

# Volleyball: Bobcats Hold Off Yankton 3-0



JAMES D. CIMBUREK/P&D

Yankton's Josie Saylor, left, and Becky Frick go up for the block of Brookings' Sara Tvedt during their Eastern South Dakota Conference volleyball match on Monday at the Summit Center.

BY ROGELIO RODRIGUEZ  
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Brookings came away with an impressive win over Yankton on Monday night as they swept the Gazelles 25-12, 29-27, 29-27 in Eastern South Dakota Conference volleyball action at the Summit Center.

Yankton was coming off of a victory over Mitchell on Thursday night but were unable to fend off an impressive Brookings side that boasts the powerful hitter in the form of Sara Tvedt.

The first set was played with a very high intensity by the visiting Bobcats. Tvedt began her impressive game with six kills in the first set and the clinically accurate Bobcat offense proved too much for the Gazelles as Brookings came away 25-12 in

the first. "We played them point for point until point 12, they just took off from there," said Yankton head coach Tiffany Beste.

In set two, Becky Frick and Danielle Salvatori broke out of their shells and showed the Brookings that they too could do some damage offensively. Both teams showed their thirst for victory as they exchanged hits. The set went point for point until Brookings came away with it 29-27 with Tvedt pounding home the final point.

The Gazelles picked it up in the second set but still needed to find something if they were going to beat this Bobcat side. They were not able to contain Tvedt the way they would have liked to.

"We need to find the

court as a team read the hitter better," Salvatori said.

The third set looked to be all but won for Brookings as they were up 21-13. Sophie Drotzmann and Salvatori managed to bring the game back to within a point. Again, the two teams exchanged blows but again Tvedt put the Bobcats past the Gazelles to win the match.

Brookings did not let up in the offense and kept their cool even when faced with the daunting task of containing Frick and Salvatori. They did the small things well and forced Yankton to make big plays.

"Overall I think we served well and our hitters made good decisions, we learned to stay calm," Brookings head coach Jodi Melius said.

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**GAZELLES VOLLEYBALL**

**Yankton (3-9)  
at Harrisburg (12-1)**

7 p.m., Harrisburg High School

**LAST MEETING:** Harrisburg won a hard-fought 25-20, 26-24, 25-23 victory at Yankton on Sept. 8.

**LAST TIME OUT:** Yankton dropped a 3-0 decision to Brookings at home on Monday. Harrisburg edged Aberdeen Central 3-2 on Saturday, avenging the Tigers' only setback of 2015.

**NEXT UP:** Yankton returns home to face Brandon Valley on Oct. 13. Harrisburg travels to Sioux Falls Washington on Oct. 13.

## Bucks 11th After First Round Of State Golf

RAPID CITY - The Yankton Bucks rank 11th in the team standings after the opening round of the South Dakota State Class AA Boys' Golf Tournament, held on Monday at Meadowbrook Golf Course in Rapid City.

Sioux Falls O'Gorman leads the team rankings with a first-round 304, followed by Lincoln (308), Washington (311) and Brandon Valley (318).

O'Gorman's Jacob Otta shot an even-par 72 to lead the way at the midway point. Roosevelt's Jack Lundin and Washington's Will Grevlos each shot 74.

Yankton shot 348 on the opening day, led by Mason Sundleaf's 84. Mat Jensen carded an 85, Michael Frick shot 87 and Jimmie Cunningham shot 92 to round out the scoring foursome. Also for the Bucks, Dalton Maibaum shot 96 and A.J. Fernandez shot 97.

The tournament concludes today (Tuesday).

### Class A

MILBANK - The Parkston Trojans sit two strokes off the lead entering today's (Tuesday) final round of the South Dakota State Class A Boys' Golf Tournament, being held at Pine Hills Golf Course in Milbank.

Aberdeen Roncalli leads the team rankings with a first-day score of 330, followed by Parkston (332), Madison (337) and Spearfish (342). Vermillion ranks seventh at 350.

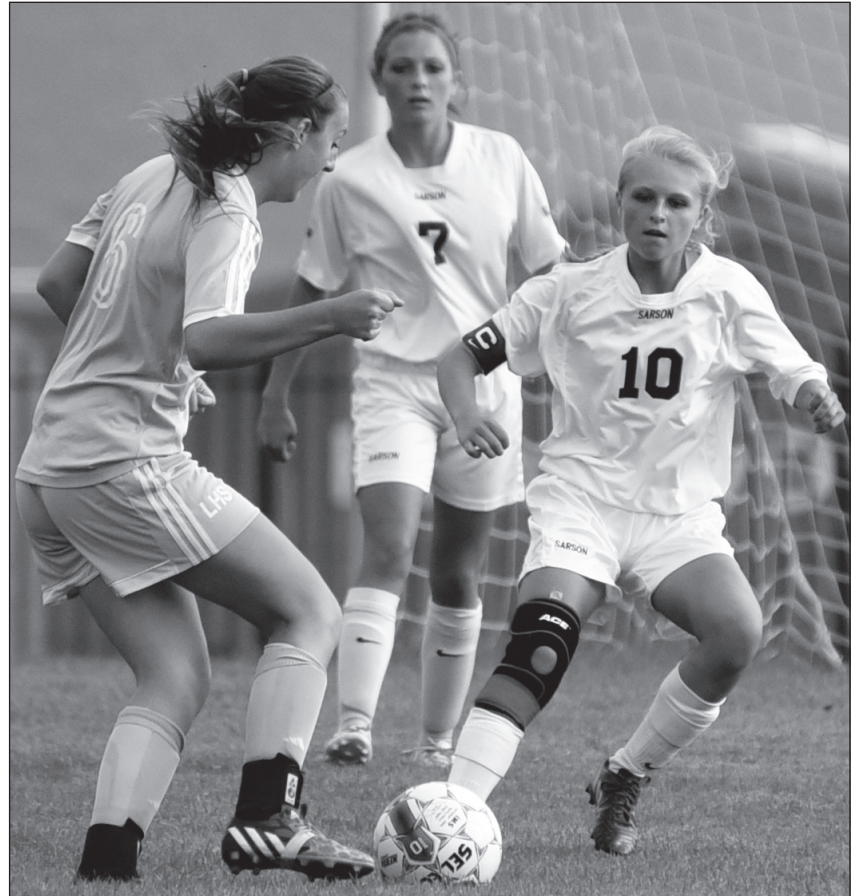
Sisseton's Nate Nielson and Dell Rapids' Ty Hoglund are tied for the individual lead at 4-over 76. Parkston's Jacob Lee is in third, one stroke off the pace.

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## Soccer | All-ESD Team



Yankton's Brianna Benjamin (left photo, left) and Erin Luken (right photo, right) each earned first-team honors as the Eastern South Dakota Conference announced its all-league team for girls' soccer on Monday. Teammates Madason Tessier and Haleigh Diede were honorable mention picks.



P&D FILE PHOTO

# Gazelles Put Two On First Team

BY JAMES D. CIMBUREK  
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Two members of the Yankton Gazelles earned first-team honors, and two more earned honorable mention recognition as the Eastern South Dakota Conference announced its post-season honors for girls' soccer on Monday.

Seniors Brianna Benjamin and Erin Luken were named to the first team.

Benjamin is a repeat first-team selection and, combined with honors as a sophomore, before the Gazelles were school-sponsored, the striker has been recognized for three straight seasons.

"Brianna has a lot of speed and desire. She's able to score off a direct play, and is able to check back and feed her teammates," said Yankton head coach Tyler Schuring. "She's going to be a big piece to replace next season."

Benjamin scored a team-high 12 goals and added three assists on the season to lead the Gazelles in scoring for a second straight season. The striker credited both the defense and midfield of the Gazelles for her individual success.

"Our defense was pretty strong. It came together so we could keep the ball up," Benjamin said. "Our great midfield got me the ball."

Part of that strong defense was Luken, who was transitioning from an offensive to a defensive position in the summer before her junior season when a knee injury sidelined her for the 2014 high school campaign.

"As a sophomore she played a lot of wing," Schuring said. "This year we moved her to center back following our early season woes. She fortified our defensive line and brought our defense together."

After a season away, Luken enjoyed her return to the field.

"This was my favorite season," she said. "The girls welcomed me back. We had a strong bond between all the players. We just happened to click, and it made a difference."

Juniors Madason Tessier and Haleigh Diede each earned honorable mention recognition. Tessier is a repeat selection on the honorable mention list.

"Madason was a utility player this year. Half the time she would play a holding midfielder, the other half she'd be up top," Schuring said. "She and Brianna have developed some chemistry, and they were able to make it work."

Tessier finished with five goals and two assists - numbers that were down from a season ago but reflect that she played away from the goal more often this season.

Diede helped anchor the defense along with Luken, a role she took over due to injury in the 2014 season.

"Haleigh stepped in at defender last year when Janae Osborn got hurt. We moved her to center defense this year, and she was able to step in and make a huge contribution," Schuring said. "She has the ability to take control in one vs. one situations, and she's patient. She doesn't panic when she has the ball at her feet."

The Gazelles finished 4-7-2 and qualified for the Class AA playoffs. Yankton graduates six players, including both first-team selections, but had a number of young players gain experience this year.

"With Haleigh and Madison, we have a couple of players to help build the team around next season," Schuring said. "They are two good leaders, two talented individuals."

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# Lancer Women Bucks' Slate Earns First-Team; Four Earn HM Nods

HASTINGS, Neb. - Mount Marty College won the second Great Plains Athletic Conference women's golf qualifier and took the overall lead at the midway points after a second-round 332 on Monday at Southern Hills Golf Course in Hastings, Neb.

MMC, which was two strokes better than defending champion Dakota Wesleyan on Monday, now has a two-round total of 678 to lead DWU and Nebraska Wesleyan by 10 strokes. Morning-side, the first-round leader, dropped to fourth with a 695.

DWU's Lauren Fitts extended her overall lead to 11 strokes after a second-round 76. MMC's Logan Wagner and NWU's Kelsey Marshall tied for second on Monday with an 80.

Also for MMC on Monday, Kellie Winckler shot 81, Kristen Shanahan carded an 83, Kelly Amundson shot 88 and Elly Miiller shot 96.

Overall, Marshall ranks in second at 162, followed by Wagner (163), Winckler (164) and NWU's Sam Beal (164). Shanahan is in 14th (173), Amundson 18th (178) and Miiller tied for 33rd (188).

The final two rounds will be in the spring, hosted by DWU and Concordia. Dates will be announced later.

The GPAC will qualify two teams to the NAAI Championships. The individual medalist, if not a member of the championship team, will also advance to the champions.

### Chip-N Club Inv.

LINCOLN, Nebraska—Junior Megan Mingo is tied for first and the South Dakota State women's golf team is third after two rounds at the Chip-N Club Invitational.

Mingo (Yankton) is tied with Notre Dame's

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P&D FILE PHOTO

Yankton junior Treyson Slate earned first-team all-ESD honors for boys' soccer, announced on Monday. Teammates Jared Rafferty, Gabe Wenzlaff, Cole Lewno and Trevor Rafferty earned honorable mention recognition.

BY JAMES D. CIMBUREK  
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The Yankton Bucks had one player earn all-league honors and four more earn honorable mention recognition as the Eastern South Dakota Conference announced its post-season honors for boys' soccer on Monday.

Junior Treyson Slate was named to the league's first team. He was an honorable mention selection a season ago.

"Treyson stepped up and took more of a leadership role as a center defender this season. He made the transition from outside to central, and he more than proved that he can handle that job," Yankton head coach Warren Brenner said of the junior. "Next year he will have to lead that defense. He'll be a big playmaker next season for sure."

Slate was happy with the accomplishment.

"It shows that hard work does end up paying off," he said. "I am humbled to be recognized for my play."

Honorable mention honorees for Yankton included senior Jared Rafferty, juniors Gabe Wenzlaff and Cole Lewno, and sophomore Trevor Rafferty.

Jared Rafferty, one of just three seniors on the Bucks' roster, served as co-captain with Slate.

"Jared became a more vocal leader this year," Brenner said. "He started on defense, but we used him as an outside holding midfielder at the end of the season, and it worked

out for him."

Wenzlaff and Lewno were the Bucks' 1-2 punch at striker. Lewno led the Bucks with nine goals during the regular season. Wenzlaff scored all three goals in the Bucks' opening round playoff victory over Watertown on Sept. 29.

"Cole became more of a team player this season. He has also become tough for defenses to handle," Brenner said. "Gabe's become quite a leader. He's quiet but, if you leave him alone, he'll start scoring on you."

Trevor Rafferty grew in his second season as the starting goalkeeper for the Bucks, allowing an average of 1.6 goals per match. He recorded five shutouts, including one in the opening round of the playoffs. In the quarterfinals, he took a shutout into overtime before the Bucks were defeated by third-seeded Sioux Falls Lincoln.

"From last year to this, Trevor has really gained a lot of experience," Brenner said. "Last year he made some questionable decisions in goal. This year he was solid and focused. "Next year he's going to be really strong in net for us."

Yankton finished 6-7-1 and advanced to the quarterfinals of the Class AA playoffs. With the Bucks graduating just three players, prospects for next season are upbeat, according to Slate.

"We're very excited," he said. "We've got a great group of guys coming back: a very strong core and a great bench as well."

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