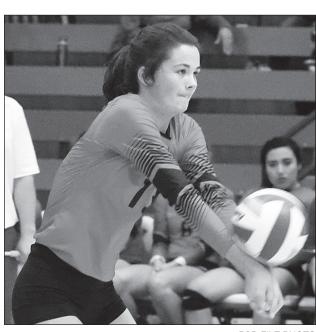
Yankton's Frick Earns All-ESD Honors



Yankton senior Becky Frick was named all-Eastern South Dakota Conference, as selected by the league's coaches.

BY JAMES D. CIMBUREK james.cimburek@yankton.net

A four-year starter for the Yankton Gazelles was recognized by the Eastern South Dakota Conference one last time.

Senior Becky Frick was named to the all-ESD team, released today (Friday).

Frick led the Gazelles with 216 kills, 277 digs and 55 ace serves. She was a close third on the team in blocks with 46 (10 solo).

"It's hard to be successful in her role, when the other defense is focused on her," said Yankton head coach Tiffany Beste. "A lot of teams were afraid of Becky in the front row, but if I were coaching against her I would be as worried about her in the back as well. She is a well-rounded volleyball player."

But Beste said Frick's greatest contribution to the Gazelles was not evident on a stat sheet.

"What Becky has been is a great role model for our kids," she said. "She showed them what it takes to play consistently at a high level."

Frick has been a varsity golfer at Yankton since eighth grade, and a varsity basketball player since her freshman year. Beste said that her competing at a high level in all three says a lot about Frick as well.

The other sports helped make Becky a well-rounded athlete," she said. "It shows that, if you're willing to put the time in, you can compete in three sports and still see success.

Frick finished her career

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CLASS 11B CHAMPIONSHIP

Winner (11-0) vs. Tri-Valley (7-4) 1:30 p.m. • Radio: KWYR (93.7 FM, 1260 AM, Winner), KJAM (103.1 FM, 1390 AM, Madison), KWSN (1230 AM, Sioux Falls) • TV: SDPB

WINNER OFFENSE TRI-VALLEY OFFENSE Name Chase Kingsbury Krocket Krolikowski John Kludt Wyatt Ewing Jayden Schr Austin Falor Alex Gonzalez Cameron Kuil Riley Frazier Windsor Barry Drew DeMers

WINNER DEFENSE
 Pos
 No
 Name

 DE
 81
 Isaac Naasz

 DT
 69
 Krocket Krolikowski

 NG
 58
 Jordan Turgeon

 DE
 68
 Wyatt Ewing
 Pos DE DT DT DE LB LB LB Riley Frazier Jayden Schroeder Chase Kingsbury SS 18 RCB 7 Windsor Barry Latrell Terkelso Lane Hillman

LEADERS

RUSHING: Windsor Barry (60-802 yards, 17 TD); Cameron Kuil (68-775 yards, 13 TD); Riley Frazier (65-679 yards, 13 TD); Kayleb Brozik (31-502, 8 TD)
PASSING: Drew DeMers (28-43, 592 yards, 12 TD,

1 INI)
RECEIVING: Isaac Naasz (11-295 yards, 10 TD); Lat-trel Terkildsen (4-102 yards, 2 TD); Windsor Barry (4-74 yards); Kayleb Brozik (4-52 yards)
DEFENSE: Krocket Krolikowski (34 tackles, 6.5 sacks, 12.5 TFL, 2 FR); Levi McClanahan (31.5 tackles); Jayden Schroeder (25 tackles, 11.5 TFL); Isaac Naasz (18 tackles, 3.5 sacks. 9.5 TFL); Lattrel Terkildsen (5 INT); Kayleb Brozik (3 INT, 4 FR) TRI-VALLEY DEFENSE Brady Johnson Alex Gonzales
Tye Klinnert
Alex Van Asselt Jacob Kasowski

LEADERS

RUSHING: Landon Freeman (133-970, 7 TD); Brenton Hamisch (176-906, 11 TD); Matt Prather (60-239 yards,

PASSING: Noah Jewett (25-50, 415 yards, 5 TD, 2 IN1)
RECEIVING: Landon Freeman (20-315 yards, 4 TD);
Alex Van Asselt (2-79 yards, 1 TD)
DEFENSE: Alex Van Asselt (52 tackles, 2 INT); Alex Gonzales (48 tackles, 1 sack); Tye Klinnert (36 tackles, 4 sacks, 1 FR); Brock Newman (17 tackles, 3 INT); Brenton Hanisch (16 tackles, 3 INT)

Johnson Powers Warbirds To Title

BY JEREMY HOECK

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VERMILLION — Hunter Johnson knew the difference between a state championship and another runner-up finish could be mere inches. And that's exactly what

happened.

Johnson converted a fourth down run with just under two minutes later and finished with a record performance as Wolsey-Wessington beat rival Woonsocket/Wessington Springs/Sanborn Central 36-22 in Thursday's Class 9AA final at the DakotaDome.

The win was sweet justice for Johnson and the Warbirds (11-1), who lost in the state title game a year ago.

"Last year I came up short against Howard. They stopped me short," said Johnson, who earned MVP honors after rushing for an all-class record 303 yards with three touchdowns.

"I just needed a yard, an inch; inches. Inches win football games.'

And that was the case in the deciding minutes.

After W/WS/SC was stopped on 4th & 2 with 6:51 left in the fourth quarter, Johnson converted a 4th & 5 — on a 5-yard push up the middle — with 1:47 remaining.

On the very next play, he broke a couple tackles for a 45-yard touchdown scamper, sealing the championship for Wolsey-Wessington.

Johnson, a 6-foot, 180-pound senior, came into

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ELYSE BRIGHTMAN/VERMILLION PLAIN TALK

Wolsey-Woonsocket's Hunter Johnson escapes a tackle in the Warbird's 36-22 win over Woonsocket-Wessington Springs-Sanborn Central in the South Dakota 9AA football state championship game Thursday afternoon in Vermillion.

Hawks Roll To 9A Championship

BY SHAUNA MARLETTE shauna.marlette@plaintalk.net

VERMILLION — The Canistota Hawks (CHS) capped off a perfect season and earned the . South Dakota 9A football championship on Thursday, rolling the Sully Buttes Chargers

(SBHS) by a score of 56-8. The victory moved the Hawks to 11-0 on the season. What might be most impressive is in that 11-game-stretch they outscored their opponents by a combined score of 511-79, all of this behind senior leaders Jared Nielsen and Drew Seubert who did it all for the Hawks on Thursday and all season long.

The Hawks set the standard of the day with Sully Buttes first possession to start the game, forcing them to go threeand-out after quarterback Scott Senftner had three passes fall

'Our seniors chose to defend the kick-off and take the defensive stand early and often," said Canistota head coach James Strang. "They said that we were not going to allow any points. Once we do that, it just seems like our offense clicks. We start running downhill getting 4-6 yards a try. Then we know we are in a good

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JEREMY HOECK/P&D

Canistota running back Jerad Nielsen stiff-arms Sully Buttes defender Phillip Gilliland during Thursday's Class 9A state championship game at the DakotaDome in Vermillion.

Warriors, Mustangs Renew Dome Rivalry

BY JAMES D. CIMBUREK

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The Winner Warriors and Tri-Valley Mustangs renew what has become a onceevery-three-year tradition: facing off in the state football finals.

The programs, which meet today (Friday) in the Class 11B finals, have met twice before, in 2009 and 2012. Only two other programs have met in the state finals more times: Yankton and O'Gorman (6), and Winner and Vermillion (4).

For this year's Mustangs, the road to the Dome was paved through a challenging regular season. Tri-Valley went 1-4 to finish the regular season, but losses included Class 11A semifinalists Lennox (23-21), West Central (24-14) and Sioux Falls Christian (16-8). West Central played for the Class 11A title on Thursday.

'We definitely knew when the schedule came out that it would be tough," said Tri-Valley head coach Steve Bazata. "We ran into some really good teams.

But the rocky finish prepared the Mustangs for a strong post-season run, including a 35-14 win at secondranked Aberdeen Roncalli in the quarterfinals.

'Our team is very resilient," Bazata said. "Îf things get tough, we're not going to

The Mustangs have utilized a 1-2 punch in the run game, featuring Landon Freeman (970 yards, 7 TD) and Brenton Hanisch (906 yards, 11 TD). Hanisch has a team-best 176 carries.

"We are pretty balanced with Hanisch and Freeman,' Bazata said. "Our fullback, Matt Prather (239 yards, 2 TD), and Tye Klinnert (188 yards, 5 TD) have also run

Quarterback Noah Jewett has completed half of his passes, going for 415 yards and five touchdowns. Freeman has caught 20 of Jewett's 25 completions, going for 315 vards and four scores.

"We need the passing game to be efficient. We're not going to sling it anywhere," Bazata said. "When you run as much as we do, teams will suck up into the

Alex Van Asselt (52 tackles, 2 INT) and Alex Gonzales (48 tackles) lead a balanced Mustang defense. Klinnert has a team-best four sacks. Brock Newman and Hanisch each have three intercep-

"We are really balanced, a lot of solid guys," Bazata said. "Gonzalez is our leader. as well as our vocal leader.'

The Winner offense has spread the load, with no player averaging more than seven yards per carry. Windsor Barry (802 yards, 17 TD), Cameron Kuil (775 yards, 13 TD), Riley Frazier (679 yards, 13 TD) and Kayleb Brozik (502 yards, 8 TD) have powered an offense that has put up nearly 50 points per game.

We've been fortunate to have four good backs rotating in," said Winner head coach Dan Aaker. "We try to keep it as even as possible. That puts a stress on defense.'

With such a good running game, Winner quarterback Drew DeMers has not had many opportunities to throw. When he has, he's been effective, completing 28 of 43 passes for 592 yards and 12 touchdowns. DeMers has thrown just one interception on the season.

We throw when we want," Aaker said. "Drew could probably throw more if we balanced everything out. He is a smart athlete, a gifted

Isaac Naasz has caught 11 of those passes, with 10 ending in the endzone. He has 295 yards on the season.

When teams really want to stack the box, we can throw over the top," Aaker

What may be more impressive is the Warriors' defense. Only three touchdowns have been allowed by Winner this season, none since September, a span of six games.

Our defense is what has led us all year," Aaker said. "We have talented players that have worked really hard. We play assignment defense, read and react, and we've done a good job of being disciplined.

Krocket Krolikowski (34 tackles, 12.5 TFL, 6.5 sacks, 2 FR), Jayden Schroeder (25 tackles, 11.5 TFL) and Naasz (18 tackles, 9.5 TFL, 3.5 sacks) have applied pressure up front. Levi McClanahan ranks second on the team with 31.5 stops. Lattrel Terkildsen (5 INT) and Brozik (3 INT, 4 FR) have been ball hawks for the squad.

Bazata knows the Mustangs will have their hands

"Winner is good all the way around. You look for a weak spot, and it's tough to find," he said. "They are very well coached. They do exactly what they are supposed to do.'

Game time is set for 1:30 o.m. at the DakotaDome in Vermillion.

Follow @JCimburek on Twitter.

Bucks

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at that game as far as the score," Savey said. "When you walk out with eight turnovers, if you would've won that game, it would have

been a miracle. Sure, Yankton got shutout the next week against O'Gorman, but from there against 11AA competition, the Bucks have found their

"That's just not a good night," Likness said. "We could've hung our heads and buried ourselves, but we came back and showed we have more character than

The season-ending injury

to quarterback Reid Sawatzke forced senior Rayden Terca to take the reins, and he eventually gave way to junior Nate Stephenson who has started ever since.

Yankton, with the number of injuries along the way, varied its offensive looks - at times using direct snaps to running backs – and has been able to average 185 rushing yards per game. The pass game has still averaged 130 yards through the air.

Senior Sheldon Gant is the team's leading rusher (581 yards, 8 TD) and leading receiver (28 rec., 396 yards), while senior Tanner Frick has combined for 12 touchdowns. Brendon Caskey (507 rushing yards, 4 TD) has given the Bucks a three-headed attack out of the backfield and

through the air.

From there, though, Yankton has relied on the production and progression of a number of other players who were thrust into new roles this season.

'The big part of that is we have 25 seniors this year who were part of that championship, but maybe didn't play as much, but they knew what it took," Likness said.

There were no gripes about playing time, the coach added.

'Sometimes you're a big fish in a little pond, and sometimes you're a little fish in a big pond," Likness said. "But just being part of that ecology, I guess, is very

When it comes to facing Pierre?

The Bucks will have to find a way to slow down the Governors' do-it-all quarterback Brevin Kaiser, a 6-foot-4, 200-pound senior. Last week in a semifinal win over Mitchell, for example, Kaiser passed for 209 yards and one touchdown, and ran for 109 yards and four touchdowns. "Brevin's a great competi-

tor," Poppinga said. "He's not overly fast; he's not going to out-run you, but he runs well enough that he gets the job

"He's the kind of quarterback you want on your team." Yankton's defense has, however, been able to slow teams down of late. The Bucks have allowed three

touchdowns over the last four games, and even in that 31-0 loss to Pierre, only allowed three touchdowns.

Muth leads Yankton with 116 tackles, while senior Alex Withrow has a team-high seven sacks and Frick has a team-high five interceptions.

Your Home For The Bucks: The Press & Dakotan

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Friday, November 13 7:40 am SD Magazine (Bernie Hunhoff) 8:20 am Greater Yankton Living (Rita Nelson)