

Press&Dakotan
DAILY DOSE

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



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Joe Glenn called it a "business trip." John Stiegelmeier said he doesn't want his team to think they're playing "a team in a different world." But really, what else would expect the head football coaches at the University of South Dakota and South Dakota State to say about their FBS games this Saturday? Would you rather they say something like, "We're expecting to win." Be honest, you've heard coaches say that so much that you don't think anything of it anymore. You have to say that, right? Really, though, both coaches have been around long enough to know their kids don't need any extra motivation. When you're playing Oregon (which USD does) or Missouri (which SDSU does), you can get yourself up enough to be juiced for those games. It's much the same situation as when

'Business Trips' For Coyotes And Jackrabbits

a William Penn or a Wisconsin-Oshkosh — both of whom are on the USD and SDSU schedules this season — visits Vermillion or Brookings. Those lower-level teams aren't expected to win. And the Jacks and Coyotes certainly aren't expected to keep Saturday's games close, let alone surprise the nation with a victory. You're walking to a Pac-12 and a SEC stadium. You're expected to take your gameday check, feel privileged enough to take the field with the vaunted programs, and leave, thank you very much. Just don't tell the Coyotes or Jacks that. Knowing these coaches like I do, they have not uttered a word this week that isn't 100 percent positive. They're just not pessimistic coaches. And neither are their players. And while both games Saturday are likely to get out of hand (Oregon is favored by as many as 50 points, for example), I wouldn't expect a lot of hung heads on the travel home. Because after it, these are "business" trips.

Soccer: MMC Picks Up Sweep At York

YORK, Neb. — Mount Marty College opened its soccer seasons with a non-conference sweep over York College on Tuesday in York. The Lancer women won 1-0, while the men scored a 3-1 victory. In the women's game, MMC got a second-half goal from Sara Sterck, on an assist from Carly Manahan. Later in the men's game, the Lancers got a hat trick from Bo Ludo to beat the Panthers 3-1. The game was tied 1-1 at halftime, but Ludo scored twice in the final 15 minutes. The Mount Marty women's and men's teams open their home schedule Sept. 7 against Mount Mercy (Iowa). The women's game will start at 2 p.m., followed by the men's.

Mitchell Gets 2016 State Amateur Baseball Tourney

MITCHELL — The 2016 state amateur baseball tournament has been awarded to Mitchell by the South Dakota Amateur Baseball Commission, according to a press release Tuesday by the S.D. Amateur Baseball Association. The 2015 state amateur tournament had been previously awarded to Mitchell, but the 2016 site was to be Sioux Falls' turn in the rotation. Yankton was reportedly also in the running to host that summer. The 2014 state tournament at Mitchell grossed \$56,928, according to the SDABA. This was a record for Mitchell. There previous high was \$48,043 set in 2011, according to the SDABA. Sioux Falls reported \$67,684 in gross sales in 2013 which is the all time high. Dejager Cards Ace Andy Dejager recorded a hole in one Tuesday at Fox Run Golf Course, during Senior League play. Dejager aced the No. 17 hole from 124 yards

out with a 4-hybrid. Dutch Erickson, Bill Fejfar, and Harry Luurs were witnesses. It was Dejager's second career ace.

Yankton Volleyball Leagues Forming

The Yankton Parks and Recreation department is now accepting registrations for adult women's, men's and coed volleyball leagues. The deadline for team registrations, rosters and fees is Friday, Oct. 17. League play will begin the week of Nov. 3. Registration forms and rules are available at the Summit Activities Center, 1801 Summit Street, or online at www.cityofyankton.org. For more information, call 605-668-5234.

RCGC Fall Registrations Beginning

River City Gymnastics and Cheer is taking registrations for its fall session. Register at www.yanktonrcgc.org. Contact Justin at 605-661-4971 or yanktonrcgc@gmail.com for more information.

Kirby Is New Nebraska Asst.

LINCOLN, Neb. (AP) — Mike Kirby has been hired as an assistant baseball coach at Nebraska after spending the past three seasons at Cal State Fullerton. Cornhuskers coach Darin Erstad said Tuesday that Kirby would oversee the team's offense, infielders and base running and coach third base. He replaces Will Bolt, who took an assistant's job at Texas A&M. Kirby had two stints on Fullerton's staff and knows Nebraska pitching coach Ted Silva from Silva's days with the Titans.

Vikings To Provide High School Athletic Trainers

EDEEN PRAIRIE, Minn. (AP) — The Minnesota Vikings will provide athletic trainers for high school football programs in the Minneapolis and St. Paul school districts during the upcoming season. The Vikings announced Monday they are teaming up with TRIA Orthopaedic Center to provide certified athletic trainers for nearly 600 football players in 13 Minneapolis and St. Paul high schools.

A grant from the National Football League Foundation and a matching donation from the Vikings ownership will provide \$50,000 for the program. The high school football programs will receive certified athletic training coverage from TRIA for camps, practices and competitions. Vikings head athletic trainer Eric Sugarman says athletic trainers provide care for players that can result in lower injury rates and help in making return-to-play decisions for concussions and other injuries.

Minnesota Pheasant Harvest Drops

ST. PAUL, Minn. (AP) — The number of pheasant hunters in Minnesota plunged last year along with the ringneck harvest. The Minnesota Department of Natural Resources says only 62,000 pheasant hunters took to the fields last fall, and they bagged only 169,000 roosters. The Star Tribune reports that's the fewest hunters and lowest harvest in 27 years. Hunter numbers declined 19 percent and the pheasant harvest was down 32 percent from 2012.

SCOREBOARD

AUTO RACING

Table with columns for event, date, winner, and time. Includes NASCAR Sprint Cup 2015 Schedule, IndyCar, and various regional races.

Baseball

Table with columns for league, team, W, L, Pct, GB. Lists games for National League, American League, and East Division.

Football

Table with columns for league, team, W, L, Pct, GB. Lists games for National Football League, American Football League, and various divisions.

National League Leaders

Table listing top performers in batting, pitching, and fielding for the National League.

American League Leaders

Table listing top performers in batting, pitching, and fielding for the American League.

Baseball Schedule

Table showing scheduled baseball games, including MLB, AL, and other regional leagues.

Area Calendar

Table listing various local events, tournaments, and activities throughout the region.

Huskers

From Page 7 every time." Green, the No. 2 career rusher at Nebraska and all-time leader for the Green Bay Packers, was the kind of breakaway threat Abdullah wants to be. The two met for the first time at the spring

game, and Green keeps in touch to share observations about Abdullah's game and about the intricacies of playing running back. If Abdullah rushes for 1,000 yards, he'll pass Green on the school's career chart. Abdullah would need 1,804 yards to break Mike Rozier's record of 4,780. While Abdullah makes it a point to downplay his statistics, he said it's an honor to have his name alongside

some of the other great backs who have come through Lincoln. "You walk through the hallways every day. We see Mike Rozier, Johnny Rodgers, even though he played more receiver, and we see the Ahman Greens," Abdullah said. "We understand the legacy here is really strong at the running back position. You want to hold yourself to that level."

Lancers

From Page 7 Working as hard as they can in practice is a goal MMC has for the season. "Our goals are to keep

pushing harder and working hard in practice," Kloth said. "This is not going to be easy to perform as well as we want to. We worked hard all summer and now we have to keep it up." Mount Marty travels to Kansas this weekend for four matches. The Lancers will

Gordon's Walk-off HR Lifts Royals Over Twins

KANSAS CITY, Mo. (AP) — Alex Gordon hit his two-run homer in the ninth inning, giving Kansas City a 2-1 win over the Minnesota Twins and helping the Royals avoid their first three-game skid since mid-July. The Royals had been shut down all night by Ricky Nolasco, but scattered three hits over seven innings. But after going quietly in the

inning in relief. Danny Duffy was nearly as sharp for the Royals as Nolasco was for Minnesota. The left-hander allowed four hits and a pair of walks over 6 2-3 innings, but was in line for the loss after giving up a double to Brian Dozier and a slicing single to Joe Mauer to start the seventh.

Wolves

Minnesota in the three-team blockbuster — and Timberwolves first-round draft pick Zach LaVine.

about his uncertain future. When it was made official, Wiggins had to hear about moving from a team that expected to contend for a title with the NBA's best player on board to a franchise that hasn't made the playoffs in 10 years. For a 19-year-old, that could be tough to swallow. "For me it's not really hard to accept it," Wiggins said flatly. "I'm the type of guy that I go to where I'm needed. I go to where I'm wanted, really. That's what I like."

Kevin (Love) would stay here I think we would have the best season," Taylor said. "But inside I knew I don't think Kevin was giving us that alternative, even though it's what I wanted. So now you have the thing where Kevin kind of said trade me or you're going to pay the (price) next year. We had four teams that came to us with significant offers. But this truly had the biggest upside."

Packers

From Page 7 More than once in training camp, quarterback Aaron Rodgers has expressed concern about where some younger players are with the offense as the Sept. 4 regular-season opener at defending Super Bowl champion Seattle approaches. Last week, Rodgers said of his young wide receivers and tight ends, "If you cannot line up right, if you can't get the checks and if you can't get what you're supposed to do every time — then there's no way you can possibly be on the field when I'm out there."

Week 2. He hadn't caught a single pass until Cobb's leg injury at Baltimore on Oct. 13. After a 43-yard catch against the Ravens, Boykin went on to finish with 49 receptions for 681 yards and three touchdowns last season. "The biggest thing that helped Jarrett is that he became an expert of our offense," Rodgers said. "And he spent a lot of time studying our offense, getting in my ear, wanting to hear what he needed to do to get on the field, what I expected of him in certain situations and certain route concepts."

the Packers to draft three wide receivers — Adams, Jared Abbrederis (fifth) and Jeff Janis (seventh) — to keep him from getting complacent. "My whole mindset coming in was obviously continue to progress, get better and show that I know the system really well," said Boykin, who has three receptions for 21 yards through three preseason games. "Consistency — that was my overall focus, to be consistent in everything I do, whether it be releases, route running, run blocking, everything."

Timberwolves owner Glen Taylor was ecstatic about the enthusiasm the deal has generated among a worn-down fan base. It contrasts sharply with the deal the team made back in 2007 to trade Kevin Garnett to Boston. "I spoke the truth that if

I've never been a part of something this big before," said Young, a seven-year veteran. Timberwolves owner Glen Taylor was ecstatic about the enthusiasm the deal has generated among a worn-down fan base. It contrasts sharply with the deal the team made back in 2007 to trade Kevin Garnett to Boston. "I spoke the truth that if

Finally, all the trade talk, all the uncertainty, all the posturing was over. He is a Timberwolf now. And instead of being a sidekick for James, he's one of the central figures in a team that appears to at least have a sense of direction for the first time in the last decade. "It was a big relief," Wiggins said. "Now it's solidified. I'm situated in a spot where I know I'm going to be at for a very, very long time. It's comforting."

Then, on Monday, Rodgers was at it again. "You know what? They need to catch up," Rodgers told a large group of reporters at his locker. "I think some of them are playing the right way, and some of them have got to catch up. They're going to need to if they want to be on the field." Boykin had played only 10 total snaps in the first four games of last season. He didn't play a single snap on offense in the opener and one snap against Washington in

"We throw to the open guy in this offense, we go through our progressions. We don't lock in on one person. And if you're consistently doing the right thing, running the right route at the proper depth, you can't help but make plays. The ball is going to find you. "We throw to the open guy in this offense, we go through our progressions. We don't lock in on one person. And if you're consistently doing the right thing, running the right route at the proper depth, you can't help but make plays. The ball is going to find you."

Advertisement for KYNT AM 1450 Morning Coffee. Includes station logo and weekly schedule: Wednesday, August 27 (7:40 am SD Humanities) and Thursday, August 28 (7:40 am Yankton Conv/Vis Bureau).