

Missouri Valley Football Teams Relish Bye Week

Eight Of 10 MVFC Programs Off On Eve Of League Openers

BY JEREMY HOECK
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How did John Stiegelmeier spend his free weekend from football?
“I got my Christmas lights up, so it was a great week,” joked the South Dakota State head coach, whose Jackrabbits had last week off. They will host Robert Morris (Pennsylvania) on Saturday. South Dakota State is now in the


rare position of playing a game the week before the Missouri Valley Football Conference schedule begins. Eight of the 10 league schools have a bye this week to prepare for what University of South Dakota head coach Joe Glenn calls the “rigor” of the league slate. The only other Valley team to take the field Saturday is Southern Illinois, which hosts No. 10-ranked Liberty.

“If you look at everyone’s schedules, we’re all in agreement,” Glenn said. “We got this week off before the rigors.
“This is where most of us wanted it, and it worked out.” Typically, Valley teams would prefer to have a week off between the non-conference and conference schedules. Last year, for example, both USD and SDSU had bye weeks before the league schedule. Because of the physical nature of the league, it’s a good time to have some rest, according to Illinois State head coach Brock Spack. “It’s kind of smart scheduling so

you can get through your pre-season to see where you’re at,” Spack said. “Then you have a week to heal up if you need to heal up, and get some of those younger players better.” The time off also allows coaches to get out on the road to recruit, Stiegelmeier said, as well as take stock of their current players. “We surveyed our players, and their bodies were rested, which is what we wanted to hear,” he said. Another benefit for USD, in particular, would be to evaluate what’s enabled the Coyotes (2-1) win consecutive games.

“And kind of ride the momentum we’ve built up the last couple weeks,” Glenn said. While the Jackrabbits will have to turn around and face four-time defending national champion North Dakota State in the Oct. 3 conference opener, the Coyotes have some extra time to game-plan for Youngstown State in their opener. “Our kids feel pretty positive about what’s going on,” Glenn said. “We’re going to try to keep lifting and stay strong; get some work done that way.”

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**VOLLEYBALL GAMEDAY**

Yankton (2-6) at S.F. Roosevelt (7-7)
7 p.m., Roosevelt High School

LAST MEETING: Current University of Iowa basketball player Tagyn Larson pounded out 21 kills as Roosevelt claimed a 3-1 decision on Sept. 23, 2014.

LAST MATCH: Yankton dropped a 3-1 decision at home against Huron on Tuesday. Roosevelt dropped a 3-1 decision at Harrisburg on Tuesday.

NEXT UP: Yankton comes home to face top-ranked Aberdeen Central on Saturday, a 5 p.m. start. Roosevelt travels to cross-town rival Sioux Falls Washington on Sept. 29.

Hawks, Tigers Win Cornbelt XC Titles

FREEMAN – The Canistota boys and Howard girls claimed top honors in the Cornbelt Conference cross country meet, held on Wednesday at Valley View Golf Course. Canistota put four runners in the top eight to edge McCrossan 10-13. Canistota’s Mason Decker won the 5,000-meter event in 18:18.12, 43 seconds ahead of Freeman’s Dalton Bodewitz. Howard finished with 18 points to edge Freeman (20) and Menno (23) for top honors. Menno’s Morgan Edelman won the 5,000-meter race in 21:30.24, just ahead of Freeman’s Rebecca Eberts (21:33.01).

BOYS’ DIVISION
TEAM SCORES: Canistota 10, McCrossan 13, Hanson 30, Marion 39
TOP 10: 1, Mason Decker, Canistota 18:18.12; 2, Dalton Bodewitz, Freeman 19:01.44; 3, Greg Boni, McCrossan 19:03.13; 4, Brian Brave, McCrossan 19:10.89; 5, Marnie Adams, Canistota 19:19.10; 6, Jacob Gullman-Ringing Shield 19:24.21; 7, Blake Ferry, Hanson 19:24.57; 8, Trey Orman, Canistota 19:25.02; 9, Connor Tuschen, Bridgewater-Emery 19:31.79; 10, Joe Grassmud, Menno 19:38.22
GIRLS’ DIVISION
TEAM SCORES: Howard 18, Freeman 20, Menno 23, Hanson 28
TOP 10: 1, Morgan Edelman, Menno 21:30.24; 2, Rebecca Eberts, Freeman 21:33.02; 3, Hannah Noonan, Howard 21:54.30; 4, Ellie Tuschen, Hanson 22:24.15; 5, Carly Herboldt 22:30.82; 6, Hannah Eberts, Freeman 22:35.45; 7, Kenedy Koepsel, Howard 22:40.38; 8, Emma Neises, Howard 22:43.11; 9, Hanna Robinson, Hanson 22:47.65; 10, Ellen Lewis, Howard 22:49.14

VB: Winside Sweeps Vikings

WAUSA, Neb. – Winside downed Wausa 25-15, 25-12, 25-20 in Lewis & Clark Conference volleyball action on Tuesday. No statistics were reported for Winside (5-7), which travels to Scribner-Snyder on Sept. 29. For Wausa, Tara Munter had 13 kills on 17 attempts to lead the way. She also had five blocks (four solo) and nine digs. Also for the Vikings, Claire Wiegert had 11 assists, Clare Lundberg had two ace serves and Mary Johnson had 11 digs. Wausa travels to Creighton today (Thursday).
WINSIDE (5-7).....25 25 25
WAUSA (0-9).....15 12 20

Pierce 3, Cedar Cath. 0
HARTINGTON, Neb. – Pierce defeated Hartington Cedar Catholic in a three game sweep 25-21, 25-18, 25-16 on Tuesday night in Hartington. Krystina Schuett had 10 kills to lead the way for the Pierce Bluejays, Shelby Bretschneider added eight kills, while Jaci Bramer had six kills and six blocks in the win. For Cedar Catholic, Abby Steffen had nine kills and two blocks, and Emily Feilmeier had 21 assists and 10 digs to lead the way. Brianna Lammers finished with 12 digs. Maddie Wieseler, Maggie Wiebelhaus and Taylor Lammers each recorded two blocks in the effort. Pierce will be in action today (Thursday) as they host Lutheran High Northeast, while the Trojans will host Randolph today.
PIERCE (6-6).....25 25 25
HARTINGTON CEDAR CATHOLIC (11-6)21 18 16

Crofton 3, LCC 0
CROFTON, Neb. – The Crofton Warriors defeated the Laurel-Concord-Colenidge Bears 25-13, 25-16, 25-13 on Tuesday night in Crofton. The Warriors were led by Monica Arens, who recorded 11 kills. Allison Tramp also totaled 10 kills in the Warrior victory. Bre Allen had 20 digs, while Britany Guenther totaled 14 assists.

‘Cats Leading The Pack



Running Wild-cats

ABOVE: Hartington-Newcastle’s Jared Fuelberth, left, Noah Noecker and Brian Santiago get off to a fast start during the Bon Homme Invitational cross country meet on Monday at Bon Homme Country Club. The Wildcats won the team title, their fourth straight win to open the 2015 season.

RIGHT: Hartington-Newcastle’s Allie Rosener, front, Karli McCain and Anna Burbach sprint to the finish to place fourth, fifth and sixth in the girls’ race at the Bon Homme Invitational on Monday at Bon Homme Country Club. Their finishes, combined with the third place by teammate Addison Peitz, gave the Wildcats the team title. It was the team’s second title in four events this season. The Wildcats also have two runner-up finishes, both to 2014 Class C runner-up Wayne.

JAMES D. CIMBUREK/P&D



Wildcat Boys, Girls Surge To Success

BY JAMES D. CIMBUREK
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HARTINGTON, Neb. – Nearly a decade ago, the cross country program nearly became a short-lived footnote in the history of Hartington Public School. Now the program is stronger than ever and is eyeing qualifying for state as a team for the first time in its history. Coming off a title sweep at the Bon Homme Invitational on Monday, the Wildcats continued a strong 2015 run in which the boys have won every meet and the girls have won all but one, finishing second to 2014 Class C runner-up Wayne. “We’re feeling good about things right now,” said Wildcats head coach Mandy Hochstein. “I think our runners are stronger than they have been in the past, and it’s because of their work ethic in practice.”

Building From Scratch

Jerry Bult started the program in Hartington in 2003, but it looked like it would end with him until Laura Noecker, who had coached volleyball for 15 years, stepped in to help save the program in 2006. Noecker, who is also the head girls’ track and field coach at Hartington-Newcastle, remains with the team as a volunteer co-coach/assistant. “She started building with the junior high kids, and the program took off from there,” said Hochstein, who is in her fifth year with the program. “By 2007, the program had its first team success when the girls won at Newman Grove.” In 2009, Hartington Public and Hartington Cedar Catholic joined forces in both cross country and wrestling. In 2014, the Newcastle school district merged with Hartington to form the Hartington-Newcastle school. The partnership has paid dividends, according to Hochstein. “Our team has been represented at state each year since 2010,” she said. The squad sent five runners – three girls and two boys – to the state meet in 2014. The most runners the program had sent prior to 2014 was two. While the program has continued to build, it has advanced with one goal – to

Yankees Hall Of Fame Catcher Yogi Berra Dies At 90

BY MIKE STEWART
Associated Press

NEW YORK (AP) — The lovable legend of Yogi Berra, that ain’t ever gonna be over. The Hall of Fame catcher renowned as much for his linguistically dizzying “Yogi-isms” as his unmatched 10 World Series championships with the New York Yankees, died Tuesday. He was 90. Berra, who filled baseball’s record book as well as “Bartlett’s Familiar Quotations,” died of natural causes at his home in New Jersey, according to Dave Kaplan, the director of the Yogi Berra Museum. Berra played in more World Series games than any other major leaguer and was a three-time American League Most Valuable Player. For many, though, he was even better known for all those amusing axioms. “It ain’t over ‘til it’s over” is among eight of them included in Bartlett’s. “When I’m sittin’ down to dinner with the family, stuff just pops out. And they’ll say, ‘Dad, you just said

another one.’ And I don’t even know what the heck I said,” Berra insisted. Short, squat and with a homely mug, Berra was a Yankees great who helped the team reach 14 World Series during his 18 seasons in the Bronx. “While we mourn the loss of our father, grandfather and great-grandfather, we know he is at peace with Mom,” Berra’s family said in a statement released by the museum. “We celebrate his remarkable life, and are thankful he meant so much to so many. He will truly be missed.” Berra served on a gunboat supporting the D-Day invasion in 1944 and played for the Yankees from 1946-63. His teammates included fellow Hall of Famers Joe DiMaggio, Mickey Mantle, Whitey Ford and Phil Rizzuto. “No! Say it ain’t so. He was a good man, my former manager and friend! RIP Yogi,” former Yankees star Dave Winfield tweeted. Lawrence Peter Berra, the son of Italian immigrants, got his nickname while growing up in St. Louis. Among his amateur baseball teammates was Jack McGuire, another future big

leaguer. “Some of us went to a movie with a yogi in it and afterwards Jack began calling me Yogi. It stuck,” Berra told the Saturday Evening Post. He was a fan favorite, especially with children, and the cartoon character Yogi Bear was named after him. Until recent years, he remained a fixture at Yankee Stadium and in the clubhouse, where the likes of Derek Jeter, Joe Torre and others in pinstripes looked up to the diminutive old-timer. In 1956, Berra caught the only perfect game in World Series history and after the last out leaped into pitcher Don Larsen’s arms. The famous moment is still often replayed on baseball broadcasts. After his playing days, Berra coached or managed the Yankees, New York Mets and Houston Astros. He led both the Yankees and Mets to pennants. In 1985, his firing as manager by the Yankees 16 games into the season sparked a feud with George Stein-



NANCY KASZERMAN/ZUMA PRESS/TNS
Yogi Berra, the Hall of Fame catcher and Major League Baseball coach renowned as much for his unique way of turning a phrase as his record 10 World Series championships with the New York Yankees, has died at age 90. He is seen here at the 2008 Major League Baseball All-Star Game red carpet parade in New York.