

Parkston Avenges Loss To Wagner



KELLY HERTZ/P&D

Wagner's Dillan Thuringer squirts through the Parkston defense to score a touchdown in South Dakota Class 11B football playoff action Tuesday night in Wagner. Parkston won the game 21-14.

BY VANCE JANAK
P&D Correspondent

WAGNER — Trailing by a touchdown with a little over a minute to play Tuesday night against Parkston, Wagner quarterback Dylan Brunsing kept finding wide receiver Chris Kuca for first downs.

A drive that started at the Red Raiders' 21 yard line after Parkston fumbled while salting the game away had reached the Parkston 36 with a minute remaining. In a back-and-forth Class 11B first round playoff game, Wagner had one more chance to answer on a perfect fall night at Nedved-Bich Stadium.

Brunsing dropped back to pass and lofted a pass to the left side line to Timmy Thaler. Before Thaler could make the biggest catch of the game, Parkston defensive back Henry Wegehaupt jumped in front of the lanky receiver, snatching the ball away to secure the Trojans' thrilling 21-14 victory.

"I was playing strong safety on the other side of the field there, and they were coming up with some big plays there," Wegehaupt said. "They were getting yards on us. They were making catches and I wasn't getting to the ball. Coach told me to go the other side and play corner over there. Hey, the next play, he put me in a good position to make the play. I was in a good spot at a good time, and thanks coach for putting me there."

The victory gives Parkston (7-2) seven straight wins after falling to Wagner (6-3) on Aug. 31. The Trojans, making their first playoff appearance since 2007, face Winner on Monday in the quarterfinals.

Tuesday's win came after Park-

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9B: Pirates Power Past Centerville

BY KEITH A. BROCKBERG
P&D Correspondent

AVON — Opportunities presented themselves to both the Avon Pirates and the Centerville Tornadoes as they opened South Dakota State 9B Playoff football Tuesday night, but it was the Pirates who emerged and took advantage to claim a 60-20 win over the Tornadoes in Avon.

The tide turned when the Tornadoes, who trailed 14-6 and were driving forward in Avon territory, turned the ball over on an interception to Brandon Kocmich at the Pirate 5-yard line.

Already backed up, the Pirates were stopped by the Tornado defense for a 4-yard loss. Avon gained a whisper of breathing room on a run of two yards by captain Taylor Hento, and then Kocmich burst through the middle of the line and past the Tornado secondary for a 97-yard touchdown gallop.

The run by the 6-2 junior gave the Pirates a 20-6 lead with 9:35 to play in the first half and had Avon off and running for good.

"It was tiring, but at that point, we just decided to do our jobs," Kocmich said of the run. "The line did a great job of blocking and opening up the hole."

"On the play with the loss, we had a backside guy miss a block," Avon head coach Tom Culver said. "We came back with the same play and everybody did what they were supposed to."

Mistakes plagued both teams in the early going, leaving the upper hand yet to be claimed.

The Pirates had a possible game-opening touchdown run called back by a penalty and then fumbled on their second possession, setting up the Tornadoes first score.

Centerville took possession and quickly passed their way down the field.

Tornado quarterback Seamus O'Malley hooked up with Ty Knutson for completions of seven and 22 yards and hooked up with Logan Hunter for 22-yard gain. The visitors capitalized as O'Malley rifled a pass into Josh DeRaad at the goal-line for a 13-yard touchdown.

DeRaad's touchdown cut Avon's early lead to 8-6, but the Pirates and Kocmich responded by returning the kickoff 89-yards for a touchdown and a 14-6 home lead.

After Kocmich's 97-yard TD run, the Pirates scored 24 points in the final 4:48 of the half to take a sudden 44-6 lead into the break.

Logan Mudder flipped a short pass to fullback Kole Beeson who had no one around him and scampered 27 yards for a score.

Kocmich tacked on touchdown runs of 12 and 14 yards, and the tailback had five first-half scores.

Devin Tolsma opened the second half with a 28-yard sweep and touchdown, and the Pirates increased their lead to 52-6.

The Tornadoes battled the running clock and scored two 4th-quarter touchdowns — one on a 10-yard run from DeRaad and on a hookup from O'Malley to Knutson of 21 yards.

Avon closed out the 60-20 final with a 36-yard touchdown run by



KELLY HERTZ/P&D

Avon's Devin Tolsma (26) foillows blocker Jonah Sturgeon (42) upfield en route to the end zone during the Pirates' South Dakota Class 9B playoff opener against Centerville Tuesday night in Avon. The Pirates won the game 60-20.

Tolsma.

The Pirate coach was pleased with the way his young team, now 6-3, changed the game.

"This is the first playoff game starting for a lot of these kids, and they made some mistakes," Culver said. "These are talented kids and they were able to turn it around."

"Centerville came to play and they threw a lot of different things at us," Culver added. "It took a lit-

tle while for the kids to adjust and to adapt."

The Tornadoes (5-4) wanted to take a physical effort at the Pirates, and they were successful until the game got away from them.

"I was very pleased with the effort we came out with," Centerville head coach Pat Sees said. "We had some execution issues early, but the kids continued to play hard."

Playoffs

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Dakota Bodden had 92 yards through the air for Bon Homme. Sawyer Fredrich had seven receptions for 69 yards. Fredrich also had 18 yards on the ground.

Winner will look to continue their perfect season in the second round on the 11B playoffs. With the loss Bon Homme finishes their season at 4-5.

WINNER (9-0)	13	18	14	6	—	51
BON HOMME (4-5)	0	0	6	0	—	6

Canistota 54, Hanson 0

CANISTOTA — Canistota only needed two quarters to defeat Hanson Tuesday night in Canistota for the 9A first round football playoffs. Canistota had 16 points in the first and recorded 32 in the second.

Cody Bunger rushed the ball for 115 yards. Bunger was also five of six passing for 103 and two touchdowns for Canistota. Alex Robertson contributed 80 yards on the ground. Jason VanWinkle and Boone Dekramer each had eight tackles for the Canistota defense. Devon Denison caused two fumbles on the night.

There were no stats available for Hanson.

Canistota (9-0) will look to improve their season in the second round of the playoffs against. Hanson has ended their season with a 4-5 record.

CANISTOTA (9-0)	16	38	—	54
HANSON (4-5)	0	0	—	0

Tri-Valley 42, Garretson 14

COLTON — With 305 total yards, Tri-Valley defeated Garretson 42-14 in the opening round of the 11B playoffs in Colton.

Sam Mader had 54 yards and a rushing touchdown for Tri Valley. Logan Koopman added 75 yards, a rushing touchdown, and a receiving touchdown. Riley Brown and Logan Otto each added rushing touchdowns. Jaden Krump had six tackles. Clark Haugen also contributed five tackles. Mader added an interception.

Patrick Whetham passed the ball for 85 yards on the night for Garretson. Connor Bloomo had 77 yards receiving. Marr Johnson added 30 yards on the ground for the Blue Dragons. Cody Bonte and Whetham each had rushing touchdowns. Bonte led the Garretson defense with nine tackles. Logan Gutzmer added six tackles.

Tri Valley will move to 8-1 and advance to the second round of the 11B state football playoffs. Garretson will finish their season with a 4-5 record.

TRI-VALLEY (8-1)	16	20	6	0	—	42
GARRETSON (4-5)	8	0	6	—	—	14

Pierre 28, Watertown 6

PIERRE — The Pierre Governors defeated the Watertown Arrows by a score of 28-6 in the opening round of the 11AA playoffs on Monday at Phil Trautner Stadium in Pierre. Austin Wagner led the rushing attack for the Governors with 154 yards and two touchdowns.

Austin Christopherson led the Governors with 100 yards receiving on six catches. Alex Gray was eight of nine passing with 130 yards. Gray also added a rushing touchdown in the winning effort. Anthony Dorschner led the Pierre defense with six tackles. Shay Reinke added two sacks on the evening. Garrett Pochop had an interception for the Governors in the victory.

Watertown was led by Logan Gabriel who passed for 44 yards on the night. Alex Thorson had 31 yards on the ground. Shay Bratland contributed two catches on the evening. Pete Boerma led the Arrow defense with six tackles. Marcus Gravatt contributed four tackles.

The Governors (7-3) will advance in the 11AA playoffs with the victory and will travel to number two ranked Brandon Valley on Monday. With the loss Watertown ends their season with a 2-8 record.

PIERRE (7-3)	7	7	7	—	28
WATERTOWN (2-8)	0	0	6	—	6

Eagles

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on an 18 yard run giving Irene-Wakonda the lead 34-32 over Wilmot. Wilmot's Landon Hammer fired back receiving a 50 yard touchdown pass from Hulscher. With a good two-point conversion, the Wolves regained the lead 40-34 against the Eagles.

Head coach for the Eagles Brent Mutchelknaus said he was proud of the team put forth a great effort.

"We had several kids who got a lot of experience during the year and did a great job," he said. "I can't say enough about how they stayed together and played as a team despite the obstacles we had to overcome."

Although Irene-Wakonda could have given up, Mutchelknaus said the team put forth a great effort.

"We were down and we came back," he said. "It was a great effort offensively to come back and an-

swer everything they did. Defensively we gave up some big plays, but we came back and we answered it offensively. Their desire to win was very good tonight."

Hulscher led the Wolves with 238 yards passing, while Bronson had 139 rushing for the night. Alex Goodhart made 22 tackles for Wilmot, Hooth had 15 tackles and Sterling Owen had 14 tackles.

Livingston passed for a total of 142 for the Eagles, and Heirigs would rush for 69 yards. Heirigs and Wiedrich each had nine tackles for the night.

The Eagles will look to build off of this performance next year, especially with so many of the players coming back.

"We've got a lot of kids coming back, a lot of young kids," Mutchelknaus said. "It's definitely something we can build from. This is something we can use to say, 'Hey, this is what you did against a good team.'"

You can follow Emily Niebrugge on Twitter at [twitter.com/ENiebrugge](#)

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Lancers Fall At Briar Cliff High School NENAC Tourn.

SIOUX CITY, Iowa — Briar Cliff moved above .500 with a 25-20, 25-23, 25-12 victory over Mount Marty in Great Plains Athletic Conference volleyball action on Tuesday at the Newman Flanagan Center.

Jenni Semprini had 11 kills and Kally Iedema had 10 kills to lead Briar Cliff. Erin Frank finished with 33 assists. Monica Boeding added three ace serves in the victory.

For Mount Marty, Lexie Brandon had seven kills and three blocks, and Kristen Boye had four kills and two blocks to lead the net attack. Kate Lingscheit and Amanda Dirksen had two blocks each. Tina Rowbotham had eight assists, with Caitlyn Illg recording seven assists. Rosie Esparza had seven digs and Bailey Kuchta had six digs for the Lancers.

Briar Cliff improves to 15-14 overall and 4-9 in the GPAC. Mount Marty, 5-22 and 1-11, hosts Presentation in a non-conference affair on Friday.

PLAINVIEW, Neb. — In the opening game of the NENAC second round Elkhorn Valley defeated Plainview in four sets. The scores were 25-23, 13-25, 25-21, 25-18.

There were no stats available for Elkhorn Valley in the victory.

Jordan Mosel had 20 assists and 12 digs in the loss. Karri Johnson added 17 assists, seven kills, and six digs. Erika Albin totaled 21 digs on the night.

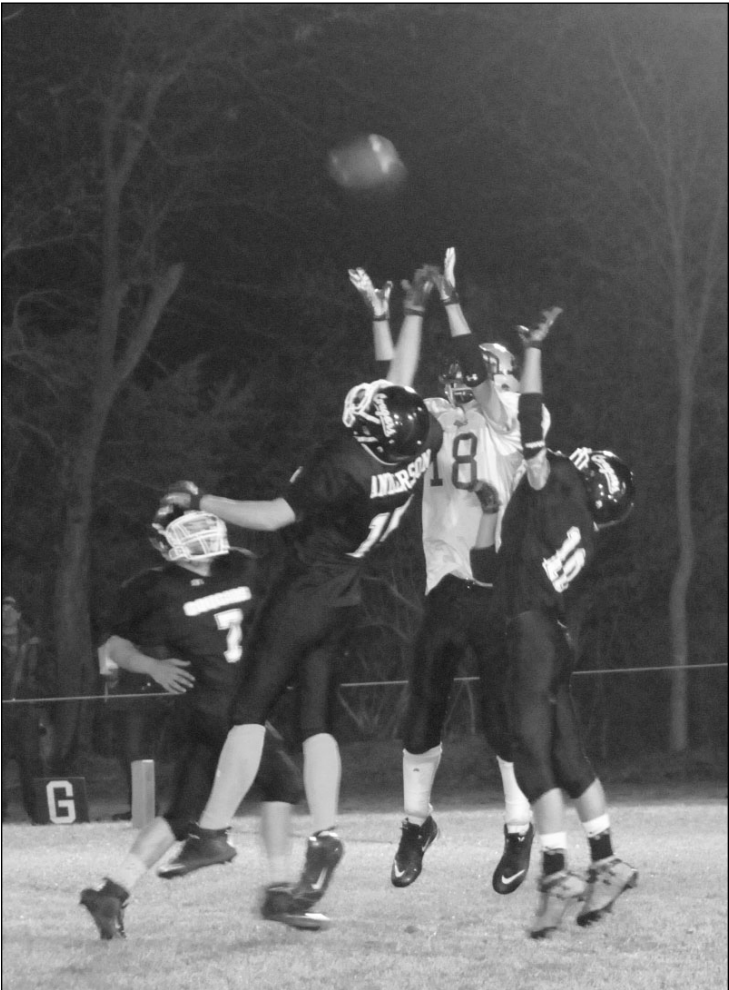
With the victory Elkhorn Valley stays alive, and will play Creighton on Friday at 4:00pm. With the loss Plainview will now gear up for sub districts on Monday. Teams to be announced.

In game two West Holt defeated Laurel-Concord in four sets. The scores were 27-25, 25-15, 20-25, 25-21.

West Holt will take on the other undefeated team in the bracket, Randolph on Friday in Plainview. Laurel-Concord will play Neligh-Oakdale right before the West Holt versus Randolph game.

In the final game of the day, Randolph defeated Neligh-Oakdale in three sets. The scores were 25-14, 25-19, 25-19.

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SHAUNA MARLETTE/P&D

Viborg-Hurley's Jack Huether, front center, intercepts a pass intended for Marion's Jacob Weurtz, 18, during their Class 9B playoff football game on Tuesday in Hurley.

Cougars

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downs, and added a pair of rushing touchdowns and recorded a team high 15 tackles for the Cougars on defense. Trevor Jacobsen caught two passes for the Cougars for 134 yards — both went for touchdowns. He also added four carries for 43 yards and another touchdown.

"We knew coming into the game that we had to be physical and that we were going up against a big team that was going to try to run it down our throats, and they did a pretty good job of that," Sommer-vold said. "However, when push came to shove we made enough plays and we made some big plays as well."

Obele knew his team had to be aggressive coming into the game in order to stay with the Cougars.

"Our game plan coming in was

to be aggressive, and we had to be to stay with them. I thought we moved the ball well but had too many mistakes and turnovers," he said. "Defensively we made some mistakes on the outside, where we had to keep them inside."

After Viborg-Hurley led 8-0 after the first quarter, Marion came back to tie it, but after that it was all Viborg-Hurley. They would lead the Bears 28-8 at halftime and only poured it on after the intermission. The Cougars led 50-14 after three before they ended up mercy ruling Marion to end the game early in the 4th with a final score of 64-14.

"When push came to shove, we made enough plays and we made some big plays," Sommervold said. "For the next round we need to continue to improve our toughness and defense; they moved the ball a bit too much on us tonight. We need to create some more turnovers and continue to take care of the football."

You can follow Andrew Atwal on Twitter at [twitter.com/andrewatwal](#)

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