

Press&Dakotan DAILY DOSE

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



BY JEREMY HOECK
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Before the season started, the Oct. 11 high school football matchup between Pierre and Yankton was seen as a likely 1 vs. 2 showdown. Then the Bucks started 1-3, however, while the Governors jumped out early. Then there was the concern that Yankton could very well find itself out of the Class 11AA playoff picture. Fast forward to Friday, when the second-ranked Bucks (3-3) host top-ranked Pierre (5-0) for not only a key ESD battle but one that will likely determine the No. 1 seed for the post-season. Funny how things change, huh? Certainly a lot has changed over the past two weeks for Yankton, which boasts consecutive wins over Sioux Falls O'Gorman and Watertown. Suddenly, the Bucks have re-emerged as a legitimate title threat. Standing in their way, however, is

1 Vs. 2 Showdown Coming To Crane-Youngworth

high-flying Pierre, which is averaging 34 points a game.

The Governors, who have lost three straight in the series with Yankton, had a bye week last week to prepare for Yankton's likely use of the Buck Spread offense — yes, that is coming back.

While points figure to come in bunches on Friday, the question for me is: How does Yankton's defense perform?

The last two weeks have been very impressive for the Bucks. Discounting a mistake to O'Gorman (when an interception was returned all the way down near the goal line), Yankton's defense has surrendered 14 "true" points over the last two games.

That area faces a stiff test Friday with Pierre's lethal tandem of quarterback Alex Gray and receiver Austin Christopherson. One of many seniors on the Govs' roster, Christopherson caught four touchdown passes in a Sept. 27 rout of Huron.

Yes, Yankton has an explosive offense of its own, but the Bucks don't want to get into a shootout with the Govs.

But make no mistake, Yankton will take it.

MMC Soccer, Track Signs Colo. Recruit

The Mount Marty College women's soccer and track & field programs announced Wednesday the signing of Mykaela Hughes of Johnstown, Colo., to play soccer and run track for the Lancers. Hughes will graduate early from Berthoud High School in December and will join the Lancers in January. She will be listed on the soccer roster as a goalie, defense, and forward player.

Hughes was the captain on her high school team and her club team, Thompson Club United. She was also named First Team All-Conference in 2012 and Second Team All-Conference in 2011. Mykaela was also honored at the Soccer Without Borders Tournament by being named to their All-Tournament Team.

"We are very excited to have Mykaela join our soccer program," said Nathan Epp, Mount Marty's head coach. "She is a very aggressive player with great speed. Her understanding of the game will allow her to have the ability to play multiple positions for us. Mykaela is also a great student and will succeed academically as well. She'll be a great fit for Mount Marty."

Hughes

Hughes will also run sprint events for the Lancer track and field program and will begin competing right away in 2014. She placed third at the state track meet competing in the spring medley relay and was named All-State and All-Conference.

"We are thrilled to have Mykaela be part of our program," MMC head track coach Randy Fischer said. "She will help bring depth to our open sprint events as well as to our sprint relays."

Hughes, the daughter of Jason and Rachael Hughes, plans to major in criminal justice at Mount Marty College. In addition to her athletic awards she will also be receiving an academic merit scholarship.

USD Track To Sell Football Programs For Welcome Table

VERMILLION — South Dakota's track and field teams will be selling game programs at the Indiana State-South Dakota football game on Saturday to raise money for the Welcome Table in Vermillion.

The Welcome Table is a ministry outreach program that provides free meals and friendly company to attendees. Meals are served every Monday night from 5:30-7 p.m. at the First United Methodist Church at 16 N. Dakota St.

Proceeds from the sale of the programs will go towards providing food for the Welcome Table. The

teams will also prepare and serve the food to attendees at a later date.

This year's football game program has expanded to 76 pages with 28 pages in color. The program features a poster of a USD football player that changes for each game, has a feature story on one of USD's football players and has updated stats and game notes. The programs cost \$5 each.

Saturday's game starts at 1 p.m. and will serve as USD's annual Hall of Fame Game and Ag Appreciation Day. Tickets for the game can be bought online at GoYotes.com or by calling the USD Ticket Office at 605-677-5959.

DWU Softball Sponsoring Morning With Jennie Finch

MITCHELL — The Dakota Wesleyan University softball team is sponsoring a morning with Jennie Finch with the Sioux Falls Diamonds Fast-pitch Softball Club in Sioux Falls.

Finch, a former pitcher for the U.S.A. softball Olympic softball team, will be at the Diamonds' practice facility from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 9. She will provide defensive and offensive instruction, a pitching demonstration, give a motivational speech and give autograph and photo opportunities to athletes in attendance.

Participants will have the opportunity to visit with Jennie, get her autograph on a souvenir provided and will receive a light snack and drink.

SDSU's Reichow Named Summit League Male Athlete Of The Month

ELMHURST, Ill. — South Dakota State's Joel Reichow has been named Male Athlete of the Month by The Summit League for his performance in August and September. Reichow finished in the top-two in the first two meets of the year.

Reichow began the 2013 season with a win at the Bison Open with his final time of 15:46.38. He followed up his performance in the season-opener with a second place finish at the Oz Memorial (19:19.5).

Reichow posted the fourth-best 8k Summit League time (25:29.7) at the Griak Invitational.

Most recently he placed fifth at the SDSU Classic with his overall time of 25:23.73.

He was awarded The Summit League's Athlete of the Week award for his finishes at the Bison Open and the Oz Memorial.

The Jackrabbits are currently ranked No. 10 in the Midwest by the United States Track & Field and Cross Country Coaches Association (USTFCCA).

This is the first Athlete of the Month award for Reichow.

The Jackrabbits do not compete this weekend as they prepare for the Bradley Classic on Oct. 18 in Peoria, Ill.

Iowa State To Host NCAA Women's Games

AMES, Iowa (AP) — Iowa State has been selected to host the first two rounds of the NCAA women's basketball tournament next spring.

The Cyclones will host a pair of first round games and a second round matchup on March 22-25 at Hilton Coliseum. If Iowa State earns an NCAA tournament bid, it will play the first two rounds at home.

It will be the eighth time the Cyclones have hosted NCAA tournament games and the first since 2012.

The University of Iowa will also host women's tournament games in 2014.

SCOREBOARD

BOWLING

YANKTON BOWL

INDUSTRIAL LEAGUE

HIGH TEAM GAME: Dakota Trailers

850

HIGH TEAM SERIES: Yankton Redi-Mix 2423

HIGH INDIVIDUAL GAME: Darwin Gerlach 279, Shane Bertsch 258, Ryan Liebt 245, Don Casey 243, JJ Peterson 243

HIGH INDIVIDUAL SERIES: Shane Bertsch 740, Warren Muller 704, Don Casey 688, Darwin Gerlach 687, JJ Peterson 642

STANDINGS: H&K Oil 100, Thrivent 90, Dakota Trailers 86, Yankton Redi-Mix 81, H&K Oil #277, Kellen's Carts & Service 74, Carey's Bar 71, Steiner's Locker 65, Wholesale Supply 53, KPI Bowl Dogs 48, Don's Auto 43

FOOTBALL

AP NEBRASKA HIGH SCHOOL FOOTBALL RANKINGS

Here are the Associated Press Nebraska high school football rankings in Classes A through D2. Listings include name of school, season record, previous week's ranking, previous opponent and result, and next opponent. (NR—Not ranked). The rankings are based on a formula that includes ratings from the Omaha World-Herald and Lincoln Journal Star experts for each class. Class A: Dale Miller, Grand Island Independent. Class B: Jeff Fielder, Scottsbluff Star-Herald. Class C1: Tom Behmer, Norfolk Daily News. Class C2: Brent Wasinus, Fremont Tribune. Class D1: Mark Obermeier, North Platte Tribune. Class D2: Nick Blasitz, Hastings Tribune.

NOTE: Only classes with area teams are listed.

CLASS C1

1. Boone Central/Hammon Grove (5-0), 1, def. David City 49-20, at Madison.

2. Norfolk Catholic (4-1), 2, bye, at West Point-Beemer.

3. Lincoln Christian (5-0), 3, def. Wilber-Clatonia 41-22, Lincoln Lutheran.

4. Kearney Catholic (5-0), 4, def. Minden 23-0, Cozad.

5. Columbus Lakeview (5-1), 5, def. Madison 53-14, bye.

6. Cozad (5-0), 6, def. Gothenburg 19-0, at Kearney Catholic.

7. Syracuse (5-0), NR, def. Falls City

33-16, Auburn.

8. Adams Central (4-1), 8, def. Central City 54-6, Minden.

9. Walnut (4-1), 9, def. Raymond Central 21-0, Bishop Neumann.

10. Wayne (4-2), NR, def. West Point-Beemer 21-13, at Pierce.

Others receiving votes: Bishop Neumann.

CLASS C2

1. Doniphan-Trumbull (5-0), 1, def. Superior 68-7, Sutton.

2. Lutheran High Northeast (5-0), 3, def. Hartington Cedar Catholic 34-12, Crofton.

3. Archbishop Bergan (4-1), 4, def. Stanton 32-7, Oakland-Craig.

4. Aquinas Catholic (4-1), 5, def. Yutan 44-13, at North Bend Central.

5. North Platte St. Patrick's (5-0), 6, bye, Cambridge.

6. Hastings St. Cecilia (4-1), NR, def. Sutton 21-14, Southern Valley.

7. Hartington Cedar Catholic (4-1), 7, lost to Lutheran High Northeast 34-12, at Battle Creek.

8. Sutton (4-1), 2, lost to Hastings St. Cecilia 21-14, at Doniphan-Trumbull.

9. Crofton (4-1), 2, def. Homer 63-26, at Lutheran High Northeast.

10. Battle Creek (5-0), 9, def. West Holt 33-7, Hartington Cedar Catholic.

Others receiving votes: Blue Hill.

CLASS D1

1. Exeter-Mills (5-0), 1, def. Lourdes Central Catholic 68-26, Freeman.

2. Howells-Dodge (5-0), 2, def. Omaha Christian Academy 48-14, at Guardian Angels Central Catholic.

3. Guardian Angels Central Catholic (5-0), 3, def. Clarkson-Leigh 42-12, Howells-Dodge.

4. Creighton (5-0), 4, def. Bloomfield 80-0, Plainview.

5. Brunning-Davenport/Shickley (5-0), 5, def. Red Cloud 42-14, at Franklin.

6. High Plains Community (5-1), 6, def. Shelby-Rising City 61-8, Cross County.

7. Elm Creek (5-0), 7, def. Twin Loup 34-18, at Overton.

8. Overton (5-0), 9, def. Arapahoe 38-6, Elm Creek.

9. Freeman (5-0), 8, def. Pawnee City 39-8, at Exeter-Mills.

10. Randolph (4-1), 10, def. Allen 52-0, at Winnebag.

Others receiving votes: Friend, Hemingford.

CLASS D2

1. Falls City Sacred Heart (5-0), 1,

def. Meridian 49-6, Sterling.

2. Wynot (5-0), 3, def. Stuart 44-22, at Winslow.

3. Giltner (4-1), 4, def. Fullerton 54-16, Pleasanton.

4. Amherst (5-0), 10, def. Shelton 40-0, Kenesaw.

5. Humphrey St. Francis (3-1), 7, Lyons-Decatur Northeast 38-16, Scribner-Snyder.

6. Wallace (6-0), 9, def. Brady 60-8, at Hitchcock County.

7. Shelton (4-1), 2, lost to Amherst 40-0, at Lawrence-Nelson.

8. Nebraska Lutheran (6-0), NR, def. Mead 64-14, Osceola.

9. Fullerton (3-2), 5, lost to Giltner 54-16, at Spalding/Spalding Academy.

10. Elwood (4-1), NR, def. Summer-Eddyville-Miller 72-9, Loomis.

Others receiving votes: Anselmo-Merna, Lyons-Decatur Northeast, Medicine Valley.

NATIONAL FOOTBALL LEAGUE

AMERICAN CONFERENCE

East

W L T Pct PF PA

New England 4 1 0 .800 95 70

Miami 3 2 0 .600 98 116

Buffalo 2 3 0 .400 112 130

South

W L T Pct PF PA

Indianapolis 4 1 0 .800 139 79

Tennessee 3 2 0 .600 115 95

Houston 2 3 0 .400 93 138

Jacksonville 0 5 0 .000 51 163

North

W L T Pct PF PA

Baltimore 3 2 0 .600 117 110

Cleveland 3 2 0 .600 101 94

Cincinnati 3 2 0 .600 94 87

Pittsburgh 0 4 0 .000 69 110

West

W L T Pct PF PA

Denver 5 0 0 1.000 230 139

Kansas City 5 0 0 1.000 128 58

Oakland 2 3 0 .400 98 108

San Diego 2 3 0 .400 125 129

NATIONAL CONFERENCE

East

W L T Pct PF PA

Philadelphia 2 3 0 .400 135 159

Dallas 2 3 0 .400 152 136

Washington 1 3 0 .250 91 112

N.Y. Giants 0 5 0 .000 82 182

South

W L T Pct PF PA

New Orleans 5 0 0 1.000 134 73

Carolina 1 3 0 .250 74 58

Atlanta 1 4 0 .200 122 134

Tampa Bay 0 4 0 .000 44 70

North

W L T Pct PF PA

Detroit 3 2 0 .600 131 123

Chicago 3 2 0 .600 145 140

Green Bay 2 2 0 .500 118 97

Minnesota 1 3 0 .250 115 123

West

W L T Pct PF PA

Seattle 4 1 0 .800 137 81

San Francisco 3 2 0 .600 113 98

Arizona 3 2 0 .600 91 95

St. Louis 2 3 0 .400 103 141

Thursday, Oct. 10

N.Y. Giants at Chicago, 7:25 p.m.

Sunday, Oct. 13

Carolina at Minnesota, noon

Oakland at Kansas City, noon

St. Louis at Houston, noon

Green Bay at Baltimore, noon

Philadelphia at Tampa Bay, noon

Pittsburgh at N.Y. Jets, noon

Cincinnati at Buffalo, noon

Detroit at Cleveland, noon

Tennessee at Seattle, 3:05 p.m.

Jacksonville at Denver, 3:05 p.m.

Arizona at San Francisco, 3:25 p.m.

New Orleans at New England, 3:25 p.m.

Washington at Dallas, 7:30 p.m.

Open: Atlanta, Miami

Monday, Oct. 14

Indianapolis at San Diego, 7:40 p.m.

BASEBALL

MLB POST-SEASON

DIVISION SERIES

Tuesday, Oct. 8

Detroit 8, Oakland 6

Boston 3, Tampa Bay 1, Boston wins series 3-2

Wednesday, Oct. 9

St. Louis 6, Pittsburgh 1, St. Louis wins series 3-2

Thursday, Oct. 10

Detroit (Verlander 13-12) at Oakland (Gray 5-3), 7:07 p.m. (TBS)

AUTO RACING

2013 NASCAR SPRINT CUP SCHEDULE

x=non-points race

Feb. 16 — x-The Sprint Unlimited (Kevin Harvick)

Feb. 21 — x-Budweiser Duel 1 (Kevin Harvick)

March 3 — Subway Fresh Fit 500, Avondale, Ariz. (Carl Edwards)

March 10 — Kobalt Tools 400, Las Vegas (Matt Kenseth)

March 17 — Food City 500, Bristol, Tenn. (Kasey Kahne)

March 24 — Auto Club 400, Fontana, Calif. (Kyle Busch)

April 7 — STP Gas Booster 500, Ridgeview, Va. (Jimmie Johnson)

April 13 — NRA 500, Fort Worth, Texas (Kyle Busch)

April 21 — STP 400, Kansas City, Kan. (Matt Kenseth)

April 27 — Toyota Owners 400, Richmond, Va. (Kevin Harvick)

May 5 — Aaron's 499, Talladega, Ala. (David Ragan)

May 11 — Bojangles' Southern 500, Darlington, S.C. (Matt Kenseth)

May 18 — x-Sprint Showdown (Jamie McMurray)

May 18 — x-NASCAR Sprint All-Star Race (Jimmie Johnson)

May 26 — Coca-Cola 600, Concord, N.C. (Kevin Harvick)

June 2 — Dover 400, Dover, Del. (Tony Stewart)

June 9 — Pocono 400, Long Pond, Pa. (Jimmie Johnson)

June 1