

Bucks Begin 11AA Playoffs



A Yankton Bucks player holds up his helmet prior to kickoff during a home football game earlier this season. The Bucks begin their quest for a second straight Class 11AA state finals appearance tonight (Thursday) against Huron. Start time is set for 7 p.m.

Yankton Is Not The Same Team As It Was A Year Ago, When It Went Undeclared And Won The State Title. The Bucks Have Been Beaten. They've Been Battered. But As The 11AA Playoffs Begin They Are Hoping For The Same Results, A

Return To The Top

One team wants to flip around the 27-point deficit. The other team knows it can't expect another 27-point blowout. That is the prospect for tonight's (Thursday) Class 11AA first round playoff game at Crane-Youngworth Field between Huron and Yankton. Having earned the top seed in the class, the defending champion Bucks (6-3) are matched up with a Huron

squad they handily defeated - 45-18 - three weeks ago. "The other side of that is we won pretty big, so that can be a problem in the sense that we need to make sure we're ready to go," Yankton coach Arlin Likness said. Huron (2-7), meanwhile, is embracing the opportunity for a better performance against Yankton. "I think it's a good matchup for us because we can hopefully better the outcome from last time," Huron coach Michael Schmitz said. "It gives us a chance for a redo." Also a rematch of last season's first round playoff game, tonight's showdown between the Bucks and Tigers feature a pair of teams trending in opposite directions. While Yankton has turned around its season with three straight wins,

Huron has been out-scored 112-25 over its last three games. "We're working on our ability to handle adversity, but it's not quite there yet," Schmitz said. The Tigers are led by quarterback Hyland Heinz, who has completed 54 percent of his passes for 11 touchdowns along with 13 interceptions. The team's leading rusher is Nick Christenson, with 134 yards and one touchdown, while Trey Moeding has a team-high 32 receptions for 298 yards and two scores. "If we're not ready to play, Huron can be a scary team when they start passing the ball," Likness said. "They played with Mitchell (until the fourth quarter, so that tells you they can get it done."

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Story By Jeremy Hoeck • P&D

**Huron (2-7) at Yankton (6-3)**

7 p.m., Crane-Youngworth Field

**LAST MEETING:** Yankton scored its 21st straight victory over the Tigers with a convincing 45-16 victory.

**LAST WEEK:** Yankton finished the regular season with its first defensive shutout, a 28-0 win at Harrisburg. Huron gave Mitchell a scare before falling 16-7.

**NEXT UP:** The winner will advance to the 11AA semifinals on Friday, Nov. 6.

**FOLLOW THE GAME:** Jeremy Hoeck (@jhoeck) and James D. Cimburek (@jcimburek) will follow the Bucks all season. Follow them on Twitter to keep up with the action.

Panther QB Bailey To Pose A Challenge For USD Defense

BY JEREMY HOECK  
jeremy.hoeck@yankton.net

There is a section in this week's Missouri Valley Football Conference weekly notebook entitled 'Running Wild.' In previous years, that title would have likely been followed by impressive statistics being piled up by the many talented running backs across the league. This year, however, it deals with running quarterbacks - an increase of 12 percent a year ago. And the University of

South Dakota is about to get its first taste of one of those true dual-threat quarterbacks this Saturday at Northern Iowa. His name: Aaron Bailey. The junior transfer from the University of Illinois has put together three 100-yard rushing efforts - including each of the past two weeks - this season for Northern Iowa. In last Saturday's win at South Dakota State, in particular, Bailey carried the ball 23 times for 169 yards and a touchdown. "How you defend him is probably a little different than maybe a pocket passer," head coach Mark Farley said Tuesday. "Everybody's got

their own choice how to defend those guys. "For us, he's given us latitude to do some things on offense that maybe some other quarterbacks can't." And now that's something USD (4-3, 2-2) will have to defend for the first time season. In their first seven games, the Coyotes did not line up across from a quarterback who is as big of a threat on the ground as he is throwing the ball. In fact, the most damage a quarterback has done running the ball against USD's defense was Kansas State's Joe Hubener - 9 carries, 38 yards. The only touchdown the Coyotes have allowed to an

opposing quarterback was to North Dakota State's Carson Wentz, and he finished the game with 8 yards on 5 carries. That is likely to change Saturday with Bailey, who was a four-start recruit out of high school in Illinois. "You've got to be gap sound," USD head coach Joe Glenn said Tuesday. "You have to know whatever your scheme is and how you want to defend the option." It's not an exact science, either. Defensive players have to be responsible for their own particular assignments and must also be cognizant of

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MMC Men Fall In Opener

MADISON - Kyle Kilgore had 17 points, seven rebounds and five assists to lead Dakota State to a 105-63 victory over Mount Marty in men's college basketball action on Wednesday at the DSU Fieldhouse. It was the season opener for both squads. DSU had seven players in double figures, with Ian Barse scoring 15 points, Brendon Boomsma recording 13 points and Derek Meger netting 12 points. Adam Hofer, Tanner Heiser and Taylor Zirbel each had 10 points, with Zirbel also recording seven rebounds and Barse adding five assists. K.J. DeCristino led MMC with 16 points. Patrick Ciganovic and Anthony Stransky each scored eight points.

Cody Willett added six rebounds and four assists. MMC, 0-1, hosts Grace on Friday. Start time is set for 7 p.m. **MOUNT MARTY (0-1)** Tyler Olsen 2-5 2-2 7, K.J. DeCristino 5-10 4-6 16, Zach Telles 0-0 0-0 0, Anthony Stransky 3-7 0-0 8, Drew Matsushima 0-3 1-2 1, Ben Hegge 3-3 1-3 7, Jeremy Grundmeyer 0-1 0-0 0, Jalen Hurley 0-1 1-4 3, Alex Irvine 0-0 0-0 0, Patrick Ciganovic 3-6 2-2 8, Cody Willett 2-7 0-0 4, Taylor Millay 1-4 4-4 6, Shayne Bloch 0-1 1-2 1, Drew Cheskie 1-1 0-0 2. TOTALS: 40-67 18-25 63. **DAKOTA STATE (1-0)** Brendon Boomsma 3-6 4-4 13, Adam Fidler 2-3 0-0 5, JoBriel Powell 1-4 3-4 5, Nathaniel Rauhen 3-4 0-0 6, Adam Hofer 2-3 6-6 10, Kyle Kilgore 7-13 3-5 17, Ian Barse 6-12 0-0 15, Tanner Heiser 5-9 0-0 10, Derek Meger 5-5 2-6 12, Nick Boone 0-0 0-0 0, Jay Huls 1-1 0-0 2, Taylor Zirbel 5-7 0-0 10. TOTALS: 40-67 18-25 105. At the half: DSU 60, MMC 27. Three-Pointers: DSU 7-16 (Boomsma 3-5, Barse 3-6, Fidler 1-2, Powell 0-1, Heiser 0-2), MMC 5-19 (DeCristino 2-4, Stransky 2-5, Olsen 0-1, Matsushima 0-1, Grundmeyer 0-1, Hurley 0-1, Ciganovic 0-2, Willett 0-3). Rebounds: DSU 37 (Kilgore 7, Zirbel 7), MMC 28 (Willett 6). Assists: DSU 22 (Kilgore 5, Barse 5), MMC 9 (Willett 4). Blocked Shots: MMC 2, DSU 1. Personal Fouls: DSU 23, MMC 20. Fouled Out: None.

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 30<sup>TH</sup> | LADDIE E. CIMPL ARENA

**LANCER BASKETBALL**

MMC MEN VS. GRACE UNIVERSITY | TIP-OFF: 7:00 PM

Join us for the introduction of the Lancer Club Steering Committee members!

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