

# Bucks Look To Build On Summer Success

BY EMILY NIEBRUGGE  
sports@yankton.net

**EDITOR'S NOTE:** This article originally appeared in the March 31 edition of the Press & Dakotan.

After placing second with their legion team last year, and with a number of kids coming back from last season, Yankton baseball is setting its goals to find a way to make it to the state tournament.

"We've got some juniors back with a lot of experience," said head coach Trey Krier. "We're just excited to get on the field."

Throwing began March 1, while regular practice started March 17 under the direction of Krier, now in his second year as the high school coach, third year as the legion coach and seventh year coaching in Yankton overall.

"We're treating this time just like our spring training," Krier said. "We're starting from scratch, and we don't want to push progression too much right now."

But the team is making sure to take things slow and work at a decent pace not to get ahead of themselves.

"We haven't worked too much on offense or defense or running plays, we're just trying to get in the box and get some swings in and get the pitchers on the mound," Krier said. "We treat this time pretty much like a spring training, and we don't want to get too far ahead of ourselves by trying to push things and push progression."

For seniors Brad Ulmer and Austin Johnson, being back for just two weeks has helped get back into the swing of things, with the ultimate goal of winning state.

"So far we're just focusing on the fundamentals," Johnson said. "So far we've been working ground balls and fly balls and getting the fundamentals down. But winning state is always the



ABOVE: Yankton's Austin Johnson  
BELOW: Yankton's Brad Ulmer

ultimate goal."

Putting last season behind them, Ulmer said it's time to start over, and as a high school student keep pushing toward the state competition.

"We've got a couple things to work on still, but it feels good to get back in the groove, and we'll be alright come time to play" he said.

For now, with a hit or miss schedule due to spring weather, the team is simply focusing on getting back in the box and on the field.

"Spring in South Dakota is hit or miss in the spring," Krier said. "We're just trying to get on the field for now, and when we get the opportunity to do that we're just starting from scratch. The farther along we go we'll find a way to get ourselves into the state tournament and go from there."

You can follow Emily Niebrugge on Twitter at [twitter.com/ENiebrugge](https://twitter.com/ENiebrugge). Discuss this story at [yankton.net](http://yankton.net).

BASEBALL		
4/7	Roosevelt/at Br. Valley	1 p.m.
4/10-11	Roncalli Tourn.	noon/9 a.m.
4/14	at S.C. North	4 p.m.
4/18	vs. Vermillion/Heelan	9 a.m.
4/21	Washington/at Vermillion	1 p.m.
4/23	at S.C. West	4 p.m.
4/28	at Vermillion	4 p.m.
4/30	vs. Heelan	4 p.m.
5/2	Watertown/Mitchell/at Madison	9 a.m.
5/4	Vermillion/at Mitchell	1 p.m.
5/5	at Lincoln	2 p.m.
5/9	Aberdeen/Huron/at Brookings	9 a.m.
5/11	at O'Gorman	9 a.m.
5/12	vs. Mitchell/Br. Valley	4 p.m.
5/15	ESD (Watertown)	9 a.m.
5/21-23	State (Sioux Falls)	9 a.m./8:45

## Turf Paying Dividends For Bucks

BY EMILY NIEBRUGGE  
sports@yankton.net

Trey Krier can remember talks about getting a turf field at Riverside Park during his time as a Lancer in 2010, and looking forward to the possibility the asset would make to the city of Yankton.

Krier, along with everyone associated with Yankton's Baseball Association, Mount Marty baseball, Mount Marty softball and Yankton baseball are seeing the effects of the turf field finally in Yankton for use.

"As a part of the Yankton Baseball Association, I'm glad to see Andy Bernatow found a way to make it happen," Krier said. "I can tell the kids appreciate it, and it's eliminated a lot of negatives."

With its bright green "grass," cushioned "dirt" and

TURF | PAGE 5



## Young But Talented Gazelles Golfers Ready For Season

BY EMILY NIEBRUGGE  
sports@yankton.net

**EDITOR'S NOTE:** This article originally appeared in the March 30 edition of the Press & Dakotan.

With a large group of girls, 12 in middle school and 12 in high school, and only three juniors, Yankton girls' golf is working with little experience, but still with hope to place in the top two or three at conference.

"We have a good core of girls that do have experience, but we're also just working on the basics with a variety of girls who don't have much experience," said head coach Brett Sime. "We're just getting started, but hopefully by the end of the year everyone will be able to contribute."

Three juniors — Becky Frick, Ashley VanMeeteran and Payton Pierce — are ready to step up, especially since they've only lost one player from last year.

"There's nothing we can't handle," Frick said. "We're all involved in other sports throughout the year, and we've all come through as leaders for those, too, so those of us who have played in the state tournament will be able to help the other girls."

Without the threat of losing players at the end of the year, Pierce said the team can only build off of this season to become solid within the next couple years.

"We want to stay competitive this year, but this year is really about improving," she said. "Next year we want to win ESD when everyone is more experienced."

To get there, each of the juniors have also taken time



Yankton's Becky Frick

and initiative to practice year round and take lessons in the off-season.

"The younger girls see that and learn from that," Sime said. "Not everyone has to take lessons, but there's no way to get better if you pick up your clubs in March and put them away at the end of May."

VanMeeteran said challenges can arise with a

group of younger girls to stay motivated, but that the juniors plan to keep everyone motivated.

"This team is way bigger than the past," she said. "But we can still compete with other schools. Every year is different, but it's still depends on listening to our

YHS GOLF | PAGE 5

## Beckmann

FROM PAGE 3

While Beckmann wants to continue to help the Gazelles have success in the relays, she wants to break through in the individual races. She has never made finals in an individual race, including placing 10th in the 400 and 11th in the 200 a year ago. She missed those two finals by a combined 0.27 seconds.

"I've been right at the cut-off line for finals," she said. "I'm determined to make it in the 200 and 400."

Beckmann has even opened to the concept of running more than one time around the track, something she has not done in her high school career.

"I think about Chloe (Cornemann) a couple of years ago," she said, referring to the former Gazelle trickster and current South Dakota State basketball player. Cornemann ran 800s as a senior

to help her build conditioning for the 300-meter hurdles, then ended up being used in the 3200 relay later in the season. "It did help her 300s. It could be a good conditioning tool."

That willingness to try something different is one of the many reasons Youmans likes the senior.

"She's going to do whatever it takes," he said. "She's open and receptive to coaching, and is willing to try new things."

Running 800s to become a better 200 and 400 runner isn't a crazy concept, Youmans added.

"What I love about track is there are so many ways you can help yourself get better," he said. "So many kids shy away from something harder, even if they know it can help them. She is looking for ways to get better."

"That's the attitude it takes to be successful, not just in track and field, but in life."

Beckmann's attitude has

also made her a good role model for a young Gazelles program, a squad that features just five other seniors.

"Danielle is a great mentor, and it's not just a 'this year' thing. She's been a great mentor since she was a young pup," Youmans said. "She's warm to the young kids, the other athletes. She's one of those athletes kids want to be around."

"That's part of being a senior leader."

While Youmans expects Beckmann to help the team succeed, he wants her to see some individual success this season as well.

"I don't want her to be that girl on the outside looking in at state," he said. "I want her to be one of those girls in one of those eight lanes. And I think she will put it all together to culminate in a great senior season."

You can follow James D. Cimburek on Twitter at [twitter.com/JCimburek](https://twitter.com/JCimburek). Discuss this story at [www.yankton.net](http://www.yankton.net)

## YHS Tennis

FROM PAGE 3

and Sophie Kouri.

With 35 boys out for tennis this year, it is clear that the sport continue to grace Yankton High School's history. Yankton will open up their season on April seventh in Brandon. They will compete against Brandon Valley and Sioux Falls Roosevelt.

"These two teams will be a good gauge of where we are as a team," said Termansen.

With a lot of hard work and some friendly competition, it will be fun to see how well this team does in to accomplish their goals. Matt Termansen seems to have a firm grasp on the team, if only for a season, and the team looks hungry for success.

You can follow Rogelio Rodriguez on Twitter at

[twitter.com/RogelioUlisesR](https://twitter.com/RogelioUlisesR). Discuss this story at [www.yankton.net](http://www.yankton.net)

**HAASE BAR & GRILL**

175 N. Main • Kaylor, SD  
**605-583-2329**

**Recreation Bar**

BOWLING • DARTS • POOL

Breakfast & lunch specials

536 Main St. • Scotland  
(605) 583-4789

**KAYLOR GRAIN CO. INC.**

180 S. Main  
Kaylor, SD  
**(605) 583-4228**

**FMSB Farmers & Merchants State Bank**

Scottland, South Dakota  
Hometown Banking With Your Neighbors & Friends

550 Main Street • Scotland, SD  
**605-583-2234**  
[www.fmsbscotland.com](http://www.fmsbscotland.com)

Member FDIC GO LOCAL

**ADJET**™  
research center

Ethanol and Distillers Grain  
"Buying Corn at Most Competitive Price."  
SCOTLAND, SD  
605-583-2258  
Toll Free 1-877-735-5267

**Scotland Track & Field**

March 24	Dan Lennon (Vermillion)	noon
April 7	Scotland Inv.	2:30 p.m.
April 14	Rotary Relays (Centerville)	1 p.m.
April 17	Avon Inv.	4:30 p.m.
April 21	South Dakota-Nebraska Challenge (Tyndall)	2 p.m.
April 24	Jim Flevaras Relays (Tyndall)	4:30 p.m.
April 27	Great Plains Conference (Bonesteel)	1 p.m.
May 1-2	Howard Wood Dakota Relays (Sioux Falls)	TBD
May 5	Little Missouri Valley Conf. (Tyndall)	2:30 p.m.
May 12	Southeast S.D. Conf. (Platte)	2:30 p.m.
May 15	Ethan-Parkston Relays (Parkston)	9:30 a.m.
May 21	Region 5B (Gayville)	10 a.m.
May 29-30	State Meet (Rapid City)	TBD

**Boys' & Girls' Golf**

April 2	Southeast S.D. Small-School (Fox Run, Yankton)	9 a.m.
April 10	Burke (boys)/Gregory (girls) Inv.	10 a.m.
April 16	Scotland (boys)/Avon (girls) at Tyndall Inv.	10 a.m.
April 24	Platte (girls)/Burke (boys) Inv.	10 a.m.
May 1	Avon (boys in Tyndall)/Springfield (girls) Inv.	10 a.m.
May 4	Pre-Region 4B (Yankton)	TBD
May 8	Region 4B (Yankton)	9 a.m.
May 18-19	State B Meet (Yankton)	TBD

**RETTEDEAL'S DEPARTMENT STORE**

Clothing and Shoes for the Entire Family

Scotland, SD • 583-4115

**Kronaizl Insurance, LLC**

621 Main  
Scotland, SD  
**605-583-4272**

**JAC'S Bar & Restaurant**

530 Main St.  
Scotland, SD  
**605-583-9964**