

Mount Marty Eliminated From GPAC Baseball Tourney

BY EMILY NIEBRUGGE
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Sioux City, Iowa — While the day may not have turned out the way they wanted, the Mount Marty Lancers have little to hang their heads about, ending their season with 30 wins.

“I’m never going to hang my head about a 30 season,” said head coach Andy Bernatow following Friday’s loss to Midland. “Throughout the whole season a number of guys could have walked away, but a common theme has been that they’ve stuck it out and been resilient.”

Midland put two runs on the board in the first inning, followed by a third in the second inning. Mount Marty’s Hunter Hallock brought first baseman Collin Peterson in for the Lancers’ first run in the fourth, but Midland answered back with three runs in the bottom of the inning, increasing their lead 6-1.

An RBI triple from Midland’s Zach Kinsella and an RBI from Kameron Conlon in the seventh inning gave the Warriors an 11-1 lead, but the Lancers did manage to score two more runs in the eighth on an RBI from Julian Cutolo, bringing in Nik Davis, and right fielder Cody Ulmer scoring on an in-field out.

“They hit the ball well and took advantage of more opportunities,” Bernatow said of the Warriors, who ended the day with 13 hits and four errors, against Mount Marty’s 11 hits and no errors. “We ran into a wall.”

Midland’s Seth Heckle claimed the 11-3 victory, pitching for all nine innings for 40 at-bats, against MMC’s Brandon Nickolite, Bryton Carlson and Dustin Haffeman.

While the loss still stings, Bernatow said the real takeaway is the ability to equate the game with a number of values in life, which he can see in his players, particularly

ly the 17 graduating seniors. “The main goal of our program is to create better people,” he said. “Our guys showed resilience and perseverance throughout the whole season, and that’s not something you’re born with.”

While Bernatow knows the fall will be tough after graduating so many players, he said he is proud of the program Mount Marty baseball has become.

“One of the greatest things about this season was the closeness of the guys as a team,” he said. “They really enjoyed playing with one another, and have loved the game as a Lancer. We have great retention with this program.”

Midland, now 25-31, faces Briar Cliff today (Saturday) in Sioux City, Iowa, at 9 a.m.

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EMILY NIEBRUGGE/P&D
Mount Marty’s Collin Peterson catches a throw at first base to retire Midland’s Cole Gray during their elimination game in the Great Plains Athletic Conference Baseball Tournament on Friday at Bishop Mueller Field in Sioux City, Iowa. MMC was eliminated with an 11-3 decision, ending its season at 30-22.

Track & Field | Howard Wood Dakota Relays

(Blue &) Golden Moment

Record Relay Run By Raiders Highlights First Day Of Howard Wood Relays

BY JEREMY HOECK
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SIoux FALLS — All four Gayville-Volin runners were aware of the record.

And the quartet of Laura Nelson, Lanny Clark, Megan Hirsch and Genny Clark still went out and broke the record Friday in the 3200-meter relay at the Howard Wood Dakota Relays in Sioux Falls.

It all started earlier in the day, when Genny Clark asked head coach Jeremiah Dibley a simple question.

“I asked him what the meet record was,” said Clark, the oldest of the group, a junior. “When he said 10:01, I thought, ‘I know we can get that.’”

That’s exactly what the Raiders, clocking a time of 10:01.37, narrowly breaking the previous record (set in 2009) by one-hundredths of a second.

“We talked about it, and they knew what the record was,” Dibley said. “But it was like a ten-second chat.”

The potential that the Raiders would break the record hinged on one key area, according to Nelson, a sophomore.

“We tried to focus on staying relaxed, not to get too overwhelmed because this is a big meet,” she said.

That was easier said than done, joked Hirsch, a sophomore.

“No, I was overwhelmed,” she said. “I was glad we could achieve something like this.”

Although the quartet that has already had plenty of cross country success and in distance races on the track, Friday’s record wasn’t a given, according to Lanny Clark, a freshman.



ABOVE: The Gayville-Volin girls’ 3200-meter relay quartet set a new meet record on Friday at the Howard Wood Dakota Relays in Sioux Falls. Head coach Jeremiah Dibley (far left) takes the medal stand with runners (L-R) Laura Nelson, Lanny Clark, Genny Clark and Megan Hirsch.

LEFT: Yankton’s Emma Stewart lands in the sand during the girls’ triple jump on Friday at the Howard Wood Dakota Relays in Sioux Falls.

JEREMY HOECK/P&D

YHS Wins Eight Titles At O’Gorman

SIoux FALLS – The Yankton Bucks and Gazelles earned eight titles and area athletes earned six crowns in the O’Gorman Invitational Track and Field Meet, held on Friday in Sioux Falls.

The Yankton Gazelles had strong showings in the distance events, earning three top-six marks in the 800 and 1-2 finishes in both the 1600 and 3200. Junior Savannah Woods ran the 1600 in a meet-record 5:19.24, with seventh grader Lauren Eidsness second in 5:36.93. Seventh grader Emerson McClure won the 3200 (12:18.90), with Eidsness second in 12:42.44. Senior Lauren Graves won the 800 (2:25.79), with senior Erica Westerman (2:27.88) second and freshman Tessa Folkers (2:35.27) sixth.

Sophomore Emma Stewart continued her strong showings in the long jump, winning with a mark of 17-3. Senior Danielle Beckmann placed second in the 400 (1:02.43). Freshman Kate Budig took home three top-five finishes, second in the 300 hurdles (49.70), fifth in the 100 hurdles (16.92) and tied for fifth in the triple jump (33-1.5).

Also for the Gazelles, the foursome of Stewart, Beckmann, sophomore Lindsey Hale and freshman Emily Oswald placed second in the 800 relay (1:47.43). Sophomore Rebecca Moser, freshmen Cameryn Specht and Carly Vavra, and seventh grader Jaiden Boomsma teamed up to place third in the medley relay (4:42.87). McClure, Vavra, sophomore Kristen Rezac and freshman Anne Knoff teamed up to place fourth in the 3200 relay (10:55.53).

Sprinters led the way for the Yankton boys, led by the foursome of seniors Osmar Pacheco and Mason Strahl, junior Coleton James and

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Bucks Battle Past Riders

SIoux FALLS – The Yankton Bucks improved to 3-1 in region play with a 4-3 eight-inning victory over Sioux Falls Roosevelt in club high school baseball action on Friday.

Colin Muth and Adam Walter each had two doubles and a single to lead Yankton. Muth also had three RBI and a run scored. Walter also drove in a run.

Also for Yankton, Sheldon Gant had two hits and three runs scored. Brad Ulmer and Tyler Guthmiller also had hits in the victory.

Austin Johnson pitched seven innings to earn the win, striking out four. Hunter Cameron pitched the eighth, striking out one, for the save.

Yankton, 8-6, hosts Sioux Falls O’Gorman today (Saturday) in a full day of baseball at Bob Tereshinski Stadium at Riverside Field. The Bucks and Knights face off in a varsity doubleheader at 11 a.m., with a JV doubleheader set to begin at approximately 3 p.m.

9/10: Yankton 3-11, O’Gorman 2-0

Yankton got strong starts from Jackson Somsen and Miles Carda to earn a doubleheader sweep of Sioux Falls O’Gorman in freshmen-sophomore baseball action on Friday.

In the opener, Somsen pitched six no-hit innings and Yankton rallied from a 2-0 deficit in the sixth to claim a 3-2 victory.

Oakley Palmer and Somsen each had two hits to lead Yankton. Jack Schoenfelder and Caid Koletzky each had a hit and a run scored in the victory.

Carter Peterson earned the save.

In the nightcap, Carda tossed a two-hit shutout as Yankton rolled to an 11-0 victory in five innings.

Peterson, Koletzky and Tanner Fitzgerald each had two hits, with Koletzky and Cole Brummers each scoring twice.

Yankton, 6-8 and winners of four straight, travels to Brookings today (Saturday) for a 1 p.m. doubleheader.

Kelly, Butkus Steal Show For 2nd Round Of Draft

CHICAGO (AP) — The show stoppers Thursday night at the NFL draft were two Hall of Famers: Jim Kelly and Dick Butkus.

The legendary former players were on hand to announce the second-round selections for the Bills and Bears, respectively. Kelly’s appearance was spell-binding, and after a lengthy standing ovation, he told the audience that he is cancer free.

“I want to thank everyone all over the world, especially my NFL family, for all of your prayers,” Kelly said before announcing Buffalo’s first pick in this draft, Florida State cornerback Ronald Darby at No. 50 overall. “Last year I was in the hospital not knowing if I would be here this year.”

In June 2013, Kelly had surgery to remove cancerous cells in his upper jaw. The cancer then spread to his sinus and he was in a weakened state following two months of treatments last spring.

But he said Friday, “I feel awesome, I was just was cleared after an MRI two weeks ago. I am cancer free. I am having a great time.”

It’s not easy to outdo Butkus in the Windy City, but Kelly did so, drawing yet another huge cheer.

Earlier, Butkus took the stage. Arguably the most beloved football player in this Bears-crazy town, 50 years after he played, his star still shines as brightly as those of Michael Jordan, Ernie Banks and Bobby Hull — his counterparts in basketball, baseball and hockey.

Twins Beat White Sox 1-0

MINNEAPOLIS (AP) — Kyle Gibson pitched eight strong innings and the Minnesota Twins scored on a wild pitch to beat the Chicago White Sox 1-0 Friday night.

Torii Hunter and Kennys Vargas each had two hits for Minnesota, which has won five of its last seven. Glen Perkins pitched a tense ninth inning for his seventh save.

Chicago had runners on second and third with two outs in its last at-bat, but Tyler Flowers struck out looking.

Jose Quintana (1-2) allowed six hits and one earned run in seven innings for the White Sox, whose offensive woes continued. Chicago has scored four runs in its past three games. Adam LaRoche had two hits.

Gibson (2-2) gave up just four hits, struck out four and walked one. After a rough first start of the season where he gave up six earned runs in 3 2-3 innings, Gibson has posted a 2.03 ERA over his last four outings, allowing just six earned runs in 26 2-3 innings.

Minnesota broke a scoreless tie in the fifth when Kennys Vargas scored a miscue by Quintana.

Vargas and Shane Robinson led off with singles and were on second and third with two outs when Quintana threw a pitch in the dirt on a 1-2 count to Hunter allowing Vargas — listed at 6-foot-5 and 289 pounds in the media guide — to rumble in from third base standing up.

Chicago had the best chance to score early with the bases loaded and one out in the second, but Flowers grounded into a double play.

Minnesota loaded the bases with one out in the fourth on a single and two walks, but Kurt Suzuki struck out on a check-swing that would have been ball four. Eduardo Escobar then hit a ground ball deep in the hole at short. Alexei Ramirez’s throw to first was ruled late on the field, but video review showed the throw beat Escobar to the bag for the third out.

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