

Press & Dakotan
DAILY DOSE

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



BY JAMES D. CIMBUREK
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As I sat in the pressbox in Creighton, Neb., during the waning moments of the Bulldogs' victory over Hartington in the Nebraska Class D1 football playoffs, I heard the discussion between the pressbox staff about where the team would be playing come Wednesday, when the second round is scheduled to be held. What should have been an easy discussion wasn't. Nebraska's playoff hosting formula contains one little provision that complicates matters: If a team that did not play at home the previous round plays a team that did, the team that was on the road gets to host that round. Regardless of the seed.

Time To Quit Rewarding Lower Seeds

I understand the concept, not just because I have been covering Nebraska high school football for nearly two decades, or because South Dakota used to have a similar system. The desire is to have as few teams as possible spend too much time on the road, and to reward those teams that pull off an upset. But the system also gives an edge to a team that hasn't earned one with their play during the regular season, and sometimes it's just enough to allow one upset to turn into two. While I applaud Nebraska's selection system — get the best 32 teams, then try to divide them geographically — I think the hosting system leaves much to be desired. South Dakota abandoned that format a few years back, and I think it's time to do the same in Nebraska. The ultimate goal is to have the best two teams playing at Memorial Stadium the week of Thanksgiving, and that format could stand in the way of it.

SCOREBOARD

FOOTBALL

NEBRASKA PLAYOFFS

CLASS C-1

First Round, Oct. 27

Arlington 22, Millard 0
Bishop Neumann 42, Raymond Central 0
Boone Central 50, Gordon/Rushville 7
Chadron 19, St. Paul 18
Columbus Lakeview 53, Lincoln Lutheran 33
Columbus Scotus 42, Centennial 21
David City 34, Ashland-Greenwood 24
Gothenburg 33, Sandy Creek 30, OT
Midland 49, Central City 7
Norfolk Catholic 5, Battle Creek 0
Ogallala 49, Crofton 20
Omaha Roncalli 28, Fort Calhoun 13
Pierce 54, Grand Island Central Catholic 14
Platteville 42, Conestoga 6
Valentine 42, Kimball 14
Wahoo 55, Syracuse 0

CLASS C2

First Round, Oct. 27

Aquinas 63, Archbishop Bergan 7
Blue Hill 14, Ravenna 7
Cambridge 35, Sutton 16
Crofton 55, Hershey 0
Elmwood-Murdock 14, Humboldt/Table Rock-Sleinauer 6

NEBRASKA PLAYOFFS

CLASS D1

First Round, Oct. 27

Hartington Cedar Catholic 42, Stanton 12
Keastings St. Cecilia 41, Bayard 0
Kearney Catholic 68, Thayer Central 21
Lincoln Christian 67, Homer 7
Lutheran High Northeast 23, Ponca 16
North Platte St. Patrick's 50, Donphan-Trumbull 28

CLASS D2

First Round, Oct. 27

Anselmo-Merna 48, Stuart 26
Bertrand 76, Potter-Dix 19
Clarkson 46, Bloomfield 22
Dodge 62, Staring 8
Exeter/Milligan 28, Humphrey 18
Falls City Sacred Heart 40, Parkview Christian 12
Gilmer 68, Lindsay Holy Family 28
Howells 68, Wynot 18
Humphrey St. Francis 58, Dorchester 0
Loomis 48, Hayes Center 8
Medicine Valley 43, Paxton 12
Pawnee City 78, Meridian 14
Pleasanton 46, Litchfield 31
Sargent 64, Mullen 26
St. Mary's 66, Wallace 0
Sumner-Eddyville-Miller 48, Brady 24

NATIONAL FOOTBALL LEAGUE

AMERICAN CONFERENCE

W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
5	1	0	.833	185	135
4	2	0	.667	188	147
4	3	0	.571	172	152
0	6	0	.000	90	146

South

W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
4	3	0	.571	182	131
3	3	0	.500	112	135
2	5	0	.286	84	139
0	7	0	.000	111	225

North

W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
5	2	0	.714	151	122
4	2	0	.667	137	111
4	2	0	.667	155	83
3	3	0	.500	97	120

West

W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
4	2	0	.667	141	136
4	3	0	.571	160	178
3	3	0	.500	105	150
2	4	0	.333	123	155

EAST

W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
4	2	0	.667	154	147
3	3	0	.500	149	128
3	3	0	.500	116	116
2	4	0	.333	145	145

South

W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
5	2	0	.714	239	158
4	3	0	.571	131	169
4	3	0	.571	158	163
2	5	0	.286	166	183

North

W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
7	0	0	1.000	230	141
5	2	0	.714	194	137
4	3	0	.571	170	150
1	6	0	.143	148	178

West

W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
5	1	0	.833	167	97
4	4	0	.500	97	128
2	5	0	.286	116	153
0	6	0	.000	56	171

Open: Carolina, Detroit, Jacksonville, Minnesota

Monday, Nov. 7

Chicago at Philadelphia, 7:30 p.m.

VOLLEYBALL

SOUTH DAKOTA SCORES

Monday, Nov. 7

Aberdeen Central def. Pierre, 25-19, 25-12, 25-25, 23-25, 15-4
Arlington def. Sioux Valley, 25-23, 25-14, 25-21, 25-22

Bennett County def. Wall, 12-25, 25-13, 25-16, 20-25, 15-11
Brandon Valley def. Brookings, 25-22, 25-22, 25-21
Crow Creek def. Marty Indian, 25-9, 25-9, 21-25, 25-22
Dakota Valley def. Dell Rapids, 25-14, 25-23, 18-25, 25-21
Deuel def. Britton-Hecla, 26-24, 25-22, 22-25, 25-21
Elk Point-Jefferson def. Vermillion, 25-15, 25-18, 25-20
Estelinae def. Florence/Henry, 25-21, 25-20, 25-15
Faith def. Takini, 25-8, 25-14, 25-12, 25-14
Flandreau def. Flandreau Indian, 25-3, 25-6, 25-14
Hanson def. Dakota Christian, 21-25, 25-18, 25-16, 20-25, 15-7
Herreid/Selby Area def. McIntosh, 25-8, 25-15, 25-16
James Valley Christian def. Sunshine Bible Academy, 25-18, 25-9, 25-15
Moberge-Polkoff def. Leola/Frederick, 25-15, 25-11, 25-19
Mt. Vernon def. Wolsley-Wessington, 18-25, 25-19, 25-18, 25-20
Northwestern Area def. Hitchcock-Tulare, 25-15, 25-16, 25-9
Oldham-Ramona/Rutland def. Castlewood, 22-25, 25-20, 21-25, 25-20, 15-9
Pine Ridge def. St. Francis Indian, 25-7, 25-12, 22-25, 25-12
Rapid City Central def. Spearfish, 25-10, 25-16, 17-25, 19-25, 15-10
Redfield/Doland def. Aberdeen Christian, 25-19, 25-17, 25-17
Sioux Falls Roosevelt def. Mitchell, 19-25, 20-25, 25-17, 25-17, 16-14
St. Louis def. Washington def. Huron, 25-22, 18-25, 25-21, 25-17
Summit def. Wilmot, 25-16, 13-25, 25-13, 25-12

AREA CALENDAR

Friday, October 28

SWIMMING-DIVING, WOMEN Iowa State at USD (6 p.m.)
VOLLEYBALL, WOMEN'S USD at Western Illinois (7 p.m.)
VOLLEYBALL, GIRLS' Lewis & Clark Conf. Tour: at Hartington (Allen, Bloomfield, Hartington, Newcastle, Ponca, Wausa, Wynot), Mid-State Conf. Tour. (Hartington Cedar Catholic); Niobrara Valley Conf. Tour. at O'Neill (Niobrara-Verdige, Santee); Northeast Neb. Activities Conf. Tour. at Tilden (Creighton, Crofton, Laurel-Concord-Coleridge, Randolph)

Saturday, October 29

CROSS COUNTRY, COLLEGE Summit League Championships at Tulsa (USD)
FOOTBALL, COLLEGE USD at Cal Poly (8:05 p.m., KYNT-AM, KYBB-FM)
SOCCER, MEN'S Midland at MMC (3 p.m.)
SOCCER, WOMEN'S USD at Oral Roberts (7 p.m.); Midland at MMC (1 p.m.)

Sunday, October 30

SWIMMING-DIVING, COLLEGE Western Illinois-William Jewell at USD (1 p.m.)
VOLLEYBALL, WOMEN'S USD at IUPUI (6 p.m.); MMC at Midland (1:30 p.m.)
VOLLEYBALL, WOMEN'S JV MMC at Midland (noon)

Monday, October 31

No activities scheduled

BASEBALL

WORLD SERIES

Wednesday, Oct. 19

St. Louis 3, Texas 2

Thursday, Oct. 20

Texas 2, St. Louis 1

Saturday, Oct. 22

St. Louis 16, Texas 7

Sunday, Oct. 23

Texas 4, St. Louis 0

Monday, Oct. 24

Texas 4, St. Louis 2

Wednesday, Oct. 26

Texas at St. Louis, p.d., weather

Thursday, Oct. 27

Texas (Lewis 14-9) at St. Louis (Garcia 13-7), 7:05 p.m.

Friday, Oct. 28

Texas (Harrison 14-9) at St. Louis (TBA), 7:05 p.m., if necessary

NEBRASKA SCORES

Wednesday, Oct. 19

Grand Island def. Kearney, 25-19, 25-12, 25-27, 25-12

Thursday, Oct. 20

Lincoln Southeast def. Norfolk, 25-22, 25-11, 22-25, 25-17

Friday, Oct. 21

Lincoln Southwest def. Lincoln High, 25-12, 25-13, 25-17

Saturday, Oct. 22

Minden def. Seward, 25-19, 20-25, 25-15, 25-22

Sunday, Oct. 23

Omaha Northwest def. Boys Town, 25-15, 25-15, 25-11

Monday, Oct. 24

Platteview def. Ralston, 25-20, 25-16, 25-21

Tuesday, Oct. 25

St. Edward def. Arcadia, 25-15, 25-12, 20-25, 25-18

Elkhorn Triangular

Elkhorn def. Lincoln East, 25-22, 26-24
Elkhorn def. Fremont, 25-21, 25-19
Lincoln East def. Fremont, 26-24, 25-22

Holdrege Triangular

Aurora def. Holdrege, 25-21, 25-16
Aurora def. Schuyler, 25-19, 25-20
Holdrege def. Schuyler, 22-25, 25-10, 25-17

TRANSACTIONS

BASEBALL

HAMILTON—Named Kate DeSorrento women's basketball coach.

American League

KANSAS CITY ROYALS—Re-signed LHP Andrew Dobies, LHP Edgar Osuna, RHP Mario Santiago, C Cody Clark. INF Irving Falu, INF John Whitteman and OF Paulo Orlando to minor league contracts.

National League

MILWAUKEE BREWERS—Sent LHP Mitch Stetter outright to Nashville (IL).
ST. LOUIS CARDINALS—Exercised the 2012 and 2013 contract options on RHP Adam Wainwright.

Bowling

Professional Bowlers Association—Announced the retirement of chief executive officer and commissioner Fred Schreyer, who will continue to serve as a senior advisor. Named Geoff Reiss chief executive officer. Promoted Tom Clark to commissioner, effective November 1.

National Football League

CHICAGO BEARS—Released S Chris Harris.

Arena Football League

ARIZONA RATTLETS—Re-signed DB Marquis Floyd.

National Hockey League

COLUMBUS BLUE JACKETS—Recalled D David Savard from Springfield (AHL). Activated D Theo Ruth from injured reserve and assigned him to Springfield.

Women's Professional Soccer

WPS—Terminated the magicjack franchise. COLLEGE AMERICAN U.—Signed men's basketball coach Jeff Jones to a contract extension through the 2015-16 season.

California

CALIFORNIA—Named Sally Fulp deputy director of athletics and chief operating officer. DEPAUL—Announced freshman basketball G Macari Brooks withdrew from school.

Fairleigh Dickinson

FAIRLEIGH DICKINSON—Named Deb Solfaro senior associate athletics director and Amanda Livsey and Michael Kellner assistant athletic trainers.

Saint Mary's

SAINT MARY'S (CAL.)—Signed women's soccer coach Kai Edwards to a contract extension through 2015.

Yankton Finishes Strong At SF Invite

STANTON, Minn. (AP) — In its final preparation for the Eastern South Dakota Conference meet next week, the Yankton competitive cheer team won its division at the Sioux Falls Invite on Thursday at S.F. Washington High School. Yankton's dance team took second place, behind Washington. In the large squad Stunting/Non-Tumbling category,

Yankton defeated Huron 186.5-137.5 for first place. Brookings won the Stunting/Tumbling crown. And in the dance competition, Washington won the overall title with a 275.17, ahead of Yankton (249.83) and Lincoln (240.33). The Gazelles were second in the large squad Kick category. Yankton will compete in the ESD Meet next Friday in Mitchell.

STUNTING/TUMBLING: Brookings 249, S.F. Washington 199.5, Sioux Valley 192, S.F. O'Gorman 188.5, Dell Rapids 165, Brandon Valley 160, Platte-Geddes 144, Winner 130

Small Squad

STUNTING/Non-Tumbling: Douglas 141
STUNTING/TUMBLING: Dell Rapids St. Mary 194, Lake Preston 155.5, S.F. Lincoln 116

DANCE

Large Squad

OVERALL: S.F. Washington 275.17, Yankton 249.83, S.F. Lincoln 240.33
POM: S.F. Washington 283.5, Platte-Geddes 211.5
KICK: S.F. Washington 257, Yankton 231
JAZZ: S.F. Washington 285
HIP-HOP: S.F. Roosevelt 242, S.F. Lincoln 237.5, Huron 193

Small Squad

POM: Yankton 252, S.F. Lincoln 231.5, Brandon Valley 226.5
KICK: Brandon Valley 196
JAZZ: S.F. Roosevelt 267.5, Yankton 266.5, S.F. Lincoln 252

Lawmakers Dig In Over Vikings Stadium Funding

ST. PAUL, Minn. (AP) — A cadre of Minnesota legislators opposed to putting public money into a deal for a new Vikings stadium acknowledged Thursday they'd let the team flee the state rather than let themselves be strong-armed into cutting a deal at any price. Minneapolis Mayor R.T. Rybak, meanwhile, laid out two funding options and three possible sites in a bid to keep the team from bolting from the city to the suburbs — or beyond. His plan relies on new sales and lodging taxes or proceeds from a potential downtown casino. All of it comes as Democratic Gov. Mark Dayton's self-imposed deadline for crafting a stadium plan approaches. He hopes to call lawmakers into special session before Thanksgiving to vote on hundreds of millions of dollars in public subsidies. The Vikings have four games remaining on their Metrodome lease, and have made it clear that they won't re-up without assurances that

a new stadium will get built. Team owner Zygi Wilf has stopped short of threatening to leave the state, but other cities craving an NFL franchise are paying attention. "We don't want them to leave, but if they're going to leave I guess that is going to happen," said Sen. David Hann, a Republican who led a news conference by a bipartisan group of lawmakers fighting efforts to expand gambling to help pay for a new stadium. The lawmakers said their opposition extends to using all forms of taxpayer money. Added GOP Sen. Dave Thompson, an assistant majority leader: "I have to do what I believe is right. I wouldn't be making the Vikings leave. It would be the ownership of the Vikings making a decision to leave if they do and the NFL allowing them because they don't get what they want." Wilf prefers a suburban Ramsey County site that could result in a price tag topping \$1 billion, with half or more coming from state and

local revenue streams. The team reiterated Thursday that it regards the Arden Hills site as "the ideal stadium site for the state, the Vikings and our fans." The statement came in reaction to Rybak's announcement of three stadium sites in Minneapolis, including one on the current Metrodome property. The project's costs would range from \$895 million to about \$1.05 billion. Under Rybak's plan, the city would shoulder as much as \$300 million of the overall cost. Unless lawmakers go the casino route, the sales tax would rise 0.35 percentage point — putting it above 8 percent overall on standard purchases in the city — and an extra 1 percent tax would be tacked onto hotel bills. The mayor's proposal also calls for a \$150 million renovation of Target Center, where the NBA's Timberwolves play. As a sweetener, Rybak is playing up the possibility of modest property tax relief once Target Center's debt is restructured.

Creighton

Thomas punched the ball in from eight yards out to secure the final margin. "We had a shot, but we made a couple of costly mistakes," Kalin said. "We were where we wanted to be, but Creighton executed and made plays down the stretch." Creighton finished with 392 yards total offense, 293 of it on the ground. Morrill finished with

112 yards on 15 carries, with Seth Wilmes gaining 53 and Mitteis gaining 52. Mitteis was also 5-12 passing for 99 yards, with Wilmes catching three for 46 and Thomas catching two for 53. Fuelberth had 69 of Hartington's 126 yards rushing, 52 of which came on his touchdown run. Miller rushed for 47 yards and was 7-13 passing for 29 yards. After playing four straight home games before playing at Memorial Stadium in the 2010 playoffs, the Bulldogs (7-2) will hit the road to Nebraska Christian (8-1), 48-0 winners over Ran-

dolph, on Wednesday in the second round. But the trip to Central City, Neb., does not worry the Bulldog coach. "Last year we lucked out," Jensen noted. "But most years, we haven't been that lucky. Looking at past years, we've played pretty well on the road." Hartington finishes with a 5-4 record, with two losses to the Bulldogs. The Wildcats finished 3-6 last season. "I'm proud of our kids. They've been a great group to work with," Kalin said. "They've worked hard, and they deserved to be in the playoffs."

Cedar

From Page 8A

Cedar backfield and nearly took the handoff. A play later, Nickolite high-stepped through Trojan tacklers and found an opening in his way to a 23-yard touchdown run. However, Nickolite was stopped short on the conversion, and Cedar Catholic maintained a 14-12 lead.

Sudbeck, who had shown his speed to the outside on his previous scores, showed his power as he kept his feet moving and pushed the pile backward for a 3-yard score and a 20-12 lead with 3:32 to play in the half. After being bottled up for most of the 3rd quarter, Sudbeck scored with 1:05 remaining as he picked his way through the line, looked back to find no one there, and cruised the rest of the way for a 36-

yard touchdown. Trailing 28-12, Stanton looked to make a last stand behind Nickolite, who reeled off a 43-yard run. Herbolzheimer saved a Mustang touchdown by tackling Nickolite from behind. Houston Huss bowled his way to the 1-inch line for the Mustangs on second down, but a fumbled snap thwarted Stanton's chance on third down, and on fourth down, the Trojan defense stopped Nickolite short of the goal-line to turn back the threat. "We had that same scenario against Ponca earlier this year, so the kids have been in that situation before," Cattau said of the stand. "They fully expected to make that stop."

"We put the ball inside the 2-yard line and work on that every day, and it paid dividends," Cattau added. With the Mustangs thinking safety, the Trojans quickly erased the notion with some breathing room on a 6-yard carry Nick Uhing and a 92-yard burst for a touch-

down from Sudbeck for a 36-12 Cedar lead.

The Trojans tacked on an exclamation point as Kyle Klug found Dicks on the post pattern for a 29-yard touchdown and the 42-12 final. Sudbeck averaged 12.5 yards on his 25 carries. "We've known for a long time how special he can be, and he knows we're going to lean on him — especially in the fourth quarter," Cattau said. "The line blocked well for him and everything went well for us tonight."

Tyler Loberg led the Trojans with 10 tackles and an interception. Nickolite led Stanton (5-4) with 172 yards on 27 carries.

The Trojans (7-2) move on to play Nov. 2 at Oakland-Craig, who beat Laurel-Concord 64-12.

"It's the next step — that's all," Sudbeck said. "It's one game at a time and we'll do what we've got to do."

Crofton

From Page 8A

came through the line there were huge holes." The ability of the Crofton linemen to move well and the backs to utilize those gaps, according to Hoffman. "I liked how our linemen got out in space," Hoffman said. "The backs did a very good job of getting up and cutting off those blocks." Hershey quarterback Jimmy Moore was 8-13 passing for 89 yards and one interception. Tight end Parker Young caught four passes for 47 yards. Defensively for Crofton, Peitz had 10 tackles (9 solo) and List

posted eight tackles (3 solo). Jake Guenther had two tackles for loss, with six other Warriors recording one each.

While the score proved one-sided, Hershey coach Ryan Smith did not blame a lack of execution by his team, especially when it came to stopping Peitz.

"It wasn't a lack of effort or a lack of technique," he said. "We squared him up, and he ran right through it."

Crofton, 9-0, advances to the second round on Nov. 2. The Warriors will host Perkins County (8-1), 37-6 victors over Chase County.



Showcase what you love most about our area in the

PRESS & DAKOTAN

2012 Calendar Photo Contest.

This special feature will display readers' breathtaking photos of our coverage area.