

Archery Notebook | 69th Annual NFAA Outdoor Nationals

Kentucky Man Back After April Stroke



JEREMY HOECK/P&D
Jolien Els, left, of Namibia (Africa), and Dana Baird pull back their bows Thursday at the NFAA Outdoor National Championships in Yankton.

BY JEREMY HOECK
jeremy.hoeck@yankton.net

Eddie Whobrey admits to being fortunate to be alive, let alone to continue enjoying the sport he's loved for many years.

A senior archer from Kentucky, Whobrey suffered a stroke in April and spent three days in a local hospital. Three months later, he is back shooting.

"It's amazing to be able to continue shooting," Whobrey said Thursday, midway through his round at the National Field Archery Association (NFAA) Outdoor National Championships in Yankton.

"It's what I love to do." Whobrey, a former national champion, recovered 100 percent from the stroke with no lasting physical damage, because, as he said, "I have the good Lord to thank for that."

A retired meter reader for an electric company, Whobrey traveled 12 and a half hours to Yankton from his home in Bee Spring, Kentucky (population 1,300).

Whobrey won a national freestyle championship back in 2009, setting a record for the highest score (553) in his division.

Since then, he has transitioned back to bowhunter freestyle, because as he says, "I started shooting that way."

The pins on his scope include distances for 20, 30, 40, 50 and 60 yards, but Whobrey said once he gets past 60 yards, he has to "use that old Kentucky wind experience."

The change has also resulted in higher scores, Whobrey said, although his performance Thursday wasn't exactly what he expected, he joked.

"I'm hoping (Friday) goes a lot better," Whobrey said.

Archers in the Outdoor Nationals will shoot for five days, but only three days of scores will count — meaning an archer like Whobrey, who wasn't entirely happy with his score, can rebound the next day to compensate.

At least, as he pointed out, he'll enjoy his stay in Yankton either way.

"It's my first time here, and it seems very enjoyable," Whobrey said.

Wales Archer Here Early

The International Field Archery Association (IFAA) World Field Championships doesn't start until next Monday, but a number of foreign archers are already in Yankton.

One is Mathew Symmonds from Wales.

Symmonds, who works for a defense

NFAA | PAGE 7A

Lakers Host State Teener Beginning Today

BY JAMES D. CIMBUREK
james.cimburek@yankton.net

Yankton Lakers coaches Nic Davis and Alex Mueller know what it's like to play in a state tournament at their home park of Riverside Field. Now the two are hoping their Lakers can experience the thrill of making a deep tournament run.

The Lakers (17-24) play host to the South Dakota State VFW Teener Class AA 13-14 Majors baseball tournament, beginning today (Friday) at Riverside Field. The Lakers face Watertown in the final first round game, a 3:15 p.m. start.

"It's a great environment for these kids," Mueller said. "They play a lot better at home, so it will be good for them."

The season got off to a slow start for the Lakers, but the team bounced back with a seven-game win streak later in the season.

"Right away we came out stumbling, but that's to be expected with young kids," Davis said. "But we've found our stride. We're contesting with good teams that were beating us easily at the beginning of the summer."

As the tournament host, the Lakers knew all season that they would participate in state. With that in mind, the coaches worked to build the pitching depth all season.

"Pitching is usually the key to these long tournaments," Davis said. "If we can throw strikes and play defense, we'll put ourselves in a good situation to win games."

Carter Peterson, Jack Schoenfelder, Trey Bakke, Kellen Franzen and Caid Koletzky are among the top pitchers for the Lakers, Davis noted.

Offensively, Koletzky (.448, 7 doubles, 15 walks) and Garrett Tennant (.411, 4 doubles) have provided a spark, as have Oakley Palmer (.337, 6 doubles, 2 triples, 20 walks) and Bakke (.321, 8 doubles, 2 triples, 16 walks). Miles Carda (.252, 2 doubles) has a team-best 21 walks drawn. Schoenfelder (.299, 7 doubles, 2 triples) and Peterson (.260, 5 doubles) have also provided some power.

First round play today begins with Mitchell against Pierre at 8:30 a.m., followed by Brandon against the Rapid City Kings at 10:45 a.m. The Rapid City Sportsters face Aberdeen at 1 p.m.

The tournament follows the same schedule as an American Legion state tournament, except it is condensed into three days. All eight teams will play twice today, with the first two teams sent home tonight. Losers bracket games today will be played at Crofton's Memorial Park, unless Yankton loses its first game. If Yankton loses, the late consolation game will be played in Yankton, with the late winners bracket game played in Crofton.

The championship is set for noon on Sunday, with the "if" game to follow.

"This is the first year that they've done regions for this age group. They are trying to fit a five-day format into three days," Davis said. "It makes it more competitive."

Mueller is also a fan of the new format.

"Last year was a 16-team

41st Hillcrest Pro-Am Begins



JAMES D. CIMBUREK/P&D
Preston Carda (left) of Parker, Colorado, helps his father, Mick Carda of Yankton, line up a putt on Hole No. 9 during the first round of the Hillcrest Invitational Pro-Am on Thursday at Hillcrest Golf and Country Club.

Golf Notebook | Hillcrest Invitational Pro-Am

Chance To Form Teams Received Well

BY JAMES D. CIMBUREK
james.cimburek@yankton.net

For Hillcrest golf pro Sean Riley, it wasn't hard to figure out how popular the move to allow amateurs to form their own teams was.

"It made a big difference," he said Thursday morning, as the 41st annual Hillcrest Pro-Am began. "We filled up two weeks ahead of last year, and we had a waiting list. We didn't even touch that waiting list."

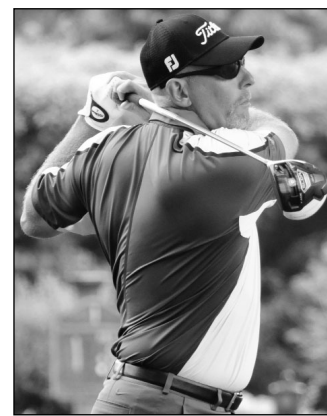
Riley estimated that upwards of 75 percent of the amateurs formed their own teams.

Despite an early morning shower, teams got underway on a course that, in Riley's estimation, is in "excellent condition."

"With the unexpected rain this morning, the rough was a little tougher to get out of," he said. "But the course is firm and fast."

The tournament field includes the winner of last weekend's Thrivent Financial Pro-Am, Andre Metzger, as well as several top finishers from a year ago: Paul Peterson (4th), Tim Ailes (5th), Zenon Brown (8th), Ryan Dillon and Nick Delio (each tied for 9th). Josh Esler, the 2011 pro champion, is also in the field.

The amateur field includes two-time defending champion Ryan Elwood of Yankton, as well



JAMES D. CIMBUREK/P&D
Kevin Gilster of Argle, Texas, watches his tee shot on Hole No. 10 during the first round of the Hillcrest Invitational Pro-Am on Thursday at Hillcrest Golf and Country Club.

as two-time champion Scott O'Brien of Columbia, Michigan (2006, 2008) and 2007 champion Todd Sapp.

"We have a strong field as usual," Riley said. "It's going to be interesting to see how the team scores come out. That's been the hype for everyone."

Starting A New Tradition

Mick Carda and his son Preston have made a weekend golf tournament their father-son time since Preston graduated

from Yankton High School in 2007. The change to allow amateurs to form their own teams inspired the duo to push back their outing a week and play at Hillcrest.

"We played Fox Run (the Thrivent Financial Pro-Am) because we could play together," Mick said. "Once Hillcrest changed to allow us to make our own team, there wasn't a question in our minds."

Preston and his wife came back from their home in Parker, Colorado, where he does landscape design and architecture for a landscape company, and not only got to spend time with dad, but other family members as well.

"My grandparents live in Tyn-dall, so they came down to watch us," Preston said. "I also got to see a lot of friends, too."

The golf went well, too. Preston shot 81 and Mick 84, with a little help.

"He (Preston) is good at reading greens," Mick said.

The two teamed with Yankton's Jason Rockne and pro Kent Eger of Scottsdale, Arizona on the day, finishing at 14-under as a team.

You can follow James D. Cimburek on Twitter at twitter.com/JCimburek. Discuss this story at www.yankton.net



JAMES D. CIMBUREK/P&D
Pro Josh Esler of Waukonda, Illinois, chips onto the No. 11 green during the first round of the Hillcrest Invitational Pro-Am on Thursday at Hillcrest Golf and Country Club. Esler was the 2011 pro champion.

State 'A' Legion: Post 22 Powers Past Yankton 6-4

BY NICK ROBINSON
sports@yankton.net

HURON — Yankton Post 12 had a sixth inning lead over the defending state champions, Rapid City Post 22, in the winner's bracket of the 2014 South Dakota State 'A' Legion baseball tournament at Memorial Park Stadium in Huron on Thursday afternoon. But a three-run home run in the sixth inning from Matt Vickers lifted the defending champions in the winners bracket. The Hardhats were able to hold on to a 6-4 victory over Yankton.

"I think we played good, we hit our strikes and hit the ball hard," said Yankton starting pitcher Colin Muth. "We challenged them to hit the ball, we didn't get the win, but we were able to be into it

the whole game." Yankton head coach Trey Krier was impressed by the effort of Post 12, which will face Pierre in an elimination game at 1 p.m. today (Friday).

"It was a great ballgame," Yankton head coach Trey Krier said. "You come to the state tournament expecting to have the top eight teams in the state playing, those are the types of games you want to see."

Yankton gave up back-to-back doubles and a sacrifice, which gave the Hardhats an early 2-0 lead in the first inning.

"I think I threw well, I tried not to leave it high," he said. "If you hang it, they will bang it."

Yankton went one-two-three down their order

through three innings. In the fourth, Post 12 was able to chip away at the Post 22 lead. Landon Withrow scored Yankton's first run on a booted ball from the Rapid City shortstop.

"We put pressure on them offensively and made them make three errors," Krier said.

The next inning, Post 12 came back with another run, on an RBI single by Lane Sawatzke, which knotted the game at two a piece.

Yankton took their first lead of the contest in the sixth inning, on a fielder's choice double-play, scored by Sheldon Gant at three to two.

The bottom half of the inning was the dagger that sent Yankton packing.



NICK ROBINSON/P&D
Yankton Post 12 pitcher Colin Muth fires home during their game against Rapid City Post 22 at the South Dakota State Class A American Legion baseball tournament on Friday in Huron.