

PRESS & DAKOTAN
DAILY DOSE

Opinions from the P&D Sports Staff on local and national high school, college and pro sports.



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If you follow me on Facebook or Twitter, you've probably read my spiel: Mount Marty College needs a new athletic fieldhouse or wellness center or sports complex (call it whatever you want). I bring it up again because of this week's Onward Yankton announcement. You know the one; where you can submit the next 'big' idea and win \$10,000.

Partly because the issue has been on my mind a lot lately, but my initial idea when I heard the theme for Onward Yankton was the athletic need at Mount Marty. Quite a few people got back to me with support for the idea, while one person asked the fair question, 'How would that benefit the entire community?'

Fair point.

But you know what? If done right, an athletic complex at Mount Marty College could be utilized by everyone in Yankton. The Dakota Wesleyan University example I used in my last Daily Dose applies

Onward Yankton & Mount Marty College Athletic Facilities

perfectly here. The Mitchell-based college broke ground last September for a \$10.5 million health and wellness center, which includes a Community Health and Fitness Center. There's no reason Mount Marty couldn't finance and construct a similar facility.

You've already heard me say such a building is needed at Mount Marty. And I'm far from the only person to have ever said this. All you need to do is scan the websites of the 10 other schools in the Great Plains Athletic Conference to see that, quite honestly, Mount Marty is far behind. Concordia and Doane, for example, have athletic centers that are open to the public (specifically the weight room). A number of other schools have complex that feature an indoor track and state-of-the-art weight rooms, both of which cannot be found at Mount Marty.

Going back to the whole idea of the Onward Yankton campaign, and its pledge for a search for something to benefit everyone, I made the following point to the person who asked how a fieldhouse at Mount Marty would better the entire community: Improved resources at MMC raise the profile of the athletic department which raises the profile of the college which means increased support within the community. And so, if anyone else wants to submit this idea to Onward Yankton, I'll split the \$10,000 with you.

SCOREBOARD

BASKETBALL
Sunday, April 5
NCAA MEN'S FINAL FOUR
At Lucas Oil Stadium, Indianapolis
NATIONAL SEMIFINALS
Saturday, April 4
Michigan State (27-11) vs. Duke (33-4), 5:09 p.m.
Kentucky (38-0) vs. Wisconsin (35-3), 7:49 p.m.
NCAA WOMEN'S FINAL FOUR
At Tampa, Fla.
NATIONAL SEMIFINALS
Thursday, April 2
Stanford 66, Miami 64, OT

AREA CALENDAR

Saturday, April 4
BASEBALL, COLLEGE Dordt at MMC (DH, 1 p.m., KYNT-AM)
BASEBALL, CLUB HS Turner-Hutch at Wagner-Avon-Lake Andes (DH, 2 p.m.)
SOFTBALL, COLLEGE USD at North Dakota State (11 a.m.)
TENNIS, WOMEN'S Fort Wayne at USD (2 p.m.)
TRACK & FIELD, COLLEGE OUTDOOR The Duels at Sioux Falls (USD)

Sunday, April 5
No activities scheduled
Monday, April 6
BASEBALL, COLLEGE Valley City State at MMC (DH, 2 p.m.)
BASEBALL, CLUB HS Parkston at Bon Homme-Scotland (4 p.m.); S.F. Roosevelt at Beresford-Centerville
GOLF, BOYS' Pender at Ponca (4 p.m.)
GOLF, GIRLS' S.F. O'Gorman at YHS (noon, Hillcrest)

AREA BRIEFS

Baseball: Bon Homme-Scotland Wins Opener

NORTH SIOUX CITY — Bon Homme-Scotland took control with a four-run sixth inning to claim a 5-1 victory over Dakota Valley in club high school baseball action on Thursday.

Chase Kortan went 2-3 with a double and two RBI to lead Bon Homme-Scotland. Carter Mechem, Cole Goehring and Josh Vaith added hits.

Austin Carter had two hits and a run scored for Dakota Valley (2-1).

Mechem and Kortan combined on a five-hitter for BH-S, striking out nine. Mechem pitched the first four innings for the win, while Kortan pitched the final three for the save. Luke Schmitt took the loss.

Bon Homme-Scotland, 1-0, hosts Parkston on Monday.

Bon Homme-Scotland won the JV game 9-2.

Shape Up At The Mount Fun Run April 18

The Mount Marty College Student Nurse Association will hold its third annual Shape Up at the Mount Fun Run on Saturday, April 18.

The youth fun run will begin at 10 a.m., with registration beginning at 9:30 a.m. The fun run will include many fun activities for different age groups, prizes

Area Athletes Among Inductees For Nebraska HS Sports Hall

LINCOLN, Neb. — Hartington Cedar Catholic great Russ Hochstein, Newcastle standout Tonya (Kneiff) Gordon and former University of South Dakota track and field star Lionel McPhaul are among the 18 individuals selected for induction into the Nebraska High School Sports Hall of Fame in 2015. The induction will take place on Oct. 4 at Lincoln East High School with a reception at noon, followed by the ceremony at 1:30 p.m.

Tickets may be purchased by contacting the Nebraska Sports Council at (402) 471-2544 or by email at info@nebraskasportscouncil.com.

Hochstein, a 4-year letterman in football, basketball and track, made

the Blue Chip Illustrated All-America football team as a senior then went on to an All-American career playing for the Nebraska Cornhuskers. He was the second NFL player to win a Super Bowl ring in three consecutive years playing for Tampa Bay and New England.

The state track meet's gold standard, Gordon set high jump, long jump and triple jump records while amassing more points at the state meet than any other female athlete. She won 12 Class D gold medals, two all-class gold medals and was never beaten in the high jump or triple jump during her high school career. She scored 1,987 points in basketball, which still ranks in the top 15, and led Newcastle to the 1994 state title.

A three-sport letterman, McPhaul's signature sport was track where he was a seven-time gold medalist, setting the state record in the 400. At the University of South Dakota, he was a 10-time All-American. He competed professionally for two years.

Also selected were athletes Bob Green (Creighton Prep, 1978), Calvin Jones (Omaha Central, 1990), Jenny Kropp-Goes (Grand Island Central Catholic, 1998), Danny Noonan (Lincoln Northeast, 1983), Alice Schmidt (Elkhorn, 2000), Dean Thompson (Omaha Westside, 1980), Jan Wall (Lincoln Northeast, 1958) and P.J. Wiseman (Ralston, 1992).

Putting The Season On Ice



The Yankton competitive figure skating team and their coaches pose with all of the medals and trophies the team won in the 2014-15 season, which concluded March 21-22 at the Sioux Falls Ice Classic.

Team members (above) include (front) coaches Jacquelyn Pajl, Brittney Richters, Morgan Privett, Karen Mayfield, Katie Bratberg, and athletes (back) Kasey Erickson, Mariah Dather, Eva Paulson, Elise Heiman, Hailee Privett, Danielle Herrlein, Maddie Binder, Kirsten May, Makayla Palecek and Mikayla Meyer. Not pictured is Olivia Tennant.

Here are the Yankton results from the Sioux Falls Ice Classic:

101 Dalmations - (First) Team Comp.3
Madeline Binder - (Fourth) Freestyle 2; (Second) Footwork 2; (First) Solo Comp. FS2; (Fourth) Interp. FS2; (Fourth) Lt. Ent. Spot. Bronze; (Fourth) Couples Spot. Lt. Ent. Med.; (First) Char. Spot. Bronze
Katie Bratberg - (Second) Open FS Bronze; (Third) Char. Spot. Bronze; (First) Rhythmic Ribbon Bronze; (Second) Solo Comp. FS3; (Third) Jump & Spin Int.; (Third) Rhythmic Hoop Bronze
Mariah Dather - (First) Puck Handling/Shooting; (Third) Solo Comp. FS3; (Fourth) Freestyle 3; (Fifth) Char. Spot. Bronze; (Second) Footwork 3;

(First) Hockey Skating
Kasey Erickson - (Third) Jump & Spin Int.; (Third) Solo Comp. FS4; (First) Freestyle 4; (First) Lt. Ent. Spot. Silver; (Fourth) Open FS Silver
Elise Heiman - (Third) Strokking FS3; (Fourth) Solo Comp. FS3; (Fourth) Couples Spot. Lt. Ent. Med.; (Third) Freestyle 3; (Third) Jump & Spin Med.; (First) Footwork 3; (Fourth) Char. Spot. Bronze
Danielle Herrlein - (Second) Char. Spot. Bronze; (Third) Jump & Spin Int.; (Third) Open FS Bronze
Mikayla Meyer - (First) Solo Comp. FS1; (Fifth) Freestyle 1; (Sixth) Char. Spot. Bronze; (Second) Strokking FS1
Jacquelyn Pajl - (First) Freestyle 4; (First) Drama Spot. Silver; (First) Rhythmic Ribbon Silver; (Third) Jump & Spin Int.; (Second) Solo Comp. FS4; (First) Interp. FS4
Olivia Tennant - (Third) Jump & Spin Med.
Up Town Funk - (Second) Ensemble

Glue Guys

FROM PAGE 7

One day it might be an offensive rebound, loose balls — all those things. Matt is going to do whatever it takes to win," Scheyer said.

Jones is more of a natural for the role, the assistant said. He has started the last 11 games.

A game later, Duke moved junior forward Amile Jefferson to the bench.

Scheyer said that Jefferson has had to adjust to learning how to play next to two freshman phenoms: Jabari Parker last season, and Jahlil Okafor this season.

MICHIGAN STATE: Denzel Valentine can stuff the stat sheet, averaging 14.3 points, 6.2 rebounds and 4.4 assists.

"He can hurt you making a pass. He can hurt you knocking down a 3. He can hurt you with his defense," Spartans assistant coach Dwayne Stephens said.

DSU Tourn. Champs



The Yankton Storm 18s took first in their division of the Dakota State Trojan Volleyball Tournament. Team members include (front) Kaci Groene, Julie Soto, (back) Darian Tramp, Sydney Ingalls, Kami Cornemann, Ellie Fedders and coach Roxy Ross.

R.C. Gymnasts Shine In Omaha



Several members of the River City Gymnastics All-Stars took home hardware from the Omega Fun Fest, March 28-29 in Omaha, Nebraska. Pictured are (left photo, 5196) Bailey Hansen, Ava Kohl, Ava Koller, (right photo) Callie Boomsma, Ella Hosmer and Tali Erwin.

Sparty

FROM PAGE 7

being done in a year ago by UConn guard Shabazz Napier in the regional final. While the coach wouldn't compare either of his starters to Napier, he sure has plenty of confidence in what they can do as a tandem.

"They're two coaches' sons, and they act like them," Izzo said. "That makes them very valuable to this team."

The Spartans are a bit undersized, which will become an even bigger headache if they get past Duke and face Kentucky (38-0) in the championship game (assuming the Wildcats beat Wisconsin in the other semi).

Michigan State's playing rotation includes only two players taller than 6-foot-6; Kentucky's nine-deep behemoth has only one player

shorter than that. Everyone struggles to match up with the Wildcats' front line, but the 6-0 Trice and 5-10 Nairn would also have their hands full against Aaron and Andrew Harrison.

Don't expect the Spartans to be intimidated by anyone, however.

After being seeded seventh by the NCAA selection committee, they opened the tournament with an impressive victory over a Georgia team that gave Kentucky all it could handle late in the regular season. After that, Michigan State knocked off a second seed (Virginia), a third seed (Oklahoma) and a fourth seed (Louisville) — the toughest road conquered by any of the Final Four teams.

"They've had an underdog mentality all March, people counting them out because they had a couple of losses," Duke's Quinn Cook said. "It's going to be a tough, tough game. They're

here for a reason."

If the Spartans need another shot of confidence, they've certainly taken note of the team that won the title a year ago.

UConn, which denied Michigan State a trip to the Final Four, went on to take the championship as a No. 7 seed.

"It tells you that no seed matters," Izzo said. "It's how your guys play. The energy that our guys have played with, the enthusiasm, I'm amazed. We had two practices at home (before traveling to Indy). We got better in those practices. That shouldn't happen at this time of year."

Better keep an eye on Sparty at this Final Four.

Paul Newberry is a national writer for The Associated Press. Write to him at pnewberry@ap.org or on Twitter at www.twitter.com/pnewberry1963

River City Gymnasts Roll At Omega Fun Fest

Several members of the River City Gymnastics All-Stars took home hardware from the Omega Fun Fest, March 28-29 in Omaha, Nebraska.

Here are the River City results from that event:

Level 2 - Tori Farmer (Age 8a) Floor Champion - 9.7, All-Around 4th - 37.1, Vault 3rd - 9.4, Bars 4th - 8.8, Beam 4th - 9.2
Level 3 - Tali Erwin (Age 8b) Placed 3rd All-Around - 37.35, Vault 9th - 9.3, Bars 3rd - 9.4, Beam 2nd - 9.45, Floor 7th - 9.2 Ella Hosmer (Age 10) Bars Champion - 9.5, All-Around 4th - 36.5, Vault 7th - 9.2, Beam 7th - 8.8, Floor 4th - 9.0 Callie Boomsma (Age 11) Placed 5th All-Around - 36.0, Vault 6th - 9.2, Bars 3rd - 9.2, Beam 5th - 9.1, Floor 6th - 8.5
Level 4 - Ava Kohl (Age 10) Placed 2nd All-Around-36.65, Vault 6th - 9.1, Bars 3rd - 9.3, Beam 2nd - 9.1, Floor 2nd - 9.15 Ava Koller (Age 9) Placed 4th All-Around-36.05, Vault 3rd - 9.4, Bars 5th - 8.6, Floor 4th - 8.9 Bailey Hansen (Age 9) Placed 5th All-Around-35.05, vault 5th - 9.0, Bars 2nd - 9.4, Beam 5th - 8.2, Floor 5th - 8.45
Novice Optionals - Maggie Schaefer (Age 11) Placed 4th All-Around - 36.15, Vault 5th - 8.8, Bars 5th - 8.7, Beam 3rd - 9.4, Floor 2nd - 9.25
Intermediate Optionals - Trinity Johnson (Age 11) Placed 5th All-Around - 36.2, Vault 5th - 9.2, Bars 5th - 9.2, Beam 5th - 8.9, Floor 6th - 8.9
Open Optionals - Jaiden Boomsma (Age 13+) Placed 3rd All-Around - 35.5, Vault 3rd - 8.6, Bars 4th - 8.6, Beam 2nd - 9.3, Floor 4th - 9.0

The All-Stars compete in the Norfolk Spring Fling, April 11-12.

Caught a trophy fish or one you're proud of?
Bring in your catch so we can snap a photo!
Your photo will be posted on our facebook page & in a Saturday edition of the Press & Dakotan on the Braggin' Board

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