

Winter Returns To Bench This Weekend

Hall Of Fame Yankton Mentor To Coach In All-Star Game This Weekend

BY JEREMY HOECK
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Bob Winter is returning to the bench.

Even if for just one exhibition game, the long-time fixture in the Yankton High School athletic scene will after 22 years be in charge of a basketball team.

Winter, who last served as a head coach in 1993, will coach in the girls' game at Sunday's inaugural South Dakota Basketball Coaches Association/Sanford Pentagon All-Star Games in Sioux Falls.

"My wife doesn't agree, but I'd coach again tomorrow if I had the chance," he said this week.

Winter will coach the White roster in the girls' game will be played at 1 p.m. on Heritage Court, followed by the boys' game at 3 p.m. Both games will be televised by Midco Sports Network.

Will he be wearing one of his famous checkered jackets for the television audience?

"Probably not," Winter said, laughing.

Winter, who retired in 2010 after a 47-year association with the Yankton School District, won 470 games and nine state titles in his tenure leading the Bucks and Gazelles program.

The Wessington Springs native coached the Yankton boys from 1965-74 and had a 143-63 record with one state

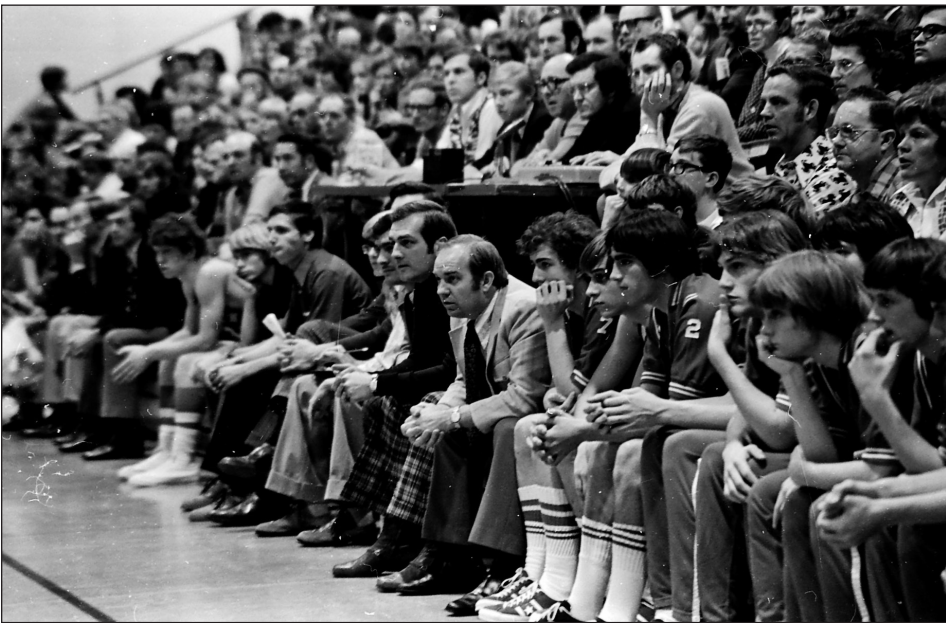
title. He then coached the girls' program from 1975-1991 with a 319-53 record and eight championships. Winter returned to the bench to coach the Bucks in 1992-93 in place of Dave Hofer, who was battling health concerns.

Winter took over as Yankton activities director in 1989 and held that position through 2010.

He has remained a visible sight at athletic events since his retirement, but admits that yes, returning to the coaching ranks will feel different – especially in an all-star game setting.

"There's zero pressure, and the big deal is to have

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P&D FILE PHOTO

Yankton's Bob Winter, in center with tie, sits on the bench during a 1973 home game, part of the Bucks' 1974 championship season. Winter, who coached Yankton to eight girls' basketball titles and a boys' basketball title, will coach in an all-star basketball game on Saturday in Sioux Falls.

Earning Their Stripes

JV Play Helps Lancers Prep For Varsity Baseball

BY JAMES D. CIMBUREK
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A year ago, Ryan Buck, Cody Ulmer and Collin Peterson combined for 37 at-bats, seven hits and three RBI. This year the trio – two seniors and a junior – are the top three hitters in average in the Mount Marty College baseball lineup.

The difference: experience. Not the varsity kind, specifically at the JV level.

"Two things have really helped those guys," said Mount Marty head coach Andy Bernatow. "The first was playing JV games, getting the opportunity to get on the field. The second was the opportunity to play summer baseball."

"Every year we have one or two guys that got their start on our JV squad."

While varsity and JV split up in the final month of the season – in large part to make sure all involved can maintain their academic obligations – practice and the first two months of the season have the entire roster working side by side. Those who begin in the JV ranks and move their way up to varsity regulars have a certain level of respect, Bernatow noted.

"These guys that have



P&D FILE PHOTO

Mount Marty's Cody Ulmer, right, is congratulated by teammates Derek Blumenstock, center, and Collin Peterson after scoring during the Lancers' April 4 doubleheader with Dordt. All three earned their way on to the Lancers' varsity baseball program through playing JV.

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Howard Sweeps Cornbelt Conference Golf Titles

FREEMAN – The Howard Tigers swept the team titles at Wednesday's Cornbelt Conference Golf Meet, held at Valley View Golf Course in Freeman.

The closest team race was on the boys' side in which Howard edged Canistota 259-266 for first place. On the girls' side, Howard won with 280 strokes, nine in front of Bridgewater-Emery.

Canistota's Drew Seubert won the boys' individual title with a round of 75, eight better than the Howard duo of Drew Wiese and Noah Hodges.

On the girls' side, Howard's Kelsey Dawson was first with a score of 90, one better than the Bridgewater-Emery tandem of Malsie Hurd and Autumn Hurd.

TEAM SCORES: Howard 280, Bridgewater-Emery 289

TOP 10: 1, Kelsey Dawson, Howard 90; 2, Malsie Hurd, Bridgewater-Emery 91; 3, Autumn Hurd, Bridgewater-Emery 91; 4, Taylor Hermesen, Freeman 92; 5, Shelby Thompson, Howard 92; 6, Megan Egan, Freeman 95; 7, Kamry Esser, Howard 98; 8, Taylor Noid, Howard 100; 9, Dani Vinz, Bridgewater-Emery 107; 10, Amy Pisk, Marion 127

BOYS' DIVISION

TEAM SCORES: Howard 259, Canistota 266
TOP 10: 1, Drew Seubert, Canistota 75; 2, Drew Wiese, Howard 83; 3, Noah Hodges, Howard 83; 4, Levi Walchhauser, Freeman 92; 5, David Noid, Howard 93; 6, Shay Jolley, Canistota 94; 7, Greg Engbrecht, Marion 95; 8, Brandon Hoffman, Canistota 97; 9, Tanner Russo, Freeman 100; 10, Brayden Edwards, Freeman 101

Weather Continues To Derail Area Events

This week's cool, soggy weather has pushed back more spring sporting events.

* The middle school track dual between Yankton and South Sioux City, scheduled for Thursday, has been postponed. No makeup date has been announced.

* The Turner County Relays track and field meet, originally scheduled for Thursday, will be held today (Friday) in Centerville, beginning at noon.

* The Tri-Valley Invitational track and field meet, originally scheduled for Thursday, will be held today (Friday) in Colton.

* The Vermillion Early

Bird track and field meet was canceled. It will not be rescheduled.

* The boys' and girls' golf dual between Parker and Alcester-Hudson, scheduled for Thursday, was canceled.

* The Elk Point-Jefferson at Bon Homme-Scotland baseball game, scheduled for Friday, has been pushed back to April 27. Start time will remain 6 p.m.

To report a schedule change, coaches and/or athletic directors are encouraged to contact the Press & Dakotan at sports@yankton.net, by fax at 1-605-665-1721 or by phone at 1-605-665-7811, ext. 106.

Somsen Makes AA Debut

PENSACOLA, Fla. – Yankton native Layne Somsen allowed one earned run on two hits over two innings for the Pensacola Blue Wahoos on Thursday, as he made his Class AA debut in the Cincinnati Reds affiliate's season opener.

The game marked the season opener for the Blue Wahoos, who dropped a 4-0 decision to Biloxi.

Somsen is in his third season of professional baseball in the Reds organization, who drafted the South Dakota State grad in the 22nd round in 2013. He spent the 2014 season between Dayton and Bakersfield, the Reds' two Class A affiliates.



Somsen

Spieth Has 64 For Best Opening Round At Masters In 19 Years



CBRANT SANDERLIN/ATLANTA JOURNAL-CONSTITUTION/TNS

Tiger Woods reacts as his ball veers off course on the #9 tee during the first round at the Masters Golf Tournament, Thursday in Augusta, Ga.

AUGUSTA, Ga. (AP) — Jordan Spieth had everything go his way Thursday in the Masters, so he should have known how the shot would turn out without even asking.

In the lead and in the trees, he slashed a 7-iron toward the green and started barking instructions at the golf ball until he saw it bound onto the 14th green. He never saw it smack into the pin and settle a few feet away. He only heard one of the loudest cheers of the afternoon.

"What happened?" Spieth said to his caddie.

Something special.

With six birdies in a seven-hole stretch, Spieth flirted with a major championship record he didn't know existed and atoned for his lone mistake with one last birdie putt for an 8-under 64. It was the best opening round at Augusta National in 19 years, gave him a three-shot lead

and stole plenty of buzz from the Grand Slam bid of Rory McIlroy and the return of Tiger Woods.

"It's one of the better rounds I've ever played," he said.

That wasn't the case for McIlroy, though his round wasn't awful. The world's No. 1 player saved par four times on the front nine and scratched out a 71. Woods had three birdies in his round of 73, and while it was the first time since 2007 that he shot over par in the first round of the Masters, it was looked upon as progress. Most peculiar about his first round in two months was that his short game saved him.

But the day belonged to Spieth, a 21-year-old Texan who at least got into the Masters record book as the

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MMC Ready For Big Weekend

BY JAMES D. CIMBUREK
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For the Mount Marty College baseball team to make a run at a Great Plains Athletic Conference title, a strong showing this weekend would go a long ways.

MMC (22-14, 5-3 GPAC) hosts Morningside (27-10, 5-3 GPAC) today (Friday) and Midland (17-24, 3-5) on Sunday as the Lancers cross the midway point of GPAC regular season play.

MMC and Morningside are part of a four-way tie for second, with Doane (23-8) and Northwestern (15-20) also in the mix. Briar Cliff (21-13-1, 7-1) currently leads the league with 12 games to play.

Today's 3 p.m. double-header with Morningside will be a challenge, said MMC head coach Andy Bernatow.

"Morningside is always well-coached, and it is one of the more athletic teams in the conference," he said. "They've got guys with velocity, and can go to the pen for more guys with velocity. They have a center fielder that can run. Nate Clark is one of the better players in the conference, and they've got guys up and down the lineup who can hit."

The Mustangs are batting .337 as a team, led by Clark (.400, 17 doubles, 22 RBI) and Jacob Lamoreaux (.400, 10 doubles, 23 RBI, 9 SB). Blake Meacham (.344, 10 doubles) has a team-best 28 RBI.

On the mound, Lance Spongberg (5-3, 2.68 ERA, 44 K in 47 IP), Jared Sorenson (3-1, 3.02 ERA, 25 K in 41 2/3 IP), Cody Seilig (5-1, 3.64 ERA, 47 K in 42 IP) and Richard Mitchell (5-0, 4.91 ERA, 24 K in 36 2/3 IP) have earned a majority of the starts.

Jared Novotny has been the force at the back end of the bullpen, going 2-1 with six saves and 34 strikeouts in 27 2/3 innings pitched. He has appeared in 27 of the team's 37 games.

The Mustangs also have former Lancer player and current Tabor Bluebird Doug Vanecek (0-1, 9.00 ERA, 5 K in 7 IP) out of the bullpen.

While Midland has taken its lumps this season, the Warriors are a year removed from going 43-19 and qualifying for the NAIA Opening Round.

The Warriors are led offensively by Dylan Steyer (.326, 13 doubles, 3 HR, 31 RBI, 7 SB) and Cole Gray (.309, 10 doubles, 13 RBI, 12 SB). Garrett Mills (.243, 19 RBI) has a team-best six home runs.

On the mound, Cody Polack (2-5, 3.72 ERA, 40 K in 46 IP), Rob Wheeler (2-4, 4.03 ERA, 24 K in 38 IP) and Kiefer Musiel (2-3, 5.36 ERA, 39 K in 40 1/3 IP) have led the way.

The Mount Marty offense has been led by seniors Cody Ulmer (.352, 1 HR, 16 RBI), Ryan Buck (.344, 12 SB) and Derrik Nelson (.342, 1 HR, 14 RBI). Junior Collin Peterson (.341, 2 HR, 21 RBI), Bryton Carlson (.327, 14 doubles, 22 RBI), Zac Hollenback (.322, 10 doubles, 16 RBI, 12 SB) and Derek Blumenstock (.306, 3 HR, 23 RBI) have all provided power for the squad.

Alex Mogensen (3-2, 2.43

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