

Press & Dakotan DAILY DOSE

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



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VERMILLION — If you've ever heard Ed Meierkort speak, you know the USD football coach doesn't pull any punches. And Monday, two days after the Coyotes lost a frustrating 28-3 road game at Illinois State, Meierkort made his feelings known. To paraphrase him, Meierkort essentially said, "It was only one loss, it's not the end of the world." Sure, the nationally-ranked Coyotes (4-3) have long had their struggles away from the DakotaDome, with a 2-13 record in FCS road games.

USD Football Team Still On Target For Goals Despite Rough Outing

And yes, the USD offense was awful on Saturday, with only 108 total yards, including just 25 through the air. But remember this: The Coyotes did not drop out of the national polls and did not lose any ground in the Great West Conference race — the team's two stated goals for the season. When UC Davis comes to Vermillion this Saturday, the Coyotes will have an opportunity to move to 2-0 in the Great West for the first time since joining the league in 2008. If USD loses that game, OK then it's time to start getting really worried. Until then, remember, road woes aside, the Coyotes have still defeated two ranked teams this season and have a chance to win a league championship before leaving for the Missouri Valley Football Conference.

YANKTON EVENTS

Calendar of events for Yankton including Buck's Football, Buck's & Gazelles Cross Country, Gazelles Volleyball, and Gazelles Cheer & Dance.

COLLEGE EVENTS

Calendar of events for college sports including Coyotes Football, Coyotes Volleyball, and Lancers Soccer.

OTHER EVENTS

Calendar of other events including Cross Country, Soccer, and Radio & Television.

Yankton Freshmen Win Finale

WAGNER — Levi Davis scored three touchdowns, including two in the fourth quarter, to help the Yankton freshmen to a 26-20 victory over Wagner JV in sub-varsity football action Monday. Davis caught an 11-yard touchdown pass from Mason Strahl in the second quarter, then added a 66-yard kick-off return and a 16-yard run for scores in the final period to lift Yankton to the win. Davis finished with 88 yards rushing on nine carries. Brady Hale scored the other Yankton touchdown on a 2-yard run in the first quarter. Defensively, Davis had six tackles and Jordan Lightner had four tackles, a fumble recovery and a sack for Yankton. Evan Greenway had five tackles. Brady Ulmer picked off two passes and Tim Cross added an interception in the win. Yankton finishes with a 4-3 record.

Woodward, who will talk about the Gazelles and their ongoing season. Yankton is 12-2 entering tonight's (Tuesday) match at Sioux Falls Roosevelt. The public is invited to attend.

DWU Softball Clinics Set

MITCHELL — The Dakota Wesleyan University softball team is hosting a pair of clinics in Mitchell this fall to help local softball players improve their game in the off-season. The Tigers will host clinics on Nov. 19 and Dec. 10. There will be three sessions of the clinic on each day. There will be a batting and skills session from noon to 2 p.m. on both clinic dates, followed by a throwing and fielding session from 2 to 4 p.m. The day will conclude with a pitching session from 4 to 5 p.m. Space is limited on both clinic dates, so athletes are encouraged to sign up early. Softball players of all ages and skill levels are welcome to attend; athletes will be separated by age and experience to make sure they get the most out of their clinic experience. Contact Kieff at 605-212-5916 or edkief@dwu.edu for more information.

Woodward At QB Club

The Yankton Quarterback Club will meet Wednesday at noon at the Elks Lodge, 504 West 27th Street, Yankton. This week's speaker is Yankton volleyball coach Leasa

Report a score: Call 605-665-7811, ext. 106 or 800-743-2968 after 4 p.m. Fax: 605-665-1721 E-mail: sports@yankton.net

SCOREBOARD

Scoreboard section containing Volleyball, Nebraska Scores, and Football results.

AREA CALENDAR

Area Calendar section containing various sports events and schedules for different regions.

FOOTBALL

Football section containing SDSWA Poll, Class 11AA, and Class 11B results.

NATIONAL FOOTBALL LEAGUE

National Football League section containing American Conference and National Conference standings.

BASEBALL

Baseball section containing World Series, American Association, and Can-Am League results.

WRESTLING

Wrestling section containing National Wrestling Alliance results.

SOCCER

Soccer section containing various youth and college soccer results.

Wheldon

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thy," said Clive, reading slowly from a statement and flanked by sons Austin and Ashley. "He was a true champion and a gentleman on and off the track."
A floral tribute was placed in the heart of the village.
"R.I.P. Dan. You'll be missed champ," read one of the messages.
"I follow motor racing and it was a terrible shock when I put the television on this morning and saw what had happened," retired Emberton resident Sylvia Croxen said. "From what I know, he was very well liked."
A winner of eight British karting titles after taking up the pursuit as a 4-year-old, Wheldon left Emberton for the U.S. in 1999 after failing to secure financial backing for his career in Europe.
Quickly embracing the American lifestyle, he soon got his chance in the IndyCar series. Titles and fame soon followed.
In 2005, he became the first English driver since Graham Hill 39 years earlier to win the Indy 500, helping him capture the overall IndyCar championship that year. He went on to win the Indy 500 again this year after taking the lead for the first time with only seconds remaining.
"He was an extremely talented driver," said British driver Lewis Hamilton, the 2008 Formula One champion. "As a British guy who not only went over to the States but who twice won the Indy 500, he was an inspirational guy, and someone that every racing driver looked up to with respect and admiration."
Beyond the U.S., though, there was precious little coverage of Wheldon's exploits on the track. Even in Emberton, residents knew of him as simply a success-

ful driver rather than a longtime star of the IndyCar circuit.
"We all knew he was a good racing driver... but he moved to America a few years and we didn't see much of him after that," said George Cheney, 73, who has lived in Emberton for 10 years.
Wheldon was much better known in racing circles.
"Two victories in the Indy 500 put him in a very select group of drivers," British Racing Drivers' Club president Derek Warwick said. "Dan was a true professional and a great ambassador for the sport. He was highly focused in the way he approached his racing and a real perfectionist."
"With his film-star good looks and athletic prowess, it was no wonder that the American public took him to their hearts."
Jenson Button, Hamilton's teammate at McLaren, was one of Wheldon's rivals in junior karting in the 1990s, describing him as a "true fighter."
"We've lost a legend in our sport but also a great guy," Button said on Twitter.
Wheldon had been scheduled to compete next weekend in the Gold Coast 600 at Surfers Paradise, Australia, teaming with V8 Supercar champion James Courtney as a co-driver for the two 300-kilometer touring car races.
Two IndyCar drivers have pulled out of the event — Australian Will Power, who injured his back in Sunday's crash in Las Vegas, and Tony Kanaan of Brazil.
"Tony was probably Dan's closest friend in the racing fraternity and we fully support his decision," V8 series chairman Tony Cochrane said.
Cochrane said Ryan Briscoe of Australia, Alex Tagliani of Canada and Helio Castroneves of Brazil will remain in the race.
"We want to run a great event on the weekend as a true testament to a true champion in Dan Wheldon," he said.

Coyote Men's Golf Compete At APSU Intercollegiate

HOPKINSVILLE, Ky. — The South Dakota men's golf team is 15th after two rounds of the F&M Bank APSU Intercollegiate hosted by Austin Peay State University. The Coyotes opened the tournament with a 301 team score and dropped eight strokes for a 293 in the second round (598 for 36-holes) on the par 72, 7,132-yard The Links at Novadell course in Hopkinsville, Ky. The final round is scheduled for Tuesday.
The host Governors lead the 16-team field after carding a 36-hole score of 560. Samford University is second with a 561, followed by Jacksonville State with a 564. Troy is fourth with a 567 and Binghamton is fifth with a 569.
Individually, Samford's Drew Almon leads the 93-player field with an impressive 9-under after he carded rounds of 67 and 68 Monday.

Welcome Area 8th Grade Girls!

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