emerson-Hubbard 52, Scribner-Snyder 47	<b>D-1-3 District Final</b>			
Humphrey St. Francis 58, Red Cloud 27	<b>D-1-4 District Final</b>			
Boyd County 41, Sandhills/Theoford 34	<b>D-1-5 District Final</b>			
Arapahoe 47, Elm Creek 32	<b>D-1-6 District Final</b>			
Sutherland 63, Hemmingford 60, OT	<b>D-2-1 District Final</b>			
Falls City Sacred Heart 43, Diller-				
<b>Odell 33</b>				
<b>D2-2 District Final</b>				
Bancroft-Rosalie 56, Mead 23	<b>D2-3 District Final</b>			
Wymot 40, Ewing 34	<b>D2-4 District Final</b>			
Giltner 51, Bertrand 32	<b>D2-5 District Final</b>			
Wauwata-Palsade 55, Paxton 34	<b>D2-6 District Final</b>			
Crawford 56, Garden County 30				
<b>NATIONAL BASKETBALL ASSOCIATION</b>				
<b>EASTERN CONFERENCE</b>				
<b>Atlantic Division</b>				
W	L	Pct	GB	
Toronto	32	26	552	—
Brooklyn	27	29	482	4
New York	21	38	356	11 1/2
Boston	20	39	339	12 1/2
Philadelphia	15	43	259	17
<b>Southeast Division</b>				
W	L	Pct	GB	
Miami	41	14	745	—
Washington	30	28	517	12 1/2
Charlotte	27	31	466	15 1/2
Atlanta	26	31	456	16
Orlando	18	42	300	25 1/2
<b>Central Division</b>				
W	L	Pct	GB	
Indiana	44	13	772	—
Chicago	32	26	552	12 1/2
Cleveland	24	36	400	21 1/2
Detroit	23	35	397	21 1/2
Milwaukee	11	46	193	33
<b>WESTERN CONFERENCE</b>				
<b>Southwest Division</b>				
W	L	Pct	GB	
San Antonio	42	16	724	—
Houston	39	19	672	3
Dallas	36	24	600	7
Memphis	32	25	561	9 1/2
New Orleans	23	34	404	18 1/2
<b>Northwest Division</b>				
W	L	Pct	GB	
Oklahoma City	44	15	762	—
Portland	40	18	690	3 1/2
Minnesota	28	29	491	15
Denver	25	32	439	18
Utah	21	37	362	22 1/2
<b>Pacific Division</b>				
W	L	Pct	GB	
L.A. Clippers	40	20	667	—
Golden State	36	23	610	3 1/2
Phoenix	33	24	579	5 1/2
Sacramento	20	37	351	18 1/2
L.A. Lakers	19	39	328	20
<b>Fridays Games</b>				
Cleveland 99, Utah 79	Oklahoma City 113, Memphis 107			
Golden State 126, New York 103	Chicago 100, Dallas 91			
San Antonio 92, Charlotte 82	Sacramento at L.A. Lakers, 10:30 p.m.			
New Orleans at Phoenix, 10:30 p.m.	New Orleans at Phoenix, 10:30 p.m.			
<b>Saturday's Games</b>				
Washington at Philadelphia, 6:30 p.m.	Orlando at Miami, 6:30 p.m.			
Detroit at Houston, 7 p.m.	Indiana at Boston, 7 p.m.			
Brooklyn at Milwaukee, 7:30 p.m.	Cleveland at Memphis, 8 p.m.			
Denver at Portland, 9 p.m.	Minnesota at Sacramento, 9 p.m.			
New Orleans at L.A. Clippers, 9:30 p.m.	New Orleans at L.A. Lakers, 10:30 p.m.			
<b>Sunday's Games</b>				
New York at Chicago, noon	Golden State at Toronto, 3 p.m.			
Philadelphia at Orlando, 5 p.m.	Utah at Indiana, 5 p.m.			
Charlotte at Oklahoma City, 6 p.m.	Dallas at San Antonio, 6 p.m.			
<b>TRANSACTIONS</b>				
<b>BASEBALL</b>				
<b>American League</b>				
MINNESOTA TWINS — Agreed to terms with LHP Logan Danzell, RHP Samuel Deduno, LHP Scott Diamond, RHP Casey Fien, RHP Kyle Gibson, LHP Edgar Ibarra, LHP Kris Johnson, RHP Trevor May, RHP Ryan Pressly, LHP Brooks Raley, LHP Caleb Thierman, RHP Michael Tonkin, RHP Vance Worley, C Chris Herrmann, C Josmil Pinto, INF Eduardo Escobar, INF Pedro Florimon, INF				
<b>National League</b>				
Jorge Polanco, INF Danny Santana, INF Kennys Vargas, OF Oswaldo Arcia, OF Aaron Hicks, OF Max Kepler, OF Chris Parmelee and OF Alex Presley on one-year contracts.				
<b>Arizona Cardinals</b> — Released				
<b>Baltimore Ravens</b> — Agreed to terms with TE Dennis Pitta on a five-year contract.				
<b>Carolina Panthers</b> — Placed the franchise tag on DE Greg Hardy. Re-signed K Graham Gano to a four-year contract.				
<b>Chicago Bears</b> — Signed CB Kelvin Hayden to a one-year contract.				
<b>Dallas Cowboys</b> — Released				
<b>DE</b> Everette Brown, G Ray Dominguez, DT Corvey Irvin and G Jeff Olson.				
<b>NEW ENGLAND PATRIOTS</b> — Re-signed S Steve Gregory.				
<b>NEW ORLEANS SAINTS</b> — Placed the franchise tag on WR Jimmy Graham.				
<b>PHILADELPHIA EAGLES</b> — Agreed to terms with WR Jeremy Maclin on a one-year contract.				
<b>OAKLAND RAIDERS</b> — Re-signed G-OT Khalif Barnes.				
<b>SEATTLE SEAHAWKS</b> — Released				
<b>TENNESSEE TITANS</b> — Agreed to terms with RB Jackie Battle on a one-year contract.				
<b>WESTERN ATHLETIC CONFERENCE</b> — Suspended New Mexico men's basketball players, G.K.C. Ross-Miller for two games and F Renaldo Dixon for one game, for violating the WAC's sportsmanship policy following a Feb. 27 game at Utah Valley.				

## AREA CALENDAR

Saturday, March 1	
ARCHERY, COLLEGE Indoor Nationals at Yankton (MMC)	League Championships at Fort Wayne, Ind. (USD)
BASKETBALL, MEN'S USD at South Dakota State (4 p.m., KVHT-FM, WNAX-AM, Midco SM); Great Plains Athletic Conf. Semifinals	WRESTLING, PREP S.D. State Class A Tour at Rapid City; S.D. State Class B Tour at Aberdeen
BASKETBALL, WOMEN'S Great Plains Athletic Conf. Semifinals	<b>Sunday, March 2</b>
BASKETBALL, BOYS' S.D. Districts — 2AA (Harrisburg at S.F. Lincoln, 7 p.m.)	ARCHERY, COLLEGE Indoor Nationals at Yankton (MMC)
HOCKEY, GIRLS' JV S.D. State Tour at Sioux Falls (Yankton)	BASKETBALL, WOMEN'S South Dakota State at USD (2 p.m., KVHT-FM, WNAX-FM)
HOCKEY, BANTAM S.D. State A Tour at Pierre (Yankton); S.D. State B Tour at Huron (Yankton)	HOCKEY, GIRLS' JV S.D. State Tour at Sioux Falls (Yankton)
HOCKEY, COLLEGE Indoor Nationals at Yankton (MMC)	HOCKEY, BANTAM S.D. State A Tour at Pierre (Yankton); S.D. State B Tour at Huron (Yankton)
<b>Monday, March 3</b>	ARCHERY, COLLEGE Indoor Nationals at Yankton (MMC)
<b>Tuesday, March 4</b>	

## Wynot

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young squad to keep their heads up at halftime.

"Offensively, we just needed to settle down and not do all the work individually," he said. "We got our composure back and played solid defense."

Down, but not out, Wynot used their height to pound their way back into the game. With 5:54 remaining in the third period, they knotted the game up.

On the next possession, Wynot took the lead and didn't look back from that point on.

However, just when Wynot thought they had some breathing room, the Lady Tigers clawed their way back into the game.

Using a pick-and-roll, Koeing drilled an open three-ball

for Ewing, cutting the Lady Blue Devil lead down to 29-26 with two minutes left in the third quarter.

Heading into the final period, Wynot held the slim 29-26 lead.

Coach Wieseler felt his girls' grinded out a tough victory and earned their ticket to Lincoln.

"I thought we grinded that win out," he said. "We tried to build a small lead and went on a few runs, but they countered our runs, as well."

The Lady Blue Devils were able to hold onto defeat the Lady Tigers 40-34 and will defend their three-time state championships next weekend in Lincoln, Neb.

Danielle Wieseler led Wynot with 12 points, while Maggie Schulte added 11 points. Jenna Heine contributed 11 points in the game.

Katie Koeing led Ewing with 13 points in the contest, while Lydia Fry added 11 points in

the loss.

Coach Wieseler feels his team will need to work extra hard this week in practice to prepare for the state tournament.

"We're going to have to work on the little things all week," he said. "We will be working on the fundamentals and of course our first opponent."

In order to conduct a four-peat, Wieseler feels his team will need fundamental basketball and maybe a little luck.

"We're going to need a lot of hard work and some breaks here and there," he said. "We will need to stay healthy and maybe some help from the good lord. We will just stick to our gameplan we used all year and hopefully it will pay off."

You can follow Nick Robinson on Twitter at [twitter.com/RobinsonNick2013](https://twitter.com/RobinsonNick2013). Discuss this story at [www.yankton.net](http://www.yankton.net).

## Pelfrey, Twins Top Red Sox In Florida

FORT MYERS, Fla. (AP) — Mike Pelfrey pitched two scoreless innings in his spring debut as the Minnesota Twins beat the Boston Red Sox 8-2 on Friday.

"I wanted to work fast, pick up my tempo, and I thought I did a good job of that," Pelfrey said. "And I wanted to throw some sliders, and I thought it was really, really good."

Pelfrey struggled for much of last season, his first with the Twins, going 5-13 with a 5.19 ERA in 29 starts. Even though it's still early in camp, he's already been able to notice a difference in his performance from last season.

"I think I threw the slider today maybe six

or seven times, and maybe four or five were strikes," he said. "I don't know if I threw six for strikes all spring training last year."

"It's definitely different. I don't know what velocity was, but it was definitely better than last year. ... I feel like I'm in a lot better place than I was at this time last year. I feel normal, I feel good."

Pelfrey gave up one hit.

Right-hander Anthony Ranaudo, the 39th overall pick in the 2010 draft, started for the Red Sox and threw two hitless innings, striking out four.

## Gazelles

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the half, and Sprakel's baseline jumper just ahead of the halftime buzzer gave the Gazelles a 27-25 halftime edge.

After Sprakel's three-point play allowed Yankton to match its largest lead, 30-25, Brandon Valley scored 13 straight points and kept the Gazelles from scoring a field goal for over eight minutes, pushing the lead to 41-32 early in the fourth quarter.

But the Gazelles outscored the Lynx 10-3 in the final 4:11 to pull within one.

"We saw something that we hadn't seen as much as we'd have liked this season: That fight, that will to compete," Pesicka said. "Prior to this, that margin would have gone to 10, 15, 20, and the game would have been over."

After Brandon Valley missed two free throws with 6.4 seconds left, a Yankton rebounder was forced out of ball, giving Brandon Valley the ball.

The Lynx were able to in-bounds the ball and run out the final seconds.

Pesicka gave credit to the Gazelles' seniors: Tessier and Larson, as well as reserves Allie Murphy and Anna Gulick.

"They hung with us right to the end of their senior year. They have a lot to be proud of," he said. "They are great kids, and those four are going to be very successful people."

The Gazelles got a burst from the outside. After averaging just one made three-pointer a game this season, they made five of seven. Sprakel and Drotzmann each made two, and Hale's three-pointer with eight seconds left pulled the Gazelles within one.

"We decided with two

weeks to go that we were going to let our kids go a little bit," Pesicka said. The Gazelles broke the 50-point mark for the first time in 13 games, and for just the fourth time this season. "Our motto tonight was that a shot is better than a turnover, and we were able to get some points on the board."

You can follow James D. Cimburek on Twitter at [twitter.com/JCimburek](https://twitter.com/JCimburek). Discuss this story at [www.yankton.net](http://www.yankton.net).

YANKTON (3-18)	
Andi Sprakel 4-14 5-6 15, Whitee Larson 1-7 2-4 4, Becky Frick 2-7 2-2 6, Morgan Tessier 0-3 8-10 8, Sophie Drotzmann 2-4 0-0 6, Lauren Graves 0-0 0-0 0, Anna Gulick 0-1 0-0 0, Lindsay Hale 2-6 0-0 5, Kami Comemamm 1-2 2-2 4, Allie Murphy 0-0 0-0 0, Josie Saylor 2-4 0-0 4, TOTALS: 14-48 19-24 52	
BRANDON VALLEY (6-15)	
Lexi Hoover 4-12 4-14 14, Kara Schroeder 1-3 0-0 2, Taylor Thorson 4-9 3-5 12, Becca Long 0-2 3-4 3, Carley Kuster 4-8 5-9 13, Minmyia Wilson 0-1 0-0 0, Emily Anderson 0-0 0-0 0, Sydne Buchheim 1-1 1-5 3, Elsie Zajack 3-0 1-6, Hannah Paaw 0-0 0-0 0, Lilli Jasper 0-0 0-0 0, Kasara Pollema 0-0 0-0 0, TOTALS: 17	