

Lancers Topple Lady T's

MMC Tunes Up For GPAC Play With 72-60 Win Over Dakota St.

BY EMILY NIEBRUGGE
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Putting forth a team effort and playing 11 girls Friday night, the Mount Marty Lancers took a victory against Dakota State University.

The Lancers defeated the Trojans 72-60 at the Laddie E. Cimpl Arena.

"We had times where got leads and we didn't build on it - we let them come back - but at the end we came out on top, and that's all that matters," junior guard Holly Hegge said.

Up 10-3 with 16:46 left in the first half, Mount Marty pushed to 27-15 with 9:11 remaining. The Lancers ended the half up 37-32.

Kelsey Schmidt led Mount Marty with eight points at the half, with Hegge putting up six points. The Lancers had 15 rebounds.

BreeAna Olson and Katy Pillar each had seven points for the Trojans. Dakota State had 20 rebounds.

"A nice start is really important, and it's hard to maintain it," Schlimgen said. "We let their shooter get a couple of open threes, and then they went to work a little bit on the inside. We took some shots we shouldn't have taken toward the end of the first half, and I knew it was going to be a battle, but we edged away from them in the second half."

The Trojans came within one point of the Lancers, who still led 41-40 with 17:19 in the second half, but Mount Marty managed to widen the gap 57-47 with 10:41 to go. The Lancers finished with the 72-60 win.

Hegge lead the Lancers with 15 total points and seven rebounds in the win, while Schmidt added 14 points. Allison De Kam finished with eight points and six rebounds.

Dakota State's Kylie West-over finished with 15 total points and six rebounds, and Olson put up 13 points and eight rebounds.

"We got some good penetration," Schlimgen said. "We did struggled against their zone - they play a match-up zone and it's something they've done to us before. This early in the season it's hard to work on everything we see in our league, so we didn't have a lot of time to prepare for it, but we got a majority of our really good shots in transition."

Junior guard Holly Hegge said the win puts the Lancers on the right track for their Great Plains Athletic Conference games.

"We worked a lot on defense this week, and we finally came together as a team. This is a big confidence boost," she said. "This was the precursor to our conference game, but it feels just like a GPAC game. We're pretty good rivals with Dakota State just because they're a South Dakota team, so it gets us ready for those tougher games that matter."

Ultimately, Schlimgen said the win was a team effort.

"It was a nice game, and playing 11 kids is fun," he said. "You've got a lot of people who are playing, and it makes them excited to be a part of the team."

Looking forward, Schlimgen said getting each player that experience can only help the Lancers' future.

"Because of our youth there would no reason why we wouldn't continue to get better as long as we can keep good camaraderie and a good attitude," he said. "We're not going to win every game, but we're going to be competitive and we've got a chance to do some really good things."

Mount Marty hosts Midland Nov. 23, and Schlimgen said his team will use the week to really prepare for their conference opener.

"We say the next game is always our most important game," he said. "We've got some time to work on some things. Midland has won some good games - it looks like they're going to be a good basketball team, but it's still us. We just want to keep getting better and see what happens."

You can follow Emily Niebrugge on Twitter at twitter.com/ENiebrugge. Discuss this story at www.yankton.net.

MOUNT MARTY (3-1)
Cassidy Gebhart 2-7 2-6 6, Holly Hegge 5-10 4-6 15, Ragan Sutura 4-5 0-0 9, Kelsey Schmidt 3-7 5-9 14, Allison De Kam 4-11 0-0 8, Logan Wagner 2-2 0-0 5, Kieran O'Malley 1-4 0-1 2, Erica Dreckman 0-0 0-0 0, Kelli Curtis 2- 0-0 4, Denea Veldkamp 0-2 0-0 0, Cheyenne Lambley 1-3 0-0 0, Kelly Amundson 3-6 1-2 2, Samantha Blake 0-0 0-0 0.

DAKOTA STATE (2-4)
Kylie Westover 5-13 2-2 15, BreeAna Olson 4-15 5-9 13, Erin Rabenberg 1-2 0-0 2, Cassie Jacobsen 1-4 0-0 2, Alyson Drooger 0-2 0-0 0, Courtney Hulstein 1-3 0-1 0, Julie Munson 2-2 1-1 5, Jayda Swenson 2-5 0-0 4, Courtney Hamblin 2-2 2-4 6, Rachelle Moore 0-0 0-0 0, Brooke Reiff 0-1 0-0 0, Katy Pillar 4-8 1-1 9, Sharee Galbraith 0-1 2-4 2.

At the half: MMC 37, DSU 32. Three-Pointers: MMC: 6-20 (Schmidt 3-6, Hegge 1-4, Sutura 1-2, Wagner 1-1, Gebhart 0-2, De Kam 0-1, O'Malley 0-3, Curtis 0-1; DSU: 4-14 (Westover 3-8, Munson 1-1, Olson 0-2, Jacobsen 0-2, Hulstein 0-1). Rebounds: MMC 38 (Hegge 7, Sutura 7), DSU 35 (Olson 8). Personal Fouls: MMC 20, DSU 20. Fouled Out: None. Assists: MMC 10 (Gebhart 3), DSU 7 (Galbraith 2). Turnovers: MMC 6, DSU 7. Blocks: MMC 4 (Gebhart 1, Hegge 1, Schmidt 1, De Kam 1), DSU: 3 (Pillar 2), Steals: MMC 3, DSU 3.



JAMES D. CIMBUREK/P&D
Mount Marty's Kelsey Schmidt splits Dakota State's Sharee Galbraith, left, and Cassie Jacobsen during their women's basketball game on Friday at Laddie E. Cimpl Arena.

Summit League Volleyball: Omaha Upends USD 3-2

OMAHA, Neb. — Omaha rallied past South Dakota 23-25, 25-23, 27-29, 25-22, 17-15 in Summit League volleyball action on Friday at Sapp Fieldhouse.

Kelley Wollak had 17 kills and 19 digs, and Megan Schmale and Michaela Schimmer each had 12 kills for Omaha (7-21, 2-11 Summit).

Schmale and Diane Banderas each had seven assisted blocks, as the Mavericks recorded 14 blocks in the match.

Kendall Kritenbrink had 28 kills and Melissa Firtko had 18 kills on just 28 attempts for USD (18-11, 9-4 Summit). Tori Kroll recorded 63 assists and 17 digs. Kaitlyn Hastings had a

match-high 27 digs for the Coyotes.

FORT WAYNE DEF. SOUTH DAKOTA STATE 25-14, 25-14, 25-14: Fort Wayne's Emily Spencer had 14 kills in a 25-14, 25-14, 25-14 victory over South Dakota State in Summit League volleyball action on Friday.

Madison Spence had 36 assists and Jen Milligan had 13 digs for Fort Wayne (16-13, 8-5 Summit).

For SDSU (5-21, 3-10 Summit), Courtney Roberts had eight kills and Lexi Fowler had 17 assists to lead the way. Yankton native Mikala Hora had two kills and three digs for the Jackrabbits.

USD Men 12th, Women 22nd At NCAA Regional

AMES, Iowa—South Dakota's men placed 12th and the women took 22nd at the NCAA Division I Midwest Regional Championships hosted by Iowa State University Friday.

The Coyote men were led by sophomore Mubarik Musa, who placed 21st out of 205 competitors who finished the race and earned all-region honors for finishing in the top 25. Musa's 10-kilometer time of 30 minutes, 55.8 seconds, was 27 seconds back of Tulsa's Chris O'Hare, who won the race with a time of 30:28.0. South Dakota State's Trent Lusignan was two seconds back in second place.

Also for the USD men, Alex Hohenthauer (Yankton, 34:56.8) placed 187th.

USD sophomore Katie Wetzstein finished in 41st place out of 210 finishers in the women's race. Her six-kilometer time of 21:28.6 was a season best. Iowa State sophomore Crystal Nelson won the individual championship with a time of 20:12.6. Minnesota junior Molly Kayfes was eight seconds behind in second place.

Also for the USD women, Megan Hilson (Yankton, 22:12.9) placed 108th, Kristin Steffen (Crofton, Neb.; 23:29.9) placed 182nd and Jillanne Doom (Wagner, 24:13.5) placed 201st.

Running for South Dakota State, Jenna Grossenburg (Yankton, 23:34.03) finished 133rd.

Defending national champion Oklahoma State saw its lineup occupy positions 7-11 to earn a 12-point victory against second-place Tulsa for the men's team title. Tulsa had three runners finish in the top six. Both teams earn automatic bids to the Division I national championship meet hosted by Indiana State on Nov. 23.

Iowa State and Minnesota were the top women's programs with team scores of 39 and 59, respectively. Oklahoma State, with 192 points, was a distant third.

Thirty-two men's programs and 34 women's programs competed in the meet. The Coyote men totaled 352 points and finished higher than teams from Iowa (14th, 371), Illinois State (15th, 399), and Kansas State (25th, 731). The Coyote women's 574 points bested teams from Northern Illinois (23rd, 593), Illinois-Chicago (25th, 616) and Oklahoma (did not finish).

Govs Outgun Watertown For 11AA Title

BY NICK ROBINSON
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VERMILLION — The Pierre Governors have had a special 2013 year when it comes to their sports teams. Last winter, their boys basketball and wrestling squads brought back titles to the state's capitol. In the spring, the Lady Gov's brought home a state golf title.

On Friday night, Pierre added another state championship to their celebrated year: A Class 11AA South Dakota state football title.

Pierre defeated the Watertown Arrows 34-7 to earn its first title in school history at the DakotaDome in Vermillion.

The Governors (11-0) started the game off to a fast pace, just as they expected to coming into the contest.

On their first drive, Pierre scored a touchdown as three year senior quarterback Alexander Gray rolled out to his left and found his fellow senior receiver Austin Christopherson on a 12 yard connection, with only 8:37 left in the quarter.

The Green Machine marched down the field in three minutes, which was 70 yards.

The Pierre defense responded to the challenge of stopping star Watertown running back Shay Bratland early, as the Govs stuffed Bratland on three straight plays, forcing a three and out.

On the next drive, on second and eight on their side of the 50, Gray connected to Christopherson over the top, for 37 yards.

Running back Ethan Case carried the ball across the pile-line from two yards out to put the Governors at a commanding 13-0 lead with 5:16 left in the quarter. The extra point was

blocked after the touchdown. However, Bratland and the Arrows (7-4) had something to say about the early surge from the Governors.

Bratland broke loose on a 97 yard kickoff return to give his Arrows life, down 13-7 with five minutes left.

The Governors took over the ball and did what they did all night, marched down the field.

Gray connected to senior tight-end Shay Reinke over the flats for 14 yards, which brought the Governors into Arrow territory.

On the ensuing play, Gray connected to Christopherson deep down the field on a 49 yard touchdown reception, giving Pierre a 20-7 lead going into the second quarter.

After a slow start to the second quarter by both teams, the Governors found sparked another effective offensive series.

On third and seven, Gray connected to senior Garrett Pochop for 16 yards to get Pierre into Watertown territory yet again. The next play saw Gray find junior Matthew Green over the middle for 20 yards, bringing Pierre down to the 12 yard line.

Christopherson snagged a 12 yard reception, which got Pierre down to the one yard line.

After a false start, Gray scampered into the end-zone on a quarterback keeper, which earned Pierre a 27-7 lead with 1:12 left in the half.

After the kick, Watertown senior quarterback Logan Gabriel was picked off by Pochop for a 27 yard touchdown, giving the Governors a 34-7 lead.

The Governors racked up 308 total yards of offense in the first half.

Gray passed for 208 yards and two scores. Christopherson had four receptions for

111 yards and two scores. Pochop added six catches for 51 yards. Gray led the rushing attack with 62 yards on 13 attempts and a touchdown.

Watertown had 73 yards of total offense in the first half.

Bratland rushed for 42 yards on 10 carries. Gabriel completed two passes for 10 yards.

Linebacker Justus St. Sauver led the Arrow defense with five tackles at the intermission.

To start the second half, the Arrows received the ball. Watertown ran down the field, rushing the ball five straight times.

On the drive there were two pass interference flags on Pochop, which got the Arrows deep into Governor territory.

After the let down, the Pierre defense stepped up and forced a defensive stand and took the ball right back.

Both teams fought back and forth, not being able to get that extra push.

The score was still 34-7 after the third quarter.

Late into the fourth quarter, Gray found Christopherson again on a 38 yard completion down to Watertown 11 yard line.

With 2:22 left in the game, Pochop missed a 44 yard field goal, wide right.

The Governors went on to



JEREMY HOECK/P&D
Pierre's Ethan Case reaches the ball across the goal line for a touchdown during Friday night's Class 11AA state championship game with Watertown at the DakotaDome in Vermillion.

win the 11AA state championship with a 34-7 victory over the Arrows.

Gray was crowned with the 2013 Joe Robbie MVP award after the game.

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