

# Michigan, Minnesota Each Looking To Overcome Heartbreak

BY JON KRAWCZYNSKI

AP Sports Writer

MINNEAPOLIS (AP) — The Michigan Wolverines and Minnesota Golden Gophers each walk into TCF Bank Stadium with their own heartbreak to mend.

The 15th-ranked Wolverines (5-2, 2-1 Big Ten) let a victory over rival Michigan State slip through their fingers in the closing moments when the Spartans scored on a fumbled snap by Michigan's punter.

The Gophers (4-3, 1-2), meanwhile, will be playing three days after coach Jerry Kill's surprise retirement for health reasons. Kill was forced to step down because of epilepsy and defensive coordinator Tracy Claeys is taking over.

"For me all day, especially in the morning meeting, a lot of tears shed and even in the (afternoon) team

meeting you can't help but try and fight holding it back," Minnesota quarterback Mitch Leidner said of the day Kill told them he had to walk away. "It's such an emotional thing, but by the time meetings got over and you got on the field it's just you're back on the field. It's where you get to fight for those emotions, fight for coach Kill."

Both teams are coming off of a bye, meaning the Wolverines had a full week off to stew over the spectacular finish the Spartans game. They led with 10 seconds to play in the game when Michigan punter Blake O'Neill bobbled the snap, fumbled the ball away and Jalen Watts-Jackson scooped it up and returned raced 38 yards to give Michigan State a 27-23 win.

"It took me a couple days because of the way it went down," Wolverines receiver Amara Darboh

said. "But I think I've moved on from it now and I'm focusing on Minnesota now and the rest of the season. I don't think dwelling on the past is going to help us in any way, so I think it's best for us just to move on and then focus on finishing strong."

Here are some things to watch: **JUG WATCH:** The Gophers won the Little Brown Jug at the Big House last year and are looking to keep it two years in a row for the first time since 1962-63. "They whipped us pretty good last year," said Michigan coach Jim Harbaugh, who is in his first season. "When you snap on the film of that game (you see) a resilient football team, very good defensive scheme, very aggressive and a good football team in all phases."

**CLAEYS TAKES OVER:** Claeys has been an assistant under Kill for

the last 21 years, so the transition should be seamless. Two years ago, he coached the Gophers to a 4-3 record when Kill took a leave of absence to address his epilepsy. "We still have a lot of control over how the season goes," Claeys said. "I still think we have a lot of good kids, great kids, who can play the game of football."

**MICHIGAN'S D:** The Wolverines have allowed the fewest points per game in the FBS and the second-fewest yards rushing per game, leading the way for Michigan's renaissance. But they struggled some in the loss to the high-powered Spartans. "We are really eager to get back out there and show teams that was just one game, but that's not going to define us," safety Dymonte Thomas said.

**LEIDNER'S MOMENTUM:** The Gophers junior quarterback has been

up and down so far this season, but is coming off of a career-high 301 yards passing in the loss to Nebraska two weeks ago. He played well in Michigan last year, throwing for 167 yards and a touchdown in Minnesota's 30-14 victory. "I can't even describe the feeling on the field after we beat Michigan last year, to be able to run over and grab the jug and hoist it up, and bring it over to our fans and celebrate in the locker room," Leidner said. "It was an awesome feeling."

**DUAL THREAT:** Michigan unleashed defensive back Jabril Peppers on offense for the first time against Michigan State. He had two catches for 35 yards, including a 28-yarder that may have laid the groundwork for an expanded role on that side of the ball.

# Mavs Power Past Coyotes

BY JEREMY HOECK

jeremy.hoeck@yankton.net

VERMILLION — It's not quite time for the University of South Dakota volleyball team to start stressing over its place in the Summit League standings, but its up and down nature struck again Friday night.

Winners of three straight, the Coyotes turned around and struggled with a scrappy — and third-place — Omaha squad which claimed a 3-1 (25-15, 24-26, 25-22, 25-22) victory at the DakotaDome.

The loss keeps the Coyotes (4-6) in sixth place — the top six teams make the postseason tournament — with six matches remaining. "That's what we've been struggling with is consistency," said junior outside hitter Audrey Reeg, who had a team-high 14 kills on a team-high 46 swings.

"We're just trying to play one and oh; play the next match at a high level."

Having to fight on following the season-ending injury to senior hitter Sydney Dimke, the Coyotes had turned a corner during a 3-match winning streak.

Now the key is other players stepping forward, according to head coach Leanne Williamson.

"That's what this season is, overcoming some adversity and fighting back," she said. "Good teams fight back in those situations."

Omaha (8-3), though, used its length and defensive

tenacity to keep the Coyotes from really developing a rhythm. The Mavericks — who are eligible for the Summit League tournament this season — recorded nine team blocks (Megan Schmale had nine assisted) and forced USD to hit .180.

"They're scrappy and they pick up a lot of stuff," Reeg said. "That does give us another chance to swing, but as the match goes on, you have a tendency to feel defeated."

Consequently, Reeg and freshman Haley Dotseth (13) were the only USD players with double-digit kills, but middles Kelsey Biltoft and Lindsey Brown each had nine kills.

"They were scrappy on defense and that frustrated us a little bit more than I think it has in the past," Williamson said.

Sophomore setter Britany Jessen recorded 45 set assists to go along with five kills, while she and freshman Lauren Mattison led the defense with 20 digs apiece.

As the Coyotes move toward the end of the regular season, they'll need at least a couple more hitters to step up, Williamson said, to help even out the up and down nature.

"Right now, we've had nights where we're not flawless, but very clean, and we've had nights where we've had to fight for every single point," she said.

"We've got another chance

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ELYSE BRIGHTMAN/VERMILLION PLAIN TALK South Dakota setter Brittany Jessen, 2, sets the ball to teammate Kelsey Biltoft during their Summit League volleyball match with Omaha on Friday at the Coyote Den in the DakotaDome. Omaha won 3-1, dropping USD to 4-6 in Summit League play. The Coyotes host North Dakota State tonight (Saturday) at 7 p.m.

# Gordon Believes Martinsville Could Be Key To NASCAR Title

BY JENNA FRYER

AP Auto Racing Writer

MARTINSVILLE, Va. (AP) — Slipping through to the third round of NASCAR's playoffs might just have made Jeff Gordon one of the favorites to win the championship.

Gordon has had a mediocre season and goes into Sunday's race at Martinsville Speedway winless on the year.

But there's no better track for him to spark a run toward a fifth championship.

Gordon has eight career victories at Martinsville, which makes him a strong contender Sunday. A trip to victory lane would earn Gordon an automatic berth to the Chase for the Sprint Cup finale, and should he make it to the championship race, all bets are off and Gordon could ride off into retirement with a new title.

"We're carrying just a lot of confidence and momentum and pride right now knowing that we've had to grind it out just to get ourselves in the Chase," Gordon said Friday. "That grind and that fight that we have in us is what we've been putting out there these last six weeks that have gotten us to this round."

"Now we get to continue that fight and grind, but we get to

do it at some tracks that we legitimately have a shot at competing for wins," he said. "I'm pretty excited that we're where we're at and that we've made it this far."

Of the eight drivers remaining in the Chase, Gordon is statistically the strongest at Martinsville.

After Martinsville, Gordon's numbers at Texas and Phoenix also shine. He has one win and nine top-five finishes in 29 races at Texas and two wins and 12 top fives in 33 races at Phoenix. He's won five more times at Martinsville than any of the other drivers still in the Chase, and he's got one career victory at Texas and two at Phoenix.

"I look at the tracks coming up, yeah, I feel good about it," he said. "But we're still under the radar, and still I don't think anybody expects that to happen, and we like it that way."

His numbers this season would support the underdog position.

Gordon has just four top-five finishes this season, 17 top-10 finishes and has led just 217 laps. Because of those stats, Kyle Busch doesn't consider Gordon a viable title contender to win the title. He thinks even if Gordon is eligible at Homestead, he won't be able to beat reigning

champion Kevin Harvick or Joey Logano, who has won three consecutive races.

Harvick won Homestead last year to win the title.

"Being a longtime Jeff Gordon fan as a kid growing up years and years ago, I don't see Jeff Gordon winning it this year," Busch said. "I just don't see him going to Homestead and being able to beat (Harvick), (Logano) right now. If it turns into more of a circus at Homestead, then possibly he's got a good shot at it. I think all of us do."

Gordon last won a title in 2001, but was a serious threat last season before he was eliminated from the Chase at Phoenix, the cutoff race. Had he made it to the finale, he might have won the title — Gordon led 161 laps at Homestead last year and was headed toward the win until the final pit stop.

He'd like to have another shot this year.

"We never stop fighting and grinding. That's what we've had to do. Now we're just in that mode," Gordon said. "We seem to really do a great job being consistent and getting the best finish. That's what we've been certainly doing in the Chase. If we do that for three more weeks, I think we make it to Homestead."

# Red-Hot Joey Logano Wins Pole At Martinsville

BY JENNA FRYER

AP Auto Racing Writer

MARTINSVILLE, Va. (AP) — Joey Logano won the pole at Martinsville Speedway on Friday to set up a shot at his fourth consecutive win and a quick berth into NASCAR's championship race.

Logano turned a lap at 98.548 in Friday qualifying to earn the top starting spot. He heads into Sunday's race coming off three consecutive wins — a sweep of the second round of the Chase for the Sprint Cup championship.

Should Logano win Sunday, he'll be the first driver since Jimmie Johnson in 2007 to win four straight races.

"We're doing everything right, but all that can end in a blink of an eye," Logano said.

Martin Truex Jr. qualified second and was thrilled with his starting spot.

"We didn't know going into qualifying we'd have that good of speed," Truex said. "Definitely a good start to the weekend for us."

AJ Allmendinger and Jamie McMurray, who are not in the Chase, qualified third and fourth.

Jeff Gordon will try to win his ninth career race at Martinsville from the fifth starting spot. Kyle Busch qualified sixth and was followed by Ryan Newman, who was eliminated from the Chase last week.

Brad Keselowski was the next highest qualifying Chase driver at 11th and Kevin Harvick was 12th.

# Eagles

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year, we started to migrate toward the spread," Mutchelknaus said. "We have athletic kids. We just needed to get them the ball in open space."

Irene-Wakonda got off to a 1-3 start, with all three losses coming to playoff teams. But the Eagles followed those up with a 60-8 win at Centerville and a 52-14 win at Garretson before losing to Chester and Baltic to end the regular season.

Gabe King, a Northern State basketball commit, has thrived in the QB role, passing for 2,162 yards and 32 touchdowns so far this season.

"Gabe has been our quarterback since his sophomore year. He has a lot of athletic gifts, and he's also very smart," Mutchelknaus said of the senior. "Being 6-foot-5, he can see a lot of things that a quarterback needs to see."

For King, the opportunity to lead a wide-open offense was exciting. "It was the best news I'd heard all year," he said of being told about the offensive change. "Mr. M is known for running a tight running game. All of a sudden we open things up."

The other part of what makes the spread work for the Eagles is the guys at the other end of the pass. The Eagles have just 19 players on their roster, but have 13 who have caught a pass and eight who have a touchdown

catch on the season.

"We have a lot of fast guys, a lot of talent," Gabe King said. "We have plenty of guys that can catch the ball and run with it after."

Freshman Trey King, Gabe's younger brother, and senior Josh Healy have been the primary targets. King has 51 catches for 732 and 14 touchdowns, while Healy has 45 catches for 665 yards and five scores.

Having his little brother as a legitimate receiving target has been a blast, Gabe King noted.

"It's really fun," he said. "We've been doing it since we were toddlers. If no one is open, I can always throw in his direction and he'll make a play."

Sophomore Tate Gale (16-24, 4 TD), senior Bry-

ant Knodel (13-243, 2 TD) and sophomore Brendan Sokolowski (11-81, 2 TD) all average better than a catch a contest.

"I like how it's unpredictable. Most run plays you can see coming," said Healy. "We have so many things we can do out of that, sometimes it's hard to cover everything. That's how it worked that night (against Hanson)."

For Knodel, who leads the team with 314 rushing yards and four touchdowns, the high-flying passing game has the added effect of opening up the run game.

"The holes open up more than in a tight formation," he said. "I like it a lot more."

While the Eagles opened with a victory over a traditionally-strong Hanson program, they will need a few

more tricks up their sleeve to knock off their quarterfinal opponent, top-ranked Canistota.

"We need to get stops. We have to play defense, because our defense leads to our offense," Gabe King said. "We have to consistently move the ball, and we have to score plenty of points."

Coach Mutchelknaus is also excited about the chance to play in November.

"It's not an easy challenge," he said. "But it's one we're glad to take on." Irene-Wakonda travels to Canistota on Monday, a 7 p.m. start.

Follow @JCimburek on Twitter.

# NFL WR Sues Fanduel Over Use Of Name, Likeness

By BEN NUCKOLS

Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — Washington Redskins wide receiver Pierre Garcon filed a class-action lawsuit against popular daily fantasy sports website FanDuel on Friday, accusing the site of profiting off his name and likeness without permission.

The lawsuit filed Friday in federal court in Maryland, where the Redskins play their home games, represents the latest legal challenge for the lucrative daily fantasy industry, which has attracted scrutiny since a multimillion-dollar advertising blitz at the start of the NFL season.

According to Garcon's lawsuit, FanDuel has repeatedly used his name and likeness in its TV ads and on its website without his consent. Garcon claims that he and other players should be compensated by FanDuel for the use of their names, which he says has driven up revenues for the company.

Garcon said in a statement that he was bringing the lawsuit "on behalf of myself as well as any other players who are being treated unjustly." He said he would not have any further comment while the case is being reviewed. The Redskins have a bye this week.

The lawsuit notes that Garcon's name appears frequently in FanDuel commercials, including a 28-minute infomercial in which his name is seen 53 times. FanDuel spent more than \$16 million on advertising during the first week of October, the lawsuit said.

"We believe this suit is without merit," FanDuel said in a statement. "There is established law that fantasy operators may use player names and statistics for fantasy contests."

Members of Congress have called for hearings into the daily fantasy sports industry, and New York-based FanDuel and its chief rival, Boston-based DraftKings, have attracted the attention of regulators in Massachusetts and several other states. Recent revelations that employees of the two companies often played on competing sites have raised questions about possible insider information being used to win.

The companies claim their sites aren't gambling, are legal, and were exempted from a federal online gambling prohibition in 2006. Players pay an entry fee to compete for cash prizes based on the performances of individual players.

FanDuel has a marketing partnership with the Redskins, who have a "FanDuel lounge" at their home stadium, FedEx Field in Landover, Maryland. DraftKings has a partnership with the NFL players' union that allows it to use player names and likenesses. Unlike other U.S. sports leagues, the NFL does not have an official daily-fantasy partner.



AM 1450

MORNING COFFEE WEEKDAYS MONDAY-FRIDAY

Monday, November 2

7:40 am Yankton County Commission (Todd Woods)

8:20 am YHS Band Show (Dan Rafferty)

Tuesday, November 3

7:40 am Yankton Library (Kathy Wibbels)

8:20 am Meditation (Michael McVay, Pastor Jim)