

DWU Cools Off Lancers 3-1

BY BEN HEGGE
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In an electric environment that featured two in-state rivals going head to head, the Dakota Wesleyan Tigers picked up their first Great Plains Conference win of the season Tuesday night in Laddie E. Cimpl Arena.

In a thrilling four set match, the Tigers defeated Mount Marty College 25-13, 16-25, 25-22, 27-25.

The Dakota Wesleyan volleyball team was not the only Tiger team playing in Yankton on Tuesday. About halfway through the first set, around 40 Dakota Wesleyan soccer plays arrived to cheer on the Tigers.

"Momentum became a huge part of this game when I saw a

huge group of Dakota Wesleyan students walk into the gym," said Lancer head coach Candice Climer. "At times it almost seemed like we were playing at their gym."

The Lancers got off to a slow start in the first set finding themselves trailing 7-12 early. Dakota Wesleyan continued to dominate set one which eventually led to a 25-13 Tiger victory.

Things fared much better for the Lancers in the second set. After an Allison Cross ace, Mount Marty had an 18-10 lead. The Lancers ended up taking set two with a 25-16 win.

"Coming into the game we knew they had nothing to lose. We just wanted to stay focused and play our game," Climer said. "You have to hand it to them, they played

their best game of the year."

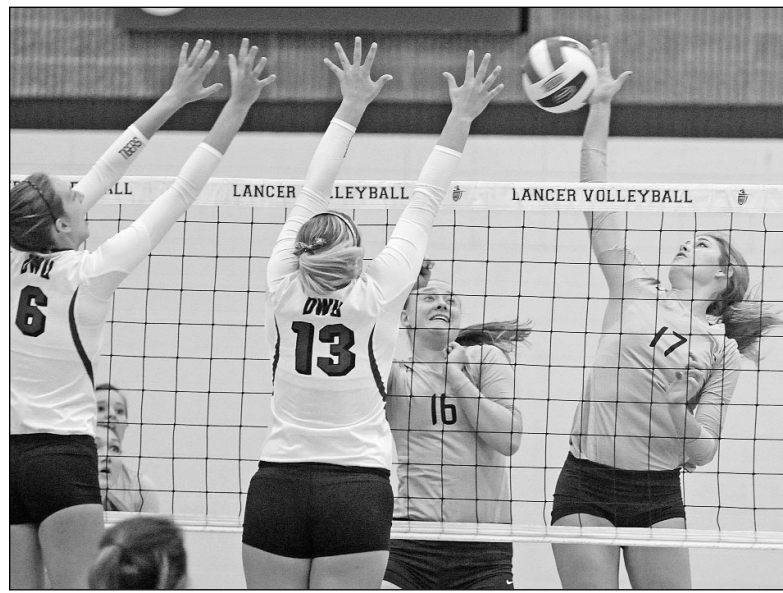
The third and fourth sets were epic back and forth battles that featured several momentum swings.

Dakota Wesleyan eventually pulled away to win both sets by a score of 25-22 and a 27-25. The victory was the Tigers seventh of the year and their first conference win.

Sophomore Lauren Tadlock led the Tigers recording a match high 16 kills. Michelle Van Epps also totaled 44 assists to help DWU.

For Mount Marty (10-15, 2-7 GPAC), Sierra Kloth had 16 kills while fellow sophomore Allison Cross had 14. BreAnne Thege totaled a team high 29 digs.

Next action for the Lancers will be 7:30 p.m. on Friday night in Fremont, Nebraska against the Midland Warriors.



JEREMY HOECK/P&D

Mount Marty's Sierra Kloth, right, tries to hit around the Dakota Wesleyan double block of Sammy Fluck, 6, and Michelle Van Epps during their GPAC volleyball match Tuesday night at Cimpl Arena.

Tigers Sweep Mount Marty

DWU Women Edge Lancers

BY JAMES D. CIMBUREK
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Tuesday's Great Plains Athletic Conference women's soccer match told an all-too-familiar tale for Mount Marty College this season: Close, but not quite.

Thara Ali Said scored a hat trick for Dakota Wesleyan as the Tigers held off MMC 3-2 in GPAC action at Easton Field.

It marked the seventh time this season that the Lancers (3-12-1, 0-8 GPAC) lost by one goal.

MMC claimed the early lead when Breanne Kuehler fed senior Amy Hisek for a goal. It was the first goal of her collegiate career for Hisek, who has spent most of her career as a defender.

"I saw Amy making a run and saw I could play it over," said Kuehler. "I chipped it in, and she happened to be there."

Hisek, who has played more forward of late as the team looked to get more speed in the offense, was happy to have made the conversion.

"I had a great pass from Breezy (Kuehler)," she said. "I stumbled with it a bit, then kicked it."

"Luckily it went in."

The Lancers held the lead until the 17th minute, when Maranda Ehrenfried got the ball and hit Ali Said for a one-touch shot.

"What was frustrating was, after we scored we let down our aggression," MMC head coach Nathan Epp said. "We don't play with the inten-



JAMES D. CIMBUREK/P&D

Mount Marty's Amy Hisek, 6, smiles after scoring her first career goal during the Lancers' Great Plains Athletic Conference women's soccer match with Dakota Wesleyan on Tuesday at Easton Field.

DWU Men Roll To 7-1 Victory

BY JAMES D. CIMBUREK
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Mount Marty College soccer coach Nathan Epp is tired of his men's team being so generous.

Dakota Wesleyan jumped out to a 3-0 halftime lead — all goals Epp felt his team "gave" the Tigers — on the way to a 7-1 rout of the Lancers in Great Plains Athletic Conference men's soccer action on Tuesday at Easton Field.

DWU improved to 8-7 overall, 3-4 in GPAC play with the win. MMC dropped to 3-13 and 1-7 with two matches to play.

"We gave them scores," said a dejected Epp after the match. "Their first goal was because we did a bad job of marking up and left two players unmarked. The next two were bad turnovers — one because of a bad touch and the other because we passed it right to them."

Chaz Foss scored the first two DWU goals — within 53 seconds of each other in the 13th minute — and finished with a hat trick and an assist for DWU. Ryan West, who assisted on two of Foss' goals, scored two of his own.

"Those mistakes set the tone for the rest of the game," Epp said.

Adam Jahnel also scored for the Tigers. DWU's seventh goal came off the foot of a Lancer player as he tried to knock a shot away.

MMC's lone goal came in

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Coyotes Relish Shot At No. 1 N.D. State

BY JEREMY HOECK
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The face of FCS dominance in recent seasons will step onto the DakotaDome turf Saturday.

When top-ranked North Dakota State arrives in Vermillion, it will mark the first time in 12 years that the Bison will play a true road game against the University of South Dakota.

And for the Coyotes, it's a chance they're relishing.

"It's a great opportunity," head coach Joe Glenn said Tuesday. "Everybody always wants to take a shot at the champ. And it's an opportunity to right the ship here a little bit."

Losers of three straight Missouri Valley games, the Coyotes (2-5) are now faced with the prospect of playing the three-time defending national champion Bison (7-0, 3-0).

"We're in a little bit of a slump right now and we need to make some big plays and get some momentum," Glenn said. "And what a time to do it."

Glenn was then asked if he felt USD was still playing catch-up to programs like North Dakota State, which had a 4-year head start on the Coyotes in the Division I waters.

"I'd have to say yes," Glenn replied. "That's a fair answer."

The veteran coach pointed to two recent examples of regional schools making the jump from D-II to D-I and not finding immediate success: Northern Colorado and North Dakota.

Northern Colorado, where Glenn won two D-II national titles, is 32-97 since moving up a level and is on its third head coach. North Dakota, which

was on the same D-I timeline as USD, is 34-38 and now in the Big Sky Conference.

South Dakota, meanwhile, has a 28-45 record in the D-I era, and is just 3-16 since joining the Missouri Valley.

"So it's a little uphill into the wind, to be honest," Glenn said.

Glenn was then asked about the patience of Coyote fans following the recent struggles, and the coach maintained that fans are "behind us one hundred percent."

"Like anybody else, in time, you've got to get a toehold and get moving," he said, "and get some wins. All coaches understand that."

Doing so Saturday certainly won't be easy.

North Dakota State has outscored the Coyotes 96-0 the last two seasons, with the 2012 meeting played in Sioux Falls and last season's game up in Fargo.

The difference between those Bison squads and this year's? Experience, said first-year head coach Chris Klieman.

"It's a totally different football team, from the quarterback to a lot of the coaches as well," said Klieman, who took over for the departed Craig Bohl (now at Wyoming).

"Those two games will have no impact on what we're going into at the DakotaDome, and our kids understand that."

The most notable difference fans will see is at quarterback. The Bison are now led by junior Carson Wentz, who has passed for 1,436 yards and eight touchdowns.

"Every week's a new chal-

WAUSA, Neb. — The Crofton Lady Warriors captured the Knox County Tournament title with a 25-21, 25-14 sweep over Creighton in volleyball action Tuesday in Wausa, Nebraska.

Maria Wortmann smashed in 11 kills for Crofton. Allison Arens dug up 11. Allison Tramp set up 14 assists, and Brittany Guenther had 10 assists.

For Creighton, Rebecca Eggerling pounded in eight kills and 15 digs. Jessica Gragert had six digs.

Crofton plays in the Mid-State Conference next Monday, and Creighton plays in the Lewis and Clark Conference tournament on Saturday.

CREIGHTON (13-5).....21 14
CROFTON (20-0).....25 25

Niobrara-Verdigre 2, Wausa 1

WAUSA, Neb. — Niobrara-Verdigre defeated Wausa 25-16, 16-25, 25-18 for third place at the Knox County Tournament on Tuesday night in Wausa.

No stats were reported for Niobrara-Verdigre. Tori Claussen pounded in 12 kills and five blocks for Wausa. Claire Vanness had set up 10 assists and dug up 10. Krissy Kumm had 11 digs.

Wausa hosts Santeee next Tuesday, and Niobrara-Verdigre plays Bloomfield the same day.

NIORBARA-VERDIGRE (6-18).....25 21 25
WAUSA (1-20).....16 25 18

Niobrara-Verdigre 2, Bloomfield 0

WAUSA, Neb. — Niobrara-Verdigre earned its fifth victory with a 25-13, 25-18 sweep of Bloomfield at the Knox County Tournament on Tuesday evening.

No stats were provided for Niobrara-Verdigre (5-18) in the victory. Reagan Larson led Bloomfield (8-14) with 12 kills, six digs and two blocks. Aisa Hrbek added 13 digs in the loss.

Both teams will compete in their conference tournaments next week.

NIORBARA-VERDIGRE (5-18).....25 25
BLOOMFIELD (8-14).....13 18

O'Neill Tri.

Cedar Catholic 2, O'Neill 0

O'NEILL, Neb. — Monica Arens recorded six kills while two teammates added five as Hartington Cedar Catholic beat O'Neill 25-13, 25-18 at the O'Neill triangular on Tuesday night.

Taylor Lammers and Kayla Hochstein both had five kills, while Emily Feilmeier had 11 set assists. Maddie Paulsen chipped in with seven digs.

Brandon Valley Escapes Yankton 3-2

BRANDON — One month ago, the Yankton Gazelles swept Brandon Valley.

On Tuesday night, the Lynx got their revenge, beating Yankton 25-15, 21-25, 25-21, 19-25, 15-12 in an Eastern South Dakota Conference matchup in Brandon.

"Brandon Valley was a much-improved team from that first time," Yankton coach Tiffany Beste said. "They executed a lot better, and I think it caught us off guard."

With the loss, the Gazelles (7-11) dropped to 1-7 in five-set matches this season.

Becky Frick led Yankton with 21 kills, three ace serves, three blocks and 16 digs, while Sophie Drotzmann had five aces. Paige Thieman posted 18 set assists and six kills, and Ellie Fedders had 16

assists.

On defense, Haley Mines recorded 17 digs and Charlotte Ekeren added 12 digs. Josie Saylor was strong at the net with four blocks.

Yankton, though, struggled to develop consistency, according to Beste.

"We really got out-played and at times had trouble scoring," she said. "That's a bad combination."

It doesn't get any easier for Yankton as the Gazelles host Aberdeen Central on Saturday. The Golden Eagles were handed their first loss of the season Tuesday night.

"They're very athletic and they have a lot of scoring options," Beste said. "We'll have to play better if we want to compete with them."

In sub-varsity action, Brandon Valley won the JV

Hartington-Newcastle 2, Winside 1

HUBBARD, Neb. — Hartington-Newcastle was able to pick up a victory over Winside by the scores of 22-25, 25-23, 25-22.

Savannah Scoville led Hartington-Newcastle (17-8) with eight kills and four aces. Sophie Noecker added 17 digs in the victory.

No stats were provided for Winside. Hartington-Newcastle will compete in the Lewis and Clark tournament next week.

HARTINGTON-NEWCASTLE (17-8).....22 25 25
WINSIDE.....25 23 22

Other Matches

Beresford 3, Vermillion 2

BERESFORD — Beresford is one game away from .500, thanks to a 25-22, 25-20, 22-25, 25-14 victory over Vermillion at home on Tuesday.

Rachel Finnegan led Beresford (12-13) with seven kills, 18 digs and an ace. Kayla Stanner added 22 assists in the victory.

Morgan Klostergard and Emily Stimes led Vermillion (4-17) with 16 combined kills. Becca Nelson added 15 assists in the loss.

Beresford will travel to Dakota Valley on Thursday, while Vermillion will host Dakota Valley.

BERESFORD (12-13).....25 25 22 25
VERMILLION (4-17).....22 20 25 14

Alcester-Hudson 3, Lennox 2

LENNOX — In a five set barn-burner, Alcester-Hudson defeated Lennox by the scores of 25-18, 25-22, 23-25, 23-25, 15-7.

Sierra McConnel led Alcester-Hudson (13-10) with 20 kills, 28 digs, a block and an ace. Brianna Walth added 23 digs in the victory.

Lennox (4-20) was led by Courtney Weeldreyer with 13 kills and 33 digs. Tatum Musser added 16 assists and five aces in the loss.

Alcester-Hudson will host Canton Saturday, while Lennox will host Sioux Falls Christian on Tuesday.

ALCESTER-HUDSON (13-10).....25 25 23 23 15
LENNOX (4-20).....18 22 25 25 7

Wagner 3, Winner 1

WAGNER — Wagner downed Winner 22-25, 25-13, 25-15, 25-5 Tuesday night in Winner.

Emily Brusling pounded in 14 kills for Wagner. Karlee Schroeder added eight more kills. Brooklynn Tolliver dug up 18. Krista Dvorak and Sierra Juffer each set up 19 assists.

For Winner, Kelsey Bertram smashed in eight kills. Sydney Fritz added seven kills and 15 digs. Casey Norrd set up 15 assists.

Wagner and Winner both compete in the South-east South Dakota Conference Tournament Saturday.

WAGNER.....25 25 23 23 15
WINNER.....18 22 25 25 7

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