

MMC Women's Basketball Adds Former ELB, USF Guard Gebhart

BY JEREMY HOECK

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Transferring from one school to another is rarely ever an easy decision, and Cassidy Gebhart knows all about those choices.

A former standout point guard at Elkton-Lake Benton, Gebhart eventually signed last year with the University of Sioux Falls, which was making the move to the NCAA Division II level.

Ultimately, though, Gebhart realized it wasn't the best fit. And after spending some time evaluating her options, she decided to transfer to Mount Marty College to play basketball for the Lancers.

"It was a lot harder than I thought it was going to be. It actually took me a while to figure out what I wanted to do," Gebhart said Friday, the same day MMC announced her signing.

"But I really liked the (Mount Marty) coaches. I thought they would be great to work with."

Calling her an "immediate impact kid," Mount Marty head coach Tom Schlingmen said Gebhart, a 5-foot-5 guard, is eligible to play with the Lancers next season and figures to be a key starter.

"We recruited her really hard out of high school, but she really wanted to try to play Division II," said Schlingmen, who joked that MMC was waiting with "open arms."

"She was pretty convinced that if she didn't get a lot of time, she wanted to move on where she could play."

Gebhart played in 10 games last season, averaging 5.7 minutes per game with a total of two points scored. She and Parkston native Marie Malloy played behind starting point guard — and leading scorer — Laura Johnson.

When the time came to either stay or go, it was anything but a simple decision, Gebhart said.

"I thought I'd be playing more, but it was tough not to," she said. "It was a tough decision to leave there, for sure."

Not having a chance to see the court was a far cry from what Gebhart had been used to in high school. A 3-time All-State point guard, she guided the Lady Elks to an 88-10 record in her career and three Class A State Tournament appearances — including a championship in 2010.

As a senior, Gebhart averaged 20.4 points, 5.1 steals and 3.8 assists per game and led Elkton-Lake Benton to third place at the state tournament. She graduated as the school leader in points (1,567), steals (552) and assists (406).

"Her high school record speaks for itself," Schlingmen said. "She's got great quickness and speed, and those just make

her a really good perimeter player."

Not to mention a welcome addition to what Mount Marty wants to do on defense.

With Gebhart on board, not to mention some of the program's other recruits, the Lancers could change their approach, Schlingmen said.

"She can really get after people full-court, and that fits the way we'd like to play," he said. "We'd like to have maybe more pressing, and Cassidy can cause havoc just one on one with people."

Other teams in the Great Plains Athletic Conference (GPAC) run similar defensive systems, and that type of pressure, at times, gave the Lancers problems last season. It's a welcome challenge, Gebhart said.

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MMC Moving Quickly To Replace Thorson

BY JEREMY HOECK

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Mount Marty College is moving fast in its search for a new head men's basketball coach and will decide next week whether or not to offer the position to internal candidates, athletic director Chuck Iverson said Friday.

Long-time head coach Jim Thorson resigned Monday after 18 seasons and a 253-288 record at Mount Marty. He guided the Lancers to a pair of 20-win seasons, including the 1997-98 squad that reached the semifinals of the NAIA National Tournament.

The school advertised the position internally for five days, with Friday being the final day, Iverson said. From there, the Mount Marty administration will decide if they want to offer the position to internal candidates or advertise the job externally.

"With any coaching position, the quicker you can get it filled, the better," Iverson said. "But at the same time, you want to find the right fit."

Since Monday's announcement, Iverson said he has received approximately a dozen emails or phone calls from interested people.

Though he didn't want to comment on who has already interviewed for the job, Iverson maintained that, yes, there is interest from internal candidates.

"That's something we have to evaluate," he said.

Thorson, who had a record of 465-481 in his 31-year head coaching career, will assume other duties in the athletic department beginning July 1.

The Lancers went 8-21 overall this past season, including a 4-16 mark in the Great Plains Athletic Conference.

"Mount Marty has a good reputation, because it's a strong institution and has always had a strong program," Iverson said. "We've had some circumstances where we wish things had gone better, but I don't think we'll have trouble finding a real qualified candidate."

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YANKTON BASEBALL CELEBRATES SENIOR DAY



JAMES D. CIMBUREK/P&D

Yankton baseball coach Ross Heine, left, stands with his team's eight seniors, who were honored prior to Friday's game with Sioux Falls Washington. Honorees include Tom Kellen, Dustin Hopper, Kaleb Bromley, Garrison Brockberg, Zach Benjamin, Andrew Hummel, Alex Rehurek and Sam Wendte.

Baseball: Warriors Avenge Loss To Bucks

In a game that was meant to be played in Sioux Falls, Washington made themselves right at home on Friday, blanking the Bucks 6-0 in club high school baseball action.

While the game served as Yankton's senior night, the Bucks were the visitors on the scoreboard due to poor field condi-

tions in Sioux Falls earlier this season.

Mitch Gullikson and Kaleb Bromley had the lone Yankton hits in the contest.

Zach Benjamin took the loss, striking out four over five innings.

Yankton hits the road for the weekend, traveling to Sioux Falls

Roosevelt today (Saturday) at 1 p.m. The Bucks play in Brookings on Sunday, facing Pierre at 2 p.m. and Brookings at 4 p.m.

Washington also won the JV game 13-1.

Yankton JV is at home Sunday against Brookings, a 1 p.m. start.

Beresford-Centerville 14, Vermillion 3

BERESFORD — Beresford-Centerville used an eight-run second inning to pull away to a 14-3 victory over defending state champion Vermillion in club high school baseball action on Friday. Chris Kropuenske and Logan

Busch each had three hits to lead Beresford. Oliver Doeden had two hits and four RBI in the victory.

Collin Bertram doubled and singled for Vermillion.

Caleb Johnke picked up the win. Collin Olson took the loss.

Golf: Black Panther Boys, Cougar Girls Earn Region 4B Titles

MITCHELL — The Platte-Geddes boys and South Central girls claimed top honors in the Region 4B Golf Championships, held on Friday at Mitchell's Lakeview Golf Course.

Platte-Geddes edged Kimball by four stroke, scoring a 263. Kimball's Russell Pick earned medalist honors with a 77, three strokes better than Andes Central's J.J. Cooney.

South Central finished 30 strokes ahead of Andes Central, led by medalist Sydney Benter's 89. Andes Central's Kellie (92) and Krista (103) Wincker finished second and third.

The State B Championships will be held May 20-21 in Brookings.

Qualifiers for the boys' tournament will be at the Brookings Country Club. The girls' tournament will be at Edgebrook Golf Course.

BOYS DIVISION

TEAM SCORES: 1. Platte-Geddes, 263; 2. Kimball, 267; 3. Andes Central, 286; 4. South Central, 297; 5. Scotland, 299; 6. Corsica/Stickney, 304; 7. Avon, 313; 8. Mount Vernon/Plankinton, 319; 9. Ethan, 339.

INDIVIDUAL: 1. Pick, KMB, 77; 2. Cooney, AC, 80; 3. T. VanZee, PG, 81; 4. Serr, SCEN, 85; 5. Kuipers, PG, 87; 6. Beach-Pattison, MVP, 88; 7. Bakke, GREG, 91; 8. Miedema, KMB, 92; 9. J. VanZee, PG, 95; 10. Kostal, CS, 96; 11. Irland, SCOT, 96; 12. Taggart, GREG, 97; 13. Steckley, KMB, 98; 14. Evans, AC, 99; 15. Iwan, SCOT, 99; 16. Sachlisen, SCEN, 99; 17. Kopp, AV, 100; 18. Munson, WL, 100; 19. Blasius, KMB, 102; 20. Biele, ETH, 102; 21. Rexwinkel, CS, 103; 22. Bormann, CS, 104; 23. Diede, SCOT, 104; 24. Namminga, AV, 106; 25. Johnson, AV, 107; 26. Swanson, AC, 107; 27. Plooster, PG, 109; 28. Svatos, AC, 110; 29. Thomas, CS, 110; 30. Houton, ETH, 110; 31. Drey, SCEN, 113; 32. London, MVP, 114; 33. Karst, MVP, 117; 34. Wohlers, SCEN, 118; 35. Winkler, SCOT, 122; 36. Bitterman, TD, 126; 37. Huber, ETH, 127; 38. Stanfield, 131; 39. Neugebauer, ETH, 134.

GIRLS DIVISION

TEAM SCORES: 1. South Central, 299; 2. Andes Central, 329; 3. Platte-Geddes, 341; 4. Mount Vernon/Plankinton, 341; 4. Scotland, 362; 5. Gregory, 385; 6. White Lake, 401; 7. Ethan, 437.

INDIVIDUAL: 1. Benter, SCEN, 89; 2. Kel, Winkler, AC, 92; 3. Kr. Winkler, AC, 103; 4. Opbroek, SCEN, 103; 5. J. Nelson, PG, 104; 6. N. Nelson, PG, 106; 7. Karbo, SCEN, 107; 8. Vissia, MVP, 108; 9. Abbink, SCOT, 112; 10. Karst, MVP, 115; 11. Erdahl, MVP, 118; 12. Lacey Bietz, SCOT, 119; 13. Mayer, SCEN, 123; 14. Schweigert, GREG, 123; 15. Sieh, GREG, 124; 16. Gillen, WL, 124; 17. Schaeffers, TD, 124; 18. Mohnen, WL, 127; 19. Hill, MVP, 128; 20. Gall, SCOT, 131; 21. Plooster, PG, 131; 22. Duermier, AC, 134; 23. Ringling, PG, 135; 24. Feiner, ETH, 136; 25. Graesser, GREG, 138; 26. Polnusz, ETH, 139; 27. Thiry, WL, 150; 28. Heath, KMB, 151; 29. Kumb, ETH, 162; 30. Sundquist, GREG, 164.

Pierre Girls' Invitational

PIERRE — Hallie Getz shot a 68 to lead Pierre to the team victory at the Pierre Invitational girls' golf tournament on Friday.

Pierre shot 308 as a team, well ahead of Aberdeen Central (327) and Rapid City Stevens (344). Getz finished six shots ahead of Eastern South Dakota Conference champion Kristin Sabers and eight ahead of teammate Katie Bartlett.

TEAM SCORES: Pierre 308, Aberdeen Central 327, Rapid City Stevens 344, Brookings 347, Mitchell 354, Huron 358, Rapid City Central 365, Sturgis 366, Mobridge 400, Pierre JV 400, Winner 435

TOP 15: Hallie Getz, Pierre 68; Kristin Sabers, Mitchell 74; Katie Bartlett, Pierre 76; Jocelyn Keszler, Sturgis 78; Cassidy Entwistle, Huron 80; Kiley Phares, Stevens 80; Amanda Tobin, Aberdeen 80; Charley Claussen, RC Central 80; Karissa Guthrie, Pierre 81; Erin Reizich, Stevens 81; Kayla Krueger, Aberdeen 81; Brook Pearson, Brookings 82; Brianna Kuckelberg, Aberdeen 82; Jenna Johnson, Pierre 83; Ashley Rook, Aberdeen 84

Summit League Track: USD's Gilsar, McKelvey Set Records

MUNCIE, Ind. — High jumper Megan Glisar set a new Summit League record, thrower Kyle McKelvey set a new USD and state shot put record and Jeff Mettler won his second-straight Summit League 3,000-meter steeplechase title at the Summit League Outdoor Track and Field Championships on Friday. The Coyote women will enter the final day of competition in first-place while the men rank second.

Glisar won the women's high jump with a mark of 5 feet, 11 1/2 inches, topping the Summit League record of 5-8 set by SDSU's Mary Wirth last season. Glisar tied Kathie-Lee Laidley in the event, but was given the win based on attempts. The mark was a half-inch short of Glisar's best mark of 6-0 this

season, which ranks fourth in the NCAA West Region.

McKelvey had a 59-4 1/2 mark in the men's shot put, breaking his own school and state record of 58-10 3/4 he set last season. The throw ranks 16th in the West Region and 34th in the nation. Teammate Cody Snyder placed third with a 55-8 1/2 mark, while North Dakota State's Ben Berghuis split the two with a 55-11 1/4 mark.

Mettler repeated as league champion in the men's steeplechase with a time of 9 minutes, 5.66 seconds. He was just under four seconds off his league record time of 9:01.85 that he set a year ago.

In multi-events, Tansha Clarke placed second in the women's hept-

tathlon with 4,919 points. In the men's decathlon, Josh Petersen placed third with 6,356 points and Jason Steinberg was seventh with 5,468 points.

Jeff O'Connell placed fifth in the men's high jump (6-3 1/2) and added a sixth in the men's long jump (22-10), Carol Miller was fifth in the women's steeplechase (11:05.50) and Breanna Janovy placed fifth in the women's shot put (47-3 1/2) to round out USD's top-five finishers in Friday's finals.

In preliminary events, Michael Burrus had the best time in the men's 100 at 10.69 and was second in the 200 in 21.73. He'll be joined by Brandon Ko-

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Bucks Place Sixth In ESD Tennis Tourn.

BROOKINGS — Led by a third place finish at flight one doubles, the Yankton Bucks finished sixth in the Eastern South Dakota Conference Boys' Tennis Championships, held on Friday at the Hillcrest Tennis Courts in Brookings.

Watertown won five flights to run away with the team title, 386-266 over Mitchell. Pierre was a distant third at 171 points.

Yankton scored 107 points, with the duo of Luke Rockne and Paul Fanta finishing third at flight one doubles with an 8-5 victory over Aberdeen Central's Aaron Lorenz and Joey Crompton. The Bucks also got fourth place finishes in the other two doubles flights, with Brandon Frick and Ben Jensen at flight two and Jason Shindler and John Fanta at flight three.

Frick also finished fourth at flight three singles. Rockne, at flight one, and Shindler, at flight four, each won consolation titles.

Yankton will participate in the South Dakota State Boys' Tennis Tournament, May 16-18 in Sioux Falls and Brandon.



SEAN WELSH/BROOKINGS REGISTER

Yankton's Luke Rockne plays a drop shot at the net during his 10-5 opening-round loss at No. 1 singles to Pierre's Nathan Ellenbecker at Friday's Eastern South Dakota Conference Boys' Tennis Tournament at the Hillcrest Tennis Courts in Brookings. Rockne finished fifth in singles and teamed with Paul Fanta to place third in doubles.

E-P Boys, BH Girls Win In Parkston

PARKSTON — Ethan-Parkston and Bon Homme went toe to toe in a Region 5A tune-up, with the E-P boys and the Cavalier girls claiming top honors in the Ethan-Parkston Relays, held on Friday in Parkston.

Ethan-Parkston won seven events on the way to a 49-point victory over Bon Homme in the boys' standings, 170-121. Wagner was a distant third at 87.5.

Anthony Huber won the discus (154-3) and long jump (19-8 3/4) for Ethan-Parkston, which took four of six field events. Wagner's Nick Dion was the only other double-winner on the boys' side, claiming the 1600 (5:12.58) and 3200 (11:30.0).

Led by the distance sweep of Maddison Hajek and three relay wins, Bon Homme outscored Ethan-Parkston 138-125 in the girls' division. Scotland placed third with 100 points.

Hajek clocked a 5:31.59 in the 1600 and a 12:21.93 in the 3200 for Bon Homme.

Wagner's Sydney Breen was the top individual winner on the girls' side, claiming the pole vault (8-0), 100 hurdles (16.22) and 300 hurdles (52.04). Scotland's Carley Skorepa swept the throwing events, with tosses of 125-9 in the discus and 37-3 3/4 in the shot put. Also for Scotland, Christy Mogck won the 100 (13.17) and 200 (27.32).

Big Sioux Conference

COLTON — The Sioux Falls Christian girls and Dell Rapids boys ran away with team titles in the final Big Sioux Conference Track and Field Championships, held on Thursday at Tri-Valley High School.

The league is merging with the remaining members of the Big Eight Conference to form the Dakota 12 Conference beginning this fall.

The SFC girls set five meet record and won 10 events on the way to 218 points and a 93-point victory over runner-up Canton. Stacy Smidt had a hand in

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