

# Bucks Give O’Gorman A Different Look

## Yankton Air Attack Looks To Down Rival Knights On Pioneer Day

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Throughout the course of the storied football rivalry between Yankton and Sioux Falls O’Gorman, passing has never really been a featured weapon.

That may change tonight (Friday), though, when the Knights visit Crane-Youngworth Field for a 7 p.m. matchup with the Bucks in another cross-class showdown.

Yankton (1-3), coming off consecutive defeats, has recorded 81 percent (1,158 of 1,426 yards) of its offense through the air this season. The Bucks, however, have been bitten by mistakes in the last two weeks.

“Realistically for us, we’ve been in the games. The big question is, how much better are we getting?,” head

coach Arlin Likness said. “I’ve seen improvement, but not enough yet to get ‘W’s.’”

The Bucks held a 7-point lead in the fourth quarter last week at Aberdeen Central, but surrendered 20 straight points and lost. Yankton also had four turnovers: Three interceptions and a fumble.

“Ultimately we want to keep improving, but we want those wins in order to make the playoffs,” Likness said.

Doing so against O’Gorman may be a tall order. The Class 11AAA Knights (2-2), winner of six straight in the series with Yankton, are coming off a 2-point home loss to Pierre.

In its last meeting with the Bucks, O’Gorman rallied for a 21-17 win in last year’s playoffs — a game that still stands out for Knights coach Steve Kueter.

“That’s the same thing I would expect this year, we’re both pretty similar,” Kueter said this week. “They return a lot of skill kids from a team gave us all we wanted.”

The one key difference for Yankton? Passing.

Between them, the junior quarterback tandem of Mason Strahl and Brady Hale have averaged 290 yards through the air this season — eight touchdowns in all.

“They may throw the ball the best of any team in the state,” Kueter said. “And they have a couple running backs who can run with anybody. They present a lot of problems.”

Senior receiver J.J. Hejna is one of those problems for opposing defenses. The 6-foot-4 target has caught 29 passes for 589 yards and six touchdowns.

“Most of us don’t have that type of

kids,” Kueter said. “We have to throw a small corner on him, and that’s tough duty.”

Yankton’s offense, though, has been rather one dimensional. The Bucks have averaged 67 rushing yards per game, but do have seven touchdowns on the ground.

“It’s fun to set records and throw the ball around, but it doesn’t mean much unless we’re winning,” Likness said. “There’s more success with a win. We’ve got to get everyone on that same page.”

Chief among those areas, Likness pointed out, are small issues like penalties and special teams that “become big things,” he said.

“When you throw an interception or fumble the ball on a return, that

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### Sioux Falls O’Gorman Yankton (1-3)

7 p.m. Crane-Youngworth Field

**SERIES SINCE 1981:** O’Gorman holds a 10-8 edge, including the last five meetings. It is also the most-played post-season matchup for YHS, as the teams have met 13 times in the playoffs with the Knights holding a 7-6 edge. (The teams are now in different classes.)

**LAST MEETING:** O’Gorman ended Yankton’s 2012 season with a 21-17 decision in the Class 11AA quarterfinals.

**LAST WEEK:** Aberdeen Central used a strong fourth quarter to rally past Yankton 34-21. O’Gorman lost to Pierre for the first time in nearly 50 years, as the Governors scored a 16-14 decision.

**NEXT UP:** Yankton travels to Watertown, while Sioux Falls O’Gorman travels to Rapid City Central.

**FOLLOW THE GAME ONLINE:** The Press & Dakotan will host a live chat during the game. Find it here: [http://www.yankton.net/yhs\\_gameday/](http://www.yankton.net/yhs_gameday/)

## Drake Clips USD In OT

VERMILLION — Drake junior forward Ashlie Stokes scored the game-winning goal three minutes into overtime as the Bulldogs beat the South Dakota Coyotes 3-2 Thursday at USD Soccer Complex. It was a final tune-up for both teams before entering play in their respective conferences.

Stokes gave Drake (2-6-2) its third lead of the day after teammate Paige Dusek led a break out up field following a USD corner kick. Dusek dribbled up the left side and delivered a cross-field strike through traffic to the feet of Stokes, who fired from the top-right side of the box and into the bottom-left corner of the net. It was Stokes’ third goal this season.

Drake led 1-0 after three minutes, only to see the Coyotes answer seven minutes later. The Bulldogs scored again early in the second half, but that lead lasted less than five minutes. None of the first four goals were terribly offensive.

Bulldog midfielder Brittany Schuling took a seemingly harmless free kick near mid-field just before the three-minute mark. The ball landed cleanly in the box and hopped right over USD goalkeeper Mackenzie Viktor and into the net.

Freshman Jamie Karch answered for the Coyotes (5-3-3). Kylee Willer played a pass to Karch who dribbled to the right side of the box. She had a tight angle on her shot and it appeared that Drake’s Andrea Swanson had made the save, but the shot slipped out from under Swanson and across the line. It was Karch’s team leading sixth goal this season.

Rebecca Rodgers was in the right place at the right time for Drake’s second goal, but it was the result of a hustle play by Dusek. The Coyote defense played a ball back to Viktor who tried to clear it, but her kick caromed off the chest of Dusek and towards the USD goal. Rodgers ran it down and tapped it in for her third goal of the year.

Elena Tsakakis’ third goal of the year made it 2-2 in the 56th minute. Lauren Bennett began the play with a long kick into the box. A Drake defender received it and tried to clear it, but instead made a pass to Tsakakis who drilled a shot from the right side.

Seven Summit League games remain on South Dakota’s schedule. The first three will take place outside of Vermillion starting with Omaha next Friday (Oct. 4). Drake starts Missouri Valley play Sunday (Sept. 29) at Evansville.

## YHS Sophs Blank Mitchell

MITCHELL — Reid Sawatzke completed 8-of-9 passes for 121 yards and three touchdowns to lead the Yankton Bucks past Mitchell 33-0 in sophomore football action Thursday.

Sawatzke had touchdown throws of 11 and 39 yards to Tanner Frick, and added a 16-yard strike to Blake Savey. Frick and Rayden Terca added touchdown runs for Yankton (1-3).

The Bucks’ defense recorded six sacks, led by two each from Dylan Modderregger and Brady Taggart. Yankton also had four fumble recoveries and an interception from Lee Rose.

Yankton visits Brandon Valley next Monday at 4:15 p.m.

### Freshman: Mitchell 40, Yankton 16

Mitchell jumped out to a 27-0 halftime lead and held on to beat the Bucks 40-16 in freshman football action Thursday at Crane-Youngworth Field. Nate Stephenson rushed 11 times for 23 yards and a 1-yard touchdown, while Austin Keller scored on a 20-yard run — both touchdowns came in the fourth quarter.

J.J. Payer led the Yankton defense with seven tackles.

Yankton visits Sioux Falls Lincoln on Oct. 3 at 4:15 p.m.

# YHS Shines At Home Meet



JAMES D. CIMBUREK/P&D  
Yankton's Brice Cowman leads the field during varsity boys' race at the Yankton Invitational cross country meet on Thursday at the HSC Course in Yankton.

BY JAMES D. CIMBUREK  
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After consecutive high-profile meets, the Yankton cross country team enjoyed a relaxing small meet at home on Thursday. The results showed, as Yankton athletes won five of six races at their home invitational at the HSC course.

Yankton swept individual titles in the varsity and freshmen/sophomore divisions, and took one of two middle school races in the meet, which featured runners from Vermillion, Sioux Falls O’Gorman, Harrisburg and Norfolk, Neb. Gayville-Volin competed in sub-varsity divisions.

The meet, one of two varsity home dates for Yankton, is different for the Bucks and Gazelles for a couple of reasons, said Yankton head coach Dave Dannenbring.

“This is one of the races that we like to come out for. It’s not as big a meet. You can’t go to big meets week after week,” he said. “At the same time, it’s hard to be at home because your kids are kinda on their own. We use this as a meet where our kids have to mature a little bit.”

In the varsity girls’ race, Yankton senior Annie Kruse clocked a 15:07.49 to win by nearly a minute over Vermillion eighth grade phenom Madisen Lavin (16:00.84). O’Gorman’s Abby Ripperda (16:09.39), Harrisburg’s Jasmyne Cooper (16:18.50) and Yankton’s Savannah Woods (16:30.74) rounded out the top five.

“Annie ran a fast time out here,” Dannenbring said, noting that Betsy Bies has the course record at 14:45. “I’m anxious to compare her time to some of the Gazelle greats on this course.”

Also for Yankton, Whitlee Larson (17:19.80) finished seventh, Lauren Graves (17:50.54) placed 11th and Ashtyn Haak (18:38.65) placed 17th.

Brice Cowman won the boys’ race in 16:50.54, nearly 40 seconds ahead of Norfolk’s TeJai Clausen (17:38.64) over the 5,000-meter course.

Also for Yankton, Justin Grode (18:00.51) placed fifth, Paul Fanta (19:03.00) 15th, Kyle Bergeson (19:06.96) 16th, Brody McClure



JAMES D. CIMBUREK/P&D  
Yankton's Annie Kruse sets the early pace on the way to winning the varsity girls' race at the Yankton Invitational cross country meet on Thursday.

(19:35.16) 20th, Morgan Hill (19:48.03) 23rd, Silas Jirisek (20:08.21) 25th, Evan Moon (20:10.03) 26th, Levi Stevens (20:31.36) 29th, Ethan Klimisch (20:58.98) 31st, Tyler Carr (22:19.07) 36th and Brody Woehl (23:01.96) 37th.

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## Beresford Sweeps Union County Quad, Retains ‘Canteen Trophy’

ELK POINT — The Beresford Watchdogs retained the ‘Canteen Trophy’ by winning the girls’ and boys’ team titles at Thursday’s Union County Quad meet in Elk Point.

In the girls’ division, Beresford had six runners in the top 10 to finish first with 18 total points. Dakota Valley was second at 34, followed by Elk Point-Jefferson at 37.

Josie Heeren of EPJ was first across the line in 15:42.

In the boys’ race, Beres-

ford edged Dakota Valley 20-23 for first place, with Elk Point-Jefferson third at 47.

Graham Bacon of Dakota Valley narrowly beat Peter Auch of Beresford across the line, with a difference of 17:50-17:56.

**GIRLS’ DIVISION**  
PARKER — The Hanson girls and McCrossan boys won team cross country titles at Wednesday’s Cornbelt Conference meet at ParMar Country Club near Parker. Freeman was second in both divisions. Hanson won the girls’ title

**BOYS’ DIVISION**  
TEAM SCORES: Beresford 18, Dakota Valley 34, Elk Point-Jefferson 37  
TOP 10: 1, Josie Heeren, Elk Point-Jefferson 15:42; 2, Marisa Schultz, Dakota Valley 16:06; 3, Cait Savey, Beresford 15:51; 4, Shelby Pickett, Beresford 17:01; 5, Lexie Johnson, Beresford 17:09; 6, Hannah Ebert, Beresford 17:10; 7, Claire Johnson, Dakota Valley 17:13; 8, Caitlin Worth, Beresford 17:17; 9, McKenzie Mennenga, Elk Point-Jefferson 17:39; 10, Sydney Nelson, Beresford 17:40

TEAM SCORES: Beresford 20, Dakota Valley 23,

Elk Point-Jefferson 47  
TOP 10: 1, Graham Bacon, Dakota Valley 17:50; 2, Peter Auch, Beresford 17:56; 3, Riley Schaap, Beresford 18:01; 4, Hunter Paulsen, Elk Point-Jefferson 18:06; 5, Blake Perryman, Dakota Valley 18:07; 6, Charlie Long, Dakota Valley 18:24; 7, Mike Erlandson, Beresford 18:45; 8, Nick O’Connell, Beresford 19:03; 9, Jake Limmer, Beresford 19:30; 10, Cole Homandberg, Beresford 19:33

### Cornbelt Conference

PARKER — The Hanson girls and McCrossan boys won team cross country titles at Wednesday’s Cornbelt Conference meet at ParMar Country Club near Parker. Freeman was second in both divisions. Hanson won the girls’ title

with nine total points, with Freeman (22), Howard (24) and Canistota (32) rounding out the team scores.

Rebecca Eberts of Freeman was the individual champion at 16:55, while the Hanson trio of Emily Hanson, Abby Hanson and Ellie Tuschen went 2-3-4, respectively.

On the boys’ side, McCrossan had six total points, followed by Freeman (21), Howard (28) and Canistota (31).

McCrossan’s Orson Running Enemy was first in 17:45,

followed by teammates Edward Soto and Taylor Steinke.

**BOYS’ DIVISION**  
TEAM SCORES: McCrossan 6, Freeman 21, Howard 28, Canistota 31  
TOP 10: 1, Orson Running Enemy, McCrossan 17:45; 2, Edward Soto, McCrossan 18:31; 3, Taylor Steinke, McCrossan 18:32; 4, Mason Decker, Canistota 18:58; 5, Cody Roth, Freeman 18:58; 6, Jona Peters, Howard 18:59; 7, Grant Preheim, Freeman 19:06; 8, Ombieza Schulte, McCrossan 19:41; 9, Brennan Schmidt, Freeman 19:55; 10, Cooper Eliason, Howard 19:56

**GIRLS’ DIVISION**  
TEAM SCORES: Hanson 9, Freeman 22, Howard 24, Canistota 32  
TOP 10: 1, Rebecca Eberts, Freeman 16:55; 2, Emily Hanson, Hanson 17:21; 3, Abby Hanson, Hanson 17:33; 4, Ellie Tuschen, Hanson 17:34; 5, Cassidy Buss, Canistota 17:46; 6, Briana Davis, Marion 18:07; 7, Brooke Slaba, Hanson 18:15; 8, Josie Erickson, Howard 18:27; 9, Ellen Lewis, Howard 18:34; 10, Macey Clausen, Howard 18:35

## Volleyball: Avon Battles Past Irene-Wakonda

AVON — Hanna Powers had 27 assists, 10 digs and one ace to lead the Avon Lady Pirates in a 3-2 (20-25, 25-14, 23-25, 25-17, 15-11) prep volleyball win against the Irene-Wakonda Eagles Thursday night in Avon.

Ariana Oorlog contributed 19 digs, 10 aces and nine kills, while Chesney Nagel recorded 14 kills, 14 digs and three aces. Sammy DeJong also had 13 digs, two kills and two aces.

Bailey Hines recorded 20 assists, 14 digs, six kills and six aces for the Eagles, while Dana Schenk put up 13 digs, 12 kills, six blocks and five aces in the win. Kiya Thompson adding nine digs, Nikki Rudd had seven kills.

Irene-Wakonda hits the road to face Alcester Thursday, and the Lady Pirates host Scotland Tuesday.

**IRENE-WAKONDA (2-7)**.....25 14 25 17 11  
**AVON (5-6)**.....20 25 23 25 15

### Wynot 3, Boyd County 0

WYNOT, Neb. — Maggie Schulte led Wynot to a 3-0 (25-14, 25-22, 25-21) victory against Boyd County with 20 kills, 14 digs and five blocks.

Jenna Heine had 25 digs, 15 assists and six kills in the win, with Hannah Laver contributing 17 assists and 12 digs. Olivia Wiessler also had 25 digs, while Danielle Wiessler had 23 digs.

No stats were reported for Boyd County (5-7).

Wynot participates in the Ponca Tournament next Tuesday, while Boyd County hits

the road to face Clearwater-Orchard.  
**BOYD COUNTY (5-7)**.....25 25 25  
**WYNOT (3-3)**.....14 22 21

### Bridgewater-Emery 3, Marion 2

MARION — Justine Dye put up 16 kills and 14 digs to lead the Bridgewater-Emery Huskies to a win with scores of 23-25, 26-24, 20-25, 25-23, 18-16 Thursday night against the Marion Bears.

Aly Hansen had 22 assists in the win, while Chesney Arend had 22 digs and two aces. Tiana Kayser added nine kills, and Hannah Harberts made 14 assists.

Kaitlyn Engbrecht recorded 43 digs and 25 assists for the Bears, with Devin Nelson contributing 22 kills and 17 digs. Erica Schoenwald also had 30 digs and 23 kills, with Renae Kayser putting up 23 assists and 21 digs.

Both teams participate in the Conference Classic Saturday.  
**BRIDGEWATER-EMERY (7-5)**.....23 26 20 25 18  
**MARION (7-4)**.....25 24 25 23 16

### Menno 3, Freeman 1

MENNO — Menno defeated Freeman in four sets by the scores of 25-16, 16-25, 25-18, 25-16, 25-18 on Thursday night.

Menno (1-7) was led by Tammy Spencer with eight kills and an ace.

Freeman (2-5) was led by Nicole Hinkley with five kills and five digs.

Both teams will compete in the Corbett Classic in Howard this weekend.

**MENNO (1-7)**.....25 18 16 18  
**FREEMAN (2-5)**.....16 25 25 25

### Sioux Falls Christian 3, Dakota Valley 0

NORTH SIOUX CITY — Miranda Veldersdyk put up 14 digs, 11 kills and two

aces Thursday night to lead top-ranked Class A Sioux Falls Christian in a 25-22, 25-20, 30-28 win against second-ranked Dakota Valley.

Shelby Zomermaand had 15 kills and 1.5 blocks in the win, while Stacy Smidt recorded 40 assists. Kristin Stern also had 11 kills and 2.5 blocks.

Hannah Bauer had 18 digs, six kills and six aces for the Panthers, with Erica Johnson contributing 13 digs, eight kills and one ace. Lindsey Smith also had 29 assists and two blocks.

Dakota Valley hosts the volleyball classic Saturday, and the Lynx travel to participate in the Unity Christian Tourney. **SIOUX FALLS CHRISTIAN (11-1)**.....25 25 30  
**DAKOTA VALLEY (11-2)**.....22 20 28

### Alcester-Hudson 3, Freeman Academy 0

ALCESTER — Courtney McKee put up 19 assists, seven digs and five kills to lead the Alcester-Hudson Cubs in a 25-1, 25-8, 25-6 win against the Freedman Academy Bobcats Thursday night in Alcester.

Jamie Jansen had nine kills, three aces and two digs, while Sierra McConnell recorded seven digs, five kills and one ace in the win.

Meghan Hofer had seven digs, two kills and one ace for the Bobcats, and Brooklyn Ries had five digs and one kill. Hannah Yoder had three digs and one kill.

Freeman Academy travels to face Marion Tuesday, while the Cubs participate in the Elkton Tourney Saturday.

**FREEMAN ACADEMY (2-6)**.....1 8 6  
**ALCESTER-HUDSON (11-1)**.....25 25 25



JEREMY HOECK/P&D  
Wynot's Jenna Heine, 4, sends the ball over the net around the block of Boyd County's Hannah Sobatka during their match Thursday night in Wynot, Neb.

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