



JAMES D. CIMBUREK/P&D

Yankton pitcher Holly Mines sends the ball home during the Gazelles' home softball game against the Southwest Sluggers, part of a home triangular on Sunday at Sertoma Park.

## Softball: Gazelles Earn Sunday Split; Finish At Home Today

The Yankton Gazelles fell to West Central and beat the Southwest (Ellsworth-Jackson) Sluggers in girls' softball action on Sunday.

Yankton finishes the regular season at home against Sioux Falls O'Gorman today (Monday). Start time for the twinbill is 6 p.m. at Sertoma Park.

**WEST CENTRAL 9, YANKTON 3:** West Central broke up a no-hit bid in the sixth, then scored nine runs in the inning to claim the victory.

Maria Lewis went 2-4 with a triple and three RBI, and Brianna Opitz had two hits and two runs scored to lead West Central.

For Yankton, Andi Sprakel went 2-3 with a triple, a RBI and a run scored. Lexie McCorkell

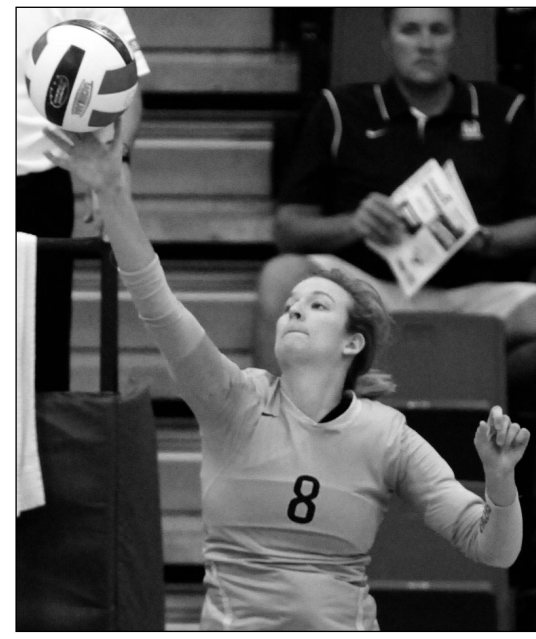
also had a pair of hits. Heather Hauer had a double, a RBI and a run scored. Bailey Kortan also had a double and a run scored. Jaclyn Arens had a hit and a RBI, and Bailey Peterka added a hit in the effort.

Izzy Marketon picked up the win. Arens took the loss.

**YANKTON 16, SOUTHWEST 1:** Kelsey Hovorka had three hits, two RBI and a run scored to lead Yankton. Dani Dvorak doubled and singled, driving in four and scoring two. Jaclyn Arens posted two hits, two RBI and a run scored. Andi Sprakel posted two hits, a RBI and a run scored for Yankton.

Also for the Gazelles, Holly Mines had a triple, two RBI and

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JAMES D. CIMBUREK/P&D

Mount Marty's Kristen Boyle tips around a Doane block during the Lancers' Great Plains Athletic Conference matchup with Doane on Saturday at Laddie E. Cimpr Arena. Doane rallied to a 3-2 victory.

## Doane Escapes Mount Marty 3-2

BY JAMES D. CIMBUREK

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After taking the third set, the Mount Marty College volleyball team looked like it would be in position to score its first Great Plains Athletic Conference victory of the season.

Doane, though, had other ideas, hitting .288 for the final two sets after swinging a measly .097 in the first three to claim a 24-26, 25-23, 14-25, 25-18, 15-8 victory over the Lancers on Saturday at Laddie E. Cimpr Arena.

"What was working for us was our attacking," said Mount Marty head coach Candice Climer after the match. "And we just couldn't get it going late."

Megan Fletcher had 20 kills and 20 digs, and Shelbi Mlynyczak had 15 kills and 24 digs to lead Doane. Cassandra Choquette posted 13 kills and Breanna Fye had 12 kills for the Doane offense.

Also for Doane, Rachel Wieser had 29 assists, Haley Norvell had 24 assists and Julie Els had 28 digs.

For the Mount Marty net attack, Sierra Kloth had 18 kills and Allison Cross had 13 kills without an error to lead the offense. Setter Amber Dythse posted 47 assists. Kristen Boyle assisted on six blocks, with Cross and Laura Groseth helping on four blocks each for the Lancers.

The Lancers easily beat their previous season best of 90 digs with 119 digs on the night. Libero BreAnne Thege had 38 digs, with Dythse and Sam Bischoff recording 17 each. Kayla Jones had 16 digs and Bailey Kuchta added 10 digs for MMC.

It was MMC's first 100-dig match since 2011 (104 vs. York) and the most since 126 against Dakota Wesleyan in 2008.

"I love having that feeling that I know the back row will get the ball," Dythse said. "Our front row was amazing as well."

In the opening set, Doane jumped out to an early 8-6 lead, but a 7-1 Lancer run gave MMC a 13-9 edge.

The run coincided with a group of students showing up and loudly cheering on the team.

"It helps," Climer said of having a strong crowd behind the team. "But we keep telling them that they have to come up with that energy themselves when the crowd isn't there."

MMC did bring the crowd into the match late in the first set. After Doane had pushed out to a 22-17 edge, MMC ran off three straight points, then fought off three straight set points in a 5-0 rut to take the opening stanza.

Doane responded to open the second set, jumping out to a 14-4 lead. MMC fought back to tie the set at 21, but the Tigers broke a 23-all tie with two straight points, the last finished by Fye, to tie the match.

MMC grabbed the momentum in the third set and didn't let go, jumping out to a 9-3 edge and pulling away after Doane had pulled to within three at 13-10.

"We came out in the third set and played our game. We put it together," Climer said.

But the Lancers could not close out the match. In the final two sets MMC did not string together more than two consecutive points.

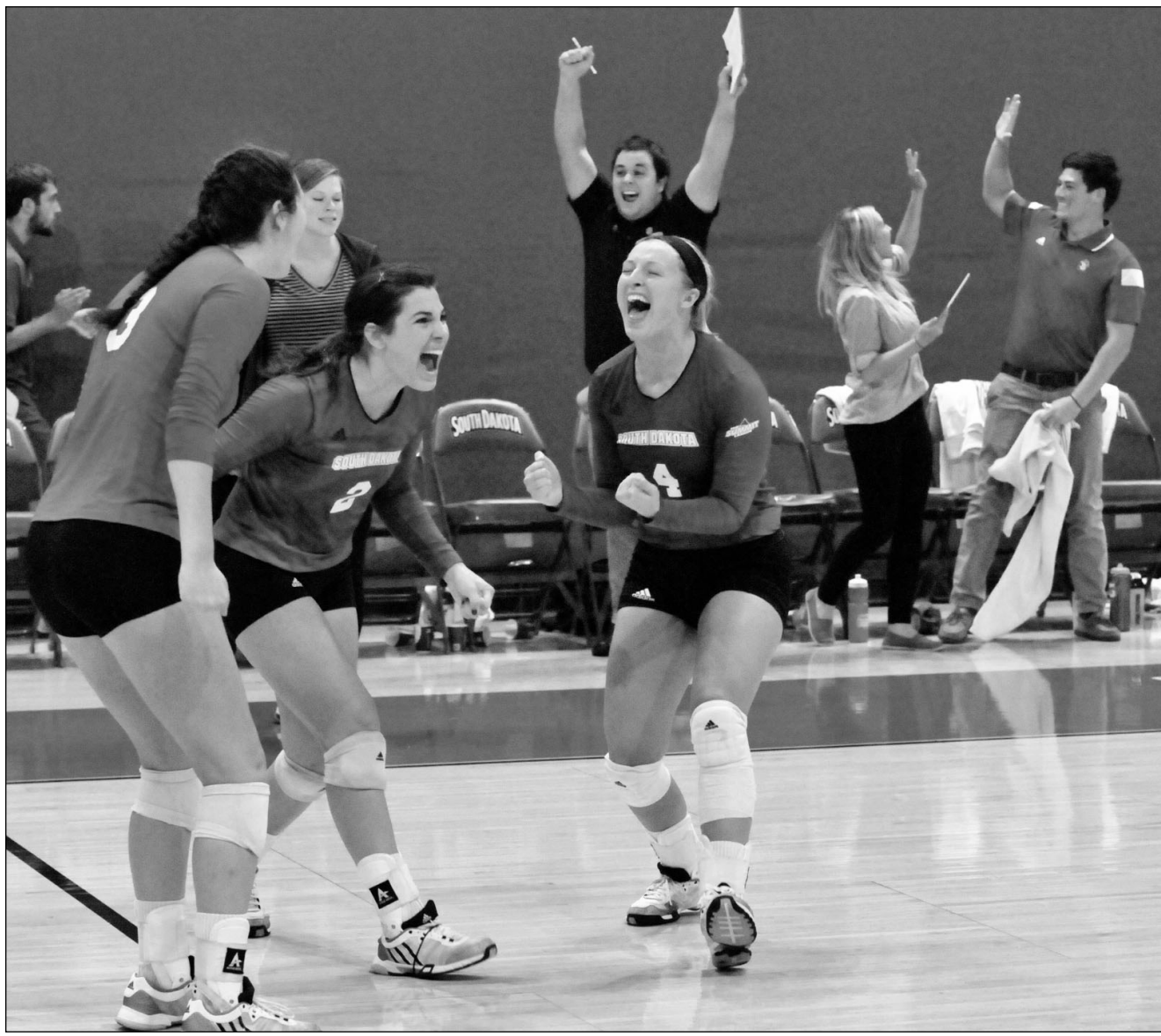
"We had all this momentum, then something happened and we didn't push past it," Dythse said. "It's something we're still working on."

The victory pushed Doane to 9-11 overall, 2-3 in GPAC play. MMC, 6-10 and 0-4, steps back to non-league play at home against Dakota State before hosting Dordt in GPAC action on Wednesday.

"We lost today but we still did some good things. Our defense is great, and we got some great kills," Climer said. "This is a learning process right now. We just have to get over the hump."

You can follow James D. Cimburek on Twitter at twitter.com/JCimburek. Discuss this story at www.yankton.net

## Lucky Number 13



JAMES D. CIMBUREK/P&D

The University of South Dakota volleyball team celebrates after its 3-2 victory over Oral Roberts in Summit League volleyball action on Sunday at the Coyote Den in Vermillion.

## USD Adds To Home Streak

BY JEREMY HOECK

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VERMILLION — Thirteen straight wins at home.

Keeping that streak alive, however, was anything but easy Sunday afternoon for the University of South Dakota volleyball team.

Rallying from a 2-1 deficit in the match and then a late deficit in the fifth set, the Coyotes surged past Oral Roberts 3-2 in Summit League action at the DakotaDome. Set scores were 25-18, 21-25, 25-27, 25-19, 15-13.

"A little bit too close for comfort, but it was nice to battle back," said USD senior Kendall Kritenbrink, who had 24 kills.

Dating back to October 2012, the Coyotes (7-6, 2-0) have won 13 straight matches and on Sunday capped off a perfect start to the conference season.

After coming back to force a deciding fifth set, USD found itself trailing the Golden Eagles — back in the Summit League — 8-11.

No problem for the Coyotes, who rallied for the victory.

"It shows that they're willing to battle, that they were OK with being the underdog in that situation," said head coach Leanne Williamson, who returned to the sidelines after giving birth to twins last Thursday.

The victory pushed

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JAMES D. CIMBUREK/P&D

South Dakota's Audrey Reeg passes the ball during their Summit League volleyball match on Sunday at the Coyote Den in Vermillion.

## Bucks To Host Pierre In AA Boys' Soccer Playoffs

The Yankton Bucks will host Pierre in the opening round of the Class AA boys' soccer playoffs, announced Saturday.

The Bucks (9-1-1), seeded third, finished the regular season with a 4-2 victory over the Governors (8-4) on Friday in Pierre. The rematch will be played Tuesday at Lewis & Clark Soccer Park.

In other first-round matchups in Class AA boys, top-seeded Sioux Falls Roosevelt, 9-0-2 on the season, hosts Sioux Falls Washington (6-5-1), second-seeded Sioux Falls Lincoln (10-1-1) hosts Spearfish (10-2-1) and four-seeded Rapid City Stevens (9-1-1) hosts Aberdeen Central (8-3-2).

The Yankton Gazelles missed the playoffs despite a 5-3-3 record. Pierre (8-3-1) claimed the final berth in the AA girls' division and will travel to top seed Rapid City Stevens (7-2-1).

In other AA girls' pairings, Sioux Falls Washington (8-4) will travel to Aberdeen Central

(8-1-4), Sioux Falls Roosevelt (9-2-1) will travel to Sioux Falls O'Gorman (9-2-1) and Rapid City Central (5-2-3) will travel to Sioux Falls Lincoln (8-2-2).

The Vermillion Tanager (5-3-2) qualified in Class A girls and will travel to Groton Area (5-5) on Tuesday. West Central (3-6-1) will travel to Tea Area (4-6-1) in the other first-round matchup in Class A, which only takes six teams to the post-season. Top-seeded St. Thomas More (10-1-1) and second-seeded Belle Fourche (6-3-1) drew byes.

Freeman Academy (4-8) finished seventh in Class A boys, just missing the post-season. St. Thomas More (5-9) travels to James Valley Christian (9-2-1) and Hot Springs (4-5) travels to Tea Area (4-7-1) in first-round matchups. Sioux Falls Christian (10-0-2) and Groton Area (8-3-1) drew byes.

First-round matchups are Tuesday, with semifinal matchups set for Saturday, Oct. 4. The championships in all four class will be held Oct. 11 in Mitchell.

## Volleyball: Gazelles Fall At Aberdeen Central

ABERDEEN — The Yankton Gazelles suffered their first straight-set setback of the season, dropping a 25-15, 25-20, 25-12 decision at second-ranked Aberdeen Central in Eastern South Dakota Conference volleyball action on Saturday.

Becky Frick had six kills, two ace serves and two blocks for Yankton. Hannah Bockholt recorded five kills. Haley Mines had 23 digs and Charlotte Ekereen recorded a team-best three ace serves for the Gazelles.

Yankton will look to bounce back with an ESD matchup at Harrisburg on Tuesday.

The Gazelles won the JV match 25-21, 25-15 to improve to 7-3 on the season.

Bockholt had seven kills and Ellie Fedders had seven ace serves and eight digs to lead Yankton. Julie Soto posted two ace serves. Sydney Ingalls had 11 digs, Lindsay Hale had nine digs, and Danielle Salvatore had eight digs in the victory.

The Gazelle sophomores also improved to 7-3 with a 25-20, 25-19 victory.

Emily Oswald had six kills

and two blocks, and Cameryn Specht had 15 assists to lead Yankton. Jacey Anderberg had three ace serves, Kate Budig had nine digs and Kami Corne-mann had eight digs in the win.

The Gazelles were swept in the freshmen matches.

In the 'A' match, a 25-19, 25-23 setback, Yankton was led by four kills and eight digs from Budig. Holly Mines had seven digs. Anna Savey had eight assists and Jennica Delvaux had three ace serves for the Gazelles.

The Gazelles lost the 'B' match 25-16, 25-21. No statistics were reported.

### Norfolk Catholic Tri.

NORFOLK, Neb. — The Crofton Lady Warriors improved to 14-0 on the season with 2-0 sweeps of Norfolk Catholic and Lutheran High Northeast on Saturday at Norfolk Catholic.

Crofton returns to Norfolk to face LhNE on Tuesday.

**CROFTON DEF. NORFOLK CATHOLIC 25-7, 25-17:** Allison Arens had six kills, and Kelsey Sanger and Marie Wortmann had five kills each to lead Crofton.

Wortmann also had a hand in four blocks and recorded nine digs. Allison (one solo) and Monica Arens each had a hand in three blocks. Brittany Guenther added 11 assists in the victory.

**CROFTON DEF. LUTHERAN HIGH NORTHEAST 25-14, 25-18:** Allison Arens and Maria Wortmann each had 12 kills to lead Crofton. Wortmann also had three blocks (two solo).

Also for Crofton, Kelsey Sanger recorded 11 digs, Allison Tramp had 15 assists and Brittany Guenther had 14 assists.

### Don Magnus Tourn.

ELKTON — In the championship match of the Don Magnus Tournament, Lexy Lynn and Elizabeth Hegerfeld each recorded nine kills as host Elkton-Lake Benton beat Alcester-Hudson 25-18, 25-11 on Saturday in Elkton.

Also in the win for the Elks, Bobbi Huber had 23 set assists and McKenzie DeRuyter added 15 digs.

In the loss for the Cubs, Cassidy Walth had five kills, Sierra McConnell posted 12 digs, Brianna Walth had 10 digs and Cassie Schiefen added seven set assists.

ALCESTER-HUDSON ..... 18 11  
ELKTON-LAKE BENTON ..... 25 25

### Dell Rapids St. Mary 2, Iroquois 1

ELKTON — Ally Mullaney recorded 18 kills and 14 digs as Dell Rapids St. Mary defeated Iroquois 25-22, 23-25, 25-19 on Saturday at the Don Magnus Tournament.

Riley Wolles added seven kills for the Cardinals, who finished the tournament with a 2-2 record.

For Iroquois, Britney Moeller had six kills, Allison Bich had 21 digs and Kelsey Blue recorded nine set assists.

IROQUOIS ..... 22 25 19  
DELL RAPIDS ST. MARY ..... 25 23 25

### Alcester-Hudson 2, Dell Rapids St. Mary 0

ELKTON — Cassidy Walth recorded 12 kills and nine digs as the Alcester-Hudson Cubs swept Dell Rapids St. Mary 25-15, 25-14 on Saturday at the Don Magnus Tournament.

Cassie Schiefen added 14 set assists for the Cubs.  
DELL RAPIDS ST. MARY ..... 15 14  
ALCESTER-HUDSON ..... 25 25

### Alcester-Hudson 2, Iroquois 0

ELKTON — Sierra McConnell had 10 kills and Cassidy Walth added seven kills for Alcester-Hudson in a 25-17, 25-9 victory over Iroquois on Saturday at the Don Magnus Tournament.

Cassie Schiefen added nine set assists and Brianna Walth had eight digs for the Cubs.  
IROQUOIS ..... 17 9  
ALCESTER-HUDSON ..... 25 25

### Iroquois 2, Centerville 0

ELKTON — Iroquois picked up its only win of the Don Magnus Tournament with a 25-10, 25-19 victory Saturday over Centerville.