

# Volleyball: Hastings Sweeps MMC; Sioux Falls Christian Wins Big Sioux Title

HASTINGS, Neb. — Hastings swept Mount Marty 25-9, 25-15, 25-14 in Great Plains Athletic Conference volleyball action Saturday.

For MMC, Carlie Lambert posted eight kills, Jena Peters had nine kills and Amanda Dirksen had four kills and 11 digs to lead the way. Tina Rowbotham and Caitlyn Ilig each had 10 assists. Jen Jerdee and Courtney Miller added six digs apiece.

MMC travels to Dordt Tuesday.

## High School

### Big Sioux Conf.

COLTON — Sioux Falls Christian beat host Tri-Valley 18-25, 25-22, 25-21, 25-20 for top honors in the Big Sioux Conference Volleyball Tournament Saturday.

For the victorious Chargers, Kiara Vander Pol led the way with 16 kills, 13 digs and five ace serves. Claire Assam had 10 kills, 21 digs and four ace serves. Hayley McCarron had six blocks, 37 assists and 16 digs. Elizabeth Odens had five blocks and Brooke Van Gorp added 19 digs in the win.

For Tri-Valley, Nicole Fritz had 29 assists and 11 digs, and Allison Cross had 13 kills and seven

blocks to lead the way. Taylor Swier had 18 digs, Robyn Wingen had 14 digs and April King added 12 digs for the Mustangs.

Christian, now 21-4, hosts Southwest (Minn.) Christian Tuesday. Tri-Valley, 14-8, hosts Harrisburg Tuesday.

**THIRD — DAKOTA VALLEY DEF. ELK POINT-JEFFERSON 25-18, 25-20:** Kylie Martin had nine kills and Karissa Jensen had six kills to lead Dakota Valley. Ellie Bohan had 19 assists and Piepre Tweed posted three ace serves for the Panthers.

Dakota Valley, 13-10, travels to Council Bluffs Thomas Jefferson today (Monday).

**FIFTH — BERESFORD DEF. TEA AREA 13-25, 25-22, 25-22:** Allison Klostergaard had 14 kills and three ace serves to lead Beresford. Megan Olson added 26 assists in the win.

For Tea Area, Lauren Hill and Samantha Dunlap had six kills each. Morgan Heirigs added 24 assists.

Beresford travels to Vermillion Tuesday. Tea Area hosts McCook Central-Montrose Tuesday.

**SEVENTH — DELL RAPIDS DEF. CANTON 19-25, 25-21, 28-26:** Hannah Hammer had nine kills,

Cassidy Wright had eight kills and Laine Mitchell had 17 assists for Dell Rapids. Paige Bunkers and Emily Haak had 12 digs each for the Quarriers.

Heather Willett had nine kills, Erica Pederson had 11 assists and Atlanta Lundstrom had three ace serves for Canton.

Dell Rapids, 12-11, takes on Madison Tuesday. Canton, 7-16, hosts Alcester-Hudson Friday.

**SECOND ROUND S.F. CHRISTIAN DEF. DAKOTA VALLEY 23-25, 25-20, 25-21, 25-15:** Odens posted 17 kills and Assam had 10 kills and 18 digs to lead SFC. McCarron had 41 assists and Van Gorp added 15 digs and four ace serves in the win.

Martin had eight kills and Bohan had 20 assists to lead Dakota Valley. Tweed had 10 digs and Erica Johnson added nine digs for the Panthers.

**TRI-VALLEY DEF. ELK POINT-JEFFERSON 24-26, 22-25, 25-18, 25-17, 15-12:** Cross had 21 kills and eight blocks, and King had 30 digs and four ace serves to lead Tri-Valley. Fritz posted 26 digs, Swier had 23 digs, Shayla Beimi had 18 digs and Wingen added 14 digs in the win.

**BERESFORD DEF. DELL**

**RAPIDS 19-25, 25-19, 25-21:** Klostergaard had nine kills, Taylor Christensen had eight kills and Olson had 21 assists for Beresford.

Hammer had five kills and 11 digs, and Margo Hegge had five kills for Dell Rapids. Mitchell added 11 assists for the Quarriers.

**TEA AREA DEF. CANTON 25-20, 25-16:** Heirigs had 19 assists, Mallorie Heidinger had six kills and Haleigh Gunn had five kills for Tea Area. Willett had six kills for Canton.

**FIRST ROUND S.F. CHRISTIAN DEF. BERESFORD 25-21, 25-19, 25-10:** Assam had eight kills and 11 ace serves, and McCarron had 18 assists and 10 digs to lead SFC. Vander Pol had seven kills and Laura Hurley added three ace serves in the win.

Megan Olson had 10 assists for Beresford.

**DAKOTA VALLEY DEF. DELL RAPIDS 25-11, 18-25, 25-21, 25-15:** Martin posted eight kills, Jayde Bergmann had seven kills and Tweed had seven ace serves for Dakota Valley. Bohan added 27 assists in the win.

Aleza Kirschenmann led Dell Rapids with 12 assists.

**ELK POINT-JEFFERSON DEF. TEA AREA 25-12, 17-25, 25-22, 29-**

**27:** Heidinger had 14 kills and five blocks, and Heirigs had 29 assists, 15 digs and four ace serves for Tea Area. Brandi Schulling added 19 digs.

**TRI-VALLEY DEF. CANTON 31-29, 25-14, 25-15:** Cross posted 14 kills and five blocks, Fritz had 31 assists and Tasha Graves added three ace serves for Tri-Valley.

Willett had 10 kills, three blocks (2 solo) and 13 digs to lead Canton. Janet Van De Street had 15 assists, Pederson had 10 digs and Lundstrom had 10 digs for the C-Hawks.

### Wagner 3, Lennox 0

WAGNER — Jessa Doom had 20 ace serves and 21 assists as Wagner made quick work of Lennox, 25-8, 25-5, 25-7, Saturday in prep volleyball action.

Devon Brecke had nine kills and Breanna Cuka had eight kills for Wagner.

Wagner, 21-3, hosts Winner Tuesday.

Wagner won the JV match and C-match, each in two sets.

LENNOX 8 5 7  
WAGNER (21-3) 25 25 25

### Hartington Tourn.

HARTINGTON, Neb. — Wynot

avenged an earlier loss to Winside, beating the Wildcats 25-12, 25-27, 25-18 for the championship of the Hartington Tournament Saturday.

Winside had beaten Wynot 3-2 on Oct. 6.

Hartington battled past Bancroft-Rosalie 16-25, 25-16, 25-21 for third place. Ponca edged Emerson-Hubbard 25-18, 26-24 for fifth.

**HARTINGTON DEF. BANCROFT-ROSALIE 25-21, 16-25, 25-21:** Michaela Dendinger had 14 kills, six blocks and six ace serves to lead Hartington. Courtney Hochstein posted nine assists and seven digs. Shelby Hochstein had four ace serves and Megan Wolfe had nine assists in the win.

**WYNOT DEF. HARTINGTON 25-15, 26-24:** Dendinger had six kills and Courtney Hochstein had six assists and five digs for Hartington. Taylor Dibal added four blocks for the Wildcats.

**HARTINGTON DEF. PONCA 25-23, 25-21:** Dendinger and Shelby Hochstein had six kills apiece, and Courtney Hochstein had four blocks, 11 assists and nine digs for Hartington. Ashley Morten posted 10 digs, Whitney Driver had nine digs, Wolfe had seven assists and Dybdal added five blocks in the win.

# Wheldon

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Penske owner Roger Penske said. "You always worry about those at these mile-and-a-halfes at the speed and with this many cars."

Three other drivers, including championship contender Will Power, were hurt in the pileup.

Wheldon was airlifted from the track to University Medical Center; news of his death came from IndyCar CEO Randy Bernard:

"IndyCar is very sad to announce that Dan Wheldon has passed away from unsurvivable injuries," he said. "Our thoughts and prayers are with his family today. IndyCar, its drivers and owners, have decided to end the race."

In his honor, drivers, many sobbing openly, took part in a five-lap salute around the 1.5-mile oval as thousands of fans stood and cheered from the grandstand.

Also injured in the crash were JR Hildebrand and Pippa Mann. Both will remain in the hospital overnight. IndyCar said Mann was being treated for a burn to her right pinkie finger and will be released Monday morning; Hildebrand was awake and alert but will be held overnight for further evaluation. Power was evaluated and released. An autopsy was planned Monday for Wheldon.

"I'll tell you, I've never seen anything like it," Ryan Briscoe said. "The debris we all had to drive through the lap later, it looked like a war scene from Terminator or something. I mean, there were just pieces of metal and car on fire in the middle of the track with no car attached to it and just debris everywhere. So it was scary, and your first thoughts are hoping that no one is hurt because there's just stuff everywhere. Crazy."

IndyCar has not had a fatality since Paul Dana was killed at Homestead in 2006, during a crash in a morning warmup. Wheldon won the race later that day.

The accident appeared to start when Cunningham's car swerved on the track and Hildebrand drove over the left rear of Cunningham's car. Hildebrand appeared to go airborne, and Cunningham's car shot up into the wall, setting off a chain reaction among the cars behind him.

Some of those cars slowed, others didn't, and others spun in front of Wheldon and Power. There was so much confusion on the track it was hard to tell who was driving what car.



CHARLES GAUKER/FOR THE PRESS & DAKOTAN

Dan Wheldon celebrates after winning the 2011 Indianapolis 500 earlier this year. Wheldon died Sunday after being involved in a 15-car crash during an Indy Car race at Las Vegas Motor Speedway.

Power appeared to fly over Alex Lloyd's car, rolling into the catch fence and landing on its right side. His in-car camera showed one of the front tires coming toward him in the cockpit.

Wheldon then appeared to drive over a car driven by Paul Tracy, who seemed to be slowing down. Wheldon, however, went airborne and spun into the fence.

"It was like a movie scene which they try to make as gnarly as possible," said Danica Patrick, making her final IndyCar start. "It was debris everywhere across the whole track. You could smell the smoke. You could see the billowing smoke on the back straight from the car. There was a chunk of fire that we were driving around. You could see cars scattered."

Wheldon, who came to the United States from England in 1999, won 16 times in his IndyCar career and was the series champion in 2005.

Despite winning this year's Indy 500, Wheldon couldn't put together a full-time ride this season. He landed in the Las Vegas race thanks to Bernard's promise of \$5 million to any moonlighting

driver who could win the IndyCar season finale at Vegas. Although there were no takers, Bernard refused to scrap the idea and Wheldon was declared eligible for the prize, which would have been split with a fan.

Asked about speed after the crash, Wheldon's former boss Chip Ganassi said. "There'll be plenty of time in the offseason to talk about that. Now is not the time to talk about that."

And Franchitti said: "I agree. We'll discuss that and sort it out."

But driver Oriol Servia didn't mince words: "We all had a bad feeling about this place in particular just because of the high banking and how easy it was to go flat. And if you give us the opportunity, we are drivers and we try to go to the front. We race each other hard because that's what we do," he said. "We knew if could happen, but it's just really sad."

Wheldon had been providing blog posts for USA Today in the days leading up to the Las Vegas race, and in one posted Saturday to the newspaper's website he spoke of how he expected Sunday to be "pure entertainment."

"This is going to be an amazing

show," Wheldon wrote. "The two championship contenders, Dario Franchitti and Will Power, are starting right next to each other in the middle of the grid. Honestly, if I can be fast enough early in the race to be able to get up there and latch onto those two, it will be pure entertainment. It's going to be a pack race, and you never know how that's going to turn out."

The accident spoiled what Bernard had hoped would be a showcase event for the struggling IndyCar Series.

The second-year CEO worked the entire season on turning the finale into a spectacle, and said he would offer his resignation to the IndyCar board of directors if ABC's broadcast didn't pull a .8 ranking. His goal was to improve upon last year's season finale's horrible television rating and give the series some momentum for a strong season in 2013 with the introduction of a new car and new manufacturers.

So Bernard poured everything into Las Vegas, renting the speedway from owner Bruton Smith and agreeing to promote the event himself. He landed enough spon-

sorship to at least break even on race, and the \$5 million challenge bought him an enormous amount of publicity the entire year.

Bernard got the Las Vegas Strip to close to stage a parade of cars, hosted industry parties and a blackjack tournament all to boost interest in the race. He even got MGM Grand Resorts to offer a pair of tickets to anyone staying this weekend in one of the chain's 14 properties.

But what was hoped to be a day of celebration quickly turned somber.

When drivers returned to the track for the tribute laps, Wheldon's No. 77 was the only one on the towering scoreboard. Franchitti sobbed uncontrollably as he got back into his car for the memorial ride. The sound of "Danny Boy" echoed around the track, followed by "Amazing Grace." Hundreds of crew workers from each team stood at attention in honor of Wheldon.

"What can you say? We're going to miss him," Ganassi said. "Everybody in IndyCar died a little today."

# Rangers Earn Return Trip To World Series

ARLINGTON, Texas (AP) — Nelson Cruz and the Texas Rangers are headed to their second straight World Series, finishing off the Detroit Tigers to become the American League's first repeat champion in a decade.

Cruz set a postseason record with his sixth home run of the series. Michael Young hit a pair of two-run doubles in a nine-run third inning, and the Rangers romped to a 15-5 win Saturday night that won the AL pennant in six games.

They'll open the World Series

on Wednesday night at St. Louis or Milwaukee, seeking the first title in the history of a franchise that started play in 1961.

Cruz had 13 RBIs in the series, another postseason record, and was selected MVP. Young, who also homered, had five RBIs in the finale, and the longest-tenured player on the Rangers helped make sure the World Series will again be deep in the heart of Texas.

With former President George W. Bush seated in the front row alongside Hall of Fame pitcher

Nolan Ryan, part of the ownership group that took over the team last year, Rangers manager Ron Washington was at the edge of the dugout wildly waving his arms and shouting encouragement to his players as the big inning unfolded.

All Tigers manager Jim Leyland could do was take off his cap and scratch his head.

A franchise that started as the expansion Washington Senators and moved to Texas in 1972 had failed to reach the World Series in its first 49 seasons. Then the Rangers won their first AL pennant last year only to lose the Series to the San Francisco Giants in five games.

yards for a score to lead San Diego to a 31-24 win over Drake on Saturday.

San Diego (6-1, 4-0 Pioneer League) went ahead 24-17 on Mills' 3-yard pass to Brandon White with 9:09 left in the game before Hoekstra's punt return at the 7:42 mark.

Drake (5-2, 3-1) got close on Trey Morse's 2-yard touchdown run with 3:48 remaining, but after the kickoff the Toreros ran out all but the final 34 seconds.

Mills completed 26 of 36 passes for 306 yards and hit Sam Scudellari for TD passes of 2 and 6 yards.

Drake's Mike Piatkowski was 21 of 37 for 296 yards and threw an 18-yard touchdown pass to Joey Orlando midway through the third quarter. The Bulldogs tied the score at 17 on Jacob Schmudlach's 2-yard run less than four minutes into the fourth quarter.

# Football

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and 9 yards to cap the scoring in the fourth. Marcus Williams returned the second-half kickoff 90 yards for a touchdown, and Ryan Jastram kicked three field goals.

Missouri State (0-7, 0-4) led 14-10 early in the second quarter behind Trevor Wooden's two touchdown passes. Wooden added a third-quarter rushing score.

**SAN DIEGO 31, DRAKE 24:** SAN DIEGO (AP) — Mason Mills threw three touchdown passes and Sam Hoekstra returned a punt 85

# Coyotes

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sal.

"We knew that was coming for us, especially because we beat them," Krittenbrink said. "It felt like we had it there for a while, but lost it before our eyes."

USD finally found its rhythm in the fifth set, getting to nine points, but it wasn't nearly enough to dig out of the early hole.

Kim Bulaga added 12 kills in the loss, while Amber Aschoff had 11 kills and Bailey Lupardus notched 51 assists in her second

start at setter.

Perhaps the best medicine for the Coyotes? Playing again tonight (Monday) when Drake University comes to the DakotaDome.

"I'm just glad we're playing right away again," Houk said. "Matches like this one really sting, and we don't want our girls to sit and stew about it."

Instead, the focus turns to Drake, which enters with a 7-15 overall record and 3-6 mark in the Missouri Valley Conference.

"It'll be a big help to move and get back on track," Krittenbrink said.

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