

Randolph Boys Claim Nebraska D1 Title

LINCOLN, Neb. (AP) — Nolan Nordhues scored 20 points, Garrett Watters had 14 and Randolph held Overton scoreless over a 7 1/2-minute span of the second half in a 54-42 victory in the Class D1 boys basketball championship game on Saturday.

Creighton Ryan's two free throws with 6:53 left in the third quarter gave Overton its last lead. Overton didn't score again until 7:23 remained in the game, and by then Randolph was up by eight points.

Randolph converted Overton's 17 turnovers into 16 points and held Overton to 29-percent shooting.

Joel Shafer led Overton with 14 points, and Caleb Ecklund grabbed 10 rebounds.

Randolph won its second state championship, and first since 2002.

Overton, which posted upsets over Nebraska City Lourdes and de-

fending champion Howells-Dodge in the first two rounds, fell short of winning its first title.

CLASS D2 — BANCROFT-ROSALIE 62, HIGH PLAINS 47: LINCOLN, Neb. (AP) — Preston Peters scored 14 points to lead four Bancroft-Rosalie players in double figures, and the Panthers defeated High Plains 62-47 in the Class D2 boys basketball state championship game Saturday night.

Kenneth Appleton had 12 points, Nicholas Sjuts 11 and Drew Zitek 10 as the Panthers won their first state title.

Peters made four of the Panthers' 11 3-pointers, and Bancroft-Rosalie scored 21 points off High Plains' 15 turnovers.

Logan Fleming scored a game-high 16 points on 7-of-10 shooting, and Cole Klingsporn added 14 points and Dylan Shenk had 10 for High Plains.

The Panthers erased a nine-point deficit to lead 30-23 at halftime.

Bancroft-Rosalie avenged a loss to High Plains in the district finals.

CLASS A — BELLEVUE WEST 56, OMAHA WESTSIDE 50, OT: LINCOLN, Neb. (AP) — Malik Hluchoweckj scored 18 points and made the go-ahead layup in overtime to lead Bellevue West to a 56-50 win over Omaha Westside in the Class A

boys state basketball championship game Saturday night.

The Thunderbirds (21-6) won their fourth title since 2000 while avenging a 25-point regular-season loss to the Warriors (21-6).

Christian Hatterle and Clester Johnson Jr. combined to make four free throws in the last 47 seconds for Bellevue West. Westside didn't score again after Kevin Metoyer's basket tied it 50-50 with 2:20 left.

Mike Kiger added 14 points for Westside. Metoyer made 4 of 9 3-pointers and added six assists. Bellevue West shot 49 percent and outrebounded the Warriors 34-23.

Westside took a six-point lead into the final 3 minutes of regulation. But Hluchoweckj scored layups after consecutive Westside turnovers, then made a free throw to tie it with 2:07 left for the final points of the fourth quarter.

CLASS B — OMAHA SKUTT 59, BEATRICE 45: LINCOLN, Neb. (AP) — Chris Harrison and Nicholas Bouda scored 17 points apiece and William Wallrapp added 13, leading Omaha Skutt to a 59-45 victory over Beatrice in the Class B boys state championship basketball game Saturday.

Harrison made three 3-pointers and Skutt (22-6) outscored Beatrice 22-6 at the free-throw line.

The SkyHawks took the lead for good in the middle of the first quarter but saw Beatrice cut it to 28-25 in the third. Wallrapp's 3-pointer started a 12-2 run that put Skutt up 40-27.

Ty Bardsley's jumper got Beatrice (22-3) within 40-33 with 6:02 left. The SkyHawks went on an 11-1 to finish off the Orangemen.

Alec Cromer made 6 of 7 shots and finished with 14 points for Beatrice, and Bardsley added 10.

Skutt won its third state title, with all coming since 2006.

CLASS C1 — BISHOP NEUMANN 68, WAHOO 47: LINCOLN, Neb. (AP) — Bishop Neumann went on an 18-2 run over a 4-minute span of the fourth quarter to break open the game and defeat crosstown rival Wahoo 68-47 in the Class C1 boys basketball final on Saturday.

Benjamin Simons scored 21 points and Austin Woita added 13 for Neumann (22-6), which won its fourth state championship and third since 2002.

Simons made 8 of 12 shots, including 3 of 6 3-pointers. Neumann outrebounded the Warriors 36-23, with Woita grabbing 11.

Jacob Scheef made 8 of 9 shots while scoring a game-high 22 points for Wahoo (22-6).

Connor Loos' 3-pointer put Neumann up 16-2 in the first quarter. Wahoo chipped away at Neu-

mann's lead and got to 45-39 with 6:17 left. Simons' 3-pointer started the decisive run.

Neumann also beat the Warriors in subdistricts.

Saturday's game marked the first time two teams from the same small town played in a state final.

CLASS C2 — ARCHBISHOP BERGAN 71, AINSWORTH 69, OT: LINCOLN, Neb. (AP) — Nathan Griffen scored with 4 seconds left in overtime to give Archbishop Bergan a 71-69 victory over Ainsworth in the Class C2 boys basketball final on Saturday.

Jonah Madsen had 18 points, Adam Dykman added 17, Griffen 16 and Colton Briccio 12 for the Knights (24-3). Matthew McLeod had 31 points and 10 rebounds for Ainsworth (25-3). Brady Delmont had 16 points and Tanner Fuelleberth had 12.

Cole Conrad's layup tied it 69-69 with 1:20 to play in overtime, and the Knights got the ball back after an Ainsworth turnover.

Griffen had a shot blocked by McLeod with 25 seconds left, but the Knights retained possession. Griffen scored in the lane for the go-ahead points, and McLeod missed a shot at the buzzer.

Bergan led from the time Briccio hit a 3-pointer just before halftime until Brady Delmont's 3-pointer with 13 seconds left in regulation send the game to overtime.

A: EPJ Girls Fall In Third Place Game

SPEARFISH (AP) — Carley Peterson scored 19 points to lead Sioux Valley to a 56-52 win over Elk Point-Jefferson in the third-place game at the South Dakota Class A girls basketball tournament on Saturday.

The Cossacks (21-4) outscored Elk Point-Jefferson 24-18 in the fourth quarter.

Sioux Valley's Kaylee Granum had four 3-pointers and 13 points. She also dished out three assists.

Keely Bertram had 20 points and nine rebounds for the Huskies (22-3), who shot 43 percent from the field. McKenzie Mennenga added 17 points.

ELK POINT-JEFFERSON (22-3)
Donnelly 1-4 2-4 4, Mennenga 7-12 1-2 17, Erickson 1-3 0-0 2, Hanson 0-4 1-3 1, Zeller 2-3 2-2 6, Curry 1-3 0-0 2, Bertram 6-17 3-6 20. Totals: 20-46 9-17 52.
SIoux VALLEY (21-4)
Pepperman 1-1 2-2 4, Vanderzee 1-2 0-0 2, Granum 3-11 4-4 13, Peterson 5-10 5-8 19, Keele 2-7 5-6 9, Halbersma 2-6 0-0 5, Jensen 1-1 1-2 3. Totals: 15-38 18-24 56.
ELK POINT-JEFFERSON.....12 18 34 52
SIoux VALLEY.....7 19 32 56
3-pointers: EPJ 3-9 (Donnelly 0-1, Mennenga 2-5, Hanson 0-1, Bertram 1-2), SV 8-20 (Granum 3-7, Peterson 4-6, Keele 0-4, Halbersma 1-3). Rebounds: EPJ 30 (Bertram 9), SV 26 (Peterson 5). Assists: EPJ 8 (Bertram 5), SV 7 (Peterson 3). Total fouls: EPJ 20, SV 19. Fouled out: Bertram, Petterman.

FIRST — ST. THOMAS MORE 70, WINNER 39: SPEARFISH (AP) — St. Thomas More rode the double-double of Alexys Swedlund to a 70-39 victory over Winner in the title game of the South Dakota Class A girls basketball tournament on Saturday.

Swedlund had 28 points and 10 rebounds for the Cavaliers (23-2), who overwhelmed the Warriors (23-2) from the start. Swedlund was 11 of 21 from the field, while the Cavaliers shot 52 percent.

Ciara Duffy had four 3-pointers and 17 points and Madison Kirsch added 11. Tawny Sherman and Katie Mathis had eight points apiece for Winner.

The Warriors shot just 23 percent from the field and 22 percent from 3-point range.

FIFTH — MOUNT VERNON-PLANKINTON 60, PINE RIDGE 58: SPEARFISH (AP) — Mount Vernon-Plankinton used the free throw line to beat Pine Ridge 60-56 in double overtime Saturday in the fifth-place game at the South Dakota Class A girls basketball tournament.

The Titans (20-6) attempted 29 more free throws than the Lady Thorpes (21-4) and outscored Pine Ridge 22-4 from the line. Five Pine Ridge players fouled out.

Becca Glanzer had 28 points to lead all scorers. She made 13 of 14 free throws. Payleen O'Day chipped in 17 points.

Pine Ridge's Tashianna Hernandez sent the game to overtime tied at 48 with a short jumper from under the basket as time ran out. Glanzer's free throws with 7 seconds in the first OT tied it at 54.

Shaylene Richard had 15 points and Cassandra Black Horn 12.

SEVENTH — WEBSTER AREA 55, GARRETSON 39: SPEARFISH (AP) — Lindsey Vogl scored 18 points to lead Webster Area to a 55-39 win over Garretson on Saturday in the seventh-place game at the South Dakota Class A girls basketball tournament.

The Bearcats (15-9) led 22-18 at the break and pulled away in the second half. Webster outscored Garretson 33-21 in the second half.

Vogl was 6-for-11 from the field. She made all three of her 3-point attempts and grabbed four rebounds. Breanna Bullert added 13 points and eight rebounds.

The Blue Dragons (11-14) shot 29 percent from the field and 18 percent from 3-point range. Haley Edmundson 12 points for Garretson.

Class B FIRST — WARNER 49, SANBORN CENTRAL-WOONSOCKET 44, OT: HURON (AP) — Ashley Rozell scored 21 points, and Warner outscored Sanborn Central-Woonsocket 11-6 in overtime, as the Monarchs won 49-44 to defend their championship at the South Dakota Class B girls' basketball tournament on Saturday.

Miranda Ristau had 18 for the Monarchs (24-2). Warner became the first South Dakota High School Activities Association team to win consecutive volleyball and basketball titles in back-to-back seasons.

Warner shot 41 percent from the field and made 17 of 27 free throws.

Sanborn Central-Woonsocket (24-2) shot 36 percent and went just 5 of 11 from the line.

Myah Selland had 26 points, on 10-of-18 shooting, for the Blackhaws. Marissa Weber had 11 points, including three 3-pointers.

THIRD — SULLY BUTTES 48, HAN-

Lyman Tops GV In Overtime



Gayville-Volin's Kelia Barta splits a pair of Lyman defenders during the seventh place game of the S.D. State Class B Girls' Basketball Tournament on Saturday in Huron. Barta, who finished with 20 points in the 46-44 overtime loss, was named to the all-tournament team.

BY JAMES D. CIMBUREK
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HURON — The value of Gayville-Volin's first-ever state tournament trip can't be judged on record. It will be judged on what the young Raiders gained, according to head coach Matt Malloy.

Gayville-Volin's season ended with a 46-44 overtime loss to Lyman in the seventh place game of the S.D. State Class B Girls' Basketball Tournament on Saturday at Huron Arena.

"I thought they played their hearts out. They didn't give up," Malloy said of his team. "That's all you can ask for, that they go out and play their very best."

Lyman, which finished 16-10, was led by Brooklyn Halverson's 18 points. She scored six of those points in overtime, including the game-winner with 3.7 seconds remaining.

Also for Lyman, Anna Flitner scored 10 points and grabbed seven rebounds.

Kelia Barta was the lone Gayville-Volin player in double figures, finishing with 20 points. The junior, who was named to the all-tournament team, went 10-10 from the line, including two free throws with no time on the clock in regulation to send the game into overtime.

Also for GV, Genny Clark and Rachel Haas each had seven points. Megan Hirsch followed up her 17-rebound effort from Friday with a 10-22 effort, as GV held a 37-22 edge on the boards over

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Wait Almost Over For USD Women: NCAA Brackets Announced Today

BY JEREMY HOECK
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The wait is almost over for the University of South Dakota women's basketball team.

Six days after winning their first Summit League crown, the Coyotes will find out their date, location and opponent for the NCAA Tournament, when the brackets are announced tonight (Monday) at 6 p.m. on ESPN.

Understandably, the waiting has been hard on head coach Amy Williams and her players.

"I'm a planner, and a preparation

freak," Williams joked Sunday. "So I like to know things as soon as I can."

Depending on the projected bracket you look at, USD (19-13) is likely to earn a 14 or 15 seed into the 64-team field.

The up-to-date bracket by ESPN guru Charlie Creme has consistently slotted the Coyotes as a No. 15 seed playing No. 2 Louisville in Ames, Iowa. The College Sports Madness bracket, meanwhile, has USD as a No. 14 seed playing No. 3 Nebraska in Seattle, Wash.

With so many possibilities and projections, the best course of action

for the Coyotes is to just wait and see, Williams said.

"We feel like there's enough uncertainty to those not to pay much attention," said the second-year coach, who admits to checking bracketology websites.

Following the Summit League championship game victory over Denver last Tuesday, USD gave its players a couple of days off "it was, after all, spring break. The coaches, meanwhile, hit the road recruiting.

All along, the high from the title remained, Williams said.

"I talked to a lot of friends and col-

leagues in the coaching profession, and they all said, 'You just have to enjoy every step,'" she said. "That's what we've been doing."

"That just makes (today) all the more exciting."

While this year will mark the first NCAA Tournament appearance at the Division I level for USD, it will mark the fourth for Williams. She was part of two tournament teams while in college at Nebraska, and was an assistant coach at Tulsa when it reached the 'Big Dance.'

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UND Women Win, Men Fall In Big Sky Final

GRAND FORKS, N.D. (AP) — Madi Buck scored 14 points and North Dakota advanced to the NCAA Division I tournament for the first time, beating Montana 72-55 on Saturday in the Big Sky Conference championship game.

Leah Szabla, Mia Lloyd and Alyssa Wall each scored 10 points for North Dakota (23-9). Emily Evers added eight points and 10 rebounds to help UND to a 40-26 advantage on the boards.

Torry Hill had 21 points for Montana (22-11), including four 3-point field goals. She was carried off the court with 7:24 left after an apparent leg injury, and didn't return.

North Dakota led 35-27 at half.

SUNDAY — WICHITA STATE 73, DRAKE 49: ST. CHARLES, Mo. (AP) — Alex Harden and Jamillah Bonner each scored 21 points to lead Wichita State to a 73-49 win against Drake in the championship game of the Missouri Valley Conference tournament on Sunday.

Alle Decker had 12 points and Michelle Price added 11 points and nine rebounds for the second-seeded Shockers (26-6), who won the tournament for the second year in a row.

Lizzy Wendell led fifth-seeded Drake (17-15) with 20 points. Kymal Clark added 15 points and 10 rebounds.

Yankton's Tessier Earns HM All-ESD Honors

BY JAMES D. CIMBUREK
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One of Yankton's senior leaders was recognized for her efforts today (Monday), as Morgan Tessier was named honorable mention all-Eastern South Dakota Conference.

"It's nice to see someone be rewarded, especially a kid like Morgan who has put in a lot of time and effort," said Yankton head girls' basketball coach Doug Pesicka. "She's an example of what can happen if you work hard and do the right things. She was a very good example for our young players to follow."

Tessier ranked second on the team in scoring at 7.3 points per game, and led the Gazelles in rebounding (5.7 per game), assists (4.3), steals (4.5) and free throws attempted (5.8) and made (4.4).

"She was a real bright spot all season," Pesicka said. "She was a kid that can play, and was asked to play, all five positions. She was a physical, aggressive player who could do a lot of things."

Tessier and Whitlee Larson will graduate from this season's 3-18 squad, as well reserves Anna Gulick and Allie Murphy.

"I thought Morgan had a really good year in what was a tough season," Pesicka said. "She was voted as a team captain, which shows the respect her teammates had for her."

"She helped us in a lot of different areas," Mitchell, Pierre and Harrisburg each had two honorees. Mitchell, the state runner-up, had senior Macy Miller and junior Taylor Volesky. Pierre had senior Kaitlyn Severyn and junior Sydney Palmer. Harrisburg had seniors Haley Halling and Morgan Beaner.

Also named to the all-ESD team were Aberdeen Central sophomore Brianna Kusler, Brookings sophomore Sara Tvedt, Huron sophomore Sarah Carr and Brandon Valley senior Lexi Hoover.

Honorable mention honorees included Tessier, Brookings' Sidney Berreth (Jr.), Lauren Coughlin (Jr.) and Kaitlyn Hadley; Watertown's Elli Stevenson (Jr.), Pierre's Katie Berg (Sr.), Harrisburg's Alex Johnson (Sr.), Huron's Jacey Hupp (Jr.) and Mitchell's Torrie Michels (Sr.).

You can follow James D. Cimburek on Twitter at twitter.com/JCimburek. Discuss this story at www.yankton.net



Yankton's Morgan Tessier, right, passes out of a crowd during the Gazelles' District 2AA game at Brandon on Feb. 28. Tessier was named honorable mention all-Eastern South Dakota Conference, announced today (Monday).