

Coyotes Look For First League Win Today Against WIU

BY JEREMY HOECK
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VERMILLION — Moral victories aren't going to cut it anymore. That was made clear this week at the University of South Dakota, where its football team is still in search of its first Missouri Valley Conference win. "We've been talking about steps for the past three years, which is a little frustrating," senior wide receiver Josh Vander Maten said after a practice.

"It's hard to take moral victories anymore, we just want to win." That's the mission today (Saturday) when the Coyotes host Western Illinois at 4 p.m. — the first of three straight in-state games to end the season for USD.

Since beating top-25 Northern Arizona seven weeks ago, the Coyotes (2-

7, 0-5) have lost their first five conference games by an average of 22 points.

Last week at Youngstown State was probably the first time in that span where all three phases were on the same page. And yet, it still didn't result in a win.

"We can't win on offense or defense or special teams and call it a moral victory, we've got to win on the scoreboard," Vander Maten said.

The Coyotes experienced half of that a week ago in Ohio.

South Dakota forced three turnovers — its first in league play — and built a 17-7 lead after three quarters. For the first time in a month, a spark had been lit for the Coyotes, head coach Joe Glenn said.

"It just felt so good for the kids to feel that, I've been waiting for that," he said.

The Penguins, though, got the ball

to a couple of their big-play athletes to rally past the Coyotes — "Three quarters, that's who we are right now," Glenn said.

Focusing on what got USD to the point of building a lead on a top-15 team and not the mistakes that led to a defeat is the key for the Coyotes, according to sophomore linebacker John Wessel.

"We've got to take that momentum, know what it feels like, and roll with it," he said.

To that end, there hasn't been much in the way of momentum to roll with this season, but the Coyotes have remained positive in the big picture plan, Wessel added.

"There's a process, and we trust the coaches," said Wessel, who ranks second on the team with 67 tackles. "They put up great game plans, and we have to come out and do our best to execute it, because we know

they're putting us in the best possible position."

As far as today against Western Illinois, the Coyotes will be facing an unranked team for only the second time this season (Missouri State) and will, for the first and only time, be playing a team picked behind them in the preseason league poll.

The Leathernecks (3-6, 1-4) aren't, though, without weapons.

• Running back J.C. Baker averages 5.0 yards per carry and 99 yards per game;

• Quarterback Trenton Norvell has passed for 2,175 yards (242 per game) and 15 touchdowns, but has been picked off nine times;

• Norvell's favorite receiver has been Lance Lenoir, who has 56 grabs for 809 yards and four touchdowns.

Western Illinois had a three-week league stretch where it had a lead entering the fourth quarter against top-

ranked North Dakota State, followed by a road win at Youngstown State, followed by a 3-point loss to then-unbeaten Illinois State.

"Their record isn't all that great, but look at who they've played," Glenn said. "They've been closer than anybody with North Dakota State, so we know we've got our hands full."

"We have to fight and play our best game."

All the while knowing Western Illinois is just as eager to gain traction in the Missouri Valley, according to Vander Maten.

"We're both scratching to get to that next level, so this will be a good test for us," he said. "They'll be just as hungry as we are."

You can follow Jeremy Hoeck on Twitter at twitter.com/jhoeck. Discuss this story at www.yankton.net.

Cedar Advances To C2 Semis

BY BEN HEGGE
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HARTINGTON, Neb. — The last time the Hartington Cedar Catholic Trojans played in the state championship game was 2008.

After tonight, they are one win away.

The Trojans defeated the Freeman Falcons by a score of 47-7 on Friday night in the quarter-finals of the Class C-2 football playoffs.

Cedar Catholic got off to a fast start scoring on the opening drive of the game on a 61 yard touchdown run by quarterback James Kaiser.

"Getting out to a good start was huge for us," said Cedar Catholic head coach Chad Cattau. "It gave us confidence and momentum for the rest of the game."

After another Kaiser rushing touchdown, he found Ty Becker in the end zone for a 6 yard touchdown completion, which gave the Trojans a 21-0 lead heading into halftime.

"Our line played excellent and our receivers made some great plays," said Kaiser.

Thanks to a pair of touchdown runs from senior running back Ryan Becker, Cedar Catholic built on their lead.

Chase Kelly led the Trojans defense with 6 tackles and 3.5 sacks. Andy Schieffer also added 5 tackles of his own.



Hartington Cedar Catholic quarterback James Kaiser (7) uses a block from teammate Ryan Becker to elude Freeman's Everett Bloom in Nebraska State C-2 football playoff action Friday night in Hartington, Nebraska. Kaiser broke away to score the first touchdown of the contest on the play.

"We had good tackling and played physical inside," said Cattau. "We have a few things to clean up defensively, but overall I thought our defense played well."

For Freeman, Jacob Buhr totaled 80 yards on the ground, while quarterback Issac Frerichs threw for 64 yards and a touchdown.

Kaiser rushed for 90 yards and 2 touchdowns, he also added 2 passing touchdowns with 87 yards. Ryan Becker led Cedar's rushing attack with 107 yards and two touchdowns on the ground.

With a state championship birth on the line, Cedar Catholic will have a semi-final matchup with Oak-

land-Craig next week.

"We can't wait for next week," said Kaiser. "We just need to have a good week of practice, and we will go from there."

You can follow Ben Hegge on Twitter at twitter.com/bigheadbenny13. Discuss this story at www.yankton.net/.

End Of An Era



JAMES D. CIMBUREK/P&D
Jim Robinson holds up the down marker during the Class 11AA semifinal game at Crane-Youngworth Field on Friday. Friday's game marked the end of a 41-year career on the chain gang for Robinson.

MMC Women Win In OT

ABERDEEN — The Mount Marty College women needed overtime to upend William Penn 85-80 at the Presentation Basketball Classic on Friday in Aberdeen.

Raquel Sutera and Alex Kneeland each scored 17 points, with Sutera also snagging a game-high 13 rebounds, to lead MMC. Holly Hegge had 11 points, 10 rebounds and five steals.

Janay Pritchett scored a game-high 27 points to lead William Penn (1-3). Destiny Spinner had 13 points.

MMC takes a 3-1 record into today's (Saturday) contest against host Presentation, a 2 p.m. start.

MOUNT MARTY (3-1)

Raquel Sutera 8-12 0-0 17, Cassidy Gebhart 2-6 2-4 6, April Winne 1-7 5-8 7, Alex Kneeland 6-17 2-2 17, Holly Hegge 5-8 0-0 11, Logan Wagner 3-6 0-0 8, Kieran O'Malley 1-5 0-0 3, Denae Veldkamp 0-2 0-0 0, Cheyenne Lambley 3-6 2-2 8, Kelsey Schmidt 2-2 0-0 4, Samantha Blake 1-3 2-4 4, Totals 32-74 13-19 65.

WILLIAM PENN UNIVERSITY (1-3)

Brynesha Mosby 2-4 0-0 4, Janay Pritchett 11-25 3-4 27, Vanessa Kieres 3-8 0-0 6, Katie Golomski 3-9 0-0 8, Jessica Kreuzer 4-10 1-2 9, Alyssa Phillips 3-5 2-2 8, Asia Cochran 1-2 0-0 2, Kadejah Young 0-1 0-0 0, Destiny Spinner 5-7 3-3 13, Stevie Anderson 1-2 1-3 3, Totals 33-73 10-15 80.

Halftime — MMC 33-32. End of regulation — 75-75.

3-point field goals — MMC 8-21 (Sutera 1-3, Gebhart 0-2, Kneeland 3-9, Hegge 1-1, Wagner 2-2, O'Malley 1-2, Veldkamp 0-2); WPU 4-12 (Pritchett 2-5, Kieres 0-2, Golomski 2-5). Rebounds — MMC 39 (Sutera 13, Hegge 10); WPU 45 (Golomski 12). Total fouls — MMC 18; WPU 22. Fouled out — None. Steals — MMC 12 (Hegge 5); WPU 5 (Pritchett 4). Assists — MMC 10 (Sutera 2, Gebhart 2, Winne 2, O'Malley 2); WPU 10 (Golomski 4).

Turnovers — MMC 14; WPU 16. Blocks — MMC 1 (Hegge 1); WPU 0.

Men: William Penn 105, Mount Marty 78

ABERDEEN — William Penn, the preseason No. 18 team in NAIA Division II, jumped out to a 47-32 halftime lead and claimed a 105-78 victory over Mount Marty at the Presentation Basketball Classic on Friday.

Antone Howard scored 22 points, and Alec Schwab and Kelly Madison had 20 points each for William Penn (2-2), which shot 17-27 from three-point range.

Bud Smith led MMC with 23 points and Chris Richardson had 15 points on 5-7 shooting, as well as six rebounds, to lead MMC. Tyler Payer netted 14 points and Taylor Millay had 13 points for the Lancers.

MMC hit 12 three-pointers in the contest, the most for the program since hitting 13 against Dana in the 2009-10 season.

William Penn, 2-2, plays Trinity Bible College at noon today. MMC, 0-3, looks for its first win of the season when it takes on host Presentation at 4 p.m.

WILLIAM PENN UNIVERSITY (2-2)

Oliver Wells 3-8 0-4 22, Antone Howard 8-9 3-4 22, Alec Schwab 7-14 0-0 20, Kelly Madison 8-10 0-0 20, Sam Sykes 3-4 3-9, Shane Boser 6-12 0-0 13, Logan Alexander 0-2 0-0 0, Nick Jeffries 2-3 2-5 8, Mike Aldeman 1-1 0-1 2, Jesse Uhl 0-1 0-0 0, Erik McGee 2-2 0-0 4, Totals 40-66 8-14 105.

MOUNT MARTY COLLEGE (0-3)

Taylor Millay 5-11 3-4 13, Jackson Seitzinger 2-8 2-2 7, Bud Smith 8-14 4-8 23, Ki DeCristino 0-5 0-0 0, Alex Schwab 1-2 2-4, Chris Richardson 5-7 1-2 15, Blake Bartscher 0-1 0-0 0, Patrick Ciganovic 1-1 0-0 2, Tyler Payer 4-9 2-4 14, Anthony Stransky 0-0 0-0 0, Totals 26-58 14-20 78.

Halftime — WPU 47-32. 3-pointers — WPU 17-27 (Wells 1-3, Howard 3-4, Schwab 6-7, Madison 4-6, Boser 1-3, Alexander 0-1, Jeffries 2-3); MMC 12-21 (Seitzinger 1-4, Smith 3-4, Richardson 4-5, Payer 4-8).

Rebounds — WPU 32 (Madison 6), MMC 27 (Richardson 6). Assists — WPU 17 (Wells 5, Madison 5), MMC 18 (DeCristino 5). Steals — WPU 6, MMC 2 (Payer 2). Blocked shots — WPU 3; MMC 3 (Smith 2). Turnovers — WPU 10; MMC 14. Fouls — WPU 19; MMC 14. Fouled out — WPU, McGee.

Crofton Takes Unbeaten Record To State

BY BRUCE VIERGUTZ
For the Yankton P&D

PIERCE, Neb. — Unbeaten Crofton knew a spot in next week's Nebraska state volleyball tournament was already set in stone via the wildcard berth.

But that didn't stop the Warriors from adding another gem to their season by downing Elgin High/Elgin Pope John 25-18, 25-13, 20-25, 25-18 in the Class C-2 district final Friday night.

"We played pretty well the first two sets," Crofton coach Susie Johnson said. "When you play a couple of sets and win that big, it's kind of hard to keep that momentum going. We actually talked before about not having a letdown but we did anyway. We've done that against other

teams and I'm not sure why. That's something we're going to have to work on and tweak if we want to do well down in Lincoln."

The Warriors pulled away from a 10-all score in the fourth set by outscoring the Wolfpack (26-5) 8-3 and taking an 18-13 advantage following a kill by sophomore Kelsey Sanger.

EP/EPJ cut the lead to 22-16 on a kill by Liz Selting before Crofton (27-0) clinched the set and match after a pair of kills by Allison Arens.

"I was pleased with our defensive coverage," Johnson said. "We did a good job of defending. We need to work on our blocking more but our defense and our aggressive serving were strong tonight."

Trailing 2-0 in sets, the Wolfpack put to-

gether a solid third set — taking leads of 10-2, 16-6 and 21-10 after a kill by Selting.

That run seemed to wake the Warriors up and a 9-2 run cut the Wolfpack's lead to 23-20 following a block by sophomore Monica Arens.

EP/EPJ held off the comeback and won the third set on a kill by Selting.

"We came out more relaxed in the third set," EP/EPJ coach Tina Thiele-Blecher said. "We weren't intimidated and just played Wolfpack volleyball. We knew we had to do that because we came out scared the first two sets. Our defense and our serve-receive really stepped it up."

But in the end, it was just too much

CROFTON | PAGE 9

Bucks

From Page 7

Mason Strahl found Hale in the back of the end zone for a touchdown. The Bucks held a commanding 17-0 lead.

Late in the third quarter, Harrisburg (5-5) was marching down, deep into Yankton territory. However, the Bucks were able to get one of four stops on fourth down, which proved to be a pivotal point in the contest.

"It was really big, we stopped their momentum," Likness said. "We turned that into points, it definitely deflated them. After, that we were able to run the clock out. It was a good feeling and we were sitting good after that."

Yankton added onto its lead, thanks to a 32 yard scamper from Jordan Lightner and a field goal from Hale. Those scores, put the Bucks up 27-0, which proved to put a nail on the coffin for Harrisburg's 2014 season.

"We played very well," Likness said. "There is room to improve. Good things happen when players work hard. Overall, our defense was very solid and we played another complete game tonight."

Unofficially, Yankton tallied 302 total yards of offense. The Bucks running threats of Lightner, Parker Kuchta, and Sheldon Gant for 201 yards. Strahl passed for 95 yards on eight completions. Matt Fitzgerald and Tim Cross led the defense with two sacks a piece.

"We were able to get good chunks of yards offensively," Likness said. "Running the

Advance Tickets Go On Sale On Monday

Adult and student tickets for the Class 11AA football championship game, set for Friday, Nov. 14, at 7:30 p.m. at the DakotaDome in Vermillion, may be purchased in advanced.

Sales to the general public for both adult reserves and general admission student tickets will be Monday, Wednesday and Thursday, from 7 a.m.-4:30 p.m. each day, at the Yankton School District administrative office, 2410 West City Limits Road in Yankton. Student tickets may also be purchased at the YHS activities office from 8 a.m.-5 p.m. on those days. (Adult tickets will not be sold at YHS.)

Any children wishing to sit with their parents in the reserved grandstand section must purchase an adult ticket. Student section tickets will be valid for the student section only.

Orders must be made in person, and payment is due at the time the order is placed. No phone or credit card orders will be accepted. Checks must be made payable to the Yankton School District.

Contact the USD ticket office at 605-677-5959 for handicap accessible seating.

ball meant that we were keeping it away from them and giving our defense a rest."

The Tigers had 213 total yards of offense. Jonathan Kabambi led Harrisburg with 89 rushing yards on 18 carries. The Bucks held Kabambi to 20 yards in the second half. Shay Slaughter passed

the ball for 87 yards on seven completions.

"Our defense has been solid all year," Likness said. "They took it to another level and to hold an offense like Harrisburg to zero points is outstanding. Our linebackers read well and the line played great. We kept everyone in

check. It was good all the way around."

Likness was impressed with how smoothly the offense ran.

"Tonight we were able to pick and chose," he said. "Strahl does a good job of reading the defense. Good things have happened all season for us when he has been able to do that."

Strahl credits the offensive line for the victory, which he noted that he thinks they've placed their best game all season.

"We made a few mistakes, but we played good," he said. "Credit our offense line. They did awesome tonight. They came up when we needed them the most. It was the best game our line has played all season."

Likness wants his team to enjoy this victory, but keep their eyes on the ultimate

prize: a state title.

"We have to enjoy this for a day," he said. "We have bruised up guys and turn around to focus on Brookings."

Yankton will look to hoist a state championship trophy for the first time since 2001 as they play the Brookings Bobcats. Kickoff is set for 7:00 p.m. at the DakotaDome in Vermillion on Friday evening.

"I haven't watched them,

(Brookings)" Likness said. "I know that they are good and we need to figure some things out. We need to let them enjoy theirs, but the job isn't done. The biggest piece to the puzzle is yet to be solved."

You can follow Nick Robinson on Twitter at twitter.com/RobinsonNick2013. Discuss this story at www.yankton.net.

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