

Family Atmosphere Draws Fremont Standout To USD

Rylie Cascio Jensen Commits To Playing Women's Basketball For Coyotes

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What Rylie Cascio Jensen experienced with a group of girls she didn't know made all the difference in her college decision.

From a game of kickball, to socializing and to a team barbeque, the highly-touted basketball recruit from Fremont, Nebraska, got the full red carpet embrace on her visit earlier this month to the University of South Dakota.

Sure, there were other Division I options for the 5-foot-10 guard, but



Cascio Jensen

she eventually verbally committed last week to play for the Coyotes because of those relationships developed that weekend.

"They treated me like family the whole time," Cascio Jensen said in a phone interview Monday. "It just felt right, and no times were awkward and I never felt out of place."

"Especially coming from a close family, that means a lot to me."

After averaging 19 points and

4.5 rebounds a game as a junior last season for Fremont, Cascio Jensen saw her recruiting stock soar after a summer playing AAU ball with the All Iowa Attack.

She eventually narrowed her list of seven possible college destinations down to USD and Wyoming. Her official visit to Wyoming came after her visit to USD, but what she experienced in Vermillion put her over the top, she said.

"I really liked it there too, but something just pulled me toward USD," Cascio Jensen said.

What could she pinpoint as the

key factor?

The family atmosphere, said Cascio Jensen, who joins what looks to be a loaded 2016 class for USD. The program has also received verbal commitments from Ciara Duffy (Rapid City, St. Thomas More HS), Madison McKeever (Erskine, Minnesota), LaShayla Wright-Ponder (Bloomington, Minnesota) and Taylor Frederick (Harlan, Iowa).

"It's just a feeling, really," Cascio Jensen said. "When you're there, you feel super welcomed. It gives you that gut feeling, and that makes the deci-

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VOLLEYBALL GAMEDAY

Huron (1-6)
at Yankton (2-5)

7 p.m., Summit Center

LAST MEETING: Huron outlasted Yankton 19-25, 25-20, 25-27, 17-15 on Oct. 7, 2014.

LAST MATCH: Yankton nearly upset Pierre, dropping a 25-10, 25-27, 25-18, 21-25, 15-11 decision on Sept. 12. Huron dropped a 25-22, 25-14, 25-17 decision to top-ranked Aberdeen Central on Sept. 17.

NEXT UP: Yankton hits the road to face Sioux Falls Roosevelt on Thursday. Huron travels to Pierre on Thursday.

Lancer Women Take Title At Morningside

SIOUX CITY, Iowa – The Mount Marty College women claimed team honors at the Morningside Fall Invitational, held on Monday at Whispering Creek Golf Course.

Led by Logan Wagner (Parkston), who tied for top honors with a 79, the Lancer women shot 328 on the day, six strokes better than host Morningside. Northwestern was a distant third at 345.

Also for the Lancer women, Kellie Winckler (Lake Andes) shot an 80 to place third, Kristen Shanahan shot 84, Kelly Amundson (Vermillion) shot 85 and Elly Miller (Vermillion) carded a 97.

Iowa Central's Brittani Jensen tied Wagner at 79.

Playing individually for the MMC women, Kaitlyn O'Neill and Taylor Flanery each shot 96, and Riley Mears shot 102.

On the men's side, MMC finished 10th in the 14-team field with a 339. Morningside, led by medalist Zach Ward's 70, shot a team score of 297 to beat Northwestern by 12 strokes.

The Lancer men were led by Joe Brinkman, who shot an even-par 72 to place third. Robbie Neswick shot 79, Ben Jensen (Yankton) shot 93, and Dylan Brende and Collin Matthews each shot 95 for the Lancers.

Playing individually for MMC, Ty Kinneberg (Parkston) shot 95 and Austin Schweers (Ponca, Nebraska) shot 107.

The Lancer women return to Sioux City on Thursday for the opening round of the Great Plains Athletic Conference Championships. The Lancer men next take to the links on Sept. 28 for the Doane Invitational in Lincoln, Nebraska.

High School Pre-Region 3A

PARKSTON – The Parkston Trojans set a school record with a team score of 293 in winning the Pre-Region 3A boys' golf tournament, held on Monday in Pierre.

The Trojans put four golfers in the top six to claim a 14-stroke victory over Chamberlain. Mobridge-Pollock was a distant third with a 350.

Chamberlain's Adam Hutmacher earned medalist honors with a 69. Parkston

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Cross Country | Bon Homme Invitational

Wildcats Sweep Titles



LEFT: Hartington-Newcastle's Noah Noecker, left, and Brian Santiago run just ahead of North Central's Colin Erickson early in the varsity boys' race of the Bon Homme Invitational cross country meet, held on Monday at Bon Homme Country Club. Erickson won, with Santiago second and Noecker third as Hartington-Newcastle won the team title.

RIGHT: Gayville-Volin's Laura Nelson strides toward the finish on the way to the girls' title at the Bon Homme Invitational cross county meet, held Monday at Bon Homme Country Club.



JAMES D. CIMBUREK/P&D

GV's Nelson, North Central's Erickson Take Race Honors

BY JAMES D. CIMBUREK
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TYNDALL – The Hartington-Newcastle Wildcats are "doing what we're expecting them to do," according to head coach Mandy Hochstein.

And this season, that is running very well.

The Wildcats swept team honors at the Bon Homme Invitational cross country meet, held Monday at Bon Homme Country Club.

The Hartington-Newcastle girls finished 3-4-5-6 as they beat Gayville-Volin 12-26.

North Central was third at 27.

"Addison Peitz (3rd, 22:26) was our fourth runner coming into the season. Now she's starting to lead us," Hochstein said. "Allie (Rosener, 4th, 22:38) has got speed at the end – she always looks like she's fresh. Karli (McCain, 5th, 22:44) is a strong leader – she gets us out of the box. Anna Burbach (6th, 22:50) hangs right in there with them."

Gayville-Volin junior Laura Nelson won the 5,000-meter event in 20:42. North Central's Megan Erickson was second in 21:37.

"We wanted to go out hard, keep running strong and finish hard," Nelson said. "We like to call it a 'sandwich' run."

The Raiders had Genieve Clark in seventh (23:02), Lanny Clark (25:15) in 20th and Megan Hirsch (25:35) in 23rd. Nelson said that the team is progressing toward its goal.

"We feel great. The girls are motivated. Everyone is excited," she said. "Come the 'reason for the season,' (state), we'll be ready."

On the boys' side, Hartington-Newcastle runners finished 2-3-5-8 on the way to an easy victory. Platte-Geddes and Creighton finished second and third, each with 39 points. Marty was fourth at 47 points.

"Brian (Santiago, 2nd,

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Bobcats Topple Cubs

ALCESTER – Chelsey Heeg pounded out 17 kills to lead Freeman Academy to a 23-25, 25-19, 25-20, 25-16 victory over Alcester-Hudson in Tri-Valley Conference volleyball action on Monday.

Hannah Yoder had 12 kills and 1 1/2 blocks, and Sarah Miller had 20 assists in the victory.

For Alcester-Hudson, Cassidy Walth had 13 kills, 18 digs and three blocks, and Amelia Stene had 11 kills, two ace serves and 1 1/2 blocks to lead the attack. Cassie Schiefen posted 23 assists and 13 digs. Brianna Walth added 14 digs in the effort.

Freeman Academy, 10-1, travels to Dakota Christian High School to face Andes Central-Dakota Christian on Thursday. Alcester-Hudson also hits the road on Thursday, taking on Elk Point-Jefferson.

FREEMAN ACADEMY (10-1).....23 25 25 25
ALCESTER-HUDSON (3-7).....25 19 20 16

Man Who Played Ragnar No Longer Vikings Mascot After Contract Dispute

MINNEAPOLIS (AP) — The Minnesota Vikings have faced plenty of worthy adversaries in contract negotiations over the years. It should come as no surprise that Ragnar the Viking was one of the most ferocious.

The Vikings announced on Monday that they have not been able to reach a new contract agreement with Joe Juranitch, the man who played Ragnar for the last 21 years and was looking for quite a raise to pillage the team's home games and strike fear into the hearts of their opponents while growling at them atop his purple motorcycle.

Ragnar was asking for \$20,000 per game over the next 10 years. That

would be \$1.6 million for eight regular season home games per season, and \$2 million if preseason games were included. The person spoke on condition of anonymity because the team does not publicly discuss contract negotiations.

A fan favorite since 1994, the burly, bearded Ragnar led the Vikings out of the tunnel on his motorcycle during pregame introductions, wearing a horned helmet and furs. But when the Vikings hosted the Detroit Lions on Sunday in their home opener, Ragnar was nowhere to be found.

He posted a message on his Face-

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Gazelles Earn Split In Home Triangular

The Yankton Gazelles split a girls' tennis triangular with Brandon Valley and Madison on Monday at the YHS/SAC Tennis Courts.

Yankton beat Madison 5-4 behind four singles victories. Anne Knoff (flight one), Mimi Garcia (flight two) and Sophie Kouri (flight three) all earned 10-0 victories for Yankton. Josie Krajewski (flight four) scored a 10-4 victory over Madison's Lily Wolff. The Gazelles clinched the victory with a 10-8 win by Garcia and Krajewski at flight two doubles.

Garcia and Krajewski also scored the lone Yankton point in an 8-1 loss to Brandon Valley, claiming an 8-5 decision. The sweep were the pair's third and fourth victories in five matches.

Yankton plays its last home triangular on Thursday, hosting Sioux Falls Washington and first-year program Harrisburg. Start time for the event is set for 2 p.m.

YANKTON 5, MADISON 4

SINGLES: Anne Knoff Y def. Emma Kruger 10-0; Mimi Garcia Y def. Allin Montgomery 10-0; Sophie Kouri Y def. Mya Maxwell 10-0; Josie Krajewski Y def. Lily Wolff 10-4; Hannah Olson M def. Adrienne Kusek 11-9; Morgan Wray M def. Olivia Tennant 10-2

DOUBLES: Simone Droge-Sydney Swenson M def. Knoff-Kouri 10-6; Garcia-Krajewski Y def. C.C. Graham-Wray 10-8; Lacee Fedele-Olson M def. Kusek-Tennant 10-6

JV: Brenna Becker Y def. Ashley Aguirre 10-4; Woff-Marshall M def. Becker-Middle Binder 10-5

BRANDON VALLEY 8, YANKTON 1

SINGLES: Jessica Sadler BV def. Anne Knoff 8-5; Maria Schmitz BV def. Mimi Garcia 8-5; Sophia Janssen BV def. Sophie Kouri 8-1; Chandler Harstad BV



JEREMY HOECK/P&D

Yankton's Adrienne Kusek returns a serve during her flight five singles match against Madison's Hannah Olson on Monday afternoon at the YHS/SAC Courts.

def. Josie Krajewski 8-4; Tana Lehtfeld BV def. Brenna Becker 8-0; Katie Wright BV def. Olivia Tennant 8-4
DOUBLES: Sadler-Schmitz BV def. Knoff-Kouri 8-1; Garcia-Krajewski Y def. Harstad-Lehtfeld 8-5; Janssen-Wright BV def. Becker-Tennant 8-0
JV: Kate Lundberg BV def. Maddie Binder 8-0; Sydney Pelletier BV def. Chloe Becker 8-0; Lundberg-Pelletier BV def. Binder-Chloe Becker 8-1

Rough Riders Sweep Past Yankton

Sioux Falls Roosevelt pounded out 34 runs on the way to a doubleheader sweep of Yankton in girls' softball action on Monday at Yankton's Sertoma Park.

In the opener, four different Roosevelt players had two hits each in a 15-3 decision.

Cameron Smith, Alex Roth, Lexy Konda and Bailey Stahnke each had two hits for the victorious Rough Riders.

Konda picked up the win, allowing six hits in the four-inning contest.

In the nightcap, Tahia Mitzel had three hits, and Smith, Audre Nilges and Shayla Running had two hits each in a 19-4 victory.

Konda picked up the win. Statistics for Yankton were not available at presstime.

Yankton returns to action on Sunday, hosting Watertown for a doubleheader.

JV: Roosevelt 6-11, Yankton 1-3

Sioux Falls Roosevelt swept Yankton 6-1 and 11-3 in JV girls' softball action on Monday at Sertoma Park.

Yankton concludes its season at the state tournament, which begins on Friday in Sioux Falls.

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JAMES D. CIMBUREK/P&D

Yankton left fielder Bailey Sejnoha runs down a fly ball in left field during the opening game of the Gazelles' softball doubleheader with Sioux Falls Roosevelt on Monday at Sertoma Park.