Cedar

From Page 7

were forced to foul. A missed free throw by Ainsworth gave HCC a shot, but Kaiser's halfcourt heave at the buzzer was short.

"Offensively, I thought we'd score a little better," Steffen said. "But they're tough to defend."

Using a guard-heavy rotation, Ainsworth made eight three-pointers in the first half to take a 34-32 lead into the break. The Bulldogs drained four more 3's in the third quarter, but the game was tied 53-53 heading to the fourth.

In the end, though, the Trojans — who had finished third at state the last two years — came up just short.

"We definitely had one of the toughest conferences in C2," Kaiser said. "It helped us, but at the same time, it



JEREMY HOECK/P&D

The Ainsworth Bulldogs celebrate their 66-65 win over Hartington Cedar Catholic in Monday night's

kind of hurts you when you can't get more points in the standings.

District C2-5 final in Battle Creek, Neb.

'But at least we got better at the end of the year."

Cedar Catholic will graduate four seniors, including Taylor Kathol, Grant Howell, Jacob Wiedenfeld and Jared Burbach. "I thought we played well, but just couldn't pull it out in

the end when it mattered," Kaiser said. Ainsworth, which will

likely enter the state tournament as the top seed in C2,

got 25 points from Matthew McLeod and 21 points from Brady Delimont.

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

SPORTS DIGEST

SDSU's Dykstra Earns Final Weekly Award

 The Summit League named South Dakota State's Jordan Dykstra as its final player of the week of the season after the senior helped lead the Jackrabbits to a pair of wins in the final week of the regular season

Dykstra collected his third award this season after averaging 19 points, nine re-bounds, three assists and two steals per game in a pair of Jackrabbit wins.

Against Denver on Thursday, Dykstra scored 19 points, pulled down eight rebounds, dished out three assists, with three steals and a blocked shot. He shot 57.1 percent on 4-7 shooting from the field, went from beyond the arc and 9-10 at the line. Facing rival South Dakota on Saturday, Dykstra recorded his league-high eighth double-double of the season with a 19-point, 10-rebound performance that also included three assists and one steal. He shot 55.6 percent from the field, 5 of 9, and 88.9

percent from the line, 8 for 9, in the regular season finale. For the week, Dykstra recorded shooting percentages of 56.3 from the field, 50 from 3-point range and 89.5 at the free throw line.

Dykstra and the Jackrabbits open play at The Summit League Championships on Sunday at 8:30 p.m. in the Sioux Falls Arena as the No. 3 seed, and play No. 6 seed Western Illinois.

Svendsen Rolls 300 Game

Randy Svendsen rolled a 300 game during Classic League bowling action on Feb.

It was the eighth 300 game since 2001 for Svendsen, who finished with a 758 series on the night.

Team Jack Gala March 8

LINCOLN, Neb. — The Team Jack Foundation will hold its inaugural Gala on March 8 at the Cornhusker Hotel in Lincoln, Neb. The event is to raise funds for pediatric brain can-

The evening will include a VIP reception, entertainment and live dinner. The night will also feature a silent and live auction.

More information is available online at http://www.teamjackfoundation.org. Sponsorship

opportunities are also available by contacting Kylie at kylie@teamjackfoundation.org or 402-

Raiders

From Page 7

That will be the challenge facing Gayville-Volin in Thursday's region: Beating a team

not faced the Raiders this season, is a team that Malloy has heard from other coaches presents significant

matchup problems.

'They've got five girls on the court who can score," he

The prospect of being one win away from the state tournament could be daunting to some teams, but Haas was quick to point out that the Raiders are enjoying their im-

we've played," Haas said. "If we keep this up, I think it'll be a fun night."

But the Raiders were quick to point out that simply reaching regions is not enough.

"It's awesome that we won districts, but we're not satisfied," Barta said. "If we got to state, that'd really get things going. The whole town would

twitter.com/jhoeck. Discuss this story at www.yankton.net.

Draft

From Page 7

Also among the eight former Gophers, plus a smattering of area small-college hopefuls, who worked out for NFL teams on Monday was safety Brock Vereen. He's projected as a late-round pick at best, but the brother of New England running back Shane

Vereen also gave his stock a big boost with some remarkable numbers at the combine.

His 4.47-second 40-yard dash time was the secondfastest among safeties, and his 25 repetitions on the bench press led all participants at his position. So like Hageman, he focused only on defensive back drills for the scouts, coaches and executives at the university practice field on Monday.

"You can run as fast as you can, you can bench 500

times, but if you can't carry it over to the football field it doesn't mean anything,' Vereen said. "So hopefully trying to prove that it carries over for me."

Vikings general manager Rick Spielman had praise for Vereen.

"Just how smart he is and aware he is when you watch the tape on him, and then he goes to the combine and blows out the 40," Spielman said. "That really opened a lot of peoples' eyes.

similarily balanced. probable ride. Freeman (15-7), which has You can follow Jeremy 'We have to think of them as just like any other team Hoeck on Twitter at



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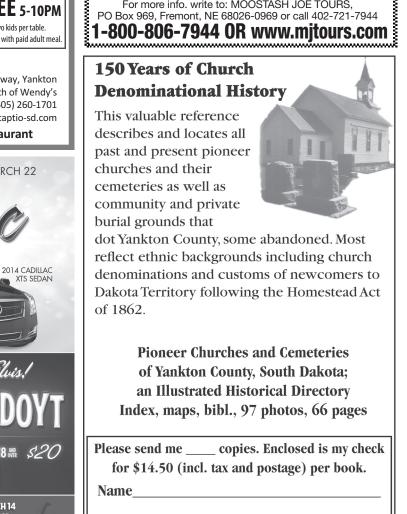
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