

Press&Dakotan DAILY DOSE

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



BY JEREMY HOECK
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While the rest of the state may be a tad frustrated that a Nebraska team won a state amateur baseball championship in a South Dakota tournament, we here in this corner of the state are not surprised.

After all, some may ask why, but we ask Wynot? (I should credit one of my loyal Twitter followers for that line.) Those of you who regularly follow the South Central League — or if you don't — you know all about the successes of Crofton and Wynot. They were, after all, the first and second-place teams in the league, respectively.

And so, to see them not only win games at the S.D. state tournament, but make deep runs (Crofton went to three straight title games from 2010-12) is not at all surprising. These are two teams annually set up to make a run.

It's all about pitching. We've documented the depth of Crofton's pitching, with names like Scot

No Surprise Nebraska Team Wins State Amateur Title

Donner, Rand Thygeson, Seth Erdmann and the like. And then you've got Wynot with Scott Morrison, Eric Hames and pickup player Brett Scherschligt, who all have state tournament experience.

That's how you not only win in the SCL, but win in Mitchell — or Sioux Falls, I guess. You need three quality arms. Sure, you can get away with two, but when you get to a three-games-in-four-days scenario if you advance to the final, you need depth.

Now, there are some across the South Dakota amateur baseball landscape that were frustrated to see two Nebraska teams in the semifinals, and then one in the championship. It's a comment we hear every August: "Why don't they move those out of state teams to Class A?" (Yes, that's been an actual comment we've heard.)

Selfishly, I wanted to see an all-Nebraska final on Sunday, just to hear sports editor James Cim-burek's reaction to the comments he heard (he was in Mitchell all day).

Put simply: You're not going to please everyone.

Though, would this be a concern if Crofton or Wynot — or Akron or Larchwood of Iowa? — were annually bad teams and never made the state tournament? Of course not.

But that's not been the case. Not around here. Crofton and Wynot mean business.

Golf: Tanager Boys Open Season Today

BY SCOTT BORMANN
For The Vermillion Plain Talk

VERMILLION — The confidence of the Vermillion varsity boys' golf team was sky-high during its first practice of the 2014 season.

They are eager to start competition on Monday, and they are ready to take on all comers.

Their first test comes today (Monday) at the West Central Invitational.

"The season should be fun," sophomore Cooper Williams said. "Another year of experience under our belts should give us a great advantage."

Vermillion head coach Kirk Hogen believes that his team's past of a number of competitive matches could only help them this year.

"The experience of some of the boys will help with our success in the big matches this season," Hogen said. "With all seven returning letter-winners fighting for the varsity spots, this gives Vermillion an advantage."

There will be plenty of tests

for the team throughout the season.

"I am very confident about how our team will do this year," Hogen said. "I feel that we have the toughest region and toughest conference in the state."

The team resolve and expectations are clear throughout the team.

"We expect to send five (golfers) to Regionals," senior Andrew Heine said.

Heine was voted last year's most-improved player.

"West Central should be a good eye-opener for us," junior Paul Schwaginger said of the team's opener. "Going right out of the box with so many good teams will be a great test. We should compete really well."

Hogen is happy how his golfers stay focused on their individual games, yet coach and support each other to improve.

"We can't worry about that last shot, or what other teams are doing," he said. "I can't come up with a defensive game-plan, or worry about

what strategies other teams have come up with."

The squad's laser-like focus is embodied by last year's Most Valuable Player, Williams.

"Cooper's mental toughness gives him the ability to succeed on the golf course as well as the point-guard for our basketball team," Hogen said. "It was fun to see his success in both roles as a freshman last year."

"Coming in as a freshman last year," said Williams, "I feel that I'm much better prepared this season."

Juniors Sam Craig and Cole Anderson echo this confidence for this season making the team's mental approach a unified one geared toward success.

Hogen loves to develop the young golfers into the leaders of the future and will have that opportunity with freshman Cody Mattes and eighth-grader Ryan Whisler, along with seventh-graders Brody Martinez, Sam Ward and Billy Radigan, and sixth-grader Hunter Lavin.

SCOREBOARD

GOLF

SDGA TOUR

SENIOR CHAMPIONSHIP
Aug. 16-17, Moccasin Creek CC, Aberdeen

FIRST FLIGHT: Steve Palzi 150, Mike Sipe 150, Pat Lockwood 151, Steve Onkka 152, Mike Brummer 153, Doug Murphy 154, Kirk Allison 156, Tommy Reynolds 156, Mark Jorgensen 157, Derek Burshiem 160, Paul Schock 163, Don Koster 165

SECOND FLIGHT: Ron Gates 149, Lou Mendoza 154, Bert Olson 158, George Christopolos 159, Duane Broek 161, Paul Reiter 165, Mary White 167, Lyle Pajgel 167, Bob Endahl 168, Dan Clapper 168

THIRD FLIGHT: Joseph Villa 157, Jim Holbrook 160, Eric Smith 161, Dick Fawbush 162, Denny Rolles 162, Jerry Peterson 164, John Knox 164, Rick Bishop 167, Allen Koch 167, Terry Tronson 167, Robb Rasmussen 173

FOURTH FLIGHT: Tim Bugard 158, Evan Barnes 161, Jeff Gray 163, Gary Cotten 163, Jesse Mendoza 163, Rick Rylance 164, Jim Waba 168, Doug Weisenbach 170, Bill Eichel Jr. 171, Jim Larson 174, Barry Carpenter 179

FIFTH FLIGHT: Pete Schmidt 157, Bruce Ashland 161, Mark Johnson 186, Daryl Keelton 188, Richard Cornelius 170, Jim Stephenson 170, Doug Schager 174, Gene Hansch 175, Randy Kee 183, Larry Nelson 185

SIXTH FLIGHT: James Webster 163, Craig Kludt 164, Jeff Bradshaw 178, David Friday 178, Michael Johnson 179, Ken Reuland 179, Bud Johnson 186, Daryl Schmidt 189, Rick Briggs 189, John Beasley 192, Mark Brooks 206

SEVENTH FLIGHT: Michael Keszler 180, Dale Nelson 181, Daven Gile 183, Bruce Christensen 185, Eloy Severson 186, Bob Faehn 187, Roger Nelson 187, Gerald Rizzo 187, Barney Bernards 190, Rick Reuland 193, Jeff Oleson 194, Steven Bumann 195

EIGHTH FLIGHT: Jerry Denman 191, Tom Grohs 192, Reed Woodruff 192, Bill Kahler 196, Harlan Schott 196, Donald Munson 199, Donald Graham 200, Dick Ellis 202, John Rezac 213, Dave Wagner 239

NATIONAL LEAGUE

East Division

W	L	Pct	GB	
Washington	68	53	562	—
Atlanta	63	60	512	6
Miami	62	62	500	7 1/2
New York	59	66	472	11
Philadelphia	54	70	435	15 1/2

Central Division

W	L	Pct	GB	
Milwaukee	70	55	560	—
St. Louis	66	57	537	3
Pittsburgh	64	59	520	5
Cincinnati	61	61	500	7 1/2
Chicago	53	70	431	16

West Division

W	L	Pct	GB	
Los Angeles	70	56	556	—
San Francisco	65	58	528	3 1/2
San Diego	58	65	472	10 1/2
Arizona	53	71	427	16
Colorado	47	75	385	21

Saturday's Games

San Francisco 5, Philadelphia 5
Washington 4, Pittsburgh 3
Miami 2, Arizona 1
N.Y. Mets 7, Chicago Cubs 3
Atlanta 4, Oakland 3
San Diego 9, St. Louis 5
Cincinnati at Colorado, p.p.d., main break
Milwaukee 3, L.A. Dodgers 2

Sunday's Games

Miami 10, Arizona 3
Chicago Cubs 2, N.Y. Mets 1
St. Louis 7, San Diego 6
San Francisco 5, Philadelphia 2
Milwaukee 7, L.A. Dodgers 2
Cincinnati at Colorado, 4-10 p.m., 1st game
Pittsburgh at Washington, 5:05 p.m.
Oakland at Atlanta, 8:05 p.m.
Cincinnati at Colorado, 9:10 p.m., 2nd game

Monday's Games

Chicago Cubs (Hendricks 4-1) at N.Y. Mets (B.Cotton 11-10), 11:10 a.m.
Arizona (Nuno 0-3) at Washington (Zimmerman 8-5), 6:05 p.m.
Atlanta (E.Santana 12-6) at Pittsburgh (Worley 5-2), 6:05 p.m.
Seattle (Elias 9-9) at Philadelphia (Williams 0-0), 6:05 p.m.
Cincinnati (Leake 9-11) at St. Louis (Masterson 2-1), 7:15 p.m.

AREA CALENDAR

Monday, August 18

GOLF, BOYS' Brandon Valley Tour. (YHS, 11 a.m.); West Central Tour. (Wagner, 9 a.m.)

SOFTBALL, CLUB HS Yankton at S.F. Washington (DH, 6 p.m.)

Tuesday, August 19

GOLF, BOYS' Beresford at Vermillion (10 a.m.)

SOCCER, BOYS' YHS at Water-

Saturday, Aug. 16

Perth 10, Bmo 1 eliminated
Lynnwood 7, Rapid City 5, Rapid City eliminated
Maracaibo 10, Vancouver 0, 5 innings, Vancouver eliminated
Cumberland 8, Nashville 7, Nashville eliminated

Sunday, Aug. 17

Soul 8, Humacao 2
Las Vegas 13, Chicago 2, 4 innings
Tokyo 9, Guadalajara 5
Philadelphia 7, Pearland 6

Monday, Aug. 18

Consolation: Bmo vs. Rapid City, 10 a.m.
Game 17: Perth vs. Guadalupe, noon
Game 18: Lynnwood vs. Pearland, 2 p.m.
Game 19: Maracaibo vs. Humacao, 5 p.m.
Game 20: Cumberland vs. Chicago, 7 p.m.

SOCCER, BOYS' JV YHS at Watertown (5 p.m.)

SOCCER, GIRLS' YHS at Watertown (7 p.m.)

SOCCER, GIRLS' JV YHS at Watertown (5 p.m.)

Wednesday, August 20

GOLF, DAKOTAS TOUR Oxbow Open at Oxbow, N.D.

Volleyball

YANKTON PARKS & REC

COED SAND LEAGUE

RESULTS: Will Work for Sets def. Ice House Smashers 21-15, 21-5, 21-8; Gettin' Diggy With It def. Mojos 21-14, 21-4, 21-7; The Unprotected Sets def. Ben's Brewing Company 21-19, 21-13, 22-20; Fireballs def. Koch Insurance 21-17, 21-21, 21-14; Czeckers def. Czech Yourself Before You Weir Yourself 21-18, 21-10, 21-16; KPI Beach Bums def. Beach Ballers 21-14, 21-18, 21-11

STANDINGS: Gettin' Diggy With It 10-1, Will Work for Sets 9-2, Czech Yourself Before You Weir Yourself 8-3, Mojos 8-3, KPI Beach Bums 7-4, The Unprotected Sets 6-5, Ben's Brewing Company 5-6, Ice House Smashers 4-7, Fireballs 4-7, Czeckers 3-8, Koch Insurance 2-9, Beach Ballers 0-11

WOMEN'S SAND LEAGUE

RESULTS: TNT def. Larry's Heating & Cooling 21-8, 21-8, 16-21; Lady Rangers def. Itsy Bitsy Spikers 21-18, 21-13, 13-21; Fryn' Pan def. Te 'Kilf' Ya 21-14, 21-7, 21-16; Walnut def. Mojos 21-13, 21-15, 22-20; Fox & Youngberg def. Head 2 Heels/Unique Tan 21-7, 21-15, 19-21; Sh-Shooms def. Stepping Stones 21-19, 21-5, 21-19

STANDINGS: Walnut 10-1, Mojos 10-1, Sh-Shooms 9-2, Lady Rangers 7-4, Fox & Youngberg 6-6, Stepping Stones 5-6, Fryn' Pan 4-7, Itsy Bitsy Spikers 4-7, TNT 3-8, Head 2 Heels/Unique Tan 3-8, Larry's Heating & Cooling 3-8, Te 'Kilf' Ya 2-9

FOOTBALL

THE AP TOP 25

The Top 25 teams in The Associated Press preseason college football poll, with first-place votes in parentheses, 2013 records, total points based on 25 points for a first-place vote through one point for a 25th-place vote, and 2013 final ranking:

Rank	Team	Record	Pts	Pv
1.	Florida St. (57)	14-0	1,496	1
2.	Alabama (1)	11-2	1,334	7
3.	Oregon (1)	11-2	1,334	9
4.	Oklahoma (1)	11-2	1,324	6
5.	Ohio St.	12-2	1,207	12
6.	Auburn	12-2	1,198	2
7.	UCLA	10-3	1,106	16
8.	Michigan St.	13-1	1,080	3
9.	South Carolina	11-2	1,015	4
10.	Baylor	11-2	966	13
11.	Stanford	11-3	885	11
12.	Georgia	8-5	843	NR
13.	LSU	10-3	776	14
14.	Wisconsin	9-4	637	22
15.	Southern Cal	10-4	626	19
16.	Clemson	11-2	536	8
17.	Notre Dame	9-4	445	21
18.	Mississippi	8-5	424	NR
19.	Arizona St.	10-4	357	20
20.	Kansas St.	8-5	242	NR

Wynot

From Page 7

gle, stole second and moved up on Trevor Doyle's single Peyton Smith followed with a sacrifice fly to put Alexandria on the board.

Cory Marek continued to deal on the mound for the Angels in the seventh, retiring the side and bumping his strikeout total to seven, but Scherschligt was not concerned with the lack of run support through the first seven innings.

"This is a team that sticks with it. They have a bunch of good hitters," he said. "They have guys all over the place that come through. They have a great team that did an excellent job of fielding the ball behind me."

"They made big plays in big spots all tournament long."

That big spot came in the top of the eighth. After Wynot's other pickup player, Menno catcher Jay Thaler, led off the inning with a single, Ryan Heimes and Chase Rolles followed with infield singles to load the bases, sending the Angels to Saturday's semifinal round, struck out the first batter he faced, but Lee Heimes beat out a potential inning-ending double play ball, scoring courtesy

runner Ryan Eskins from third.

With Ryan Heimes on third and Lee Heimes on first, Lee took off to try to trick Vermeulen into committing a balk as he stepped off. The Angels pitcher didn't balk, but he threw the ball past the middle infielders and into center field, allowing Ryan Heimes to score. Wiepen followed with a RBI double to give the Expos a 3-1 edge.

"We were just trying to put pressure on their defense," Lee Heimes said. "You have to find ways to score runs in a tight game like that."

Alexandria got one run back in the bottom of the eighth, scoring when a throw on a potential double-play ball got away, but Scherschligt got Angels cleanup hitter Tyson Gau to fly out to left, ending the threat.

The Expos opened the floodgates in the ninth, taking advantage of three hits, three free passes (two walks, one intentional, and a hit batter) and an error to plate five runs. Wiepen had a two-run single, and Lance Heine and Scott Heimes had run-scoring hits in the frame.

In Alexandria's previous four state tournament games, the Angels had allowed just five runs, all to SCL opponents (beat Avon 4-3, beat Crofton 3-2).

The Angels were retired in order in the ninth, ending their bid to defend their 2013 state title.

"To win state in a 32-team, single-elimination bracket,

about everything has to go your way," Chris Marek said. "I am proud of what our guys did. The work it takes to get to this point is amazing."

Scherschligt was named the tournament's Most Valuable Player, going 2-0 with a 0.50 earned run average. It was the first state championship he had experienced since winning four state football titles in high school, he noted.

"It's fun to be back there. It's been 14 years for me," he said. "I love baseball, and to come out here with a bunch of guys that love baseball and do things right feels pretty good."

Lee Heimes lauded the work of both of his team's pickup players.

"Brett and Jay are great baseball people," he said. "The thing I like the most about them is that they're competitors. You know when they're out there they will compete hard for you. When you're playing against them, you know who they are."

Alexandria's Cole Wernande, who went 6-9 in 13 plate appearances before being injured in the quarterfinals, won the tournament batting title. Irene, who lost to Wynot in the quarterfinals late Thursday night, was awarded the tournament's Sportsmanship award.

You can follow James D. Cimbrek on Twitter at twitter.com/JCimburek. Join the discussion at www.yankton.net

Coyotes

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while, we've got a really good core," head coach Joe Glenn said.

A big reason why the offense, which averaged 339 yards and 17 points per game last season, could take a step forward in 2014 is an improved offensive line, Glenn added.

"We've got some pretty good receivers, and our quarterback's (Kevin Earl) been really good since he started, and he's getting better every day," Glenn said.

The Coyotes also carried the ball plenty of times Saturday, with freshman running back Shay Bratland of Watertown scoring three touchdowns — one from about 20 yards away and two more from the 1-yard-line.

With depth at the running back spot (with Trevor Bouma, Jordan Roberts, Khorey Kilgore and Sanders), the Coyotes would like to keep things balanced on offense, Glenn said.

"That'll keep them (opposing defenses) honest," he said. "The better the running game, the better the passing game."

USD opens its season Aug. 30 at Oregon.

You can follow Jeremy Hoeck on Twitter at twitter.com/jhoeck. Discuss this story at www.yankton.net

Bucks

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The Eastern South Dakota Conference meet will be held Sept. 27 in Aberdeen, while

the State Class AA Tournament will be played Oct. 6-7 in Watertown.

Even with a number of the other top Class AA teams graduated key talent, the Bucks know they're in for a challenge to maintain a top-5 finish, Guthmiller said.

"There will be some pressure on us, but not as much as last year," he said.

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