Press&Dakotan DAILY DOSE

Daily opinions from the P&D Sports Staff on local and national high school, college and professional sports.

BY JAMES D. CIMBUREK

james.cimburek@yankton.net

SIOUX FALLS - Looking to

build momentum for next season,

Elk Point-Jefferson looked to the

one player who won't be around

for next season to carry the load.

and seven blocks, and set a mod-

ern state tournament record for

blocks per game as the Huskies

25-19 in the Class A consolation

championship match Saturday

morning at Sioux Falls Arena.

swept St. Thomas More 25-20, 25-9,

After an early 13-6 lead shrunk

to 17-15, Branson got the Huskies

going with three straight kills in a

survived a pair of big net plays by

Mvcalvnn Ösborne, and ace serves

by Karli Bies and Tessa Pesicka to

The second frame was all

Huskies. EPJ jumped out to a 13-3

lead then, after St. Thomas More

closed the gap to 17-8, ran off six

of reach. Branson had three kills and a block in that 6-0 run.

out to a 12-7 lead, then traded

the match.

2007.

well.

blows with the Cavaliers to claim

Branson finished the tourna-

game. The blocks mark is the best

breaking the mark set by 2010 Sum-

mit League Player of the Year Kelli

notched 1.58 blocks per game in

"She came out on fire," EPJ

head coach Traci Kollbaum said of

Branson, the team's lone senior in

the regular rotation. "Lexie had a

kill percentage of around 80 per-

cent. When you have that, you're

Also for EPJ, Keely Bertram had

hard to stop. She just did it all

10 kills. Hope Erickson finished

Lancers

From Page 11

since South Dakota high school

volleyball went to rally scoring,

Fiegen. The Parkston native

ment with a tourney-best 4.5 kills

per game and 1.83 blocks per

straight points to put the game out

In the third game, EPJ jumped

claim the opening stanza.

four-point EPJ run. The Huskies

Lexie Branson posted 18 kills

BY JEREMY HOECK

Branson Powers Huskies Past STM

Road Woes Continue To Frustrate USD Football Team ways to lose road games, especially — frustratingly so — when they have leads. Try this stat on for size: USD is now 2-15 in FCS road games since 2008. Not only that, the Coyotes have

Jeremy.hoeck@yankton.net

You've heard the term 'epic collapse' before, right?

If not, the University of South Dakota football team introduced you to it with Saturday's fourth-quarter performance in Grand Forks, N.D.

You probably heard by now how the Coyotes choked away a 37-17 lead with 10:35 to play, losing by a 38-37 margin. No doubt you couldn't believe it happened to USD again (remember Cal Poly three weeks ago....a 20-point lead that was wasted)

Yet, and pardon me for being so blunt, how exactly was it a surprise? The Coyotes have continually found

ence? to change

SCOREBOARD

Pct PF PA .667 259 200

500 228 217

.500 237 253 .300 193 186

Pct PF PA

 .500
 213
 100

 .500
 203
 195

 .300
 125
 180

 .000
 131
 300

Pct PF PA .700 256 176 .700 220 179

.600 236 195 .400 145 193

PctPFPA.600235254.500205247.444141218

.400 236 259

Pct PF PA .667 218 211

.600 250 206

.333 220 203 .300 160 205

Pct PF PA

235 213 182 268

UND Rally Stuns 'Yotes 38-37

GRAND FORKS, N.D. (AP) — Brent Goska threw

Dakota rallied to beat South Dakota 38-37 on Saturday.

Goska threw four touchdown passes in the game

and finished with 216 yards passing - 145 in the final

period. His 15-yarder to Chris Anderson with 4:07 left,

along with Zeb Miller's extra point, won it. Tyhre Ivery

caught two of the TD passes and Seth Nichols had the

ond quarter to build a 34-17 lead at halftime, but was

South Dakota (6-5, 2-2) scored 27 points in the sec-

The win gave the Fighting Sioux (8-3, 3-1) a share of

FOOTBALL

AMERICAN CONFERENCE East L T

5 0 7 0

South

0 0 0

W L T 7 3 0

W L T 6 4 0

4 6 0

4 0

South W L T 7 3 0

4 0 6 0 .600 .400

the Great West Conference title.

3 3

New Orleans

Atlanta Tampa Bay

0

West

0 0

NATIONAL FOOTBALL LEAGUE

5 5 0

People will no doubt find ways to defend USD ("they were in transition"...."Look who they played"), but the fact of the matter is that the Coyotes are not a good road team. I make no apologies for saying that. So, what's next? How does USD fix the problem moving forward into the Missouri Valley Football Confer-That's the question on everyone's mind. Because it doesn't take a football guru to tell you something needs

28

W

2

3

2

Sunday's Games Green Bay 35, Tampa Bay 26

Oakland 27, Minnesota 21 Detroit 49, Carolina 35 Dallas 27, Washington 24, OT

Cleveland 14, Jacksonville 10

Baltimore 31. Cincinnati 24

Miami 35, Buffalo 8 San Francisco 23, Arizona 7 Seattle 24, St. Louis 7

Chicago 31, San Diego 20

Atlanta 23. Tennessee 17

Philadelphia at N.Y. Giants, 8:20 p.m.

Open: Houston, Indianapolis, New Orleans Pittsburgh

Monday's Game Kansas City at New England, 7:30 p.m.

Thursday, Nov. 24 Green Bay at Detroit, 11:30 a.m. Miami at Dallas, 3:15 p.m. San Francisco at Baltimore, 7:20 p.m.

Tampa Bay at Tennessee, noon Cleveland at Cincinnati, noon

iday, Nov. 27 Arizona at St. Louis, noon

Buffalo at N.Y. Jets, noon

Thursday's Game Denver 17, N.Y. Jets 13

North L T 0 0 3 0

West

.200 120 247

Carolina

Green Bay Detroit

San Francisco 9 Seattle 4

Chicago Minnesota

Arizona

St. Louis

lost 7 straight such contests

AREA CALENDAR

.200 Pct 1.000 .700 .700 .200	301	PA 212 219 207	Monday, November 21 FOOTBALL, PREP Neb. Finals at Lincoln Tuesday, November 22 BASKETBALL, MEN'S Dordt at MMC (8 p.m., KYHT-FM); USD at Wyoming (8 p.m., KYBB-FM)	BASKETBALL, WOMEN'S Dordt at MMC (6 p.m., KVHT-FM); USD at Creighton (7:05 p.m.) FOOTBALL, PREP Neb. Finals at Lincoln Wednesday, November 23 No activities scheduled
Pct .900 .400 .300		PA 145 209 236 247	Houston at Jacksonville, noon Carolina at Indianapolis, noon Minnesota at Atlanta, noon Chicago at Oakland, 3:05 p.m.	Denver at San Diego, 3:15 p.m. New England at Philadelphia, 3:15 p.m. Pittsburgh at Kansas City, 7:20 p.m. Monday, Nov. 28

Monday, Nov. 28 N.Y. Giants at New Orleans, 7:30 p.m.

MMC's Fly 183rd At NAIA Meet

VANCOUVER, Wash. — Mount Marty junior Kaylee Fly finished 183rd in the women's race at the NAIÅ Cross Country Championships, held Saturday at Fort Vancouver National Historic Site.

Fly, in her first season at Mount Marty, finished in 19:56. She was the first Lancer women's runner to qualify for nationals since Melissa Schmidt in 2004.

Obsie Birru, a senior from Grand View (Iowa), won in 17:15 over the 5,000-meter course. Cal St. San Marcos won its third consecutive women's team title.

Oklahoma Christian won its first-ever men's title. Wayland Baptist (Texas) runner Kennedy Kithuka defended his individual crown, finishing the 8,000-meter course in 23:15.

Parker

Washington at Seattle, 3:05 p.m.

three touchdown passes in the fourth quarter as North From Page 11

utive state tournament appearance and a continued progression. Parker finished fifth in 2009, fourth in 2010 and third this year.

"I told them we want to make it to Mitchell," Christensen said. Mitchell will host the Class B Tournament in 2012. "Next year, that is our goal."

Edgemont also graduates four seniors: Lacy Stevens, Kristi Porter, Jackie Manke and Cyler Reinhard.

"This experience will be good for next year," Coach Stevens noted. "We have big shoes to fill but the shoes are there. We just have to fill them."

New England N.Y. Jets Buffalo Miami Houston Tennessee Jacksonville Indianapolis Baltimore Pittsburgh Cincinnati Cleveland Oakland Denver Kansas City San Diego NATIONAL CONFERENCE East W L T 6 3 0 N.Y. Giants Dallas Philadelphia Nashington JAMES D. CIMBUREK/P&D

Elk Point-Jefferson's Katie Zeller, 12, and Lexie Branson go up to block a St. Thomas More hitter during the consolation championship of the South Dakota State Class A Volleyball Tournament, Saturday at Sioux Falls Arena. Branson set a Class A Tourney record for blocks per game at 1.83 in leading the Huskies to a 3-0 win and a fifth place finish.

with 15 assists and two ace serves. Audrey Truhe had 11 assists and two ace serves. Kelsey Abbey had nine digs, and Amy Zeller added two ace serves in the victory.

For St. Thomas More, Osborne had seven kills and two ace serves, with Pesicka notching six kills. Samantha Vifquain, who earned alltourney honors, finished with 23 assists and seven digs. Danielle Nielsen had nine digs and two ace serves, and Elizabeth Carreiro had seven digs for the Cavaliers.

The Huskies finish with a 21-10 record and capped the season with a second straight state tournament appearance. EPJ lost to Sioux Falls Christian in the 2010 championship match, but lost seven from that team.

"It's a great feeling to have a young team accomplish so much," Kollbaum said. "We went through

injuries and nine lineup changes, they did a lot of work to get through it.

Branson, who was joined by Bertram on the all-tournament team, was happy to have played a role in the Huskies' growth.

"I feel like we've accomplished so much," she said. "Everyone stepped up. It's great to be a part of that."

Vifquain also earned all-tournament honors. She is one of eight seniors for the Cavaliers

St. Thomas More finishes with a 24-7 record. Of the Cavaliers' five losses before state, four came to a Belle Fourche team whose only loss came to STM in the District 16A final.

"It's a different level on this side of the state," noted STM head coach Angela Estes. "We did what we could.



and early practices just continually working on that area.

letes to be a great defensive team, and we're not all the way through with that."

more direct signs of progression compared to the losses at Ne-



and guys made better decisions." The Coyotes return to road action on Tuesday for an 8 p.m.

matchup at Wyoming. s. Dakota 83, NEBRASKA-OMAHA 81

S. DAKOTA 83, NEBKASTA4-Umer 24 01 NEBRASKA-OMAHA (1-3) Carter 6-16 0-3 14, Steffensmeier 0-3 0-0 0, Albers 8-16 7-923, Welhouse 5-10 6-7 19, Karhoff 7-15 1-3 15, Freeman 4-9 0-0 8, Ring 1-3 0-0 2. Totals 31-72 14-22 81.

S. DAKOTA (1-2) Westbrook 4-13 7-8 15, L. Krogman 5-18 2-2 16, Bos 1-5 0-0 3, Andreotti 1-2 2-7 4, Gruis 5-8 5-5 15, Boots 5-5 0-0 11, Tecker 3-5 3-4 9, Hilliard IV 2-4 2-2 8, Saint-Gelais 1-2 0-0 2.

Tecker 3-5 3-4 9, Hilliard IV 2-4 2-2 8, Saint-Gelais 1-2 0-0 2. Totals 27-62 21-28 83. Halftime—S. Dakota 44-36. 3-Point Goals—Nebraska-Omaha 5-17 (Welhouse 3-5, Carter 2-5, Albers 0-1, Steffens-meier 0-2, Freeman 0-4). S. Dakota 8-23 (L. Krogman 4-10, Hilliard IV 2-2, Boots 1-1, Bos 1-4, Saint-Gelais 0-1, Tecker 0-1, Westbrook 0-4). Fouled Out—None. Rebrounds—Nebraska-Omaha 38 (Welhouse 7). S. Dakota 4-5 (Tecker 8). Assists—Nebraska-Omaha 17 (Albers 4), S. Dakota 17 (West-Nord 6). Total E-oute_Nebraska-Domaha 21 S. Dakota 18. A. brook 6), Total Fouls-Nebraska-Omaha 21, S. Dakota 18, A-

0

605-665-7811

1-800-743-2968

The Bulldogs, behind their press, took control of the game with a 19-3 run to open the second half.

Kistler had Concordia's lead back to double digits at 39-29 less than a minute into the half as she opened with a pair of free throws and scored on a steal and a lay-in. That lead bulged to 44-29 with

17:44 to play as Kistler knocked down another trey. Berg answered with a 3-pointer,

but the shot was a temporary bandage as Concordia tacked on three easy baskets for a 52-32 lead. We had a bad six minutes against that press; we knew they were going to do it and we practiced against it," Schlimgen said. "We needed to throw over it more because they doubled up on the basketball.

it wasn't good enough," Schlimgen said. "You can't let someone come in and beat us at home - especially in a conference game.

When it was all said and done, the Lancers committed 26 turnovers and missed 11 free throws.

Concordia racked up 15 offensive rebounds as they held a 41-36 edge on the boards.

"We knew coming in that they were a good offensive-rebounding team, but we still weren't tough enough on the defensive glass,

Schlimgen said.

held to a field goal in the second half. Dante Warren threw two touchdown passes and ran for two more for the Covotes.

other.

From Page 11

spent most of our time in the fall

"You've got to have great ath-

The offense, however, showed

Coyotes

With Hilliard doing most of the point guard duties, Krogman was able to play the off-guard position, which he said could be the plan moving forward. Hilliard posted eight points, four rebounds and

braska and Eastern Washington.

three assists in his debut. Charlie Westbrook scored 15 points and dished out six assists, while Jordan Boots added 11 points off the bench. Fellow re-

serve Steve Tecker recorded nine points and eight rebounds. 'We had better spacing on the

Send Us Your...

floor," Krogman said. "I think we attacked a lot more on the dribble

throws.

Johanna Scheich got the

dia lead with 8:35 to play.

build a double-digit lead midway

Lori Laboda gave the Bulldogs

an 18-11 lead with a 3-pointer and

Kristen Conahan dropped in a downtown shot for a 23-13 Concor-

Lancers going, hitting a pair of free

through the first half.

Alexa Berg and Taylor Forsch went back-to-back with 3-pointers. trimming Concordia's lead to 25-23. but Amber Kistler answered with a trey from the wing to keep the Lancers at bay.

Kistler went downtown again for a 33-25 Bulldog lead, but Berg swished from 3-point land to trim Concordia's halftime lead to 33-29.

Mount Marty got into the bonus with 10:19 to play but were unable to take advantage and made just three of nine free throws the rest of the way.

Concordia committed 12 fouls in the first half, but Bulldog coach Drew Olsen's 11-player rotation limited the foul trouble as five players tied with two fouls each.

The Lancers did shoot 46-percent from the field but committed 11 turnovers in the half while the Bulldogs dropped in six of 10 3point shots.

Class A

From Page 11

With their backs to the wall, Wagner made one last stand. Doom had a pair of ace serves as the Red Raiders took an early 8-2 lead. The Red Raiders surged out to a 23-11 edge before taking the game.

In the final game, the Chargers led 10-8 before closing the match on a 15-5 surge, one that included four of the team's 14 ace serves.

"I think the big difference was their serving and our serve-receive," Tyler noted. "We didn't pass the ball well. When we did pass well, we got a kill."

The Red Raiders mixed up the rotation in the closing games, trying to right the ship. Juffer and sophomores Kim Koupal and Delaynie Dickerson each saw time in the match after not playing in either of Wagner's previous state tournament matches.

"We pulled some kids off the bench that hadn't gotten a lot of time," Tyler noted. "They knew what I wanted them to do. I wanted them to get some good passes."

The Chargers finished with 49 kills, led by Kiara VanderPol's 13. Kristin Stern had 10 kills, with Elizabeth Odens and Claire Assam notching nine each. Assam and Ten

Behind Kylie Gross, the Lancers worked for an 8-0 run to get back in the game.

The 6-0 senior worked inside for a pair of baskets and restored order at the free-throw line, making four of four to pull Mount Marty to within 52-40 with 11:53 to play.

Taylor Forsch trimmed Concordia's lead to single digits at 59-52 by using the glass on a 3-point shot

Allison De Kam scored off an offensive rebound to pull Mount Marty to within 63-58 with a minute to play, but Kistler and Laboda converted a pair of free throws each to seal the 67-61 final. "We fought hard at the end, but

Kistler led the undefeated Bulldogs with 17 points as Kristen Conahan had 15 points. Laboda finished with 11 points and seven rebounds.

Gross was six on 10 inside and led the Lancers (5-4) with 18 points and eight rebounds. Forsch added 12 points and Berg scored 10.

The Lancers will host Dordt Tuesday night at 6 p.m.

CONCORDIA (5-0) Tracy Peltz 1-5 0-0 2, Lori Laboda 4-8 2-4 11, Kristen Cona-han 6-14 0-0 15, Amber Kistler 4-7 6-6 17, Britney Birtell 3-4 06, Bailey Moris 0-3 0-0, Belt Kohmetscher 2-6 0-9, Katie Rich 2-8 3-8 7, Brittany Benson 0-1 0-0 0, Jericca Pearson 0-2 0-00, Katie Herther 2-4 0-0 4. TOTALS: 24-62 11-18 67.

MOUNT MARTY (6-2) Alexa Berg 3-4 1-2 10, April Winne 2-8 0-0 5, Taylor Forsch 2-6 6-6 12, Allison De Kam 1-2 1-3 3, Kylie Gross 6-10 6-8 18, Johanna Scheidh 1-2 2-5 5, Alysea Whetham 0-3 0-0 0, Hannah Youngberg 0-3 2-2 2, Kaylea Karst 0-1 2-2 2, Brittany Little 2-3 0-3 4, TOTALS: 17-42 20-31 61.

0-3 4, TOTALS: 17.42 20-31 61. At the Half: CU 33, MMC 29; 3-Point Goals: CU 8-21 (Peitz 0-1, Laboda 1-3, Conahan 3-9, Kistler 3-3, Kohmetscher 1-4, Rich 0-1), MMC 7-21 (Berg 3-4, Winne 1-5, Forsch 2-5, Scheich 1-1, Whetham 0-2, Voungberg 0-2, Karst 0-1, Little 0-1); Re-bounds: CU 21, MMC 17, Fouled 0ut: Birtell, Rich, Assists: CU 12, Rich 4), MMC 10 (Berg, Winne 3); Tumovers: MMC 26, CU 20; Blocked Shots: MMC 5, CU 0; Steals: CU 14 (Conahan 4), MMC 9 (Ercench 2) 8 (Forsch 3).

Napel each had four ace serves, as Assam set a modern tournament record with 1.5 ace serves per game, breaking the mark of 1.1 per game set by Milbank's Megan Nedved in 2008. Hayley McCarron had 43 assists and four blocks (two

solo), finishing with a tournamentbest 10.5 assists per game. "The girls came ready to play.

They came out fired up as a team," said Chargers head coach Darci Wassenaar, who took SFC to its third state title, all under her leadership. "We got off to a good start, but I thought we let up in game three.

The Chargers' wake-up call came in the opening round, when eighth-seeded Redfield-Doland pushed SFC in a five-set match. 'We talked about that the first

night," Wassenaar said. "We have

to play every match tough, play aggressive and not let up.

Defensively, Assam had 15 digs, with Brooke Van Gorp notching 13 digs and VanderPol recording 12.

For Wagner, Cimpl and Brecke each had 12 kills, with Doom recording 27 assists and three ace serves. Weber had a team-best four ace serves. Breen had 12 digs, Brecke 11 digs and Juffer four blocks (1 solo) to lead the Red Raider defense.

McCarron, VanderPol and Assam all earned all-tournament honors for SFC. Cimpl, Doom and Brecke each received all-tourney honors for Wagner.

Sioux Falls Christian, like Wagner, will graduate four from its state tournament team: Ten Napel, Assam, Elizabeth Odens and Laura Hurley.

and the P&D Elves will print them!

Drop off, mail or e-mail your letters by Wednesday, November 30, 2011

1. Drop off at the: Press & Dakotan

319 Walnut (after hours night drop box available)

2. Mail to: Santa Letters Yankton Daily Press & Dakotan

RESS⁸

PO Box 56, Yankton, SD 57078

3. Go to the Press & Dakotan's website at: www.yankton.net/santaletters and fill out the Santa Letter form

emailed and written Santa Letters will publish between December 5 and December 24 in the Yankton Daily Press & Dakotan. *Space is limited and published on a first come, first serve basis. LETTERS WILL BE TYPED IN ~ NO FORM REQUIRED

DAKOTAN

