



Watertown (1-1) at Yankton (2-0)

7 p.m., Crane-Youngworth Field

LAST MEETING: Yankton rushed for 295 yards and passed for 208 more in a 48-18 rout of Watertown on Sept. 9, 2011.

LAST WEEK: Yankton got 152 yards rushing, 72 yards receiving and a 12-yard completion from running back Evan Schroeder in a 30-7 victory over Huron.

Watertown suffered its first loss, dropping a 55-13 decision at Brandon Valley.

NEXT UP: Yankton hosts Aberdeen Central for Pioneer Day on Sept. 14. Watertown hosts defending 11AA champion Sioux Falls Roosevelt.

FOLLOW THE GAME ONLINE: The Press & Dakotan will host a live chat during the game. Find it here: <http://www.yankton.net/yhsgameday>

Bucks Return Home To Face Watertown

BY CHRIS RILEY
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After a pair of conference wins on the road to start their 2012 campaign, the Yankton Bucks welcome the Watertown Arrows to Crane-Youngworth Field tonight (Friday) in their home opener.

The 2-0 Bucks, currently ranked fifth in the Class 11AA South Dakota Sportswriters Association Poll, used turnovers and a powerful running attack to defeat ESD rivals Pierre and Huron on the road to open the season. After forcing four turnovers in week one, the Bucks added five takeaways last Friday against Huron and have yet to

turn the ball over themselves.

“Being plus-nine on turnovers after two games; our defense is playing very opportunistic,” Yankton head coach Arlin Likness said.

Also to their advantage, the Bucks play four of their remaining seven games, including tonight’s contest, at home.

“It’s nice to be done with a couple of those long road trips,” Likness added.

Meanwhile, Watertown, 1-1, won their season opener against Mitchell at home but is now in the middle of one of the toughest stretches in Class 11AA football this season. The four-game stretch started last Friday

against second-ranked Brandon Valley in Brandon which resulted in a 55-13 defeat to the Lynx.

After tonight’s game, the Arrows host third-ranked Roosevelt next weekend before traveling to Sioux Falls to face top-ranked Washington at Howard Wood Field in week five.

“We know we have a touch schedule ahead and as a staff and a football team we have to be patient as to how much we put into our scheme each week and be patient with our kids and staff learning it,” Arrows head coach Steve Svendsen said earlier this week. “The stretch ahead is a big challenge that we are going to have to face and we

are going to have to be resilient.”

Yankton will also get their shot against Roosevelt, Washington and Brandon Valley, but not until the last month of the season. For now, their emphasis is on duplicating last season’s 48-18 rout of the Arrows.

Bucks quarterback Michael Rucker got the headlines last week as he set a new school record in career passing yards early in the game against Huron, but it was the duo of Evan Schroeder (20 carriers for 152 yards) and James Hisek (56 carries for 47 yards) that accounted for the majority of Yankton’s 319 yards of total offense.

“Our kids played aggressive

(against Huron) and got us off to a good start,” Likness added.

The Bucks scored the first 21 points of the contest last week and never let the Tigers closer than 14 points after that as they won easily, 30-7.

Likness is hopeful that his team can use the hometown crowd to get the Bucks off to another hot start against the Arrows.

“Most of the people at Crane are on your side, and you have to use that to your advantage,” Likness said.

Action kicks off at 7 p.m.

You can follow Chris Riley on Twitter at twitter.com/ChrisCRiley

Allen Sweeps L&C Rivals

BLOOMFIELD, Neb. — Brittany Sullivan combined for 19 kills as the Allen Lady Eagles won both of their matches at Thursday’s Bloomfield Volleyball Triangular in Bloomfield, Neb.

Allen beat Bloomfield and Wausa in straight sets, while the hometown Queen Bees went 1-1. All three teams are members of the Lewis & Clark Conference.

In upcoming action, Bloomfield hosts Wausa next Monday.

ALLEN DEF. BLOOMFIELD 25-10, 25-18: Brittany Sullivan posted 10 kills and 10 digs for the winning Eagles, while Lindsey Jones added six kills and three digs.

Autumn Luger had four kills and 17 digs to lead the Queen Bees, while Kenna Fiedler added three kills and 12 digs. Dominique Swanson posted eight set assists, and Amanda Goeden had 13 digs.

ALLEN DEF. WAUSA 25-12, 25-12: Sullivan had nine kills and six digs for Allen, while Jones and Rachel Finnegan each added eight kills. Lindsey Sullivan had 15 set assists.

BLOOMFIELD DEF. WAUSA 25-20, 25-22: Luger posted nine kills and 16 digs for the Queen Bees, while Fiedler had 13 digs and Goeden added nine digs. Swanson led the offense with 18 set assists.

Big East Conf. Tourn. Parker 3, Chester Area 1

SALEM — The Parker Pheasants put three players in double-digit kills to beat Chester Area 25-22, 25-22, 21-25, 25-20 in the semifinals of the Big East Conference Tournament on Thursday night.

Tessa Weeldreyer had 14 kills for Parker (8-0), Allison Sanner added 13 kills, and Micalanne Hanten posted 11 kills and 20 digs. Amber Dys-the posted 49 set assists and Morgan Hay recorded 15 digs.

Logan Miller had 13 kills and seven digs for the Flyers, while Jade Wolf added 37 set assists.

Parker will face Sioux Valley in the Big East Conference Tournament championship match on Saturday in Parker. Baltic will play Chester Area for third place, while Howard will face McCook Central-Montrose for fifth place. Garretson and Flandreau will meet in the seventh place match.

PARKER (8-0)	25	25	21	25
CHESTER AREA	22	25	25	20

Parker 3, MCM 0

SALEM — Weeldreyer recorded nine kills to lead Parker past McCook Central-Montrose 25-15, 25-12, 25-12 in the first round of the Big East Conference Tournament on Thursday night in Salem.

Dysthe recorded 21 set assists and 15 digs for Parker, while Hanten added five kills and 11 digs. Sanner chipped in with five kills and eight digs.

Jean Skoglund had four kills, 12 digs and three ace serves for MCM (1-7), while Anna Olinger added four kills.

PARKER	25	25
MCCOOK CENTRAL-MONTROSE	15	12

MCM 3, Flandreau 1

SALEM — Olinger recorded 15 kills and 10 digs to lead hometown McCook Central-Montrose past Flandreau 13-25, 25-18, 25-13, 25-23 at the Big East Conference Tournament on Thursday.

Laura Klaudt posted 23 set assists for MCM, while Brianna Painter added 24 digs.

For Flandreau, MaKayla Dietrich had seven kills and Kendra Duncan recorded 29 digs.

MCCOOK CENTRAL-MONTROSE	13	25	25	25
FLANDREAU	25	18	13	23

Chester 3, Flandreau 0

CHESTER — Chester Area swept Flandreau 3-0 in girls’ volleyball action in Chester at the Big East Conference Tournament on Thursday night.

The Flyers won all three matches in dominating fashion, 25-8, 25-9, and 25-16.

Wolf led the way for Chester with 22 assists. Miller added nine kills in the victory.

For Flandreau, Duncan recorded seven digs and Detrich added five kills.

FLANDREAU (2-9)	8	9	16
CHESTER (5-2)	25	25	25

Regular Season

Wagner 3, Gregory 0

GREGORY — Wagner remained undefeated with a 3-0 sweep of Gregory in a Class A showdown Thursday night, by scores of 25-14, 25-17, 32-30.

Jessa Doom led the Red Raiders with 31 assists and 15 digs. Gina Soukup added 11 kills while Nicole Weber tallied 12 digs and seven kills as Wagner improved to 7-0.

For Gregory, 7-1, Courtney Opbroek had 13 digs and eight kills, Sierra Thomas tallied 28 assists, and Cheyenne Salonen added 10 kills.

Wagner also won the JV and C-Matches with 2-0 sweeps in each.

Both teams are once again in action on Tuesday as Wagner hosts Avon and Gregory travels to Corsica to play Dakota Christian.

WAGNER (7-0)	25	25	32
GREGORY (7-1)	14	17	30

Wynot 3, Viborg-Hurley 1

WYNOT, Neb. — The Wynot Lady Blue Devils defeated Viborg-Hurley 3-1 on Thursday night in a border battle volleyball match in Wynot.

The Blue Devils won the first match 25-14 before V-H came back to win match two, 26-24. Wynot followed with 25-17 and 25-15 victories in games three and four to seal the win.

Sam Wieseler led the Lady Blue Devils with 10 kills and nine digs. Senior Zoey Heimes added 24 digs while Kelsie Higgins and Ashley Heine added 23 digs each in the victory.

For the Cougars, Katelyn Gruber tallied eight kills and seven digs while Danielle Vass had nine digs and five kills.

Wynot won the B-Match 2-1, winning games one and three 21-19. V-H won the second game 21-17 to avoid the sweep.

Wynot, 3-1, plays at Hartington on Tuesday. Viborg-Hurley, 5-2, hosts Bloomfield in Hurley on Saturday.

VIBORG-HURLEY (5-2)	14	26	17	15
WYNOT (3-1)	25	24	25	25

Crofton 3, O’Neill 1

CROFTON, Neb. — Maria Wortmann led Crofton to a 3-1 victory over O’Neill on Thursday night in Crofton in Nebraska volleyball action.

Wortmann tallied 24 digs and 17 kills for the Lady Warriors. Kaylee Hoffman added 26 digs and Bridget Arens had 10 kills and seven digs as Crofton improved to 3-2.

Crofton travels to Albion on Saturday to battle Tekamah-Herman.

O’NEILL	25	16	25	15
CROFTON (3-2)	27	25	21	25

Freeman 3, Gayville-Volin 0

FREEMAN — Nicole Hincley led the Flyers past Gayville-Volin in a three-game sweep on Thursday night in South Dakota Class B volleyball action in Freeman.

Hincley tallied 13 kills and eight assists to help power Freeman to 27-25, 25-18, and 25-16 victories. Shelby Bauer added 14 digs and six kills while Dina Soulek had 11 digs and eight kills and Grace Gering added a whopping 29 assists and nine digs.

The Flyers, who host Bridgewater-Emery on Tuesday, improve to 2-2 on the season with the victory.

Gayville-Volin travels to Hurley on Tuesday to face Viborg-Hurley.

GAYVILLE-VOLIN	25	18	16
FREEMAN (2-2)	27	25	25

Elk Point-Jefferson 3, Canton 0

ELK POINT — It was a strong night for the Elk Point-Jefferson Huskies on Thursday as they dominated the Canton C-Hawks in three sets 25-14, 25-12, 25-14.

The Huskies’ Keely Bertram led the charge with 11 kills, seven aces, and eight digs. Amy Zeller added eight kills and two blocks while Hope Erickson controlled the offense with 14 assists.

Atlanta Lundstrom led at the net for the C-Hawks with four kills and Lindsey Pate grabbed eight digs.

Both teams will take the floor again Tuesday as Elk Point-Jefferson travels to Lennox and Canton takes on Dell Rapids.

ELK POINT-JEFFERSON (4-4)	25	25	25
CANTON (1-6)	14	12	14



JAMES D. CIMBUREK/P&D

ABOVE: Allen’s Lindsey Jones gets low to dig out a ball during the Lady Eagles’ matchup with Bloomfield as part of a volleyball triangular in Bloomfield, Neb., on Thursday. Allen went 2-0 in the event.

BELOW: Wausa’s Abbi Hegge attacks the ball during the Lady Vikings’ matchup with Allen.



Of course, that’s nothing new, considering the youth movement in South Dakota high school boys’ golf.

Ten of the top 15 finishers at last fall’s state meet are back in 2012, the invitational figures to have a competitive race for the No. 1 spot. That is exactly what schools want, Sime said.

“People are trying to play in more tournaments like this, where you can face more schools,” he said. He pointed to Watertown as a school that cut a trip to Rapid City to save money and instead scheduled the Yankton invitational.

Brookings hosts its annual tournament on Saturday (which Yankton will be at), which Sime said makes sense for schools to get quality competition twice in three days — much like a state tournament feel.

The hometown Bucks are looking to improve on last year’s ninth-place finish at their own invite.

Sophomore Jace Guthmiller has led the squad this season, followed by sophomore Mitch Schlingman and junior Lane Sawatzke. From there, the Bucks have a handful of guys performing well — including juniors Brandon Frick, Logan Megard and Ben Jensen, and freshman Mason Sundleaf.

“We’re just hoping that we can be in the mix and compete for a top five spot,” Sime said. “I know our kids are looking forward to it.”

You can follow Jeremy Hoeck on Twitter at twitter.com/jhoeck



JEREMY HOECK/P&D

Yankton senior Sarah Santos serves during her No. 2 doubles match with Alexa Bryan at Thursday afternoon’s dual with Vermillion at the YHS/SAC Tennis Courts.

Girls’ Tennis: Gazelles Sweep Vermillion 9-0

The Yankton Gazelles rebounded in a big way from Tuesday’s 9-0 loss with a sweep of their own, winning 9-0 over the Vermillion Tangers on Thursday afternoon at the YHS/SAC Tennis Courts.

Among the six singles and three doubles matches, the Gazelles lost only four games.

Picking up singles wins were Sarah Rockne, Sarah Santos, Alexa Bryan, Taylor Rothenberger, Kim Cap and Anna Kokesh. Cap teamed up with Kaitlyn Frank to win at flight three doubles.

Yankton, now 5-7, returns to action today (Friday) at Brandon Valley. The dual starts at 4 p.m.

YANKTON’S VERMILLION 0

SINGLES: Sarah Rockne YHS def. Abby Weiss 10-3; Sarah Santos YHS def. Libby Sykes 10-1; Alexa Bryan YHS def. Audrey Miller 10-0; Taylor Rothenberger YHS def. Alex Rosdall 10-0; Kim Cap YHS def. Brandi Styles 10-0; Anna Kokesh YHS def. Kirstyn Bohn 10-0

DOUBLES: Rockne-Rothenberger YHS def. Weiss-Sykes 10-0; Santos-Bryan YHS def. Miller-Rosdall 10-0; Cap-Kaitlyn Frank YHS def. Styles-Bohn 10-0

Peterson, Jones-Drew Ease Back In With Vikes, Jags

MINNEAPOLIS (AP) — Maurice Jones-Drew saw the video clips of Adrian Peterson sprinting up the slope at the edge of Minnesota’s practice field, another display of the Vikings star’s fierce determination to have his surgically repaired left knee ready in time for the regular season.

The sight was so stirring for Jones-Drew it catalyzed the end of his hold-out from the Jacksonville Jaguars. After all, heavy-load running backs like the two of them can use some company in today’s NFL. They’ve fast become a relic in this pass-driven league.

“Seeing him run those hills, he kind of inspired me to get back at it again,” Jones-Drew said, adding: “It shows he has the right mindset and he’s ready to go to work. I’m wishing him all the best.”

Except, of course, on Sunday when the Jaguars visit the Vikings.

Though Vikings coach Leslie Frazier has squeezed every last cautionary comment out of his lexicon over the past few months, declining to grant final clearance, all signs have pointed to Peterson’s participation in the opener. Frazier has stressed his use

will be limited behind Toby Gerhart.

“We’re going to prepare like he’s the guy,” Jaguars coach Mike Mularkey said, refusing to embrace Frazier’s stated plan.

Jones-Drew has found himself in a similar situation. During training camp, while the Vikings were trying to hold Peterson back from overdoing his rehabilitation, Jones-Drew was holding out. He reported to the Jaguars last weekend, seven days ahead of the first game. Mularkey has said Jones-Drew will play, but in a third-down role behind Rashad Jennings.

“We’re preparing as if he is going to play a lot. He’s a guy you definitely don’t want to ignore on the football field,” Frazier said, expressing the same skepticism.

Try to find two running backs in the league right now more valuable to their teams.

Over the last five seasons, Peterson and Jones-Drew rank first and second in the NFL in each of these categories: yards rushing, total touchdowns and total yards from scrimmage. During that same span, the Vikings are first (139.4) and the Jaguars (131.3) are third in the league in average yards rushing per game. The Carolina Panthers are second.

The 2011 standings, though, revealed a major flaw in the strategy. The Jaguars finished 5-11, and the Vikings matched their franchise-worst record at 3-13. No team passed for fewer yards in the NFL last year than the Jaguars. The Vikings weren’t much better at fifth worst.

So are these teams stuck with their heads in the sand while the rest of the league is looking up, in the air? Or do they boast elite players at this still-important position who will continue to fuel team success provided the talent level in other places on the roster is improved?

Well, these guys have an answer, even if it’s not objective analysis.

“At the end of the day being a player and understanding this league, balance is what helps win games,” Jones-Drew said, pointing to the formula used down the stretch last season by the Super Bowl champion New York Giants. “As running backs we have to stick together because everybody is trying to devalue us and say we’re not this or we’re not that which is pretty funny.”

Said Peterson of Jones-Drew: “He