

Press&Dakotan DAILY DOSE

Daily opinions from the P&D Sports Staff on local and national high school, college and professional sports.



BY JEREMY HOECK
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As one University of South Dakota coach joked: "It's like when dad gives you the keys to the car. Eventually he gives you the chance to drive by yourself."

David Herbster now has that chance. The well-liked, respected administrator at USD had the interim athletic director tag officially removed from his title by university president Jim Abbott during an afternoon staff meeting in Vermillion.

Herbster Was The Obvious, Sensible Choice For USD Athletic Director

(USD will make the announcement official today (Friday) in a release). But those directly involved couldn't contain their excitement to the news Thursday. Three coaches I spoke with all essentially said the same thing: "We couldn't be more excited for David."

And they have reason to be anxious for Herbster to be their boss without some temporary title.

In my dealings with Herbster, both formally and informally, it is clear that not only is an easy-going, respectful person, he has the respect of his coaches and athletes. They all wanted him to get the job.

Even Abbott said as much during my conversation with him, "It just

became clear that over the last month or so, that he was everybody's choice."

In my opinion as an observer and beat writer, it would have been a mistake to ignore Herbster's performance — especially raising money for the arena and track/soccer complex — and bringing in someone brand new. USD would have taken some major steps backward in that case.

Instead, everyone involved can take a huge sigh of relief. Their guy has the keys to the car.

Yankton Middle School Track Team Wins Inaugural Hy-Vee Pride Cup



The Yankton Middle School track and field team won the inaugural Hy-Vee Pride Cup defeating South Sioux City at the dual on Monday, April 15, in South Sioux City, Neb. YMS won the dual by a score of 316-161. Scoring was determined by a combination of team points won in both girls' and boys' events. The Hy-Vee Pride Cup, sponsored by the Yankton and Sioux City Hy-Vee Stores, was the idea of South Sioux City Athletic director Jerry Plathe along with Yankton Activities Director Ryan Mors. The cup will be a traveling trophy, and will be awarded each year to the winner of the Yankton and South Sioux City dual.

MMC Men's Soccer Adds Defender From Colorado

The Mount Marty College men's soccer team has announced that Joseph Finn of Aurora, Colo., will attend MMC and play for the men's soccer program beginning this fall.

The 6-2 defender was a three-year letterwinner and honorable mention all-conference selection at Cherokee Trail High School. He also played for the Colorado Storm Royal club team in Aurora.

"We are very fortunate to have Joe as part of our soccer program. He is a very skilled and athletic defender. He also reads the game very well and has the ability to make a significant impact on our defense as a freshman," said Nathan Epp, head MMC men's soccer coach. "Joe is also a high character individual and will be a great asset to the student body here at Mount Marty."

The son of Jack and Sheila Finn, he plans to major in forensic science at Mount Marty College. He will be receive an academic achievement scholarship in addition to his soccer award.



Finn

SCOREBOARD

BASEBALL

AMERICAN LEAGUE				
East Division				
W	L	Pct	GB	
Boston	10	4	.714	—
New York	8	5	.615	1 1/2
Baltimore	7	7	.500	3
Toronto	7	9	.438	4
Tampa Bay	5	9	.357	5

National League				
East Division				
W	L	Pct	GB	
Atlanta	12	2	.857	—
Washington	9	6	.600	3 1/2
New York	7	7	.500	5
Philadelphia	6	10	.375	7
Miami	3	12	.200	9 1/2

Central Division				
W	L	Pct	GB	
Detroit	9	6	.600	—
Kansas City	8	6	.571	1/2
Minnesota	6	7	.462	2
Chicago	7	9	.438	2 1/2
Cleveland	5	8	.385	3

West Division				
W	L	Pct	GB	
Oakland	12	4	.750	—
Texas	9	6	.600	2 1/2
Seattle	7	10	.412	5 1/2
Los Angeles	4	10	.286	7
Houston	4	11	.267	7 1/2

Wednesday's Games			
Kansas City 1, Atlanta 0	Oakland 7, Houston 5	N.Y. Yankees 4, Arizona 3	Boston 6, Cleveland 3
Tampa Bay 6, Baltimore 2	Chicago White Sox 7, Toronto 0	Texas at Chicago, p.p.d., rain	L.A. Angels at Minnesota, p.p.d., rain
Oakland 7, Houston 5	N.Y. Yankees 4, Arizona 3	Boston 6, Cleveland 3	Tampa Bay 6, Baltimore 2
Chicago White Sox 7, Toronto 0	Texas at Chicago, p.p.d., rain	L.A. Angels at Minnesota, p.p.d., rain	Oakland 7, Houston 5

Thursday's Games			
Chicago Cubs 6, Texas 2	Seattle 2, Detroit 0	Arizona at N.Y. Yankees, 7:05 p.m.	Boston at Cleveland, 7:05 p.m.
Tampa Bay at Baltimore, 7:05 p.m.	Toronto 3, Chicago White Sox 1	Kansas City 1, Atlanta 0	Cincinnati 1, Philadelphia 0, comp. of susp. game
N.Y. Yankees 4, Arizona 3	Boston 6, Cleveland 3	Tampa Bay 6, Baltimore 2	Chicago White Sox 7, Toronto 0

Friday's Games			
L.A. Dodgers (Ryu 2-1) at Baltimore (Hamel 2-1), 6:05 p.m.	N.Y. Yankees (Petitte 2-0) at Toronto (Morow 0-1), 6:07 p.m.	Kansas City (Shields 1-2) at Boston (Buchholz 3-0), 6:10 p.m.	Oakland (Anderson 1-2) at Tampa Bay (Cobb 1-1), 6:10 p.m.
Seattle (I. Saunders 1-1) at Texas (Danish 2-1), 7:05 p.m.	Cleveland (Myers 0-2) at Houston (Harell 0-2), 7:10 p.m.	Minnesota (Worley 0-2) at Chicago White Sox (Peavy 2-1), 7:10 p.m.	Detroit (Ani Sanchez 2-0) at L.A. Angels (Hanson 1-1), 9:05 p.m.

Saturday's Games			
N.Y. Yankees at Toronto, 12:07 p.m.	Kansas City at Boston, 12:10 p.m.	Detroit at L.A. Angels, 2:05 p.m.	Minnesota at Chicago White Sox, 2:05 p.m.
L.A. Dodgers at Baltimore, 6:05 p.m.	Cleveland at Houston, 6:10 p.m.	Oakland at Tampa Bay, 6:10 p.m.	Seattle at Texas, 7:05 p.m.

Sunday's Games			
N.Y. Yankees at Toronto, 12:07 p.m.	Kansas City at Boston, 12:35 p.m.	L.A. Dodgers at Baltimore, 12:35 p.m.	Chicago Cubs at Milwaukee, 6:10 p.m.
Arizona at Colorado, 7:10 p.m.	San Diego at San Francisco, 8:05 p.m.	San Diego at San Francisco, 8:05 p.m.	San Diego at San Francisco, 8:05 p.m.

Sunday's Games			
Miami at Cincinnati, 12:10 p.m.	Washington at N.Y. Mets, 12:10 p.m.	Chicago Cubs at Milwaukee, 1:10 p.m.	San Diego at San Francisco, 3:05 p.m.
L.A. Dodgers at Baltimore, 12:35 p.m.	Chicago Cubs at Milwaukee, 1:10 p.m.	San Diego at San Francisco, 3:05 p.m.	Arizona at Colorado, 3:10 p.m.
St. Louis at Philadelphia, 7:05 p.m.	Brooklyn 103, Detroit 99	Charlotte 105, Cleveland 98	Toronto 114, Boston 90
Miami 105, Orlando 93	Philadelphia 105, Indiana 95	L.A. Lakers 99, Houston 95, OT	Golden State 99, Portland 88
L.A. Clippers 112, Sacramento 108			

NBA PLAYOFFS			
FIRST ROUND (Best-of-7)			
Saturday, April 20	Boston at New York, 2 p.m.	Golden State at Denver, 4:30 p.m.	Chicago at Brooklyn, 7 p.m.
Memphis at L.A. Clippers, 9:30 p.m.	Sunday, April 21	Atlanta at Indiana, noon	L.A. Lakers at San Antonio, 2:30 p.m.
Milwaukee at Miami, 6 p.m.	Houston at Oklahoma City, 8:30 p.m.		

BASKETBALL				
NATIONAL BASKETBALL ASSOC.				
FINAL STANDINGS				
EASTERN CONFERENCE				
Atlantic Division				
W	L	Pct	GB	
y-New York	54	28	.659	—
x-Brooklyn	49	33	.598	5
x-Boston	41	40	.506	12 1/2
Philadelphia	34	48	.415	20
Charlotte	34	48	.415	20
Orlando	20	62	.244	46

Southeast Division				
W	L	Pct	GB	
y-Miami	66	16	.805	—
x-Atlanta	44	38	.537	22
Washington	29	53	.354	37
Charlotte	21	61	.256	45
Orlando	20	62	.244	46

Central Division				
W	L	Pct	GB	
y-Indiana	49	32	.606	—
x-Chicago	45	37	.549	4 1/2
x-Milwaukee	38	44	.463	11 1/2
Detroit	29	53	.354	20 1/2
Cleveland	24	58	.293	25 1/2

WESTERN CONFERENCE				
Southwest Division				
W	L	Pct	GB	
y-San Antonio	58	24	.707	—
x-Memphis	56	26	.683	2
x-Houston	45	37	.549	13
Dallas	41	41	.500	17
New Orleans	27	55	.329	31

Northwest Division				
W	L	Pct	GB	
x-Oklahoma City	60	22	.732	—
x-Denver	57	25	.695	3
Utah	43	39	.524	17
Portland	33	49	.402	27
Minnesota	31	51	.378	29

Pacific Division				
W	L	Pct	GB	
y-L.A. Clippers	56	26	.683	—
x-Golden State	47	35	.573	9
x-L.A. Lakers	45	37	.549	11
Sacramento	28	54	.341	28
Phoenix	25	57	.305	31

Wednesday's Games			
Denver 118, Phoenix 98	Dallas 99, New Orleans 87	Chicago 95, Washington 92	Memphis 86, Utah 70
Minnesota 108, San Antonio 95	Milwaukee 95, Oklahoma City 89	New York 98, Atlanta 92	

AREA CALENDAR

Friday, April 19 BASEBALL, PREP Brookings at Yankton (DH, 5 p.m.); Vermillion at Bon Homme GOLF, BOYS' Jesse James Inv. at Garretson (Parker, 12:30 p.m.); Scotland-Avon Inv. at Scotland (Andes Central, Avon, Freeman Academy, Gayville-Volin, Irene-Wakonda, Platte-Geddes, Scotland, Tripp-Delmont, Viborg-Hurley, 9:30 a.m.) GOLF, GIRLS' Jesse James Inv. at Garretson (Parker, 12:30 p.m.); Scotland-Avon Inv. at Bon Homme CC (Andes Central, Avon, Bon Homme, Freeman Academy, Irene-Wakonda, Platte-Geddes, Scotland, Tripp-Delmont, Viborg-Hurley, Wagner, 9:30 a.m.) SOFTBALL, COLLEGE USD at Oakland (DH, 1 p.m.) TENNIS, WOMEN'S Hastings at MMC (10 a.m.) TRACK & FIELD, COLLEGE OUTDOOR Kansas Relays (USD); Mt. SAC Relays (USD); Long Beach Inv. (USD) Saturday, April 20 ARCHERY NFAA Unmarked 3-D National Championships at Yankton; First Dakota Classic at Yankton	BASEBALL, COLLEGE MMC at Hastings (DH, 1 p.m.) BASEBALL, PREP Wagner-Avon-Lake Andes at Beresford-Centerville BASEBALL, JV Yankton at Mitchell (11 a.m.); Yankton vs. R.C. Central at Mitchell (3 p.m.) BASEBALL, 9TH-10TH Yankton at S.F. O'Gorman (DH, 5 p.m.) FOOTBALL, COLLEGE USD Spring Game (1 p.m., KVHT-EM) GOLF, BOYS' Lutheran High Northeast Inv. at Norfolk CC (Creighton, Crofton, Niobrara-Verdige, Ponca, 9 a.m.); Mid-State Conf. at Battle Creek (Crofton, Hartington Cedar Catholic, 9 a.m.); Osmond Inv. at Rolling Hills CC (Bloomfield-Wausa, Crofton, Hartington Cedar Catholic, Niobrara-Verdige, Ponca, Randolph, 9:30 a.m.) SOFTBALL, COLLEGE MMC at Concordia (DH, noon); USD at Oakland (11 a.m.) TRACK & FIELD, COLLEGE OUTDOOR Kansas Relays (USD); Mt. SAC Relays (USD); Long Beach Inv. (USD) TRACK & FIELD, PREP Chamberlain Relays (Platte-Ged-	Sunday, April 21 ARCHERY NFAA Unmarked 3-D National Championships at Yankton; First Dakota Classic at Yankton BASEBALL, COLLEGE MMC at Nebraska Wesleyan (DH, 1 p.m.) BASEBALL, PREP Watertown at Yankton (DH, 2 p.m.); Bon Homme at Mount Vernon; Elk Point-Jefferson vs. Wagner-Avon-Lake Andes GOLF, MEN'S Iowa Lakes Inv. (MMC) GOLF, WOMEN'S Iowa Lakes Inv. (MMC) Hockey AHL — Announced the Board of Governors has approved the relocation of the Houston Aeros to Des Moines, Iowa for the 2013-14 season and the transfer of ownership of the Peoria Rivermen from the St. Louis Blues to the Aquiline Investment Group. SPRINGFIELD FALCONS — Signed C Lukas Sedlak to an amateur tryout agreement. COLLEGE LENOIR-RHYNE — Named Sam Perryman wide receivers coach and Tripp Merritt secondary coach. NEW YORK RANGERS — Agreed to terms with F Michael Kantor. American Hockey League AHL — Announced the Board of Governors has approved the relocation of the Houston Aeros to Des Moines, Iowa for the 2013-14 season and the transfer of ownership of the Peoria Rivermen from the St. Louis Blues to the Aquiline Investment Group. SPRINGFIELD FALCONS — Signed C Lukas Sedlak to an amateur tryout agreement. COLLEGE LENOIR-RHYNE — Named Sam Perryman wide receivers coach and Tripp Merritt secondary coach. NEW YORK RANGERS — Agreed to terms with F Michael Kantor.
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Wagner

From Page 7A

Wagner found her work ethic and resolve tested this past off-season. An ACL injury in July kept her off the court until just after the first of the year.

"It was tough. When I did it, I thought I was going to have to make a (college) decision right away. I decided to take my time and see how basketball played out," she said. "I waited a little longer than I liked. I tried to make the best decision that I could, and it didn't end up being that big of a deal."

Van Laecken lauded Wagner for the effort she put into returning to the court.

"She worked so hard to rehab and come back," he said. "It's amazing that she could get herself ready in that amount of time."

Despite being slowed by the injury, Wagner still averaged 12 points, 5.0 rebounds, 3.5 assists and 2.0 steals per game. She shot 41 percent from the field and 43 percent from three-point range.

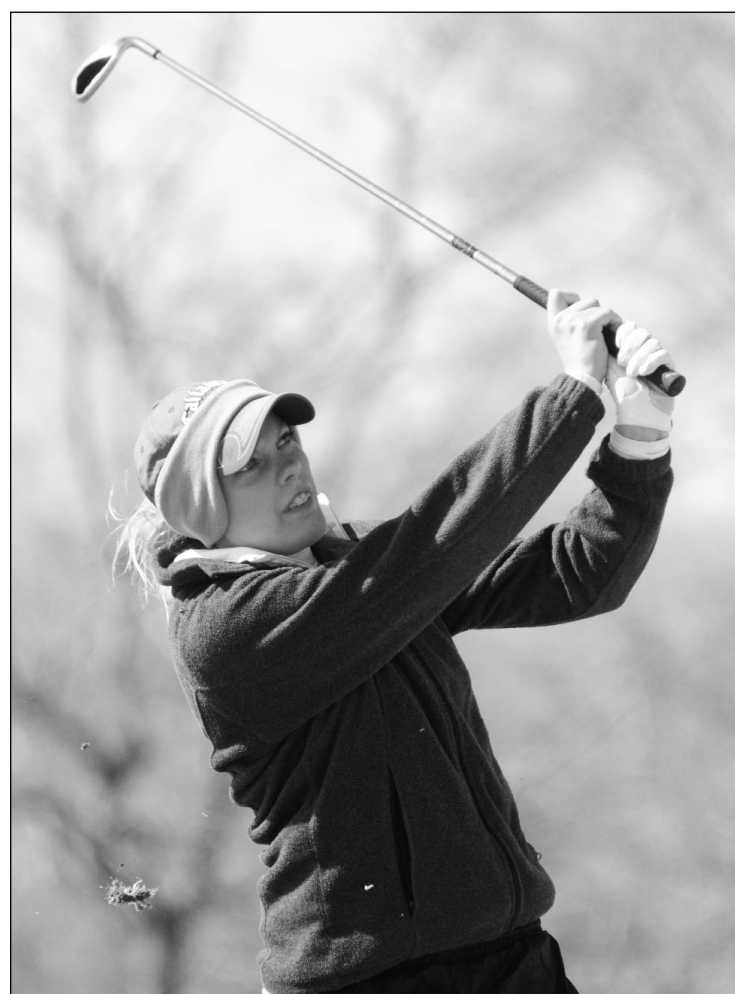
"She's a streak shooter. She'll miss two, three, four in a row, then hit five in a row," Van Laecken said. "She's also a great passer."

Wagner adds to a recruiting class that already includes a pair of great regional guards in Center-ville's Kieran O'Malley and Sioux Falls Washington's Denae Veldkamp. MMC graduated two of its three starting guards, as well as the first guard off the bench.

"We've got some nice post players coming back, and we've picked up a couple good ones there, too, but our emphasis was on perimeter players," Schlimgen said. "With the kids we've picked up, we feel we'll have some pretty good depth there next year."

With Parkston's Erica Herrold going to MMC's main rival, Dakota Wesleyan, the teammates and classmates will find themselves on the opposite team in the near future.

"It will be great. Those girls are some of my best friends," Wagner said. "It will be a good little rivalry."



Logan Wagner watches her approach shot during her round in the 2013 Southeast South Dakota Small-School Golf Tournament earlier this month at Fox Run Golf Course. Wagner has helped lead Parkston to two Class A team titles.

Van Laecken is also looking forward to seeing the two square off.

"I'm being selfish, but it's exciting that both stayed close, stayed in South Dakota," he said. "When they play each other, there will be a good crowd of Parkston people there."

As talented as Wagner is on a basketball court, she may make a more immediate impact on the golf course.

Wagner has earned top-10 finishes in three of the past four years, leading the Lady Trojans to state team titles in 2009 and 2012. Parkston also finished second in 2011.

"Hopefully I can get in there

right away and compete for a top spot," she said of her golf prospects.

Schlimgen is happy to add Wagner to the golf program as well.

"She's a great golfer that plays on a great team. They mopped up the State A last year," he said. "We'll have everyone back next year, so that program is really moving forward."

The daughter of Gregg and Rita Wagner, she will also receive an academic merit scholarship at MMC. She is undecided about a major.

You can follow James D. Cimbrek on Twitter at twitter.com/ace-man904

Steffen

From Page 7A

When they walk out the door in May, Cedar Catholic will miss them a lot.

This past season, she posted 307 kills and 128 blocks, which led her to be named honorary captain of the Omaha World Herald and Lincoln Journal Star Class C-2 All-State Teams.

"She did an incredible job of blocking this year," Kuntz said. "With her long legs and long arms, she can cover a lot of ground."

Kuntz said that Steffen wanted to play all the way around, but the Trojans' depth meant it wasn't necessary.

"She always wanted to play defense, but we had enough passers," he said. "Hopefully in college she keeps working on her defense and gets the chance to play all six rotations."

On the basketball court, Steffen was a two-year starter and earned All-Mid States Conference honorable mention honors. Steffen has been selected to play in the Nebraska Coaches Association All-Star game this summer.

She is also a three-year state qualifier in track and field, and is competing for the Lady Trojans again this spring.

Steffen's presence on and off the court were also a factor in recruiting the Lady Trojan, Kneiff noted.

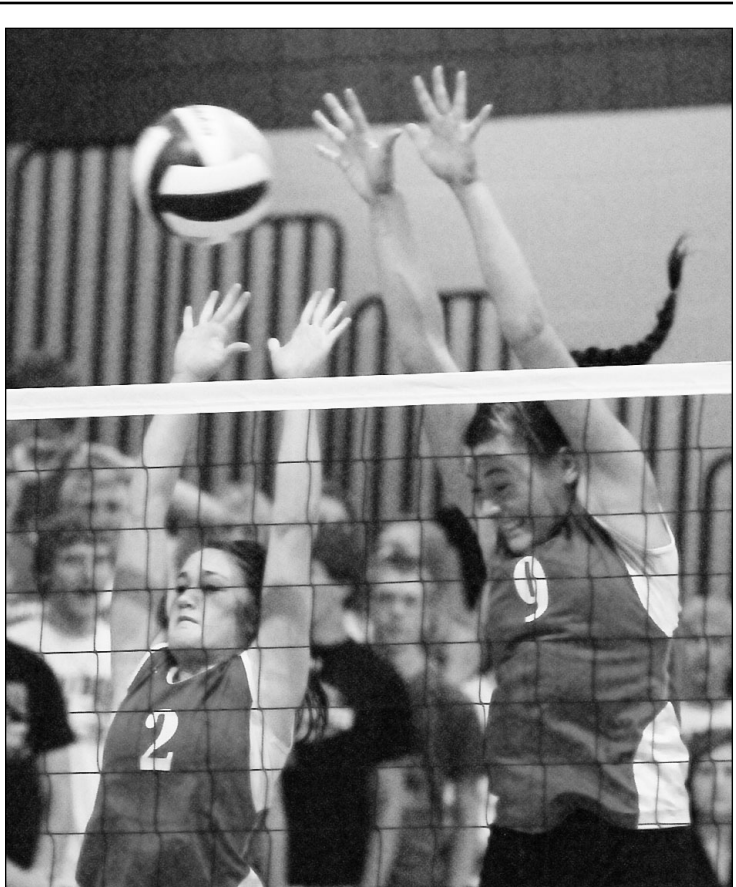
"We take a lot of pride in recruiting. We try to recruit not only great volleyball players but great kids," he said. "Lexi is a great teammate. She has the attitude and desire to get better."

Being close to home will be good for Steffen as well, Kuntz noted.

"There will be a huge support circle for Wayne State because of Lexi," he said. "It will be cool to have her in the area."

The 37 miles between Hartington and Wayne seemed not far enough until she looked at it further, Steffen said.

"I was scared. I thought it



Hartington Cedar Catholic's Lexi Steffen, right, and Emily Schrempf, 2, block a kill attempt by Lutheran High Northeast during a match in the 2012 season. Steffen will attend Wayne State and play volleyball for the Wildcats, the institution announced on Wednesday.

would be too close, at first," she said. "Now I think it will be fine. It's close enough that I can go home on the weekends if I want to, but not so close that I have to."

Steffen plans to major in pre-nursing and is undecided about a minor.

"I'm excited to start a new chapter," she said.

Wayne State finished 22-10 over-

all last season and went 14-6 in conference play while qualifying for their eighth straight NCAA Central Regional Tournament. They finished the 2012 season ranked 18th in the final AVCA Division II Top 25 Coaches' Poll.

You can follow James D. Cimbrek on Twitter at twitter.com/ace-man904

KYNT
AM 1450
MORNING COFFEE
WEEKDAYS MONDAY-FRIDAY
Friday, April 19
7:40 am Vermillion Chamber (Steve Howe)
8:20 am United Way (Jody Roose)

SOUTH DAKOTA JUNIOR FOOTBALL
YANKTON AREA
3rd - 6th Graders
Registration is going on NOW For 3rd & 4th and 5th & 6th grade
Missouri Valley Conference Tackle Football, Fall of 2013
REGISTER ONLINE
sdjuniorfootball.com
REGISTER IN PERSON
Tuesday, April 23, 5:30pm to 7:30pm
Saturday, April 27, 9am to Noon
Thursday, May 2, 5:30pm to 7:30pm
Yankton Summit Center