

CANISTOTA VS. WALL

9 A GAME DAY

2:30 p.m., DakotaDome, Vermillion

Radio: 99.1 FM, 980 AM; TV: South Dakota Public Broadcasting



P&D FILE PHOTO

Canistota's Troy Hofer (48, pointing) signals that the Hawks recovered the ball during Canistota's Class 9B championship victory in 2010.

PREVIOUS ROUNDS

FINALS HISTORY

First Round: Wilmot 26, Wolsley-Wessington 22; Warner 31, Eureka-Bowdle 30; Canistota 56, Chester Area 0; Hanks 22, Colman-Egan 0; Corsica-Stickney 50, Mount Vernon 12; Irene-Wakonda 31, South Central 12; Wall 34, Lyman 8; Herried-Selby Area 26, Faith 14

CANISTOTA: Won the Class 9B title in 2010, the school's first finals appearance. WALL: Won 9B titles in 1990 and 1994, lost in 1989 final.

Quarterfinals: Corsica-Stickney 34, Warner 20; Wall 22, Irene-Wakonda 16; Hanson 28, Wilmot 22; Canistota 52, Herried-Selby Area 0

Semifinals: Canistota 42, Hanson 0; Wall 20, Corsica-Stickney 14

MATCHUPS

CHS OFFENSE VS. WHS DEFENSE

The Canistota offense has put up over 50 points to a running game that eats up nearly nine yards a carry. Wall is an opportunistic defense, with 22 fumble recoveries, but the Hawks have lost just five fumbles.

WHS OFFENSE VS. CHS DEFENSE

Unstoppable force, meet immovable object. Wall has the state's top back in Chavis Shull, but Canistota allows just 2.7 yards a carry and 96.9 yards a game on the ground.

SPECIAL TEAMS

Canistota has blocked five punts this season, four by 6-4 Trevor Schroeder, and have a decided edge in kickoff and punt returns. Wall has an advantage in punting.

INTANGIBLES

Canistota returns several members of a team that dominated in the 9B final last season, and teams making return trips to the Dome traditionally fare well.

CHS STAT LEADERS

Table with columns for RUSHING, PASSING, RECEIVING, PLACE KICKING, PUNTING, DEFENSIVE LEADERS. Lists player names and stats.

WHS STAT LEADERS

Table with columns for RUSHING, PASSING, RECEIVING, PLACE KICKING, PUNTING, DEFENSIVE LEADERS. Lists player names and stats.

PREDICTION

Canistota has many of the same weapons it had when it made its impressive title run in 9B a year ago. So far this season, the Hawks have run through four opponents at a 150-0 clip. Wall will score, but not enough. Canistota 38, Wall 6

Questions At Penn State Remain After Coach Axed



Paterno

STATE COLLEGE, Pa. (AP) — Just because Joe Paterno is gone doesn't mean the child sex abuse scandal at Penn State is over.

The Nittany Lions started life without the 84-year-old Paterno on Thursday, introducing interim coach Tom Bradley while the board of trustees was just beginning its formal investigation.

"We're obviously in a very unprecedented situation," said Bradley, who was Paterno's lead assistant for the last 11 seasons. "I have to find a way to restore the confidence."

Many questions remained unanswered — from how much Paterno actually knew to whether there will be any repercussions for assistant coach Mike McQueary, who told Paterno but not police about seeing former assistant coach Jerry Sandusky in a shower with a young boy in 2002.

Paterno was fired Wednesday night, effective immediately, just hours after the coach had announced that he would retire at the end of the season.

Gov. Tom Corbett arrived Thursday in advance of Friday's previously scheduled trustees meeting and told reporters that he supported the decision to oust college football's winningest coach and university President Graham Spanier because they didn't do enough to alert law enforcement authorities.

"Their actions caused me to not have confidence in their ability to continue to lead," said Corbett, who is on the board.

Sandusky, Paterno's former assistant and onetime heir apparent, has been charged with molesting eight boys over 15 years. In the week since the state grand jury released its report, athletic director Tim Curley has taken administrative leave and vice president Gary Schultz has retired.

"Certainly every Pennsylvanian who has any knowledge of this case, who has read the grand jury report, feels a sense of regret and a sorrow to also see careers end," Corbett said. "But we must keep in mind that when it comes to the safety of children, there can be no margin of error, no hesitation to act."

It was a hurried process.

"We do not yet know all the facts and there are many details that have to be worked out," board vice chair John Surma in announcing the firings of Paterno and Spanier, one of the nation's longest-serving college presidents.

He said "change was necessary" and added: "To allow this process to continue was going to be damaging to the university."

"We handled it the best way we could with the time that was available to us," he added. "We were wanting to be decisive, but also wanting to be thorough."

Paterno is not a target of the criminal investigation, having fulfilled his legal requirement by reporting what McQueary told him to Curley and Schultz. But the state police commissioner called Paterno's failure to contact police or follow up on the incident a lapse in "moral responsibility."

Paterno has acknowledged that he should have done more but has not said why he didn't go to the police, nor has he said whether he was aware of any earlier alleged assaults. Aside from a few brief comments outside his house and two statements, Paterno has not spoken publicly since Sandusky was indicted.

McQueary, who is Penn State's wide receivers coach, told the grand jury that in March 2002, he saw Sandusky sodomizing a boy of about 10 in the showers at the Penn State football building.

McQueary later told Paterno, Curley and Schultz, although it is not clear how detailed his description was. Schultz, in turn, notified Spanier.

Curley and Schultz — as well as Paterno — testified that they were told that Sandusky behaved inappropriately in that 2002 incident, but not to the extent of McQueary's graphic account to the grand jury.

Curley and Schultz have been charged with perjury and failure to report the incident to authorities, as required by state law. Through his attorney, Sandusky has denied the charges.

SCHEDULES

CANISTOTA Hawks

Table with columns: Date, Opponent, CHS, Opp. Lists game schedule for Canistota Hawks.

WALL Eagles

Table with columns: Date, Opponent, WHS, Opp. Lists game schedule for Wall Eagles.

PROBABLE STARTERS

Tables for HAWKS OFFENSE, HAWKS DEFENSE, EAGLES OFFENSE, EAGLES DEFENSE. Lists player names, positions, heights, weights, and years.



JAMES D. CIMBUREK/P&D

Dell Rapids' Channing Barber celebrates after the Quarriers won the Class 11A championship football game, Thursday at the DakotaDome in Vermillion. Barber was named the Joe Robbie MVP, scoring for 203 yards and four touchdowns, and passed for another.

Class 11A

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pass attempt resulted in the 10-yard touchdown.

Cole Langer made nine tackles and Hunter White made eight stops, including one for loss, for the Quarrier defense. Braeden Ellingson and Jordan Lindberg each recorded interceptions, with Lindberg's coming in the endzone

as West Central threatened to score late in the first half.

Also for Dell Rapids, Bryce Koch was named the Outstanding Lineman of the game.

For West Central, three runners each had around 50 yards of the Trojans' 203 yards rushing. Quarterback Connor Miles rushed for 53 yards, with Devon Blaine gaining 52 and Dalton Kuehl gaining 50.

Tyson Lemke led the West Central defense with seven stops. Blaine had six stops and an interception late in the first half.

The win gave Dell Rapids its third state title in four years, and handed West Central its first championship game loss since 1994, a run of 10 straight championship game victories. The Trojans had not made the finals since 2007.

"They are the best football team in 11A," Mueller said of Dell Rapids. "Nobody gave them anything. They earned it."

West Central finished with a 10-2 record, with both losses coming to the Quarriers.

Pearson

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and the coaches," she said. "And when I got to high school, I continued going every summer."

It was this summer when the Augustana coaching staff, led by head coach Ashley Buckley, started early zeroing in on Pearson. "I could tell they were really interested," she said.

Pearson said the recruiting process really picked up steam after she competed in a Junior Olympic (JO) tournament last spring and summer.

"I was nervous before my senior year, because I hadn't really heard much from schools," she said. "But then I started getting letters from coaches, so that's when the whole thing started. It was fun, but I'm glad to finally know for sure where I'm going."

After playing mostly at middle hitter as a junior, Pearson was moved to left side hitter this season. And it paid off.

"She really developed into a very good all-around player," Alcester-Hudson coach Linda Thompson said. "I've used her in every position, setter, outside and middle. But left side is definitely her best side; that's where she's at her best."

Pearson earned the 1,000 career kill mark early this season and helped lead the Cubs to a 25-4 regular season record. It was quite a change considering all that happened a year ago, Pearson said.

"Honestly, we didn't have the best season last year. A lot of things went on with the team, so I was nervous before this year about how things would change," she said. "But we came in ready and had an amazing year."

"I didn't expect us to do as well as we did."

And oddly enough, Pearson's success can partially be attributed to her background in ice skating.

summer, she would spend a month or two with her coach in Minneapolis. Though she does not compete anymore, Pearson serves as a skating coach in Sioux Falls.

"It definitely helped my volleyball, which sounds weird to say," she said. "The main thing in skating is having a strong core and using your legs, and that's what volleyball is all about."

Wilf: Vikes Won't Pay As Much For Downtown Stadium

EDEN PRAIRIE, Minn. (AP) — Minnesota Vikings owner Zygi Wilf said Thursday the team would spend significantly less than the \$400 million it has pledged to help a build a new stadium if it's not located on the team's preferred site in suburban St. Paul.

The Vikings have committed the money to support a \$1.1 billion stadium plan at a sprawling site in Arden Hills, which the team favors for its long-term development potential. Some political and business leaders favor keeping the team in downtown Minneapolis, where a handful of more compact sites are an option.

"We're committed to the Arden Hills site for what it brings to the fans, but we're also committed to investing over \$400 million in specific to the Arden Hills site for the experiences that everyone can get from Arden Hills," Wilf told The Associated Press in an interview. "Any other location besides Arden Hills wouldn't justify near that level of commitment."

The 430-acre site at a former munitions plant offers ample room for on-site parking and tailgating, amenities for which Vikings fans have clamored and would generate revenue for the team.

The Vikings have campaigned for a new stadium to replace the drab and outdated Metrodome for about a decade. Their lease at the dome ends after this season, and many

fans are worried the most popular team in the state could be lost to football-hungry Los Angeles unless a deal is reached soon.

The Vikings kicked this year with officials in suburban Ramsey County to pitch the \$1.1 billion development, with the local government offering \$350 million from a sales-tax increase to pay its share of the bill. State lawmakers recently rejected the idea of using a local tax hike as a revenue source, leading to speculation they are trying to funnel the stadium to one of at least three sites downtown.

"Avoiding the issue, as seems to have been taking place in the last couple of weeks, does not work," Wilf said. "It only gets more difficult and more expensive. We're very encouraged by leadership of both houses and the governor in trying to bring a stadium solution front and center."

Wilf said he has had only minimal contact with Minneapolis officials about potential sites downtown and didn't entirely rule out the possibility. But he stressed Arden Hills remains the preferred destination because any downtown site can't match its potential for surrounding development.

Messages left with Gov. Mark Dayton and Minneapolis Mayor R.T. Rybak seeking comment were not immediately returned.

Wilf and Dayton have sought a special session of the legislature to

address the issue, something Republican House Speaker Kurt Zellers said last week he did not support. Dayton has expressed frustration with state lawmakers' inaction several times during the past few weeks, but Wilf said he remained optimistic the team will reach a deal.

"I think everyone realizes this has to get done," Wilf said. "But it's not a matter of when, but how we do it. I think as we work toward getting this resolved, everyone will focus on how it gets done and not if. That's what we're focusing on. That's what the leadership is focusing on."

Stadium opponents have decry the idea of giving hundreds of millions of public dollars to a billionaire for what they dub "Zygi World," a reference to the antiquated hotels, stores and other developments surrounding a new stadium. Wilf said Thursday that all \$400 million of the team's commitment would go directly toward building the 260-acre stadium project, not to surrounding development.

Wilf said he plans to purchase and develop the remaining 170 acres with private money.

One of the main reasons for a lack of urgency from some state leaders appears to be the idea that Minnesota is in no danger of losing the franchise. The New Jersey real estate mogul has long said he has no plans to sell or move the team, and he said Thursday that hasn't changed.

Class 9A

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"Our defense has given us short fields most of the season, and our offense has been adept at taking advantage," Coach Schroeder noted.

Rieckman knows his team will be considered an underdog in the game, as much because of Wall's location in the state as

Canistota's success.

"You hear the West River-East River thing," he said. "But we beat Corsica-Stickney, a very good ball club whose two other losses are to teams in the Dome, and we beat Irene-Wakonda, who was a very good running team."

"Canistota hasn't lost in a couple of years. We're glad to have the opportunity to see what we can do about that."

For the Eagles to board the Hawks, they need to get their own running game going.

"We need to be able to run the football and curtail their offense," Rieckman said. "We can not get discouraged if we get down, but our kids have been good about that this year."

Game time is set for 2:30 p.m. at the DakotaDome.

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