

# Press & Dakotan

## DAILY DOSE

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



**BY JAMES D. CIMBUREK**  
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Having known Mount Marty College men's basketball coach Andrew Baker for just over two years now, I know the following words are going to annoy him just a bit. (Which is why I write them as I'm leaving town for the weekend.)

There were plenty of positives to take from the Lancers' 88-77 loss to No. 24 York on Tuesday night.

Knowing Coach Baker's competitive nature, that isn't always what he wants to hear. He wants his team to win every game, and wants each man on the team to work to that goal. But the reason I say there are positives that came from the game, is the sign that they are doing just that.

When the Lancer men opened against another nationally-ranked team, Dakota State, the team was beaten badly on the boards and ran out of gas. On Tuesday, even though they were slow out

### Late Surge A Sign Of Progress For Lancer Men

of the gates — to the tune of 30-11 and a 21-point halftime deficit — they continued to work on the boards earning a 43-40 rebounding edge and allowing just nine offensive boards. (Dakota State had 19 in the opener).

MMC also came out fighting on defense in the second half. After York ran up 55 first-half points, the Lancers held the Panthers to 33 second-half points and closed a 27-point deficit to seven before having to foul late to try to gain possessions.

Is there still work to be done for the 0-4 Lancers? Plenty. They had 26 fouls last night, and are averaging 20 turnovers a game. Their outside shooting has been less than stellar, a .211 clip (16-76).

But for a Lancer squad that doesn't have a senior and has very little resembling experience, they are starting to take on the personality of their coach: hard-working, energetic, and hate to lose.

And putting those things together, the Lancer men will figure out how to win consistently. And even until then, they'll be worth the price of admission.

### SCOREBOARD

#### VOLLEYBALL

##### S.D. STATE AA TOURN.

###### Nov. 21-23 at Mitchell

###### First Round, Nov. 21

No. 1 S.F. O'Gorman (20-1) vs. No. 8 R.C. Central (12-15), noon  
No. 4 S.F. Washington vs. No. 5 Aberdeen Central (18-4), 1:45 p.m.  
No. 3 Huron (18-4) vs. No. 6 R.C. Stevens (20-11), 6 p.m.  
No. 2 S.F. Roosevelt (25-8) vs. No. 7 Watertown (13-10), 7:45 p.m.

###### Semifinals, Nov. 22

O'Gorman-R.C. Central winner vs. Washington-Aberdeen Central winner, 6 p.m.

Huron-Stevens winner vs. Roosevelt-Watertown winner, 7:45 p.m.

###### Consolation, Nov. 22

O'Gorman-R.C. Central loser vs. Washington-Aberdeen Central loser, noon

Huron-Stevens loser vs. Roosevelt-Watertown loser, 1:45 p.m.

###### Final Round, Nov. 23

**Championship:** Semifinal winners, 8 p.m.

**Third:** Semifinal losers, 6 p.m.

**Fifth:** Consolation winners, 1:45 p.m.

**Seventh:** Consolation losers, noon

#### S.D. STATE A TOURN.

##### Nov. 21-23 at Aberdeen

###### First Round, Nov. 21

No. 1 Belle Fourche (29-3) vs. No. 8 Sioux Valley (19-11), noon

No. 4 Winner (25-3) vs. No. 5 Wagner (26-6), 1:45 p.m.

No. 3 S.F. Christian (23-2) vs. No. 6 Pine Ridge (27-3), 6 p.m.

No. 2 Dakota Valley (23-2) vs. No. 7 Sisseton (20-6), 7:45 p.m.

###### Semifinals, Nov. 22

Belle Fourche-Sioux Valley winner vs. Winner-Wagner winner, 6 p.m.

S.F. Christian-Pine Ridge winner vs. Dakota Valley-Sisseton winner, 7:45 p.m.

###### Consolation, Nov. 22

Belle Fourche-Sioux Valley loser vs. Winner-Wagner loser, noon

S.F. Christian-Pine Ridge loser vs. Dakota Valley-Sisseton loser, 1:45 p.m.

###### Final Round, Nov. 23

**Championship:** Semifinal winners, 8 p.m.

**Third:** Semifinal losers, 6 p.m.

**Fifth:** Consolation winners, 1:45 p.m.

**Seventh:** Consolation losers, noon

#### S.D. STATE B TOURN.

##### Nov. 21-23 at Huron Arena

###### First Round, Nov. 21

No. 1 Warner (30-1) vs. No. 8 Herreid-Selby Area (20-11), noon

No. 4 Alcester-Hudson vs. No. 5 Harding County (26-5), 1:45 p.m.

No. 3 Chester Area (26-2) vs. No. 6 Lyman (24-8), 6 p.m.

No. 2 Arlington (31-1) vs. No. 7 Kimball-White Lake (19-7), 7:45 p.m.

###### Semifinals, Nov. 22

Warner/Herreid-Selby Area winner vs. Alcester-Hudson/Harding County winner, 6 p.m.

Chester Area-Lyman winner vs. Arlington/Kimball-White Lake winner, 7:45 p.m.

###### Consolation, Nov. 22

Warner/Herreid-Selby Area loser vs. Alcester-Hudson/Harding County loser, noon

Chester Area-Lyman loser vs. Arlington/Kimball-White Lake loser, 1:45 p.m.

###### Final Round, Nov. 23

**Championship:** Semifinal winners, 8 p.m.

**Third:** Semifinal losers, 6 p.m.

**Fifth:** Consolation winners, 1:45 p.m.

**Seventh:** Consolation losers, noon

### FOOTBALL

#### CORN BELT CONFERENCE

##### ALL-CONFERENCE TEAM

###### FIRST-TEAM OFFENSE

Nick Gortmaker, Menno-Marion; Wade Miller, Bridgewater-Emery-Ethan; Jacob Paradesi, Hanson; Tyler Myers, Bridgewater-Emery-Ethan; Andrew Nelson, Hanson; Nick Pardy, Howard; J.D. Shape, Bridgewater-Emery-Ethan; Joe Freeman, Luke Loudenberg, Howard (MVP)

###### FIRST-TEAM DEFENSE

Colton Goder, Canistota; Matt Anderson, Canistota; Marshall Miller, Hanson; Jordan Grosdidier, Bridgewater-Emery-Ethan; Nick Hofer, Canistota; Bailey Neises, Howard; Cole Hinker, Mount Vernon-Plankinton; Blake Bartscher, Bridgewater-Emery-Ethan; Jordan Kuhlke, Howard

###### SECOND TEAM

Hanson — Ryan Guericke, Sam VanderStouwe; Canistota — Jerad Nielsen, Shay Jolley; Mount Vernon-Plankinton — Marcus Anderson, Matt Fry; Kyle Coch; Howard — Kaleb Haas, Tanner Hinkel, Thad Hinkel, Gunner Gilbertson; Menno-Marion — Dylan Lehr, Brandon Goosen, Lincoln Langerock; Bridgewater-Emery-Ethan — Camden

#### AUTO RACING

##### NASCAR SPRINT CUP

###### FINAL DRIVER STANDINGS

1. Jimmie Johnson, 2,419

### AREA CALENDAR

#### Thursday, November 21

##### BASKETBALL, WOMEN'S

Drake vs. USD at Sioux Falls (7 p.m., KVHT-FM)

##### VOLLEYBALL, PREP S.D.

State Class AA Tour. at Mitchell; S.D. State Class A Tour. at Aberdeen — Wagner vs. Winner (1:45 p.m.); Dakota Valley vs. Sisseton (7:45 p.m.); S.D. State Class B Tour. at Huron — Alcester-Hudson vs. Harding County (1:45 p.m.)

##### Friday, November 22

##### BASKETBALL, MEN'S USD

Wyoming (9 p.m., KVHT-FM)

##### SWIMMING & DIVING, COLLEGE

St. Cloud State at USD (4 p.m.)

##### VOLLEYBALL, PREP S.D.

State Class AA Tour. at Mitchell; S.D. State Class A Tour. at Aberdeen (Dakota Valley, Wagner); S.D. State Class B Tour. at Huron (Alcester-Hudson)

##### Saturday, November 23

##### BASKETBALL, MEN'S Midland

at MMC (4 p.m., KVHT-FM)

##### BASKETBALL, WOMEN'S Midland

at MMC (2 p.m., KVHT-FM)

##### CROSS COUNTRY, COLLEGE

NCAA Championships at Terre Haute, Ind.; NAA Championships at Lawrence, Kan.

##### FOOTBALL, COLLEGE USD

at North Dakota State (2:30 p.m., KVHT-FM, Micro Sports Network)

##### VOLLEYBALL, PREP S.D.

State Class AA Tour. at Mitchell; S.D. State Class A Tour. at Aberdeen (Dakota Valley, Wagner); S.D. State Class B Tour. at Huron (Alcester-Hudson)

##### Sunday, November 24

##### BASKETBALL, WOMEN'S

Boise State at USD (2 p.m., KVHT-FM)

##### INF Alen Hanson, OF Gregory Polanco, LHP Joely Rodriguez and RHP Casey Sadler to the 40-man roster. Agreed to terms with RHPs Collin Balester, Jake Brigham, Jay Jackson, Josh Kinney and Seth McClung on minor league contracts. SAN DIEGO PADRES — Agreed to terms with RHP Josh Johnson on a one-year contract.

##### ST. LOUIS CARDINALS — Signed manager Mike Matheny to a three-year contract extension. Announced the retirement of RHP Chris Carpenter. Purchased the contracts of OF Oscar Taveras, OF Mike O'Neill and INF Greg Garcia from Memphis (PCL).

##### WASHINGTON NATIONALS — Agreed to terms with RHP Chris Young and RHP Gabriel Alfarro on minor league contracts.

##### NATIONAL BASKETBALL Association

NBA — Fined Boston F Gerald Wallace \$10,000 for using profane language during his postgame media availability session following a Nov. 19 game at Houston.

PHILADELPHIA 76ERS — Signed G Elliot Williams and G Lorenzo Brown.

##### FOOTBALL

##### National Football League

NFL — Fined San Francisco LB Ahmad Brooks \$15,570 by the NFL for contract violation. QB Drew Brees during a Nov. 17.

BUFFALO BILLS — Signed OT J.J. Unga.

CINCINNATI BENGALS — Signed DT Christo Bilukidi. Released DT Kheeston Randall.

CLEVELAND BROWNS — Signed WR Brian Cooper from the practice squad. Placed WR Armani Edwards on the injured reserve list. Signed WR Reggie Dunn to the practice squad.

DETROIT LIONS — Released TE Martell Webb from the practice squad. Signed RB Steven Miller to the practice squad. Placed RB Montell Owens on injured reserve. Released TE Martell Webb from the practice squad.

GREEN BAY PACKERS — Signed G Andrew Tiller to the practice squad. Released G Bryan Collins from the practice squad.

INDIANAPOLIS COLTS — Signed RB Chris Ranney.

KANSAS CITY CHIEFS — Signed OL Chandler Brown to the practice squad. Released FB Toben Opatum from the practice squad.

NEW YORK JETS — Signed LB Jeremiah Cunningham.

OAKLAND RAIDERS — Placed DB D.J. Hayden on the injured reserve list. Activated LB Miles Burris from the PUP list. Re-signed DL Brian Sanford. Signed DT Ricky Lumpkin to the practice squad.

##### HOCKEY

##### National Hockey League

CHICAGO BLACKHAWKS — Recalled F Jeremy Morin from Rockford (AHL).

DALLAS STARS — Recalled D Kevin Conatton from Texas (AHL).

DETROIT RED WINGS — Recalled LW Trevor Parkes from Toledo (ECHL). Agreed to terms with LW Andreas Athanassiou on a three-year entry-level contract.

MINNESOTA WILD — Recalled F Jason Zucker from Iowa (AHL).

PHOENIX COYOTES — Recalled F Tim Kennedy from Portland (AHL).

TAMPA BAY LIGHTNING — Reassigned D Dmitry Korobov to Syracuse (AHL).

##### COLLEGE

##### EASTERN COLLEGE ATHLETIC CONFERENCE — Appointed Danny McCabe of Adelphi to the ECAC Board of Directors for a four-year term.

FELICIAN — Named Chris Foye softball coach.

OAKLAND — Reinstated men's basketball players Duke Mondy and Dante Williams after serving two game suspensions for violation of team policies.

##### SOUTHERN CONNECTICUT STATE — Announced the retirement of football coach Rich Cavanaugh, effective Jan. 1, 2014.

##### OAKLAND ATHLETICS — Selected the contract of RHP Raul Alcantara from Stockton (Cal).

TEXAS RANGERS — Claimed RHP Shawn Tolleson off waivers from the Los Angeles Dodgers. Selected the contracts of RHPs Lisalberto Bonilla and Ben Rowen and INF Luis Sardinas. Announced LHP Edward Cabrera cleared waivers and was assigned outright to the minor leagues.

##### National League

CHICAGO CUBS — Selected the contracts of INF Arismendy Alcantara and RHP Dallas Beeler from Tennessee (SL).

CINCINNATI REDS — Selected the contracts of C Tucker Barnhart, OF Jason Duran, OF Ryan LaMarque and RHP Chad Rogers.

COLORADO ROCKIES — Added LHPs Jayson Aquino, Tyler Matzek and Craig Stitt; RHP Raul Fernandez; INF Rosell Herrera and OFs Kent Mathews and Kyle Parker to the 40-man roster.

MILWAUKEE BREWERS — Promoted Jessica Brown to director-ticket technology and services and Caitlin Moyer director-new media.

PITTSBURGH PIRATES — Added

## Bison Down Western Michigan 83-74

KALAMAZOO, Mich. (AP) — Taylor Braun scored 23 points and Marshall Bjorklund added 18 as North Dakota State put away Western Michigan 83-74 Wednesday night.

The Bison (2-2) shot 58.5 percent from the field and used an early 9-0 run fueled by two 3-pointers from TrayVonn Wright and a triple from Braun to propel into the lead for good as they led 40-31 at halftime.

Western Michigan (3-2) trailed by double digits for most of the second half before cutting the lead to nine

on a David Brown layup. North Dakota State sank their next eight free throws to close the game. Brown finished with 27 points for the Broncos, and Shayne Whittington and Connor Taya each had 16.

Braun was 3 of 6 beyond the arc and grabbed a team-high six rebounds. He was one of four Bison players to score in double figures as Wright had 16 and Lawrence Alexander added 10.

FORT WAYNE 106, PURDUE CALUMET 72: FORT WAYNE, Ind. (AP) — Moe Evans came off the bench to pour in 22 points, leading five players in double figures as IPFW rolled to a 106-72 win

over Purdue-Calumet.

Evans, a freshman, had an all-around great game with seven rebounds, four assists and four steals to go with his career-best scoring night. Two other reserves also scored in double figures for the Mastodons (4-2) — Joe Reed with 11 and Luis Jacobo with 10. Starting forwards Michael Kibloski and Steve Forbes had 15 and 12 respectively.

IPFW dominated the NAIA visitors, shooting 53.4 percent, including 12 of 26 from 3-point range, and forging a 43-27 advantage on the boards.

The Peregrines (5-2) got 26 points from Kaspars Brencans and 16 from Dioscar Gomez.

Without pulling together any monster runs, IPFW rolled to a 58-29 lead at the half.

## Bison

From Page 7

only two Missouri Valley teams would be a "real, real misrepresentation" for the league. His players who have been part of two straight national titles tell him they've had tougher sledding in the league than in the playoffs.

"I don't think many people on the national committee understand the rigors of the league," Bohl said. He added that the committee is good at what it does, but the members represent different regions with different perspectives.

Kern put out a release Wednesday that shows the Missouri Valley as the top-rated conference under a so-called Gridiron Power Index,

or GPI, a compilation of computer and human polls. Five Valley teams — NDSU, Youngstown, SDSU, Northern Iowa and Southern Illinois — are rated in the top 20 of the GPI in the FCS.

Southern Illinois head coach Dale Lennon said he hopes the committee looks at head-to-head competition.

"I just hope that the reputation of the league helps everyone," he said.

There are 13 at-large bids available. The conference scenario that generally creates the most bids, Kern said, is to have a top-heavy league with three or so dominant teams at the top and the same number of sacrificial lambs at the bottom.

The Big Sky Conference, for example, has five teams with league records of 5-2 or better and four with two wins or fewer, including two winless clubs.

## Panthers

From Page 7

sists and 158 digs, Smith has proven to be an offensive threat, with 106 ace serves and 97 kills, as well as a defensive threat with 48 blocks, second-best on the team.

"She opens things up a lot for our hitters, because they have to put a blocker on her," Pruett said. "If they don't, she'll take it at them."

On the receiving end of Smith's sets are four senior hitters, all of which have recorded 200 or more kills on the season. Jayde Bergmann has a team-best 248 kills, with Hannah Bauer (211), Erica Johnson (210) and Morganne Pfaffie (200) not far behind. Junior Emma Tuttle has 78 kills on the season.

"Having three returning starters at the hitter positions has helped out," Pruett said. "That's why our hitting efficiency has been high."

The Panthers also put the ball away from the service line, besides Smith's team-

high 106 ace serves, Bauer (80), Meg Williams (53), Johnson (46) and Pfaffie (37) are all averaging better than an ace serve a match. As a team, Dakota Valley averages 4.5 ace serves per set, serving aces on 19.6 percent of their attempts.

"As a team, we score a lot of points off our service game," Pruett said. "It puts the team in a good situation."

What also has put the Panthers in a "good situation" is their team defense. At the net, Pfaffie has a team-best 51 blocks (20 solo), followed by Smith, Tuttle (28) and Bergmann (27). Away from the net, Johnson (276 digs) and Williams (271 digs) lead the way, with Bauer (261 digs), Smith and Bergmann (158 digs) also contributing to the team total.

"We've tried to preach the defensive part of the game," Pruett said. "Meg, Erica and Hannah all play all the way around. It keeps us in system."

Before the Panthers can worry about Sioux Falls Christian, they need to get through first-round opponent Sisseton (20-6). While the Re-

There's no arguing NDSU's numbers. The Bison have not gone undefeated in the regular season since the 1990 NCAA Division II championship team went 10-0 in the regular season and 4-0 in the playoffs. Their 19-game winning streak dating back to last season is a Missouri Valley record, the longest active streak in FCS, and the second longest streak in all of Division I behind Ohio State.

South Dakota head coach Joe Glenn, who butted heads with the Bison for 10 years when he coached Northern Colorado in Division II, said he's "been there, done that" when asked about going up against a powerhouse.

"We're all trying to be like North Dakota State," Glenn said. "You can see it in recruiting, the level of athletes they're getting. They're strong, right down the line."

gion 1A champs did not face the Panthers, they did face four Dakota XII opponents, going 2-2. Sisseton beat West Central and Lennox, but fell to Tri-Valley and Elk Point-Jefferson, the Region 4A runner-up to Dakota Valley.

"They've got a couple of tall middles," Pruett noted. "But I think the style in our conference allows us to play a quicker offense than they're used to. We just need to get in system, serve well and be aggressive."

Dakota Valley faces Sisseton in the final game of the opening round, scheduled for a 7:45 p.m. start. Sioux Falls Christian plays Pine Ridge (27-3) in the early game of the session, at 6 p.m.

Today's first session begins at noon, with top-seeded Belle Fourche (29-3) drawing Sioux Valley (19-11), followed by Wagner (26-6) against Winner (25-3).

Play continues through Saturday, with the championship set for 8 p.m.

You can follow James D. Cimburek on Twitter at twitter.com/ICimburek. Discuss this story at www.yankton.net

## Cubs

From Page 7

Part of the Cubs' success has been their balance. Led by senior Jamie Jansen (275 kills, 70 blocks) and junior Sierra McConnell (274 kills, 21 ace serves, 29 blocks, 142 digs), Alcester-Hudson has sported an attack with five players with 100 or more kills on the season. Seniors starter Courtney McKee (109 kills, 667 assists, 35 ace serves, 41 blocks, 166 digs) and hitter Shenia Doering (124 kills, 27 ace serves, 52 blocks, 167 digs) have also played key roles.