

# WOKSAPE

*“The Wise Book”*

## Fall Sports Demonstrate Students’ Dedication

BY HOLLY HICKS



Fall sports are already in full swing at Yankton High School.

From Friday night football games to soccer matches in the fall heat, student athletes have been putting in the work to make their teams successful this year.

Yankton’s school pride is united in its outstanding football program after last year’s AA State Championship win against Brookings.

This year the Bucks showed up in Brookings ready to start the season opener on a good note. After five over-times, the Bucks came out with a victory that ignited the high school’s spirit.

With a tough loss at Pierre on September 25th, the team will have to band together and train even harder.

Hopefully all of the YHS students will be piling into the Dakota Dome this November to claim a back-to-back state title.

This year, a rising tennis star, sophomore Anne Knoff, is leading the Yankton girls’ tennis team.

Occupying seed No. 1, Knoff is setting her goals high

for Eastern South Dakota (ESD) on September 1st. Knoff says, “My goal is to be placed top three in ESD and to make podium at state.”

Going from No. 5 seed as a freshman to now No. 1 seed as a sophomore, Knoff’s goal now is to continue to focus on improvement.

A somewhat newly sanctioned sport, soccer, is winding down to an end.

Playoffs began the 29th of September, and both the boys’ and girls’ teams have made it thus far.

The season goes by quickly, but both teams are hoping to prolong it.

Tyler Schuring, head coach for the Gazelles, states, “The season started off with a lot of ladies who had not previously played with each other, and the progression throughout the season has been a privilege to see.”

Schuring has been pleased with seeing the evident dedication from the girls. He has made adjustments to match up with Aberdeen, and says, “No matter how the game ends, I know it will be competitive and the girls

will give their maximum effort!”

The boys’ team will be battling with Watertown, and the girls’ team will be facing Aberdeen.

As can be seen from the high school runners around town, the Yankton Cross Country team has been bearing the fall heat.

Senior Savannah Woods made it clear the team has had multiple injuries this year, but those are only minor setbacks. She says, “We are all working very hard, and I feel if we get a couple more girls to step up, we will be in good condition for state.”

State Cross Country this year will be in Sioux Falls on October 24th.

As most fall sports wind down to a close, student athletes will be putting in the hard work and effort they have been building up all season in their state competitions.

All the Bucks’ and Gazelles’ deserve Yanktons’ support, so get out to watch or listen on the radio to our wonderful athletes compete!

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## Dance, Competitive Cheer Perform at Home

BY PIPER MIKKELSEN

On Thursday, September 10, the Yankton High School dance team competed at their only home invite. They placed 5<sup>th</sup> in pom, 4<sup>th</sup> in jazz, 3<sup>rd</sup> in kick, and 4<sup>th</sup> overall.

Senior Payton Pierce commented on the results: “For where we are in the season, the results are good. We have improved a lot since last year, and as of now, I am satisfied.”

It was parents’ night for the cheer and dance teams. There was a crowd of at least 500 people at the high school.

Jazz was the YHS dance team’s first routine. The girls danced to “I Was Here” by Beyoncé.

Pierce said, “I feel united with my teammates as we are holding hands; it’s as if we danced the entire dance as one.”

The girls purchased new pom uniforms and wore them for the first time on Thursday. Pierce said,

“I think they brought up everyone’s confidence and helped the performance aspect of our team.”

The girls use large head movements and high kicks in their kick routines. Historically, Yankton performs well in such routines.

Sioux Falls Washington placed first in all categories, including overall.

This was not the YHS team’s first competition. The team also competed the previous week at Watertown, placing 3<sup>rd</sup> in jazz and pom, 4<sup>th</sup> in kick, and 3<sup>rd</sup> overall.

The dance team also performed at various homecoming week activities, including coronation, the gong show, the parade, and halftime of the football game.



PHOTOS BY JILL MIKKELSEN/  
ARICKARA

Above and below: YHS Dance Team members perform at the Yankton Invite.



## Reminder:

Yankton students will not have school Friday, October 16, due to a teacher in-service.

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