

# Press&Dakotan DAILY DOSE

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



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**BROOKINGS** — One of my least favorite phrases in sports, 'It could've been worse' is bouncing around in my head as I sit here in Frost Arena following yet another win by the home team in this men's State-U rivalry.

South Dakota State beat rival University of South Dakota 67-54 on Thursday night in what became the seventh straight win by the home team in this series — four at the Division I level.

## Tri-Valley's Cross Signs With MMC Volleyball, Track Programs

Mount Marty College is pleased to announce the athletic signing of Allison Cross of Sioux Falls and Tri-Valley High School to participate in track and volleyball for the Lancers next fall.

On the field, Cross competed in the shot put with a personal record of 38-1 and was a part of the three time regional champion Tri-Valley team. Individually, she placed seventh, eighth and fourth in the state competition.

"We are excited to have Allison join us next year," said Coach Fischer, "and we look forward to working with her in the years to come."

On the court, Cross will fill the roster as a 6-1 middle hitter. She was a part of the three time district champion Tri-Valley squad and was named All-State honorable mention two times, Big Sioux Conference First Team All-Conference two times, and Big Sioux Conference Honorable Mention two times.

"Allison will be a force at the net in the GPAC Confer-

ence as she has great blocking and attacking skills," said MMC head volleyball Candice Cimler. "We are very excited to have her join our Lancer volleyball program."

Cross, daughter of Jerry and Karla Zuehlike of Sioux Falls, plans to major in nursing at Mount Marty College. She is the recipient of an academic merit scholarship in addition to her track and volleyball awards.

## Nebraska Football Taking Applications For Season Tickets

LINCOLN, Neb. (AP) — Nebraska football fans can start applying for the chance to buy season tickets located in Memorial Stadium's expanded east side.

The athletic department announced Thursday that about 3,000 tickets will be available to the public, and the process of filling those seats will occur this spring. Only fans who submit their information to the 2013 ticket wait list will have a chance to become a season ticket holder.

Fans can apply by clicking on the "2013 Ticket Wait List" link on Huskers.com.

Priority will be given to fans making a per-seat donation above the cost of the tickets. A \$50 deposit per ticket ordered is required and will be applied to the purchase price if approved.

## Tickets On Sale Wednesday For Nebraska Spring Game

LINCOLN, Neb. (AP) — Tickets go on sale next Wednesday for Nebraska's spring football game on April 6.

All tickets are reserved and cost \$10 each. Tickets can be purchased online at Huskers.com, by phone at 1-800-8-BIG-RED or in person at the Nebraska ticket office.

Fans in eighth grade or younger who take the Drug Free Pledge at halftime will be admitted for free. Pledge participants must secure a ticket in advance by calling or visiting the ticket office. Their parents or sponsors must buy a ticket.

A limited number of \$15 club seats will be available. Fans who met the deadline to return tickets from the canceled 2012 spring game for credit will receive an e-mail before Wednesday to explain the redemption process.

## Chadron State Will Play At Cowboys Stadium in 2013

CHADRON, Neb. (AP) — Chadron State will play West Texas A&M next September as part of the Lone Star Football Festival at Cowboys Stadium in Arlington, Texas.

The Festival features games involving all Lone Star Conference members and a number of non-conference teams. The games are played in the \$1.2 billion stadium that Jerry Jones built for his Dallas Cowboys and is televised across Texas.

Chadron State coach Jay Long said Thursday his players are excited about the opportunity and that it's exciting to tell prospective recruits the Eagles will play "in the house Jerry built."

The Eagles open next season in Rolla, Mo., against the Missouri University of Science and Technology in Rolla, Mo., on Sept. 5 before playing the Thursday night game at Cowboys Stadium on Sept. 12.

## Per-Game Price Same For Nebraska Season Ticket Holders

LINCOLN, Neb. (AP) — Nebraska football season ticket prices will remain the same on a per-game basis in 2013.

The athletic department announced Thursday that public season ticket holders will pay \$56 a game for eight home games, or \$448 total. University faculty and staff will pay \$53 a game, or \$424 total. Students will pay \$23 a game, or \$184 total.

Single-game prices will be \$60 each for non-confer-

ence games against Wyoming, Southern Miss and South Dakota State. The non-conference matchup with UCLA and Big Ten home contests against Illinois, Northwestern, Michigan State and Iowa will all be priced at \$75 each.

The Cornhuskers are playing eight home games for the first time since 2008. Nebraska will enter the 2013 season with an NCAA-record 325 consecutive sellouts.

## Iowa, Nebraska Want To Keep Playing On Fridays

IOWA CITY, Iowa (AP) — Iowa and Nebraska want to continue playing each other on the Friday after Thanksgiving.

Iowa athletic director Gary Barta and Shawn Eichorst, his counterpart at Nebraska, will ask the Big Ten to honor their request when an administrative council meets later next month.

The Hawkeyes and Huskers are currently slated to meet on the Saturday after Thanksgiving in 2013 and 2014, but they want to push those matchups up a day.

Iowa is set to travel to Lincoln this fall, with Nebraska playing in Iowa City in 2014.

The schools began their annual series when the Huskers joined the Big Ten for the 2011 season. Nebraska has won each of those meetings.

## SCOREBOARD

### BOWLING

<b>CROFTON</b>	Elkton-Lake Benton vs. Lake Preston, ppd. to Feb. 1.
<b>WOMEN'S AMERICAN</b>	Mitchell Christian vs. Menno, ppd. to Feb. 11.
<b>HIGH TEAM SERIES:</b> Comfy Feet 747	Sioux Valley vs. Flandreau, ppd. to Feb. 18.
<b>HIGH INDIVIDUAL GAME:</b> Carolyn Leader	Tospa Zina Tribel vs. Wilmut, ppd. to Feb. 18.
<b>HIGH TEAM SERIES:</b> Comfy Feet 2189	Waterlawn vs. Sioux Falls Lincoln, ppd. to Feb. 5.
<b>HIGH INDIVIDUAL GAME:</b> Carolyn Leader	Waubay vs. Great Plains Lutheran, ppd. to Feb. 1.
<b>HIGH TEAM SERIES:</b> Jane Dawson 501	Waubay vs. Great Plains Lutheran, ppd. to Feb. 1.
<b>HIGH INDIVIDUAL GAME:</b> Joan Tammen 443	Waubay vs. Great Plains Lutheran, ppd. to Feb. 1.
<b>HIGH INDIVIDUAL GAME:</b> Joan Tammen 443	Waubay vs. Great Plains Lutheran, ppd. to Feb. 1.
<b>STANDINGS:</b> Comfy Feet 191, Lewis & Clark Specialty Hospital 9-11, Arens Const. 1-19	
<b>II STANDINGS:</b> F&M Bank 14.5-5.5, DSM Apts. 11-9, Wiebelhaus PDR 5.5-15.5	
<b>HIGHLIGHTS:</b> Rebecca Cimler 2-5-7; Donna Steffen 5-10; Carolyn Leader 5-8-10; Kathy Meink 6-7	
<b>NOTE:</b> F&M Bank won rolloff from the 1st and 2nd third for Division 2	

### VOLLEYBALL

<b>YANKTON PARKS &amp; REC</b>	Elkton-Lake Benton vs. Lake Preston, ppd. to Feb. 1.
<b>MEN'S LEAGUE</b>	Mitchell Christian vs. Menno, ppd. to Feb. 11.
<b>RESULTS:</b> Murdoch of Chico's Ball Bonds 21-16, 21-10, 22-20; Net Njinjas/Upper Deck def. KPI Crushers 21-17, 22-20, 21-17	
<b>STANDINGS:</b> Stockmen's 10-0, Net Njinjas/Upper Deck 7-3, KPI Crushers 5-5, Murdo's 3-7, Chico's Ball Bonds 0-10	

### WRESTLING

<b>YANKTON YOUTH WRESTLING</b>	Elkton-Lake Benton vs. Lake Preston, ppd. to Feb. 1.
<b>YANKTON TOURN.</b>	Mitchell Christian vs. Menno, ppd. to Feb. 11.
<b>Jan. 27 at Yankton</b>	Sioux Valley vs. Flandreau, ppd. to Feb. 18.
<b>FIRST:</b> Alana Baten, Tahm Baten, Tucker Baten, Paul McGlone, Justin Pavel, Shayne Platt	
<b>SECOND:</b> Jake Cunningham, Jordan Dahl, Gerald Greger, Jr., Chase Howe, Ashton Keeler, Caden Kolhoff, Kyle Lillie, Evan Nelson, Dylan Sloan, Francisco Westswald	
<b>THIRD:</b> Clayton Benson, Keegan Carl, Ocean Hawk, Dyan Howe, Antani Kabella, Langdon Klinikhammer, Collin Patrick, Will Pavish, Shaylor Platt, Parker Pooler, Korbin Postma, Kaden Sage, Tyler Wallenstein, Jackson White	
<b>FOURTH:</b> Lance Donner, Jackie Eichenberger, Bradley Howe, Damien Janish, Dominic Kabella, Brennan Mettler, John Rye, Joe Smith	

### BASKETBALL

<b>THURSDAY'S S.D. BOYS</b>	Elkton-Lake Benton vs. Lake Preston, ppd. to Feb. 1.
<b>THURSDAY'S NEB. BOYS</b>	Mitchell Christian vs. Menno, ppd. to Feb. 11.
<b>Boys Town 72, Archbishop Bergan 61</b>	
<b>Douglas County West 58, Cedar Bluffs 39</b>	
<b>Garden County 55, Arthur County 39</b>	
<b>Lincoln Southwest 67, Omaha Westside 64</b>	
<b>Medicine Valley 65, Waukena-Palsade 51</b>	
<b>Oscola 61, Cross County 55, OT</b>	
<b>Palmer 49, Heartland Lutheran 48</b>	
<b>St. Edward 55, Elba/North Loup-Scotia 48</b>	
<b>Lewis and Clark Conference Tournament</b>	
<b>Quarterfinal</b>	
<b>Wausa 59, Homer 48</b>	
<b>Lou Platte Conference Tournament</b>	
<b>Semifinal</b>	
<b>Kearney Catholic 61, Gibbon 52</b>	
<b>Nebraska Valley Conference Tournament</b>	
<b>Semifinal</b>	
<b>Avon vs. Bon Homme, ppd. to Feb. 1</b>	
<b>St. Mary's 59, Ewing 47</b>	
<b>Southern Nebraska Conference Tournament</b>	
<b>Semifinal</b>	
<b>Sutton 56, Thayer Central 30</b>	
<b>Twin Valley Conference Tournament</b>	
<b>Semifinal</b>	
<b>Kenesaw 74, Silver Lake 48</b>	
<b>Shelton 53, Red Cloud 43</b>	

<b>tral Catholic 30</b>	<b>W</b>	<b>L</b>	<b>Pct</b>	<b>GB</b>
<b>Hyannis 55, SMC 32</b>	29	13	.690	—
<b>Lincoln Southeast 74, Lincoln High 34</b>	26	19	.578	4 1/2
<b>Lincoln Southwest 51, Omaha Westside 45</b>	14	31	.311	16 1/2
<b>Nebraska Lutheran 44, Dorchester 36</b>	11	33	.250	19
<b>Omaha Duchesne Academy 46,</b>	10	34	.244	19 1/2

<b>Central Division</b>	<b>W</b>	<b>L</b>	<b>Pct</b>	<b>GB</b>
<b>Chicago</b>	28	17	.622	—
<b>Indiana</b>	27	19	.587	1 1/2
<b>Milwaukee</b>	24	20	.545	3 1/2
<b>Detroit</b>	17	29	.370	11 1/2
<b>Cleveland</b>	13	33	.283	15 1/2

<b>WESTERN CONFERENCE</b>	<b>W</b>	<b>L</b>	<b>Pct</b>	<b>GB</b>
<b>San Antonio</b>	37	11	.771	—
<b>Memphis</b>	29	16	.644	6 1/2
<b>Houston</b>	25	23	.521	12
<b>Dallas</b>	19	26	.422	16 1/2
<b>New Orleans</b>	15	31	.326	21

<b>Northwest Division</b>	<b>W</b>	<b>L</b>	<b>Pct</b>	<b>GB</b>
<b>Oklahoma City</b>	35	11	.761	—
<b>Denver</b>	29	18	.617	6 1/2
<b>Utah</b>	25	21	.543	10
<b>Portland</b>	23	22	.511	11 1/2
<b>Minnesota</b>	17	26	.395	16

<b>Pacific Division</b>	<b>W</b>	<b>L</b>	<b>Pct</b>	<b>GB</b>
<b>L.A. Clippers</b>	34	13	.723	—
<b>Golden State</b>	28	17	.622	5
<b>L.A. Lakers</b>	20	26	.435	13 1/2
<b>Sacramento</b>	17	30	.362	17
<b>Phoenix</b>	16	30	.348	17 1/2

<b>Wednesday's Games</b>	<b>W</b>	<b>L</b>	<b>Pct</b>	<b>GB</b>
<b>Philadelphia 92, Washington 84</b>				
<b>Indiana 98, Detroit 79</b>				
<b>Boston 99, Sacramento 81</b>				
<b>New York 113, Orlando 97</b>				
<b>Atlanta 93, Toronto 92</b>				
<b>L.A. Clippers 99, Minnesota 90</b>				
<b>Chicago 104, Milwaukee 98</b>				
<b>Miami 105, Brooklyn 85</b>				
<b>San Antonio 102, Charlotte 78</b>				
<b>Denver 118, Houston 110</b>				
<b>Utah 104, New Orleans 99</b>				
<b>Phoenix 92, L.A. Lakers 86</b>				

<b>Thursday's Games</b>	<b>W</b>	<b>L</b>	<b>Pct</b>	<b>GB</b>
<b>BOSTON RED SOX</b> —Promoted Pam Kern to senior director of public affairs. Named Kevin Gregg director of media relations.				
<b>CLEVELAND INDIANS</b> —Signed RHP Matt Capps to a minor league contract.				
<b>LOS ANGELES ANGELS</b> —Agreed to terms with INF Bill Hall on a minor league contract.				
<b>YANKTON YANKEES</b> —Signed OF Matt Diaz, INF Dan Johnson, OF Thomas Neal, OF Juan Rivera and C Bobby Wilson to minor league contracts.				
<b>NATIONAL LEAGUE</b>				
<b>ARIZONA DIAMONDBACKS</b> —Agreed to terms with INF/OF Martin Prado on a four-year contract through 2016.				
<b>CINCINNATI REDS</b> —Agreed to terms with OF Chris Heisey and RHP Alfredo Simon on one-year contracts.				

## AREA CALENDAR

<b>Friday, February 1</b>	<b>W</b>	<b>L</b>	<b>Pct</b>	<b>GB</b>
<b>BASKETBALL, BOYS' YHS</b> at Pierre (7:30 p.m., KYNT-AM, KVHT-FM); Mid-State Conf. at Norfolk (Semifinals at NECC — Wayne vs. Hartington Cedar Catholic, 6:15 p.m.; Boone Central-Newman Grove vs. O'Neill, 7:45 p.m.); Cornsation Semifinals at Norfolk Catholic — Crofton vs. Norfolk Catholic, 6:15 p.m.; Guardian Angels vs. Pierce, 7:45 p.m.; Niobrara Valley Conf. Tour. (Niobrara-Verdigre, Santee); Northeast Neb. Activities Conf. at Plainview (Fifth — West Holt vs. Elkhorn Valley, 4:30 p.m.; Third — Creighton vs. Plainview, 6:15 p.m.; Championship — Laurel-Concord-Coleidge vs. Randolph, 8 p.m.); Avon at Bon Homme, Baltic vs. Irene-Waltonville at Irene, Beresford at Alcester-Hudson, Dakota Valley at Elk Point, Jefferson, Freeman Academy vs. Viborg-Hurley at Hurley, Freeman at Howard, Mary vs. Tripp-Delmont-Armour at Tripp, Parkston at Gregory, Vermillion at Madison (7:45 p.m., KVTK-AM)				
<b>BASKETBALL, BOYS' JV YHS</b> at Pierre (4 p.m.)				
<b>BASKETBALL, BOYS' SOPH</b> YHS at Pierre (5:45 p.m.)				
<b>BASKETBALL, GIRLS' YHS</b> at YHS (7:30 p.m.);				
<b>BASKETBALL, GIRLS' PH</b> at YHS (7:30 p.m.);				
<b>BASKETBALL, GIRLS' JV</b> YHS at Aberdeen Central (5 p.m.);				
<b>BASKETBALL, GIRLS' 9TH</b> YHS at Aberdeen Central (4:30 p.m., KYNT-AM, KVHT-FM); Cornbelt Conf. Classic at Freeman (Oldham-Ramona-Rutland vs. Bridgewater-Emery, 9:30 a.m.; Menno vs. Marion, 12:30 p.m.; Hanson vs. Howard, 3:30 p.m.; Canistota vs. Freeman, 6:30 p.m.); Lewis & Clark Conf. Tour. at Wakefield (Semifinals); Mid-State Conf. at Norfolk (Fifth — 12:45 p.m.; Third — 4:15 p.m.; Championship — 8 p.m.); Niobrara Valley Conf. Tour. (Niobrara-Verdigre, Santee); Bon Homme at Chamberlain; McCook Central-Montrose at Wagner; Miller at Platte-Geddes				
<b>BASKETBALL, BOYS' JV</b> Aberdeen Central at YHS (1 p.m.)				
<b>BASKETBALL, BOYS' SOPH</b> Aberdeen Central at YHS (2:45 p.m.)				
<b>BASKETBALL, BOYS' 9TH</b> Aberdeen Central at YHS (1 p.m.)				
<b>BASKETBALL, GIRLS' YHS</b> at Aberdeen Central (4:30 p.m., KYNT-AM, KVHT-FM); Cornbelt Conf. Classic at Freeman (Oldham-Ramona-Rutland vs. Bridgewater-Emery, 11 a.m.; Marion vs. Menno, 2 p.m.; Howard vs. Canistota, 5 p.m.;				

<b>Gymnastics, Prep</b> Wall Inv. (Wagner, 1 p.m. CT)				
<b>TRACK &amp; FIELD, COLLEGE INDOOR</b> Frank Sevigne-UNL Inv. at Lincoln, Neb. (USD)				
<b>WRESTLING, PREP</b> YHS/Pierre at Aberdeen Central (5 p.m.), Dell Rapids-Douglas (Alcester-Hudson, 6 p.m.)				
<b>WRESTLING, JV YHS</b> Pierre at Aberdeen Central (6 p.m.)				
<b>Saturday, February 2</b>				
<b>BASKETBALL, MEN'S</b> Brian Cliff at MMC (4 p.m., KYNT-AM); USD at N.D. State (7 p.m., KVHT-FM)				
<b>BASKETBALL, WOMEN'S</b> Brian Cliff at MMC (2 p.m., KYNT-AM); N.D. State at USD (7 p.m., KVTK-AM)				
<b>BASKETBALL, BOYS' YHS</b> Aberdeen Central at YHS (4:30 p.m., KVTK-AM); Brandon Classic (Centerville vs. Elsworth); Cornbelt Conf. Classic at Freeman (Oldham-Ramona-Rutland vs. Bridgewater-Emery, 9:30 a.m.; Menno vs. Marion, 12:30 p.m.; Hanson vs. Howard, 3:30 p.m.; Canistota vs. Freeman, 6:30 p.m.); Lewis & Clark Conf. Tour. at Wakefield (Semifinals); Mid-State Conf. at Norfolk (Fifth — 12:45 p.m.; Third — 4:15 p.m.; Championship — 8 p.m.); Niobrara Valley Conf. Tour. (Niobrara-Verdigre, Santee); Bon Homme at Chamberlain; McCook Central-Montrose at Wagner; Miller at Platte-Geddes				
<b>BASKETBALL, BOYS' JV</b> Aberdeen Central at YHS (1 p.m.)				
<b>BASKETBALL, BOYS' SOPH</b> Aberdeen Central at YHS (2:45 p.m.)				
<b>BASKETBALL, BOYS' 9TH</b> Aberdeen Central at YHS (1 p.m.)				
<b>BASKETBALL, GIRLS' YHS</b> at Aberdeen Central (4:30 p.m., KYNT-AM, KVHT-FM); Cornbelt Conf. Classic at Freeman (Oldham-Ramona-Rutland vs. Bridgewater-Emery, 11 a.m.; Marion vs. Menno, 2 p.m.; Howard vs. Canistota, 5 p.m.;				

<b>Hanson vs. Freeman, 8 p.m.);</b> Mid-State Conf. Tour. at Norfolk (Fifth — 11 a.m.; Third — 2:30 p.m.; Championship — 6 p.m.); Niobrara Valley Conf. Tour. at Alkirkon (Consolation — 2:45 p.m.; Championship — 6:15 p.m.); Ethan at Avon; McCook Central-Montrose at Wagner; Miller at Platte-Geddes				
<b>BASKETBALL, GIRLS' JV</b> YHS at Aberdeen Central (1 p.m.)				
<b>BASKETBALL, GIRLS' 9TH</b> YHS at Aberdeen Central (2:45 p.m.)				
<b>BASKETBALL, GIRLS' 9TH</b> YHS at Aberdeen Central (1 p.m.)				
<b>GYMNASTICS, PREP</b> Eastern South Dakota Conf. at Huron (YHS, 1:30 p.m.)				
<b>HOCKEY, BOYS' JV</b> Huron at Yankton (3:30 p.m.)				
<b>HOCKEY, GIRLS' JV</b> Yankton at Mitchell (DH, noon & 6 p.m.)				
<b>HOCKEY, SOUIRT</b> Yankton Tour.				
<b>SWIMMING &amp; DIVING, COLLEGE</b> Minnesota Challenge at Minneapolis (USD, 6 p.m.)				
<b>TRACK &amp; FIELD, COLLEGE INDOOR</b> Buena Vista Inv. (MMC); Frank Sevigne-UNL Inv. at Lincoln, Neb. (USD)				
<b>WRESTLING, PREP</b> Big Dakota Tour. at Fort Pierre (Kimball-White Lake-Platte-Geddes, Parkston, 10 a.m.); Big East/LCC Tour. at Flandreau (Parker, 10 a.m.); Big 8 Conf. Tour. at Hartford (Vermillion, 10 a.m.); Mid-State Conf. Tour. at Norfolk (Crofton, Hartington Cedar Catholic); Wakefield Inv. (Laurel-Concord-Coleidge, Ponca, Randolph, Wakefield-Allen)				
<b>Saturday, February 3</b>				
<b>HOCKEY, SOUIRT</b> Yankton Tour.				
<b>SWIMMING &amp; DIVING, COLLEGE</b> Minnesota Challenge at Minneapolis (USD, 10 a.m.)				

## Packers All-Time Leading Receiver Driver To Retire

NEW ORLEANS (AP) — No other uniform would fit Donald Driver.

The Green Bay Packers all-time leading receiver announced his retirement Thursday morning, with a public ceremony planned for Feb. 6 at the Lambeau Field Atrium.

"I've always said I never want to wear another uniform. I've always said that I owe it to the fans to retire as a Packer," Driver said. "I feel like I can still play, but if I can't play for my organization, then I can't play for anyone else."

Driver finishes his 14-year career as Green Bay's all-time leader in yards receiving (10,137 yards), catches (743) and 1,000-yard seasons (seven), and is third behind Don Hutson and Sterling Sharpe with 61 touchdown receptions. A four-time Pro Bowler, he was Green Bay's MVP in 2002 and was part of the team that won the Super Bowl following the 2010 season.

Only Brett Favre played more games in a Packers uniform. "All 14 years. Every day," Driver said in an interview on ESPN's "Mike & Mike" when asked what his favorite memory is. "That's a special place to walk out of, and that's something I'll never forget."

Drafted by Green Bay in the seventh round of the 1999 draft, Driver became one of the most popular and prolific Packers. He had six straight 1,000-yard seasons from 2004-09, averaging 14 yards per catch during the stretch. He made at least one catch

in 133 straight games from 2002 to 2010, another franchise record.

He's one of only 18 wide receivers in NFL history with 700-plus career catches and 10,000 or more receiving yards in 200 games.

"It was a pleasure to share the field with you for 4 years! Great player, tremendous person. (hash)retire80," offensive guard T.J. Lang said on Twitter.

Aaron Rodgers added, "Thanks for the memories quickie, you will be missed (hash)Packer4Life."

Quickie is Driver's childhood nickname. Green Bay fans have a close bond with every Packers player, but they had a particular soft spot for Driver. They loved his bright smile and infectious laugh, and were moved by his story of overcoming seemingly insurmountable odds. Growing up, Driver and his family were so poor that he, his mother and siblings sometimes spent the nights in a U-Haul. He and his brother stole cars to get money, and Driver sold drugs, too.

Packers fans embraced him — his jersey is a popular sight at Lambeau Field, right up there with Rodgers' No. 12 and Clay Matthews' No. 52 — and he happily returned the love. He's been active in the community throughout his career and said that won't change. His annual community softball game will be played June 16.

"That's my second home," Driver

said. "I'm born and raised in Houston, Texas, but Wisconsin is always going to be a home for me, and I'll always be back."

Though Driver had said he hoped to play until he was 40 — he turns 38 on Saturday — his retirement was hardly a surprise. He had restructured the final year of his contract to come back this season, but played only a bit role in the offense with Greg Jennings, James Jones, Jordy Nelson and Randall Cobb ahead of him on the depth chart. Driver's eight catches for 77 yards were his lowest totals since his rookie season, and he was inactive for four games, including the NFC wild-card, his final game at Lambeau Field.

Though coach Mike McCarthy didn't say as much during their post-season meeting, Driver knew he wasn't in the Packers plans for next season.

"I