



P&D FILE PHOTO

Parker senior Duane Jongeling celebrates his third consecutive South Dakota Class B boys' cross country title as he approaches the finish line during the South Dakota State Meet in October at Huron. Jongeling has committed to competing for South Dakota State in track and cross country.

Jongeling Set To Go To SDSU

Three-Time Class B Cross Country Champ Picks Jacks Over S.D. Mines

BY JEREMY HOECK

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Duane Jongeling always had a knack for doing just a little bit better on the biggest stages.

The combination of that history for top performances and a desire for top-level competition eventually led the Parker High School senior — one of the state's best cross country runners — to verbally commit to South Dakota State.

Jongeling, a three-time Class B state champion who led the Pheasants to three consecutive team crowns, said Monday he informed the SDSU coaches Saturday that he would run for the Jackrabbits starting this fall.

"With all the more training and stress of running at that level, I think that'll help me a lot," Jongeling said Monday during a break in class.

"Everyone will be as good as or better than I am. It'll push me more than in high school."

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DUANE JONGELING

Now he'll get to take his shots at the Division I level.

"I'm really glad to see him want that higher competition," Parker coach Phil Bjorneberg said. "He'll be running against some pretty good kids, and that's a good challenge for him. He loves that, so we'll see how he reacts."

The Jackrabbit men, coached by Rod DeHaven, are coming off a Summit League title last fall. SDSU will graduate just two of its runners from last season, Michael Krsnak and Yankton native Jared Ailts.

Jongeling — who said he chose SDSU over Division II South Dakota School of Mines — will sign his letter of intent on Wednesday, Feb. 6, and until then, SDSU coaches cannot comment on recruits.

The runners already in Brookings, however, provided a comfort factor for Jongeling on his campus visit, he said. Already on the Jacks' roster are area standouts Kipp Kinsley (Yankton) and Austin Hamm (Bloomfield, Neb.).

"I think I'll fit in pretty good up there because there's a large amount of them from close by," Jongeling said. "Dylan Slaba (Sioux Falls Roosevelt) is up there, and some other people too that I already knew from high school."

Familiarity has always produced some of Jongeling's best times, though, Bjorneberg said.

"When he knew Jase Kraft was going to be there, it jacked him even more," he said. "When you go up there (Brookings), and you're around a whole bunch of kids at your level, it'll really raise his competitive juices."

Though his high school cross country career is over, Jongeling still has one season of track and field remaining with the Pheasants.

As a junior last spring, he led Parker to the 1600-meter sprint medley relay title and second place in the 3200-meter relay at the State Class B Track Meet in Rapid City. Jongeling also took second place in the 1600-meter and 3200-meter runs.

Saying that his goals for track are to win the medley and 3200 relays, and improve his times in the mile and 2-mile runs, Jongeling also joked that he'd like to do something he hasn't done in his track career — beat Kraft.

His coach agreed.

"Now that he's made this decision, maybe that'll get him going to do it," Bjorneberg said.

You can follow Jeremy Hoeck on Twitter at twitter.com/jhoeck

Is A Three-Peat Possible For NDSU Football Team?

Bison Rolled Past Sam Houston State Saturday To Defend FCS Title

BY KEVIN SCHNEPP

The Forum

FARGO, N.D. (AP) — Still nursing another national championship hangover, many North Dakota State football fans left Frisco, Texas, on Sunday with this goodbye message: "See you next year."

Who can blame them for already thinking their beloved Bison can win a third straight NCAA Football Championship Subdivision title? The vast majority of players who put a 39-13 whooping on Sam Houston State on Saturday will be back — starting their off-season training next week.

If you thought the bar was set high after last year's national championship, it will reach an unprecedented level this year.

Next year's team is the one head coach Craig Bohl has always tabbed as a potential national champion. Now, he

has two somewhat unexpected titles to go with it.

High expectations will keep the Bison ticket office busy again this winter. High expectations will create another traffic jam on the NCAA website this fall when tickets go on sale for next year's championship game.

Those high expectations will also force Bison coaches and players to find new ways to stay motivated and avoid complacency — something they were able to do quite well this past season.

"This title is sweeter," Bohl said after Saturday's championship game. "We took everybody's best shot."

In the realm of Bison football history, this Division I run certainly has a chance of becoming the best ever. A three-peat in the more competitive FCS would be just as impressive — if not more — than the 1983-86 Division II run in which the Bison would have won four straight had it not been for a last-

second field goal by Troy State in 1984.

In the realm of FCS history, the Bison have a ways to go. A title next year would equal Appalachian State's three consecutive titles from 2005 to 2007. But Georgia Southern has won six titles and Youngstown State has won four.

Whether it's fair or not, anything less than a national championship will be considered a disappointment next year for the Bison. Fans will be tweeting, texting, blogging and calling into radio talk shows about how good the Bison will be for the next eight months.

The Bison will find out how good they are when they open the season Aug. 31 at Kansas State — a No. 5-ranked team that played in this year's Fiesta Bowl. Sporting a 3-2 record against the Bowl Championship Series big boys, this will most likely be the first time a Bison team will play a nationally ranked BCS team.

Then again, Kansas State loses a ton of seniors — including Heisman finalist quarterback Collin Klein. Could we see an upset in the fashion of an Appalachian State shocker at Michigan — the same season when it won its third straight national title?

Yes, there will be plenty of talk. But you can guarantee it won't be coming from the Bison camp.

When asked about a three-peat, Bohl was quick to say: "I'm not even touching that subject."

When asked about people describing the Bison program as a legacy, linebacker Grant Olson said: "In about one year I will start listening to that. For now, I don't even want to hear that word."

When asked about both a three-peat and legacy, offensive line coach Scott Fuchs said: "Those kind of things are decided many years down the road. It's like what I always tell my offensive linemen: 'We'll see how good you are at the end of the year.' "

Cavs, Cougars Win On Road



JAMES D. CIMBUREK/P&D

Bon Homme's Emily Pechous, 24, shoots over the top of Freeman's Nicole Hinckley during the first half of their girls' basketball game on Monday in Freeman.

Wagner Posts 114.55 At Mitchell Triangular

MITCHELL — The Mitchell Kernels posted a score of 141.9 to sweep a gymnastics triangular with Wagner and Sioux Falls Roosevelt on Monday in Mitchell.

Roosevelt finished at 134.85. Wagner posted a 114.55.

Mitchell freshman Quinci Herll earned all-around honors with a 36.15. Herll also posted top honors on the uneven parallel bars (9.25) and floor exercise (9.2), and tied for top honors with teammate Josie Dierks on the vault (8.9). Teammate Ellie Rew earned top honors on the balance beam (9.15).

For Wagner, Kylee Lightenberg posted a 31.05, Rachel Dion posted a 26.5 and Krista Dvorak posted a 25.8 in the all-around. Lightenberg finished sixth on the floor exercise (8.75).

TEAM SCORES: Mitchell 141.9, Roosevelt 134.85, Wagner 114.55
 ALL-AROUND: Quinci Herll M 36.15, Ellie Rew M 35.65, Nicole Wittstruck M 34.45, Josie Dierks M 34.25, Devann Ellis R 33.8, Karleigh Sudenga R 33.55
 BARS: Quinci Herll M 9.25, Ellie Rew M 9.05, Karleigh Sudenga R 8.8, Rebecca Sadler M 8.65, Josie Dierks M 8.35, McKayla Poppens R 8.35
 BEAM: Ellie Rew M 9.15, Emily Prill M 8.95, Nicole Wittstruck M 8.8, Quinci Herll M 8.8, Devann Ellis R 8.65, Josie Dierks M 8.3
 FLOOR: Quinci Herll M 9.2, Emily Prill M 9.0, Ellie Rew M 8.95, Nicole Wittstruck M 8.9, Devann Ellis R 8.85, Kylee Lightenberg W 8.75
 VAULT: Josie Dierks M 8.9, Quinci Herll M 8.9, Devann Ellis R 8.85, Mikalyn Konzerm R 8.7, Nicole Wittstruck M 8.55

Creighton-Verdigre Wrestlers Fourth At Wisner-Pilger

WISNER, Neb. — The Creighton-Verdigre Bulldogs used an individual victory from Braden Forker at 195 pounds to place fourth overall at the Wisner-Pilger Invite on Monday.

The Bulldogs had seven wrestlers finish in the top four individually to end the day with 107.5 points. Pender won the meet (181) while East Butler (151.5) and Wakefield (133) rounded out the top three.

Forker pinned Wisner-Pilger's Michael Liermann at the 2:47 mark to earn the victory.

Dakotah York (120 pounds) place second for the Bulldogs while Garret Zimmerer (106), Eli Schreier (182) and Levi Nielsen (285) gave Creighton-Verdigre third-place finishes.

Owen Pavelka (145) and Rylee Klawitter (160) finished fourth for the Bulldogs in their respective weight classes.

Creighton-Verdigre is next in action on Thursday against Norfolk Catholic.

NHL: 48-Game Regular Season Is 'Most Likely'

BY LARRY LAGE

AP Hockey Writer

The NHL appears headed toward a 48-game season for the second time in two decades.

"I think 48 is most likely at this point, unless the players can expedite their ratification process," NHL deputy commissioner Bill Daly wrote in an email Monday to The Associated Press.

The NHL shortened its 82-game slate to 48 games during the 1994-95 season after a 103-day lockout. A 301-day lockout in 2004-05 made the NHL the first major North American professional sports league to lose an entire season.

When the framework of a new collective bargaining agreement was agreed to Sunday morning — after 16 hours of negotiations — there was some talk of having a 50-game season start later this month.

The NHL and the players' association are working on a memorandum of understanding, which could be completed soon then voted on by team owners and players. The league has circulated a memo to teams telling them to be ready to play by Jan. 19, the date the shortened season is expected to start.

"As we prepare for the season opener, I want to apologize to all Blues fans, especially our season ticket holders, suite holders, and sponsors," St. Louis Blues owner Tom Stillman said in a statement released by the team. "We share in your disappointment and frustration about the lockout."

Los Angeles Kings forward Kevin Westgarth, who was a part of the union negotiating team for much of the more than 100-day lockout, expects the NHLPA to conduct a conference call to explain and answer questions about the new CBA before players vote on it online.

"Of course the league will say if the players hurry up, we can play more games, but there's a reality to consider as well," Westgarth said in a telephone interview Monday from Raleigh, N.C., where he skated informally with some Carolina Hurricanes. "But the first step is for the people who are good with words to get on paper what both sides agreed to."

"Then, we have to get guys — who are scattered all over the world — to understand the agreement before we can start voting."

Some NHL players — including Washington Capitals star Alex Ovechkin — went overseas during the lockout. Ovechkin has been playing for his hometown Dynamo Moscow in the Kontinental Hockey League, but plans to be back in the United States soon.

FREEMAN — Karlee Kozak scored a game-high 16 points and added eight rebounds to lead Bon Homme to a 55-48 victory over Freeman in Monday night girls' basketball action in Freeman.

Jody Kriz added 11 points while Emily Pechous scored 10 points and grabbed seven rebounds for Bon Homme.

Senior Dina Soulek led the Flyers with 13 points, six rebounds and six steals. Erika Sage added 10 points as Freeman falls to 3-4 this season.

Bon Homme (4-5) hosts South Central today (Tuesday) while Freeman travels to Marion on Thursday.

BON HOMME (4-5).....12 20 37 55
 FREEMAN (3-4).....14 28 36 48

Viborg-Hurley 48, Alcester-Hudson 44

ALCESTER — Viborg-Hurley outscored Alcester-Hudson 15-8 in the fourth quarter to take a 48-44 girls' basketball victory in Tri-Valley Conference action in Alcester on Monday.

The Cougars trailed 36-33 entering the final period, but found enough offense to earn their sixth win of the season (6-3).

Angie Lee and Danielle Voss posted double-doubles to lead the Cougars. Lee scored 12 points and tallied 10 rebounds while Voss scored 10 and grabbed 11 boards. Abby Hora added 13 points and seven rebounds as V-H improves to 2-0 in the TVC.

The Cubs were led by Shenia Doering's 20 points and eight rebounds.

Viborg-Hurley travels to Gayville on Thursday to take on Gayville-Volin while Alcester-Hudson hosts West Sioux (Iowa) on January 15.

VIBORG-HURLEY (6-3).....8 24 33 48
 ALCESTER-HUDSON (4-3).....7 29 36 44

Tri-Valley 58, Beresford 55 OT

COLTON — Tri-Valley staged a late comeback on Monday night against Beresford to force overtime and eventually took the 58-55 victory after the extra period in Class A Big Sioux Conference girls' basketball action in Colton.

Down 41-32 entering the fourth quarter, the Mustangs scored 16 points while holding Beresford to just seven in the final period to send the game to overtime, where the Mustangs held on for the come from behind victory to remain undefeated.

Allison Cross led Tri-Valley, 7-0, with 22 points.

Alyson Johnson scored 20 points for the Watchdogs (5-2) while Taryn Twite added 13 points and seven rebounds.

Both squads play in Beresford on Thursday in the Big Sioux Conference tourney.

BERESFORD (5-2).....14 25 41 48 55
 TRI-VALLEY (7-0).....8 18 32 48 58

Platte-Geddes 36, Corsica-Stickney 34

PLATTE — Platte-Geddes overcame a 20-16 half-time deficit to beat Corsica-Stickney 36-34 in girls' basketball action on Monday.

Josie DeGroot led Platte-Geddes with 14 points. Kelly Knudson had four steals and four assists for the Black Panthers, who outscored the Jaguars 14-7 in the third quarter.

Hope Menning scored 15 points to lead Corsica-Stickney. Micalya Bamberg grabbed 11 rebounds and Jessica Hoogers added 10 rebounds in the effort.

Platte-Geddes, 6-2, travels to Andes Central on Thursday. Corsica-Stickney, 3-6, hosts Kimball-White Lake in Stickney on Thursday.

CORSICA-STICKNEY (3-6).....6 20 27 34
 PLATTE-GEDES (6-2).....10 16 30 36

Parker 59, Irene-Wakonda 38

PARKER — After starting the season 0-3, Parker has now won four in a row as the Pheasants defeated Irene-Wakonda 59-38 in South Dakota Class B girls' basketball action on Monday night in Parker.

The Pheasants jumped out to a 27-12 halftime lead and never looked back as senior Amber Dysthe led the way with 14 points, 11 rebounds and four steals. Micalanne Hanten added 12 points, 10 rebounds and five assists as Parker improved to 4-3. The Pheasants nearly had three players post a double-double as Tessa Weeldreyer finished with 11 points and nine rebounds. Morgan Hay also had a quality game as the junior finished with six points, four rebounds, three assists and three steals.

Caitlin Hinseth scored 10 points to lead the Eagles while Kyleigh Melstad added eight points and five rebounds. Irene-Wakonda shot just 25 percent from the field and 50 percent from the charity stripe as their two-game winning streak was snapped.

Irene-Wakonda won the JV game, 41-32.

Parker, 4-3, travels to Alexandria on Thursday to play Hanson.

Irene-Wakonda, 2-5, plays at Centerville on Thursday.

IRENE-WAKONDA (2-5).....4 12 22 38
 PARKER (4-3).....10 27 38 59

Boys

Gregory 59, Andes Central 53

GREGORY — Senior Jaden Bartling led Gregory to their third win of the season as the Gorillas knocked off Andes Central, 59-53, on Monday night in Gregory.

Bartling scored 19 points while sophomore Mason Juracek chipped in 12 points.

Junior Darrin Hopkins tallied a double-double (15 points, 11 rebounds) for Andes Central as the Eagles fell to 2-4 this season. Senior Gabe Cournoyer added 10 points in the loss.

Gregory, 3-3, hosts South Central on Friday.

Andes Central hosts Scotland on Friday in Lake

Andes.
 ANDES CENTRAL (2-4).....12 22 35 53
 GREGORY (3-3).....13 26 37 59