

# Crofton Rides Momentum In Quest For Tenth Straight Title

Cross Country: Hartington Girls, Creighton Boys Aim For Top Finishes

BY JAMES D. CIMBUREK  
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Crofton head cross country coach Jayne Arens feels her Warriors have momentum going into state.

Not something the rest of Class D wants to hear about the nine-time defending state champions.

Crofton will be going for its 10th straight girls' crown and its second boys' title in three years when the Nebraska State Meet takes to the course in Kearney today (Friday).

"Both our boys and girls have really stepped up and run strong," Coach Arens said. "We've had a few kids sick, but others have stepped up."

Crofton comes in off a sweep of the District D-2 meet, capping off a pre-state schedule that saw the Warriors competing against top teams in Class B and C, as

well as Class D.

"We're lucky. There are a lot of great schools around here. In most of our meets we were running against bigger schools," Coach Arens said.

As they have throughout their title run, the Warriors are more focused on the process than the outcome.

"Our big goal is for everyone to run good, solid races, and to be happy with how they ran," Coach Arens said. "We'll be happy as coaches if that happens."

On the girls' side, Crofton has been led by sophomore Haley Arens, second in the state meet a year ago.

"Haley's really been pushing hard," Coach Arens said. "It's been neat to see her develop as a runner, run her own race."

Junior Krista Zavadil, senior Kyla Dendinger and junior Samantha Altwine have typically

rounded out the Warriors' four scorers.

"Krista has really stepped up. Her times have dropped ever time out," Coach Arens said. "Kyla has been a strong role model, a good leader for the team. Samantha's drive has really helped the team."

Freshman Jessica Lange and senior Keeley Hagge round out the Warriors' state meet roster.

"Jessica has come into her own," Coach Arens said. "Keeley had some injury issues, but she has been cutting times this season."

Also qualified in the girls' race is Randolph freshman Addison Villwok, who placed 14th in District D-2.

The Crofton boys have been led all season by junior Jake Neuhauffen, who surged to the front of the Warrior pack.

"Each meet it amazes me how much he is cutting his times," Coach Arens said. "Last year he didn't make varsity."



P&D FILE PHOTO  
The Crofton girls relax after winning the District D-2 title on Oct. 15. The Warriors will be going for a tenth straight Class D title when the Nebraska State Cross Country Meet is held today (Friday) in Kearney.

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# Bucks Blast Tigers, Finish 6-3

YHS Secures Home Playoff Game With 28-0 Win

BY JEREMY HOECK  
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HARRISBURG — The defending champions played like it on the road Thursday night.

And as a result, the Yankton Bucks head into the postseason with extra momentum.

Behind a handful of big plays early and another big game from Tanner Frick, the Bucks rolled past Harrisburg 28-0 in the regular season finale Thursday.

That kind of performance was exactly what Yankton (6-3) needed, according to senior lineman Alex Withrow.

"It really gets your team pumped up," Withrow said. "It makes you feel good when you get that shutout."

"I think we'll be ready to roll for the playoffs."

With a home game solidified, the next question for the Bucks is what they seed they receive for the Class 11AA playoffs. Yankton came into the night second behind Pierre, which won its game Thursday.

"I'm pretty sure we'll get to host, which is a big deal for us," Likness said.

Literally from the first play Thursday, Yankton came out energized, and the Tigers (5-4) never recovered.

Frick, a senior, ran for 52 yards — on a hook-and-lad



JEREMY HOECK/P&D  
Yankton's Tanner Frick, right, awaits the Harrisburg defenders on a long run in the first quarter of Thursday night's game in Harrisburg. Frick rushed for three touchdowns as Yankton won 28-0.

# Jackrabbits Finish Seventh; Mingo Ties For 12th

WAHIWA, Hawaii—The South Dakota State women's golf team finished seventh Thursday at the Rainbow Wahine Invitational hosted by the University of Hawaii.

The Jackrabbits shot a final round 311 (297-300-

311=908). Brigham Young, ranked 34th, won the invitational with an 863 (295-289-279) on the 6,228-yard, par-72 Leilehua Golf Course in Schofield Barracks.

Junior Megan Mingo (Yankton) tied for 12th,

shooting a final round 76 (70-76-76=222).

Junior Hallie Getz shot a final round 77 to tie for 20th (73-75-77=225) while sophomore Natcha Srimaneerungroj tied for 20th, shooting final round 77 (76-72-77=225).

Senior Sydney MacDonald tied for 60th (79-7782=238)

while classmate Brianna Janu tied for 67th (78-81-81=240).

Playing as an individual, freshman Elle Carlson tied for 60th after shooting a 238 (82-76-80=238).

# SDSU Hoops Teams Set For Exciting Seasons

BY NATHAN GIESE  
AND COREY KORTH

Jackrabbit Sports Service

BROOKINGS – Times are good for South Dakota State University's men's and women's basketball teams.

At least on paper.

Both programs were recently picked by Summit League media as the favorites to win their respective 2015-16 conference crowns, and each squad placed three players on the preseason all-Summit League teams.

Of course, what the media think in October and which teams hoist the trophies in March are two different things. Just ask men's coach Scott Nagy.

"(Preseason accolades) don't mean anything," Nagy said Thursday during SDSU's annual winter and spring sports media day. "It's just something to talk about."

In that spirit, and after talking to coaches and players at Thursday's media day, here's a look at each program as the college basketball season looms.

## Women

Coming off of his sixth Summit League tournament championship and NCAA Tournament bid, coach Aaron Johnston has the task of replacing three of his team's top six scorers and the top three rebounders from last season. Lucky for him, Johnston is pretty good at that reloading instead of rebuilding thing.

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# Football: Alcester-Hudson Rolls In Regular Season Finale



JAMES D. CIMBUREK/P&D  
Creighton's Lane Walton runs the ball into the endzone for the game's first touchdown during the Bulldogs' 8-man football game against Hartington-Newcastle on Thursday in Hartington, Nebraska. Creighton won 66-6.

ALCESTER — Mitchell Johnson lead the way for Alcester-Hudson on Thursday night with 148 yards rushing and three rushing touchdowns as Alcester-Hudson beat Centerville 50-0 in Alcester.

In the win for Alcester-Hudson, Grant Johnson had 70 yards and two touchdowns. Samuel Jensen had 55 yards receiving.

Mitchell Johnson also contributed on the defensive side, he lead the team with six tackles. Gavin Doering had 4.5 tackles.

For Centerville, Levi Gruschin led the rushing attack with 40 yards. Jordan Lokken had three tackles for the defense.

South Dakota playoff pairings will be announced later on this week.

CENTERVILLE (0-8).....0 0 0 0-0  
ALCESTER-HUDSON (6-2).....24 20 6 0-50

Scotland 13,  
Colome 8

SCOTLAND — Both teams had strong rushing attacks on Thursday night, but Scotland was able to edge out Colome 13-8 in Scotland.

In the win for Scotland, Chase Mogck had 118 yards on 12 carries and two touchdowns. Kreg Kepplinger had 19 tackles on the defensive side.

For Colome, Reed Harter had 159 yards rushing and one touchdown.

Playoff pairings will be announced later on this week.

COLOME (6-2).....0 0 8 0-8  
SCOTLAND (7-1).....0 7 0 6-13

Burke-SC 60, Tripp-Delmont Armour 0

BURKE — Burke-South Central didn't have trouble scoring on Thursday night as they beat Tripp-Delmont Armour 60-0 in Burke.

In the win for Burke-South Central, Tyron Myser had 113 yards rushing and two touchdowns. Tyson Serr lead the defense with 13 tackles and one fumble recovery.

For Tripp-Delmont Armour, Noah Schafers had 56 yards rushing and Hunter Stoltenburg had five tackles on the defensive side.

Playoff pairings will be announced later on this week.

TRIPP-DELMONT ARMOUR (1-7).....0 0 0-0  
BURKE-SOUTH CENTRAL (5-3).....30 30-60

Corsica-Stickney 28, Gayville-Volin 12

GAYVILLE – Corsica-Stickney scored 20 points in the first half to secure a 28-12 road win over Gayville-Volin.

Landon Bruinsma opened up scoring for Corsica-Stickney with a one yard run into the end zone. Bruinsma would end the night with 90 passing yards on three completed passes. Eli VanRockell rushed for 77 yards and scored two touchdowns.

Gayville-Volin got on the board after a 29 yard run from Zach Anderson. Anderson would lead with 58 rushing yards. Quarterback Grant Rice complete 10 passed for 108 total yards.

Playoff pairings will be announced later in the week.

CORSICA-STICKNEY (7-1).....8 12 0 8-28  
GAYVILLE-VOLIN (4-4).....12 0 0-12

Kimball-Wh. Lake 46, Platte-Geddes 6

KIMBALL — Kimball-White Lake had a strong rushing night as they recorded 333 yards rushing as a team which helped them get past Platte-Geddes 46-6 in Kimball.

In the win for Kimball-White Lake, Corbin Heath had 122 yards rushing. Seth Kirsch had a 91 yard rushing touchdown. Blake Kroupa had 10 tackles on the defensive side.

For Platte Geddes, Parker Boyden had 61 yards rushing. Trevor Sprik had one catch for 10 yards.

Playoff pairings will be announced later on this week.

PLATTE-GEDES (1-7).....0 6 0 0-6  
KIMBALL-WHITE LAKE (2-6).....0 8 20 16-44

Viborg-Hurley 48, Menno Marion 20

MARION- Viborg Hurley went on the road Thursday night and beat Marion 48-20 in Marion.

In the win for Viborg Hurley, Dillon Sawyer led the rushing attack with 211 yards rushing and three touchdowns. Kolton Lee had six solo tackles on the defensive side.

For Menno-Marion, Jackson Diede had 183 yards rushing and three touchdowns. Eli Huber had nine solo tackles for the defense.

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## SOUTH DAKOTA VS. MISSOURI STATE

SATURDAY - 2 P.M. - DAKOTADOME

FAMILY MOVIE NIGHT

# minions

**\$5 YOUTH TICKETS**  
WITH PURCHASE OF ADULT  
TICKETS @ \$20

**POSTGAME MOVIE**  
**minions**  
**ON THE VIDEOBOARD**

-FREE POPCORN AND POP  
-WATCH ON THE FIELD (BRING A BLANKET) OR IN THE STANDS