

SMSU WRESTLING

SMSU can't get past Augsburg

MARSHALL – The Southwest Minnesota State wrestling team fell 32-6 to nationally-ranked, Augsburg University, in a non-conference dual on Saturday afternoon.

SMSU drops to 0-3 overall while Augsburg advances to an undefeated 8-0 on the season.

Augsburgs' top-ranked wrestlers proved their rankings winning eight of the 10 bouts in the dual. SMSU's No. 8 ranked, Cortez Arredondo faced the highest-ranked wrestler of the day, No. 2 Ryan Epps, and led for most of the bout. It wasn't until Epps created a reversal in the final period to secure the 2-1 victory.

At 165, Kegen Fingalsen earned the first victory of the day with a decision victory over Josh Verbeten. Finelsen advances his record to 13-8 and earning his second consecutive victory this season.

Andrew Petersen earned the second and final victory of the dual with a 5-2 decision victory over Ethan Hofacker. Petersen improves his record to 17-7.

Southwest Minnesota State (0-3) continues action hosting Upper Iowa on Fri-



Photo by Sam Thiel

SMSU's Brock Buysse sizes up his opponent during their meet against Augsburg on Saturday. SMSU fell to Augsburg 32-6.

day at 7 p.m. in the PE Gym.

Results: 125: No. 4 Victor Gliva wins by fall at 6:38 over Willie Meine. SMSU 0, Auggie 6
133: No. 4 Sam Bennyhoff wins by major decision (11-3) over Brock Buysse. SMSU 0, Auggie 10
141: No. 3 David Flynn wins by fall at 6:21 over Riley Altenburg. SMSU 0, Auggie 16
149: No. 7 Alex Wilson wins by major decision (11-3) over Justin Haneke. SMSU 0, Auggie 20
157: No. 2 Ryan Epps wins by decision (2-1) over Cortez Arredondo. SMSU 0, Auggie 23
165: Kegen Fingalsen wins by decision (9-5) over Josh Verbeten. SMSU 3, Auggie

23.
174: No. 5 Tanner Vassar wins by decision in sudden victory (9-7) over Dru Kuchenbaker. SMSU 26-3.
184: Solomon Nielsen wins by decision (6-3) over Cole Hennen. SMSU 3, Auggie 29.
197: No. 4 Lance Benick wins by decision (8-5) over Neil Hanson SMSU 3, Auggie 32.
285: Andrew Petersen wins by decision (5-2) over Ethan Hofacker. SMSU 6, Auggie 32.

Content courtesy of SMSU Athletic Communications

NFL

Saints topple Eagles 20-14; Pats rout Chargers 41-28

NEW ORLEANS (AP) — The New Orleans Saints got two touchdowns passes from Drew Brees, two interceptions by Marcus Lattimore, and rallied from a 14-point deficit to beat the Philadelphia Eagles 20-14 Sunday to advance to the NFC championship game.

Using a dominant ball-control offense after a horrendous start, Brees took the Saints (14-3) on scoring drives of 92, 79 and 67 yards. And a few gambles paid off to assure New Orleans will host the Rams (13-4) next Sunday for a spot in the Super Bowl.

Los Angeles, which fell 45-35 at the Superdome in November, will try again next week, with the winner taking on either Kansas City or New England in the Super Bowl in Atlanta. The Saints' win finished off a sweep of the divisional round by teams coming off byes.

Wil Lutz added two field goals for the Saints, who last got this far in 2009, when they won the Super Bowl.

Philadelphia (10-8) will not repeat as NFL champion; no team has done so since the 2004 Patriots.

This was really two games in one. Philly scored on its first two drives as the Saints could do virtually nothing right.

After that opening period, it was all New Orleans, yet the resilient Eagles kept it close enough that when Lutz missed a 52-yard field goal with 2:58 remaining, they were only one-score behind.

Nick Foles, the hero of last year's Super Bowl run, got them in position for yet another late winning score — just like last week at Chicago and last February against New England for the championship.

Then Alshon Jeffery couldn't handle a second-down pass from the Saints 27 and Lattimore grabbed his second interception to clinch the win.

Patriots 41, Chargers 28

FOXBOROUGH, Mass. (AP) — Sony Michel ran for 129 yards and had three touchdowns and New England beat Los Angeles in the divisional playoffs to earn its eighth straight trip to the AFC championship game.

New England (12-5) will play at Kansas City in next week's AFC title game. The Patriots beat the Chiefs 43-40 in Foxborough in Week 6. The Patriots finished 9-0 at home this season.

It is the 13th conference championship game appearance by the Patriots during the Tom Brady-Bill Belichick era.

The Chargers (13-5) haven't reached the AFC title game since the 2007 season.

Philip Rivers finished 25 of 51 for 331 yards, three touchdowns and an interception. He is 0-5 in games played in Foxborough, including 0-3 in the postseason.

Brady finished 34 of 44 for 343 yards and a touchdown. He improves to 8-0 as a starter against Rivers, who drops to 1-8 against New England all-time.

James White tied Darren Sproles' NFL postseason record with 15 catches, totaling 97 yards.

New England scored on its first four possessions of the game to build a 35-7 halftime lead.

Julian Edelman had nine catches for 151 yards.

RTR FROM PAGE 2B

the opening frame. RTR started with a six-point run and took a 61-20 lead, as Haley Muenchow got things going offensively for the Knights.

RTR's cohesiveness as a team continued to shine in the second half, as it went on an 11-3 run to take a 72-23 lead with 7:45 left. The Knights cruised the rest of the way and would keep their win streak going with an 81-28 victory.

Madison Muenchow led the way for the Knights with 13 points while Haley Muenchow added 12 and Rylie Hess and Shawna Thomsen each added 10. Haley Muenchow led in rebounds with eight while Kalleigh Carr led in assists with five.

RTR will now look to make it five in a row when it takes on Lac qui Parle Valley on Tuesday at 7:15 p.m. As the Knights head into the second half of their season, Krause wants the team to continue to enjoy the little things that happen to them and not take any moment for granted each time they step on the court.

"We are a team and it is very important that we stay that way and they support each other and work together," said Krause. "Enjoy these things and moments when things go well for us."

RTR 81, HLO/Fulda 28	
HLO/F	16 12 – 28
RTR	55 26 – 81

SCORING: RTR (M. Muenchow 13; H. Muenchow 12; Hess, S. Thomsen 10; B. Thomsen, Biren 8; Owen 7; Wendland 5; Christianson 4; Borresen, Carr 2). REBOUNDS: RTR 32 (H. Muenchow 8; Carr, Biren 5).

ASSISTS: RTR 14 (Carr 5). STEALS: RTR 21 (B. Thomsen 7; Carr 4). BLOCKS: RTR none.

Boys Basketball

RTR 76, Fulda 47

By Sam Thiel
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The RTR boys basketball team closed out the night with a matchup against Fulda, but after a back-and-forth first half, the Knights were in need of a spark. Fortunately for RTR, that was found through its defensive presence, as the Knights shut down the Raiders in the second half to earn a 76-47 victory.

RTR coach Ted Kern felt their shot selection and communication on defense was much stronger in the second half and was pleased with how his team adjusted at halftime.

"I thought both our shot selection and our defensive communication was much better in the second half," Kern said. "There were some breakdowns for about a three or four minute stretch in the first half that kind of kept the game as close as it was and we overcame that at halftime and re-focused and did a nice job coming out in the second half."

The Knights were able to jump out to a quick start on offense, taking an 8-2 lead before Fulda cut the deficit to 12-10 a few minutes later. RTR had an answer, though, going on a 9-2 run before a 3-pointer from Jared Hauswedell gave the

Knights a 24-12 lead midway through the first half.

RTR would maintain at least a 14-point lead throughout the frame, before a pair of 3-pointers by the Raiders made it a 10-point game at 33-23. Fulda got to within eight, but a 3-pointer by Hauswedell at the buzzer gave RTR a 36-25 lead at halftime.

After going into the break with a double-digit lead, the Knights broke out the press to start the second half. That defensive pressure led to early turnovers by the Raiders and transition baskets by RTR, as the Knights quickly pushed their advantage to 45-29 before a 3-pointer by Payton Hess made it 52-32 with 9:30 left to play.

The Knights continued to add to their lead over the next several minutes, going on a 14-6 run to take a 66-38 advantage with under five to play, ultimately coming away with a 76-47 victory.

Carter and Cooper Hansen led the way for the Knights with 16 points each while Hauswedell added 13 and Jack Kerr had 10.

RTR will face TMB today at 7:15 p.m.

RTR 76, Fulda 47	
Fulda	25 22 – 47
RTR	36 40 – 76

SCORING: RTR (Carter Hansen, Cooper Hansen 16; Hauswedell 13; Kerr 10; Kelley, Hess 6; Weets, Sitzman, Baune 3). REBOUNDS: RTR 25 (Kerr, Cooper Hansen 5; Carter Hansen, Baune 3). ASSISTS: RTR 18 (Cooper Hansen 8; Kelley 4). STEALS: RTR 13 (Cooper Hansen 4; Carter Hansen 3). BLOCKS: RTR 2 (Carter Hansen, Weets 1).

PREP SPORTS ROUNDUP

Marshall takes out Minnesota River, 6-2

ST. PETER – The Marshall girls hockey team defeated Minnesota River 6-2 on Saturday.

After the Bulldogs got the scoring started in the first period, Marshall quickly tied things up at 1-1 midway through the frame on a goal by Sydney Mauch on the assist from Logan Sherman.

Marshall would then take the lead early in the second period, as Mauch found the back of the net for the second time on the assist from Maddy Penske just 25 seconds into the frame to give the Tigers a 2-1 advantage. Marshall then pushed its lead to 3-1 on a goal from Kaitlyn Timm on the assist from Leah Schaefer before Timm got a pass from Emmy Barker on the power play to make it 4-1.

Minnesota River would add a goal late in the second to cut the deficit to 4-2, but Marshall answered with a goal by Mauch to complete the hat trick on the assist from Olivia Peterson in the opening minutes of the third period to push it back to 5-2. Peterson then joined in on the scoring action a few minutes later on the assist from Mauch and KC Boerboom to bring it to the 6-2 final.

Marshall and Minnesota River both had 31 shots on goal on the game. Emma Klenken earned the victory in net for the Tigers, stopping 29 shots.

Marshall will face Windom Area today at 5 p.m.

Marshall 6, Minnesota River 2	
Marshall	1 3 2 – 6
Minnesota River	1 1 0 – 2

First Period
SCORING
Minnesota River: Weick, 7:08 (unassisted).
Marshall: Mauch, 9:14 (Sherman).
PENALTIES
Marshall: Ormberg, 11:16 (Hooking, 2 min).
Second Period
SCORING
Marshall: Mauch, 4:25 (Penske).
Marshall: Timm, 8:50 (Schaefer).
Marshall: Timm, 13:47 (power play) (Barker).
Minnesota River: Seaver, 16:00 (McCabe, Kleschult).
PENALTIES
Minnesota River: Boomgaarden, 13:33 (Interference, 2 min).
Third Period
SCORING
Marshall: Mauch, 5:07 (Peterson).
Marshall: Peterson, 8:36 (Mauch, Boerboom).
PENALTIES
Marshall: Mauch, 0:35 (Interference, 2 min).
Marshall: Sherman, 2:25 (Body Checking, 2 min).

SHOTS ON GOAL: Marshall 31; Minnesota River 31.
SAVES: Marshall 29; Minnesota River 25.

Girls Basketball

Marshall 63, Mankato East 48

MANKATO – The Marshall girls basketball team defeated Mankato East 63-48 on Saturday.

Jordyn Hilgemann led the way for the Tigers with 21 points while Lenei Estrada added 15 and Emily Meier had 10. Meier led in rebounds with 10 while Estrada led in assists with four.

Marshall (9-3) will face Fairmont on Tuesday at 7:15 p.m.

Marshall 63, Mankato East 48	
Marshall	36 27 – 63
Mankato East	27 21 – 48

SCORING: Marshall (Hilgemann 7-17, 6-9 21; Estrada 4-11, 3-4 15; Meier 3-5, 4-4 10; Wendorf 1-4, 2-2 5; Sueker 2-7, 0-1 5; Jones 1-3, 0-0 3; Naughton 0-1, 2-2 2; Andries 0-2, 2-2 2).
REBOUNDS: Marshall 27 (Meier 10; Hilgemann 5; Wendorf 4; Naughton 3).
ASSISTS: Marshall 13 (Estrada 4; Hilgemann 3; Sueker, Meier 2; Wendorf, Andries 1).
STEALS: Marshall 6 (Estrada 3; Sueker, Hilgemann, Andries 1).
BLOCKS: Marshall 1 (Wendorf).

mann 3; Sueker, Meier 2; Wendorf, Andries 1).
STEALS: Marshall 6 (Estrada 3; Sueker, Hilgemann, Andries 1).
BLOCKS: Marshall 1 (Wendorf).

Wrestling

Big South Conference Championships

WINDOM – The No. 11 Marshall wrestling team took second place at the Big South Conference Championships on Saturday with a team score of 191.5. Fairmont/Martin County West took first with a score of 229, followed by Redwood-River Valley in third (135), Windom-Mountain Lake Area in fourth (133) and Worthington (103.5) to round out the Top 5.

Zach Stahl (182-weight class) and Jaiden Bahr (195-weight class) took first place with a pin while Hsa Law Eh (120-weight class) and Grant Louwagie (160-weight class) both took second by major decision and a tiebreaker, respectively.

Dylan Louwagie (106-weight class), Hsa Khee Lar (113-weight class), Elijah Sterner (170-weight class) took third by decision while Lucas Hodges (132-weight class) and Cole Felcyn (285-weight class) also took third by technical fall and a pin, respectively.

Noah Jensen (138-weight class) took fifth by a pin and Zack Felcyn took sixth (220-weight class) by decision to round out the placements for Marshall.

Marshall will compete on Tuesday against Luverne and Pipestone in Pipestone at 5 p.m.

Rick Lee duals

BEMIDJI – The Tracy-Milroy-Balaton/Westbrook-Walnut Grove wrestling team went 4-2 on the weekend at the Rick Lee duals. On Friday, the Panthers defeated United North Central 51-12 and fell to Pierz 34-29 and Thief River Falls 38-31 while beating Badger-GBMR 34-31, Cambridge-Isanti 49-15 and Ottertail Central 48-15 on Saturday.

Against United North Central, Ayden Horner, Levi Ellingson, Dereck Ellingson, Tyler Vandendriessche, Anthony Axford and Austin Axford all won by a pin while Luis Perez, Gabe Krick and Jace Paplow won by decision and Trevor Eisfeld won by forfeit to lead the way for TMB/WWG.

Against Pierz, Horner and Dereck Ellingson won by forfeit while Anthony Axford won by a pin, Austin Axford and Jace Paplow won by decision and Eisfeld won by technical fall to lead the way for TMB/WWG.

Against Thief River Falls, Devin Carter, Horner and Dereck Ellingson won by decision while Perez and Paplow won by a pin and Sawyer Schwartz won by major decision and Eisfeld won by forfeit to lead the way for TMB/WWG.

Against Badger-GBMR, Horner, Levi Ellingson, Paplow and Eisfeld won by a pin while Perez and Austin Axford won by decision and Dereck Ellingson won by major decision to lead the way for TMB/WWG.

Against Cambridge-

Isanti, Carter won by major decision while Horner and Levi Ellingson won by decision and Dereck Ellingson, Anthony Axford, Schwartz, Paplow, Eisfeld and Sam Bauer all won by a pin to lead the way for TMB/WWG.

Against Ottertail Central, Carter, Dereck Ellingson, Vandendriessche, Schwartz and Krick won by decision while Horner, Levi Ellingson, Anthony Axford, Paplow and Eisfeld all won by a pin to lead the way for TMB/WWG.

TMB/WWG will compete next on Thursday against Quad County at 6 p.m.

Friday

Boys Basketball

Minneota 75, DB 55

MINNEOTA – The top-ranked Minneota boys basketball team stayed undefeated with a 75-55 victory over Dawson-Boyd on Friday.

Logan Sussner led the way for the Vikings with 34 points while Thomas Hennen added 18 and Jacob Hennen had eight. Sussner led in rebounds with 14 while Jared Josephson led in assists with four.

Sussner also reached a milestone in the game, passing 1,000 points for his career.

Bentley Boike led the way for Dawson-Boyd with 18 points while Zach Durfee added 17 and Romell Horton added nine.

Minneota will face Jackson County Central next Friday at 7:15 p.m. while Dawson-Boyd will face Pipestone Area on Tuesday at 7:15 p.m.

Minneota 75, Dawson-Boyd 55	
Dawson-Boyd	29 26 – 55
Minneota	41 34 – 75

SCORING: Minneota (Sussner 16-24, 2-5 34; T. Hennen 6-12, 1-5 18; J. Hennen 3-8, 2-2 8; Josephson 2-6, 0-0 6; Boerboom 2-3, 0-1 5; Salitzer 1-4, 2-3 4); Dawson-Boyd (Boike 7-11, 4-6 18; Durfee 7-12, 2-3 17; Horton 4-13, 0-0 9; Lee 2-6, 0-1 6; Husby 2-8, 1-4 5).
REBOUNDS: Minneota 34 (Sussner 14; Salitzer, T. Hennen 6); Dawson-Boyd 26.
ASSISTS: Minneota 10 (Josephson 4; T. Hennen 2); Dawson-Boyd 6.
STEALS: Minneota 11 (T. Hennen 5; J. Hennen 2); Dawson-Boyd 5.
BLOCKS: Minneota 4 (T. Hennen 3; Sussner 1); Dawson-Boyd none.

Girls Basketball

Canby 38, RCW 25

RENVILLE – The Canby girls basketball team defeated Renville County West 38-25 on Friday.

Marissa Hansen led the way for the Lancers with nine points while Sarah Hansen, Morgan Cleveland and Hannah Jelen each added eight. Cleveland led in rebounds with eight while Cleveland and Sarah Hansen led in assists with four each.

Canby will face CMCS on Tuesday at 7:15 p.m.

Canby 38, RCW 25	
Canby	19 19 – 38
RCW	15 10 – 25

SCORING: Canby (M. Hansen 3-6, 3-4 9; S. Hansen 3-14, 0-0 8; Cleveland 3-9, 0-0 8; Jelen 4-11, 0-0 8; A. Wright 2-6, 0-0 4; Ruether 0-1, 1-2 1).
REBOUNDS: Canby 25 (Cleveland 8; M. Hansen 6; Jelen 5).
ASSISTS: Canby 13 (Cleveland, S. Hansen 4).
STEALS: Canby 9 (Jelen 4).
BLOCKS: Canby 6 (Cleveland 5; Jelen 1).

Marshall BBB FROM PAGE 1B

39 and made six 3-pointers on us and we didn't do a very good job of defending him behind the 3-point line. Give Jax credit for knocking down those shots, we needed to do a better job of defending in those situations."

Trailing 61-49 down the stretch, the Tigers received a sorely-needed boost from Matt Hmielewski via back to back 3-pointers to kick off a scoring run that brought Marshall all the way back to within four at 70-66.

In the end, it would not be enough as the Cougars made the most of their numerous trips to the foul line to put the game away at 81-

69.

The Tigers finished the game with four players in double figures, led by Peutz with 18, followed by Bryce Paulsen with 13, Matt Onken with 10 and Hmielewski with 10. Peutz and Onken paced the team in rebounding with nine and eight. Marshall shot 40 percent from the field, including 40 percent from behind the arc on 6 of 15 shooting.

With the loss, the Tigers move to 8-4 on the season and will look to get back to their winning ways on Tuesday when they host Fairmont at 7:15 p.m. for "Shoot for a Cure" night.

Prior to their matchup with the Cardinals, Carroll

identified multiple areas of their game that need to improve moving forward.

"We have to do a better job of taking care of the basketball, rebounding the basketball and do a better job of handling the adversity of the game," said Carroll.

Mankato East 81, Marshall 69	
Mankato East	33 48 – 81
Marshall	34 35 – 69

SCORING: Marshall (Peutz 6-10, 4-6 18; Paulsen 2-9, 8-8 13; Onken 4-10, 2-4 10; Hmielewski 3-9, 2-2 10; Lance 3-6, 1-3 7; Allex 2-5, 1-2 6; Steinbach 2-5, 1-2 5).
REBOUNDS: Marshall 31 (Peutz 9; Onken 8; Steinbach 5).
ASSISTS: Marshall 8 (Onken 3; Paulsen 2).
STEALS: Marshall 10 (Peutz 3; Paulsen, Steinbach 2).
BLOCKS: Marshall none.