

# Montana Holds Off Coyotes 28-20

BY GARY JAHRIK  
Associated Press

MISSOULA, Mont. (AP) — After a week off, recovering from a concussion, Jordan Johnson returned to the Montana lineup Saturday and threw two touchdown passes to lead the Grizzlies to a 28-20 win over South Dakota. But the senior quarterback was not satisfied with the play of the Montana offense.

"I thought overall we played pretty well on offense," Johnson said. "But we missed a ton of opportunities and had a few key penalties that took us out of our rhythm."

Johnson, who sat out last week's game against Central Washington, completed 16-of-27 passes for 127 yards. He hooked up with Mitch Say-

lor on a 12-yard scoring play and Jamaal Jones on a 14-yard touchdown toss in the third quarter.

Montana (2-1) also forced three South Dakota (1-2) turnovers — the final one coming with 5:20 to play in the game when Matt Hermanson picked off a Ryan Saeger pass at the Jackrabbits 45.

The Grizzlies also shut down South Dakota's running attack for most of the game, forcing Saeger to put the ball in the air.

"We did a really good job of stopping them on first and second down, putting them into passing situations on third down," said Montana defensive end Zach Wagenmann, who had three sacks in the game.

John Nguyen scored on a 9-yard run late in the first quarter and the

Grizzlies never trailed in the game, taking a 7-3 lead into halftime.

"Montana did exactly what they had to do to win the game tonight," said South Dakota coach Joe Glenn, a former Montana head coach. "They made a point to run the football and they established that early."

The Grizzlies picked up 207 yards on the ground. Jordan Canada led the way with 114 yards on 16 carries.

"Our backs played really well," said Montana coach Mick Delaney. "I'm really proud of our offensive line. They are getting better all the time."

Delaney was less enamored with Montana's kicking game, where the Grizzlies missed three field goals and used three different kickers.

"We struggled tonight in the kicking game," Delaney said. "That's frus-

trating. We have got to get that cleaned up. The kickers have a responsibility to kick the ball between those two goal posts. That's what they are here for."

South Dakota cut Montana's lead to 28-20 with 1:50 to play when Saeger hooked up with Eric Shufford Jr. on a 31-yard scoring pass. But Miles Bergner's onside kick attempt went out of bounds and the Grizzlies ran out the clock.

Jasper Sanders scored on a 2-yard run for the Jackrabbits in the third quarter, while Travon Van added a 28-yard touchdown run for Montana in the fourth quarter.

Mont—Nguyen 9 run (Greenberg kick), :39.

Second Quarter  
SDak—FG Bergner 3, 3:18.

Third Quarter  
Mont—Saylor 12 pass from J. Johnson (Lider kick), 11:45.  
SDak—Sanders 2 run (Bergner kick), 7:16.  
Mont—Ja. Jones 14 pass from J. Johnson (Lider kick), 2:22.

Fourth Quarter  
SDak—FG Bergner 29, 11:18.  
Mont—Van 28 run (Sullivan kick), 6:18.  
SDak—Shufford Jr 31 pass from Saeger (Bergner kick), 1:50.  
A—26:303.

	SDak	Mont
First downs	14	22
Rushes-yards	37-134	40-207
Passing	183	127
Comp-Att-Int	16-25-2	16-27-0
Return Yards	6	8
Punts-Avg.	4-24.3	4-38.0
Fumbles-Lost	2-1	0-0
Penalties-Yards	8-72	6-50
Time of Possession	27:49	32:11

INDIVIDUAL STATISTICS  
RUSHING—South Dakota, Sanders 12-74, Bouma 12-36, Saeger 10-18, Vander Maten 2-10, Team 1-minus 4), Montana, Canada 16-114, Van 12-59, Nguyen 6-34, J. Johnson 2-13, Team 3-minus 3), Henderson 1-minus 10).

PASSING—South Dakota, Saeger 16-25-2-183, Montana, J. Johnson 16-27-0-127.

RECEIVING—South Dakota, Ramsey 5-76, Bouma 4-23, Shufford Jr 3-66, Donovan 2-12, Vander Maten 2-6, Montana, Ja. Jones 6-62, Van 3-17, Saylor 2-22, Henderson 2-6, Janssen 1-9, Burke 1-7, Canada 1-4.

## Chester Tops Parker For Big East Title

MONTROSE — Chester Area swept Parker 25-21, 25-21, 25-23 for the championship of the Big East Conference volleyball tournament, held on Saturday in Montrose.

Jenna Reiff had 17 kills and 15 digs, and Sam Ordal had 11 kills to lead Chester Area. Sara Heyn had 34 assists and Molly Heyn had 16 digs in the victory.

For Parker, Tessa Harold had 12 kills and four blocks, and Allison Sanner had 11 kills to lead the way. Jenny Smith finished with 32 assists and eight digs. Lexi Olson added nine digs for the Pheasants.

Chester Area, 9-0, travels to Howard on Tuesday. Parker, 9-1, hosts Tea Area on Tuesday.

THIRD — SIOUX VALLEY DEF. MCCOOK CENTRAL-MONTROSE 25-8, 22-25, 26-24, 25-13: Mariah VanderWal had 16 kills and Jessica Pepperman had eight kills and 19 digs to lead Sioux Valley. Kaylee Granum had 16 assists and 10 digs. Lauren Buisker had 17 assists and Tiffany Bjorklund had 13 digs in the win.

For MCM, Nicole Roth had 10 kills and Brianna Painter had 15 digs.

FIFTH — HOWARD DEF. FLANDREAU 25-19, 26-24, 25-12: Kelsey Dawson had 11 kills, and Clori Rentz had 11 assists and five ace serves to lead Howard. Taylor Noid had 16 digs in the win.

Hannah Williams led Flandreau with nine kills and 17 digs. Brooklyn Behrens had 11 assists and 15 digs. MaKenzy Burggraf had four ace serves.

SEVENTH — BALTIC DEF. GARRETSON 25-9, 25-18, 25-19: Molly Stittig had 15 kills, 15 assists and four ace serves. Taylor Reinhill had 11 kills and Maddie Polzin had four blocks and five ace serves to lead Baltic.

Peyton Heikamp had six kills and Morgan Gloe had 10 assists to lead Garretson. Brianna Calisen had 11 digs for the Blue Dragons.

### BCNG Tour.

ALBION, Neb. — Crofton beat Columbus Lakewood 25-12, 17-25, 25-22 for the championship of the Boone Central-Newman Grove volleyball tournament on Saturday.

Allison Arens and Maria Wortmann each had eight kills and eight digs to lead a balanced Crofton attack. Monica Arens finished with six kills. Kelsey Sanger had a team-best 16 digs. Allison Tramp had 13 assists and Brittany Guenther had 11 assists in the victory.

Crofton, 7-0, returns to Albion to face Boone Central-Newman Grove on Tuesday.

Ord beat Central City 25-16, 25-15 for third. Wayne defeated BCNG 25-16, 25-18. Tekamah-Herman swept O'Neill for seventh.

CROFTON DEF. CENTRAL CITY 25-15, 25-10: Maria Wortmann had 13 kills in 20 attempts and five blocks (two solo) to lead Crofton. Allison Arens had two ace serves and eight digs. Kelsey Sanger had 11 digs. Brittany Guenther had 13 assists and Allison Tramp had 12 assists in the victory.

CROFTON DEF. WAYNE 25-13, 23-25, 25-14: Maria Wortmann had 15 kills and four blocks (two solo), and Allison Arens and Monica Arens had eight kills each for Crofton. Monica Arens and Katie Petersen each had three assisted blocks. Brittany Guenther had 17 assists. Allison Tramp had 16 assists and nine digs, and Bre Allen had nine digs in the win.

### Freeman Acad. 3, ORR 0

RUTLAND — Freeman Academy improved to 7-1 on the season with a 25-12, 25-21, 25-11 victory over Oldham-Ramona-Rutland in prep volleyball action on Saturday.

Chelsey Heeg had 10 kills and Bethany Wollman had eight kills and four ace serves to lead Freeman Academy. Brooklyn Ries had four ace serves and nine assists. Hannah Yoder added three blocks in the victory.

Joie Spier had five kills, 11 digs, two blocks and two ace serves to lead ORR. Abby Stratton had six assists.

Freeman Academy travels to Wakonda to face Irene-Wakonda on Tuesday. ORR travels to Iroquois on Tuesday.

### Crusader Tour.

MILLER — Sunshine Bible went 2-0 in its Crusader Volleyball Tournament on Saturday.

SBA beat Lower Brule 25-11, 25-11, 25-12; and Marty Indian 25-8, 25-5, 25-11. Lower Brule beat Marty Indian 25-16, 26-24, 25-23 in the other match.

### Lennox Inv.

SISSETON 2, TEA AREA 1: LENNOX — Emily Weatherstone recorded 12 kills to lead the Sisseton Redmen past Tea Area 25-20, 19-25, 25-23 on Saturday at the Lennox Invitational. Sisseton finished a perfect 3-0 at the tournament, while Tea Area was 2-1.

Laci LaFombrose added eight digs and Cami Goodhart had 18 set assists for Sisseton (5-2).

For the Titans (5-3), Ally Kasamarynski had six kills and 20 digs, while Katelyn Arneson posted six kills and three blocks.

WEST CENTRAL 2, LENNOX 0: LENNOX — Lauren Dolly had eight kills and four ace serves as the West Central Trojans swept Lennox 25-23, 25-22 on Saturday at the Lennox Invitational.

Sydney Goertel added six kills and 12 digs for the Trojans (4-6).

In the loss for the hometown Orioles (1-8), Keely Anderson had six kills and Taylor Weeldreyer posted 10 digs.

TEA AREA 2, WEST CENTRAL 1: LENNOX — Ashley Barnsley had nine kills to help lead Tea Area past West Central 25-21, 20-25, 25-23 on Saturday at the Lennox Invitational.

Lexi LaFave had 22 digs for the Titans (5-2), while Morgan McKinney had 18 set assists.

For the Trojans (3-4), Melissa Wollman had eight kills and Drue Miller had 12 digs.

SISSETON 2, WEST CENTRAL 1: LENNOX — Amanda Reinart had eight kills and Emily Weatherstone made five blocks as the Sisseton Redmen rallied past West Central 23-25, 25-20, 25-11 on Saturday at the Lennox Invitational.

MaKenzy Frederick added 14 digs for the Redmen.

In the loss for the Trojans, Emma Habben and Melissa Wollman both had eight kills, while Lauren Dolly had 14 digs.

SISSETON 2, LENNOX 0: LENNOX — Three players had three kills to lead the Sisseton Redmen past Lennox 25-15, 25-19 on Saturday at the Lennox Invitational.

Brianna Medenwald, Emily Weatherstone and Amanda Reinart all had three kills, while MaKenzy Frederick posted six digs.

For the Orioles, Kayla Johnston and Keely Anderson had three kills apiece, while Taylor Weel-



South Dakota's Danielle Anderson, 27, hurdles a tackle attempt by Creighton's Vlenia Sachau, 3, during their women's soccer match on Sunday at the USD Soccer Field. Pursuing on the play is Creighton's Emily Roll.

JAMES D. CIMBUREK/P&D

## 'Jays Escape South Dakota 3-1

Soccer: Coyotes Outshot Creighton 17-11

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VERMILLION — Bouncing back from a sluggish game two days earlier was the goal for the University of South Dakota soccer team.

Doing so against an unbeaten Creighton team wasn't going to make that task any easier.

Improving on the best start in program history, the Bluejays of the Big East Conference held off the Coyotes 3-1 on Sunday in Vermillion.

Still, despite the loss, USD (4-4) wasn't exactly run off the field against a superior opponent. The Coyotes, who managed just five shots in a loss to Wyoming last Friday, out-shot Creighton 17-11 and had an 11-6 edge in shots on goal.

"If someone would have showed up at halftime and not seen the scoreboard, they would've thought we were way ahead," said senior midfielder Shannon Keller.

Instead, the Coyotes were playing catch-up the whole game.

The Bluejays scored in the sixth minute on a goal from Alyssa Jara. Then in the 20th minute, she scored again to give the visitors a 2-0 cushion.

From there, the game evened out until late into the second half when the

Bluejays scored on a Kirstyn Corder goal in the 76 minute.

"Once we settled down, we took it at them," junior midfielder Elena Tsakakis said.

Though they Coyotes continued to keep pressure on Creighton, they weren't able to capitalize until the 83rd minute when Tsakakis scored on an assist from Keller.

South Dakota couldn't get any closer, but the post-game mood was a far cry from the frustrations seen Friday.

"A big thing for was, we showed up to play," head coach Mandy Green said.

"We still made some mistakes; created some good opportunities," she added, "but against a team like Creighton, you can't give up."

The Bluejays, who are now 3-0 against Summit League teams, found themselves playing the bulk of the late second half on defense, as the Coyotes kept the pressure on.

The key, Tsakakis said was playing the "simple ball" and making easy passes to frustrate the Bluejays.

"It was fun; everyone was having a good time," she said. "We just need to bring that energy and attitude for a full ninety minutes."

In all, eight USD players managed a shot, with junior forward Taylor Nivala putting all four of her shots on goal. De-

spite playing from behind the whole game, the Coyotes maintained they were having fun, Keller said.

"We focused on little things and focused on just having fun," she said. "We play better when we're having fun."

Not many teams have found success against Creighton this season, as the Bluejays have now allowed six goals in seven games — two coming against South Dakota State in the season opener.

For a Coyote program still trying to develop, it was just the right test at just the right time, Green said.

"It's good for us to play against a team like this, because they expose things we're still really weak at," she said.

South Dakota, now 2-4 against Division I competition, stays in Vermillion and will host North Dakota on Friday at 3 p.m.

In the meantime, the Coyotes have a little bit of momentum to use from their performance Sunday, Green said.

"Everybody's walking away from this with a much better feeling," she said. "We're getting back on track."

"This is how we had been playing on the road, so it was nice to see this at home."

You can follow Jeremy Hoeck on Twitter at [twitter.com/jhoeck](https://twitter.com/jhoeck). Discuss this story at [www.yankton.net](http://www.yankton.net).

## Gazelles Drop Two In SF

SIOUX FALLS — The Yankton Gazelles went 0-2 in a girls' tennis triangular at Sioux Falls Roosevelt on Saturday at Kuehn Park.

Yankton dropped a 7-2 decision to Aberdeen Roncalli and a 6-3 decision to Sioux Falls Roosevelt. Roncalli beat Roosevelt 6-3 in the other match.

Anne Knoff went 2-0 in singles play for Yankton. She also teamed with Mimi Garcia for a doubles victory against Roosevelt. Kaitlyn Frank and Anna Kokesh each had a singles win for Yankton on the day.

Yankton, 6-8, hosts Mitchell and Sioux Falls Lincoln in a triangular on Tuesday. Start time is set for 11 a.m.

### Brandon Valley Inv.

SIOUX FALLS — The Yankton Gazelles tennis team went 0-3 in Sioux Falls at the Brandon Valley Invite on Friday afternoon.

Against Madison, Kaitlyn Frank, Anne Knoff, and Anna Kokesh got singles victories. Maddy Logue and Sophie Kouri won the lone doubles match.

Versus Milbank, Frank scored the lone singles victory. Mimi Garcia and Knoff won the lone doubles match. Against Sioux Falls Washington, Knoff scored Yankton's lone win.

## GV's Nelson Wins Augie Meet; YHS 4th, 5th In Team Races

SIOUX FALLS — Gayville-Volin sophomore Laura Nelson beat out a field that included mostly Class AA competition in winning the girls' race at the Augustana Meet of Champions on Saturday at Windrows Field in Sioux Falls.

Nelson, the defending Class B champion, finished the 5,000-meter course in 15:34.06, nine seconds faster than Sioux Falls Washington's Kelsi Kearney (15:43.94). Yankton freshman Madison McClure was third in 15:50.58.

Brandon Valley won the girls' division with 42 points, 12 points better than Sioux Falls Washington. Yankton finished fourth with 95 points.

Yankton's Savannah Woods finished seventh (16:37.43), with Lauren Graves 19th (17:22.17), Tessa

Folkers 30th (18:02.53) and Tristan Roy 57th (20:19.16).

Also for Gayville-Volin, Ashley Emmick finished 46th (19:19.86) and Elianna Clark placed 54th (19:49.18). Freeman Academy senior Clara Koerner placed 44th (19:19.86).

Roosevelt's Jesus Urtusuastegui (17:39.71), Daniel Armstrong (17:56.73) and Tyler Slaba (18:07.11) went 1-2-3 in the boys' varsity race (5,000 meters) to lead the Rough Riders to the team title.

Roosevelt scored 22 points, easily beating out Brandon Valley (67 points). Yankton finished fifth at 148 points.

Yankton was led by senior Paul Fanta's 18th place finish (19:03.64). Also for the Bucks, Andrew Peitz finished 26th (19:24.30), Brady

Jaquith 27th (19:25.42), Joseph Kelly 37th (20:05.71), Sam Gusso 40th (20:06.94), Kyle Bergeson 46th (20:32.94), Brody McClure 54th (20:59.49) and Lincoln Megard 56th (21:01.46).

Viborg-Hurley was led by Layne Meyers' 52nd place finish in 20:55.04. Also for the Cougars, Logan Slack finished 68th (22:29.10) and Logan Hansen finished 73rd (22:47.53).

Freeman Academy was led by Ryan Haggerty's 57th place finish (21:04.69), with Danielle Jundt 69th (22:30.49).

Beresford beat out Yankton 44-48 for the JV girls' title, led by the 1-2 finish of Ashlynn Atwood (16:53.89) and Cait Savey (17:47.60).