

Gazelles Win At Pierre To End Skid

PIERRE — Mikala Hora and Kelsey Fitzgerald combined for 35 kills as Yankton swept Pierre 25-17, 25-12, 27-25 in Eastern South Dakota Conference volleyball action on Saturday at Pierre.

Hora finished with 18 kills and 18 digs, and Fitzgerald had 17 kills, eight digs and two blocks to lead Yankton. Maria Binder finished with 33 assists and nine digs. Brooke Wuebben posted five ace serves and nine digs. Haley Mines added nine digs in the win.

For Pierre, Whitney DeMoss had eight kills and Kaitlyn Sevryn had seven kills, three ace serves and three assisted blocks to lead the net attack. Kelsey Schmitz also had three blocks (1 solo). Rachel Hartmann added 19 digs in the effort.

Yankton, 6-8 overall and 5-7 in the ESD, hosts Sioux Falls Roosevelt on Tuesday. Pierre, 3-14 and 0-11, travels to Mitchell on Tuesday.

Pierre won the JV match 25-19, 25-13.

Yankton took the sophomore match 25-18, 25-15 to improve to 7-7 on the season. Kaylee Wooten

had 10 kills and Morgan Jaquith had six kills, 12 assists and three ace serves. Meggie Steiner added two ace serves and five digs.

Pierre beat Yankton 25-16, 25-18 in the freshmen 'A' match. Julie Soto led Yankton with eight assists and three ace serves.

Yankton took the freshmen 'B' match 25-16, 25-27, 26-24. Danielle Salvatori had five ace serves, Hannah Bockholt had seven kills and Soto had 17 assists for the Gazelles.

Hartington Tourn.

HARTINGTON, Neb. — Hartington beat Emerson-Hubbard 25-17, 25-23, for the championship of the Hartington volleyball Tournament on Saturday.

Michaela Dendinger had seven kills and Shelby Hochstein had four kills to lead Hartington. Courtney Hochstein had 15 assists and nine digs.

No statistics were available for the following matches: Emerson-Hubbard over Bancroft-Rosalie 25-17, 25-20; Ponca over Winside 6-25, 25-22, 25-22; and Winside over Bancroft-Rosalie 28-26, 23-25, 25-12.

EMERSON-HUBBARD DEF. WYNOT 25-22, 25-14: Sam Wieseler had four kills and two blocks, and Jenna Heine had nine assists to lead Wynot. Kelsie Higgins posted 16 digs, and Erica Burbach had seven digs for the Lady Blue Devils.

HARTINGTON DEF. PONCA 25-20, 25-23: Michaela

Dendinger had nine kills and three ace serves, and Shelby Hochstein had six kills to lead Hartington. Courtney Hochstein posted 22 assists. Camie Stralman added four ace serves in the win.

WYNOT DEF. PONCA 25-17, 25-22: Sam Wieseler had six kills and three ace serves, and Erica Burbach had 11 assists, nin digs and three ace serves for Wynot. Shelby Wieseler had six kills. Jenna Heine had 10 assists, Ashley Heine had 10 digs and Zoey Heimes had nine digs in the win.

Big Sioux Conference

TEA — Sioux Falls Christian beat Dakota Valley 25-13, 25-14, 25-14 for the championship of the Big Sioux Conference volleyball tournament on Saturday at Tea Area High School.

Kristin Stern had 14 kills, and Kiara Vander Pol had eight kills and eight digs to lead SFC. Kayley McCarron had 26 assists and 3 1/2 blocks. Miranda Velgersdyk added three ace serves in the win.

Jayde Bergmann had seven kills and Karissa Jensen had five kills to lead Dakota Valley. Lindsey Smith had 13 assists and Erica Johnson had eight digs in the effort.

SFC, 21-4, takes on Southwest Christian on Tuesday. Dakota Valley, 19-3, hosts Council Bluffs Thomas Jefferson today (Monday).

THIRD — ELK POINT-JEFFERSON DEF. TRI-VALLEY 25-13, 25-18: Amy Zeller had six kills and 12 digs, and Keely Bertram had a team-best eight kills for EPJ. Audrey Truhe had 10 assists and Hope Erickson had nine assists for the Huskies. Skylore Curry had two blocks and Kelsey Abbey had three ace serves in the win.

Allison Cross had seven kills, Katie Nelson had two blocks and Shayla Berry had five digs for Tri-Valley.

EPJ, 16-8, takes on Ponca on Friday. Tri-Valley, 15-6, travels to Harrisburg on Tuesday.

FIFTH — TEA AREA DEF. BERESFORD 25-13, 25-23: Lauren Hill and Samantha Dunlap had seven kills

each, and Morgan McKinney had 15 assists to lead Tea Area.

Hayley Hansen had five kills and six blocks, and Ashleigh Ochsenr had 10 digs for Beresford. Meghan Dahlin and three blocks and Sophie Doeden added six assists for the Watchdogs.

The Titans (11-7) face McCook Central-Montrose on Tuesday in Montrose. Beresford, 11-12, takes on Vermillion today (Monday).

SEVENTH — DELL RAPIDS DEF. CANTON 25-22, 25-16: Cassidy Wright and McKenzie Rienhart had three kills each, and Morgan Hoglund had eight digs for Dell Rapids.

Kendra Rock had six kills and Janet Van De Stroet had nine assists to lead Canton. Atlanta Lundstrom added nine digs for the C-Hawks.

The Quamriers travel to Madison on Tuesday. Canton, 4-19, travels to Alcester-Hudson on Friday.

SEMIFINALS

DAKOTA VALLEY DEF. TRI-VALLEY 24-26, 25-23, 25-22, 22-25, 15-7: Kylie Martin pounded out 19 kills to lead Dakota Valley to a tough semifinal victory. Erica Johnson had eight kills and 16 digs, and Lindsey Smith had 45 assists and 17 digs for the Panthers. Karissa Jensen had eight kills and Morganne Plaffie had seven kills to lead the net attack. Hannah Bauer had 26 digs. Piepre Tweed had 17 digs and Shyler Funck had 12 digs in the victory.

Allison Cross led Tri-Valley with 14 kills, five blocks and three ace serves. Katie Nelson and Cally Neises each had five blocks. Robyn Wingen had 21 digs, Shayla Berry had 15 digs and Chelsea Amundson had 14 digs for the Mustangs.

S.F. CHRISTIAN DEF. ELK POINT-JEFFERSON 25-16, 25-12, 25-16: Stacy Smith had 11 kills and 2 1/2 blocks, and Kara Koht had 11 digs and six ace serves to lead SFC. Hayley McCarron had 27 assists. Kiara Vander Pol had 11 digs and four ace serves, and Miranda Velgersdyk added three ace serves in the win.

Keely Bertram had eight kills and 12 digs, and Kelsey Abbey had 15 digs for EPJ. Amy Zeller had five kills and 11 digs, and Audrey Truhe had 10 assists for the Huskies.



JEREMY HOECK/P&D

Yankton native Megan Hilson, left, leads a pack of University of South Dakota runners at Saturday's Tim Young Cross Country Invitational in Vermillion.

Cross Country: Coyotes Build Confidence With Home Sweep

BY JEREMY HOECK
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VERMILLION — The combination of a rare home meet, a chance to rebound from a sub-par performance two weeks ago and a prep for the conference meet all made for a good day.

Specifically for the runners wearing red and white.

Faced with a small field, the University of South Dakota men and women still dominated the Tim Young Cross Country Invitational on Saturday morning in Vermillion.

The Coyote men put seven in the top eight, while the USD women finished runners at 3-4-5-7 in a meet that included four other schools — Nebraska-Omaha, Carleton (Minn.), Butler CC (Kan.) and Minnesota-Morris.

"This was a great confidence-builder for us," said USD junior Jeff Mettler, who won the men's race in a time of 24:52.56. "Our last meet was a little disappointing for all of us, so this was a good way to get back."

That last race was the Roy Griak Invite on Sept. 29, in which the Coyote men were 13th out of 15 teams and the women were last at 17th.

In short, the Coyotes needed a pick-me-up.

"I just really wanted to come in and run better times," said USD freshman Amber Eichhorn, the third-place runner in the women's race. "I fell short at Roy Griak; it wasn't anything to be too happy about. I had to prove to myself that I could still run."

She, like many of her teammates, did exactly that.

The men's finish was dotted with Coyotes, who showed their depth. Mettler was followed by Ethan Marquardt (25:16.56), Mubarik Musa (25:46.49) and Brant Haase (25:51.63).

Benson Langat finished sixth at 26:09.12, followed by Isaac Allen (26:31.80) and Yankton native Alex Hohenhaner (26:34.08).

The Coyote women followed Eichhorn with Katie Wetzstein in fourth (18:36.16), Yankton native

Megan Hilson in fifth (18:39.46) and Carol Miller in seventh (18:45.24).

Depth wasn't the only thing evident Saturday.

USD, with only five seniors between the two squads, has improved its programs in a new home — Summit League — while at the same time building a kind of running community.

"We have great kids and great students, and they're learning more and more about the sport," head coach Dan Fitzsimmons said. "It's a very close group; they're always running together and having a good time."

"When I recruited them, that's basically what they all said, they wanted to be part of a team."

That chemistry has helped fuel the Coyote women to one of the best at their level.

The team spent two weeks ranked in the Division I Midwest Region coaches poll, falling out after the performance at Roy Griak in Minneapolis.

"We just have a great group of girls," senior Jessica Brandli said. "We were young when we started, but we're getting experience now. We like to stay in a close pack as much as possible."

Of course, the Coyotes aren't as focused on rankings as they are on the Summit League Championships — to be held Oct. 27 in Rochester, Mich.

"From where I ran at high school, our team was never ranked," said Eichhorn, a native of Wichita, Kan. "We're all really close; we love running together, so it's nice to have that recognition."

Saturday's performance came against a small field, but Fitzsimmons said it might provide just the barometer USD needs.

"I've always been a big fan of running on a course that's the same every year. And this is the exact same course since it was built," he said. "Then we can do some comparing, to what we've done on here before and how our times rank to other USD times."

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Hastings Holds Off Mount Marty 3-1

BY EMILY NIEBRUGGE
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Despite their loss over the weekend, the Mount Marty Lancers proved they can compete with some of the best teams in the nation in their Great Plains Athletic Conference volleyball match against the Hastings Broncos.

Senior Tina Rowbotham said the team came to play, and the game fueled their fire for more matches to come.

"My first thought is that I'm impressed," she said. "A lot of people were talking before the game about how Hastings is ranked number one in the GPAC and seventh in the nation. They said, 'Are you ready to lose? Are you going to bring anything?'"

"I definitely think that upset a few people and just pushed us to prove them wrong. Of course we're going to try. I think we finally showed people that we're in it. We put some effort in for the game, which fueled the fire a little bit."

Hastings defeated Mount Marty 3-1 at the Laddie E. Cimpl Arena with scores 25-20, 25-14, 17-25, 25-17, but head coach Candice Climer said the game was ultimately an esteem booster.

"It's an eye-opener and an esteem builder just because we did go four with them and in the first set we just lost by five," she said. "The biggest thing I talked about is that we can compete with these other teams."

After struggling to keep up with Hastings in set one the Lancers tied the set 17-17 and went on to lose by five, 25-20.

MMC continued to struggle in the second set as the Broncos jumped ahead 7-1, and ultimately fell short with a score 25-14.

Mount Marty fired back by jumping ahead early in set three 10-6, and went on to defeat Hastings 25-17, heading in to set four.

With the set tied 8-8, Hasting was able to push ahead 20-11 and ultimately defeat MMC 25-17.

Climer said she has seen the trend a lot this year.

"We've seen a lot of playing every other game well," she said. "We're on that roller coaster. After that first set, because we lost, we can't just drop our heads. We have to work on that. But after that, we had a break and came out to win the third set. We just have to prepare ourselves a little more mentally and prepare the visualization of what's going to happen."

MMC's Amanda Dirksen and Kristen Boyle each put up nine kills and two blocks, and Bailey Kuchta had eight digs, six kills, two blocks and one ace. Emily Schreur recorded six kills and one block, while Lexie Branson contributed five kills and two blocks. Caitlyn Illg had 19 assists and Tina Rowbotham had 18 assists.

For Hastings, Kendra Schwein had 15 kills, nine digs, two aces and one block, Jessica Osterhausen made 12 kills and four blocks and Katie Zoucha made seven kills and five blocks. Haley Beardsley had 48 assists and 12 digs, while Carissa Kinne had 14 digs.

Going in to the match, the Lancers knew they had to up the defense in order to contend with Hastings, and Climer said the team did just that.

"We were talking about all the crazy plays that happened. They were excited and they were happy," she said. "Yeah, we lost, but we also did some really great things. Defense was some-



JILANNE DOOM/P&D

Kristen Boyle leaps to attack the ball during the Lancers' home Great Plains Athletic Conference volleyball match with Hastings on Saturday at Laddie E. Cimpl Arena. Hastings claimed a 3-1 victory.

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Jacks

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to take it out. I saw a crease to the back side, and it just kind of happened."

The Coughlin-Alumni fanbase was quieted four minutes later, when Western Illinois cornerback Martinez Davis intercepted SDSU quarterback Austin Sumner and returned the pick 28 yards for a touchdown.

Though, as Stiegelmeier pointed out later, the Jacks didn't blink. The visiting Leathernecks (3-3, 1-2) were held without an offensive touchdown, though it's far from exclusive company.

SDSU's defense has allowed a total of three touchdowns over its last five games, including two in three league games.

"We told them at the start of the season, the stat that collaterates greatly with success in football is red zone defense, and we're not too bad at that," Stiegelmeier said. "We do a good job; we rise up."

Zach Zenner, the nation's leading rusher, scored on a pair of long touchdown runs for the Jacks, a 46-yard scamper to start the second quarter and a 60-yarder in the fourth quarter.

Other than a Justin Syrovatka 29-yard field goal to start the fourth, those were the only offensive scores for the SDSU offense — which was just 13-of-25 with two interceptions through the air.

Still, the Jackrabbits were able to win despite those struggles.

"There's a lot to be said for it, because right now their record is proof," WIU coach Mark Hendrickson said. "No losses in the conference; that has a lot to say about how they play, they hang in there. At some point, Zach is likely to do his thing."

Eventually, the 6-foot sopho-

more from Eagan, Minn., did exactly that. He carried the ball 19 times for 171 yards, taking advantage of more strong blocking by the SDSU offensive line and receivers.

Tops in the FCS in rushing, Zenner is no doubt a big reason why the Jacks are in first place in the Valley.

"It's taken a lot of hard work to get there and a lot of hard work to stay there, and that's what we're planning on doing," he said.

Of course, the SDSU defense is also as much of a reason. Senior safety Skyler Luxa had a 'pick-six' of his own, on a 23-yard interception return for a touchdown early in the third quarter.

Even with all the strengths, the Jacks can still improve, their coach said.

"It doesn't matter right now, it's about taking this game and learning from this game, and going on to Northern Iowa," Stiegelmeier said. "We have a lot of work to do. We can clean up some stuff and leap forward as a program."

Where that eventually leaves the Jackrabbits when the dust settles will depend on that work ethic, Kool said.

"It helps to win and look at tape and say I could've done that bet-

ter," he said. "I think that we're capable of really big things, you see the potential in our team for that."

"It's really obvious, we just have to make little adjustments here and there, and with time, that'll come."

S. DAKOTA STATE 31, W. ILLINOIS 10

W. ILLINOIS 7 3 0 0 — 10
S. DAKOTA STATE 7 7 10 — 31

First Quarter
SDSI—Kool 100 kickoff return (Syrovatka kick), 14:47.
Will—Davis 28 interception return (Smith kick), 10:29.

Second Quarter
SDSI—Zenner 46 run (Syrovatka kick), 14:50.
Will—FG Smith 23, 7:05.

Third Quarter
SDSI—Luxa 23 interception return (Syrovatka kick), 13:58.

Fourth Quarter
SDSI—FG Syrovatka 29, 14:57.
SDSI—Zenner 60 run (Syrovatka kick), 9:27.
A—10:727.

	WILL	SDSI
First downs	12	17
Rushes-yards	26-60	36-209
Passing	204	136
Comp-Att-Int	20-38-1	13-25-2
Return Yards	35	30
Punts-Avg	9-36.4	6-45.2
Fumbles-Lost	0-0	0-0
Penalties-Yards	5-45	1-6
Time of Possession	29:21	30:39

INDIVIDUAL STATISTICS

RUSHING—W. Illinois, C.Ray 13-46, Watson 12-27, Salomon 1-3, Lunt 2-(minus 16), S. Dakota State, Zenner 19-171, Gandy 10-73, Sumner 7-1.

PASSING—W. Illinois, Lunt 20-38-1-204, S. Dakota State, Sumner 13-24-2-136, Kline 0-1-0-0.

RECEIVING—W. Illinois, Chestnut 9-123, Morgan 3-22, Salomon 3-21, Keating 3-13, C.Ray 2-25, S. Dakota State, Rollin 6-73, Kool 3-24, Zenner 2-20, Hubert 1-11, Tiefenhailer 1-8.

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Football

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Penalties-Yards	5-45	9-86
Time of Possession	39:56	20:04

INDIVIDUAL STATISTICS

RUSHING—South Dakota, Sims 23-108, Vander Maten 24-73, Sanders 10-30, Missouri St., Cooper-Falls 8-36, Scott 9-21, Harris 7-11, Miller 1-1.

PASSING—South Dakota, Vander Maten 13-22-0-164, Missouri St., Harris 20-33-0-214, Team 0-1-0-0.

RECEIVING—South Dakota, Terry 6-69, Powell 3-23, Wilhelm 1-39, Burns 1-18, Williams 1-14, Sanders 1-1, Missouri St., Thayer 5-21, Burton 4-98, Buford 4-33, Christopher 2-33, Dotson 2-20, Kelley 1-17, Miller 1-(minus 3), Cooper-Falls 1-(minus 5).

INDIANA ST. 17, N. DAKOTA ST. 14; FARGO, N.D. (AP) — Johnny Towald returned two interceptions for touchdowns and Indiana State beat North Dakota State 17-14, ending the Bison's 10-game winning streak.

Towald picked off a pass by Brock Jensen and went 27 yards for a score in the second quarter to give Indiana State a 10-3 lead. He did it again early in the fourth quarter, scoring from 31 yards to make it 17-6 Sycamores.

Jensen scored on a 1-yard run with 9:56 to play and also made the 2-point conversion to get NDSU within three points. Jensen's third interception, by Larry King, ended the Bison's best shot after that.

Shakin Bell ran for 111 yards for the Sycamores (5-2, 3-1 Missouri Valley), who have won three straight conference road games for the first time in their 27 years in the MVC.

The defending FCS champion Bison (5-1, 2-1) were coming off a 48-7 win over Youngstown State last week.

S. ILLINOIS 34, N. IOWA 31; CARBONDALE, Ill. (AP) — Austin Johnson kicked a 24-yard field goal with 59 seconds to play and Southern Illinois rallied to beat Northern Iowa 34-31 on Saturday.

The Salukis (4-3, 3-1 MVC) trailed 21-6 in the second quarter when Kenn Boatright blocked a UNI punt and recovered it in the end zone for a touchdown. The Panthers (1-5, 0-3) were driving for a touchdown late in the half when SIU's Bryan Presume picked up the ball at the goal line and ran 100 yards for a touchdown. A 2-point conver-

sion tied it at 21.

Southern Illinois took a 31-21 lead thanks in part to Kory Faulkner's 21-yard scoring pass to MyCole Pruitt, but Northern Iowa tied it at 31 before Johnson's winning kick.

David Johnson ran for 118 yards and two touchdowns for the Panthers. Faulkner ran for a 49-yard touchdown on SIU.

ILLINOIS STATE 35, YOUNGSTOWN STATE 28; NORMAL, Ill. (AP) — Matt Brown threw for 3 touchdowns and ran for one more as Illinois State made a comeback to beat Youngstown State 35-28 on Saturday afternoon.

Brown was 20 of 31 passing for 225 yards, including a 16-yard pass to Donovan Harden. Brown scored on a 1-yard run in the fourth for the Redbirds. He also threw touchdown passes to Lecheine Nebbett and Tyrone Walker. Brown was 20 of 31 for 225 passing yards.

Jamaine Cook put the Penguins on the scoreboard first with a 7-yard run. He had two more touchdowns, including a 14-yard run, keeping Youngstown out in front of Illinois State (6-1, 3-1 Missouri Valley Conference). Cook had 30 carries for 177 rushing yards.

Youngstown State had a 28-7 lead in the second quarter. The Redbirds came back, scoring 28 consecutive points and keeping Youngstown State (4-2, 1-2 Missouri Valley Conference) scoreless in the second half.

IOWA 19, MICHIGAN ST. 16; EAST LANSING, Mich. (AP) — Mark Weisman ran for 116 yards and a tying touchdown in the final minute of regulation, and Iowa went on to beat Michigan State 19-16 in double overtime Saturday.

Mike Meyer kicked field goals in both overtimes, including a 42-yarder in the second that gave the Hawkeyes (4-2, 2-0 Big Ten) their first lead of the game. Iowa then won it when Andrew Maxwell's deflected pass was intercepted by Greg Castillo.

LeVeon Bell ran for 140 yards and a touchdown for Michigan State, but the Spartans (4-3, 1-2) couldn't hold on late. Iowa drove 68 yards in nine plays and tied it at 13 on Weisman's 5-yard run with 55 seconds left in the fourth quarter.

NORTHWESTERN 21, MINNESOTA 13; MINNEAPOLIS (AP) — Vetric Mark rushed for 182 yards and two touchdowns to carry Northwestern to a 21-13 victory over Minnesota on Saturday.

Mark wasn't touched on scoring runs of 26 and 48 yards and the Wildcats (6-1, 2-1 Big Ten) overcame 11 penalties to become bowl eligible and spoil Minnesota's homecoming celebration.

MarQueis Gray rushed for 86 yards and a touchdown after missing the previous two games with knee and ankle injuries. But he also threw an interception and was injured again late in the third quarter for the Golden Gophers (4-2, 0-2).

NO. 6 KANSAS STATE 27, IOWA STATE 21; AMES, Iowa (AP) — Quarterback Collin Klein ran for 105 yards and three touchdowns and sixth-ranked Kansas State held off Iowa State 27-21 for its fifth straight win over the Cyclones.

Klein also threw for 187 yards for the Wildcats (6-0, 3-0 Big 12), who remain unbeaten heading into next week's showdown with West Virginia.

Kansas State held the Cyclones (4-2, 1-2) to just 231 yards of offense. Iowa State still had a chance for the game-winning drive from its own 3-yard line with 2:17 left, but the Wildcats stopped the Cyclones on downs.

The Wildcats held the ball for nearly 41 minutes and converted eight of 17 third downs.

Jared Barnett threw for 166 yards and two TDs for Iowa State.

DRAKE 35, VALPARAISO 21; VALPARAISO, Ind. (AP) — Mike Ratelle returned a kickoff for a touchdown, helping Drake beat winless Valparaiso 35-21 on Saturday afternoon.

AM 1450

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WEEKDAYS

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