

# MMC Athletic Hall To Induct Three, '99 Baseball Team

Two basketball greats, a baseball standout and the only undefeated baseball team in South Dakota-Iowa Conference history make up the 2015 induction class for the Mount Marty College Athletic Hall of Fame.

Nancy (Ommen) Heldberg, Jesse Kurtenbach, Justin Bonnichsen and the 1999 baseball team will be inducted into the MMC Hall on May 3. Honorees will be introduced to the public at halftime of Saturday's men's basketball game featuring Presentation at Mount Marty, the

second half of a doubleheader with the Saints. Start time for the men's game is scheduled for 4 p.m.

Bonnichsen (2002-06) was a two-time first-team All-American and four-time national honoree for the MMC men's basketball team (two honorable mention selections). He was a first-team all-Great Plains Athletic Conference selection in all four seasons and graduated with top-10 career marks in 12 different categories. He currently ranks as the all-time leading scorer in MMC men's

basketball history, and ranks among the top all-time scorers in South Dakota collegiate history.

Kurtenbach (2000-04) was MMC's first-ever GPAC Player of the year, and earned two first-team and two second-team all-league selections during his career. He led the GPAC in three categories his senior year, earning first-team All-Region IV and honorable mention All-American honors. He holds MMC records in four categories and ranks in the top-five in MMC charts in four others.

Heldberg (1995-99) helped lead the Lancers to a SDIC title and a NAIA Division II Tournament berth in 1998, and was a four-time all-SDIC honoree (two first-team, two second-team). She was consistently among the conference leaders in rebounding, scoring, and field goal percentage. She finished her career in the Top 10 Career Charts in 10 categories.

The 1999 baseball team, the last under Hall of Fame head coach Bob Tereshinski, went undefeated in

league play — the only baseball team ever to run the table in SDIC play. Eight players from that squad were named all-SDIC, including seven on the first team. The squad also featured five players named to the All-America Scholar Athlete team. Named the College Men's Team of the Year by the South Dakota Sportswriters Association, the 1999 team capped a four-year run that included three SDIC regular season titles, two post-season titles and 109 victories.

# Two Named To Blue-Grey Game



Bon Homme's Hunter Young, 3, fights for yardage as he is surrounded by Tri-Valley defenders during their football game in the 2014 season. Young and Menno-Marion offensive lineman Zakk Ryherd have been selected to play in the Blue-Grey All-American football all-star game this Saturday in Tampa, Florida.

## BH's Young, M-M's Ryherd To Play In All-Star Football Contest Saturday In Florida

BY JEREMY HOECK  
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Hunter Young has not received an official scholarship offer from any college.

The Bon Homme High School senior is hoping that changes after a trip to Florida this week for a prestigious game, designed — in part — to showcase top athletes against top-level competition.

Young, a four-sport standout for the Cavaliers, is one of two South Dakota prep athletes who will compete in the Blue-Grey All-American Game on Saturday in Tampa, Florida. Young, a safety, and Zakk Ryherd, an offensive lineman from Menno-Marion, will represent South Dakota on the North roster.

The goal for Young, for one, is simple, he said: Enjoy the experience, but potentially attract the eye of college coaches.

"Being from a small town in South Dakota, it's hard to get noticed," Young said Monday while at the airport in Sioux Falls.

"You get some schools looking at you, but it's tough

to get a bigger school to look at you."

Young was selected for the game after participating in two combines last year, the first at a regional event in Sioux Falls and from there he was invited to Texas for a 'super' combine in June.

His performance in the 40-yard dash, in particular, wowed the scouts — Young clocked a 4.52 in the first combine and a 4.56 down in Texas.

"After the one in Sioux Falls, they told me with my numbers I'd make it down to Texas," he said. "I didn't expect to make it down to Florida."

A three-year football starter for the Cavaliers, the 6-foot, 185-pound Young finished his prep career with impressive stats on both sides of the ball.

On defense, he recorded 189 tackles with six interceptions and two fumble recoveries, while on offense he had 175 rushes for 841 yards and 10 touchdowns, to go along with 43 pass completions for

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# Lone Loss Provided Valuable Lesson For Ducks

BY ANNE M. PETERSON  
AP Sports Writer

EUGENE, Ore. (AP) — When the Oregon Ducks look back at their lone loss of the season, sure there's lingering disappointment, but not a lot of second-guessing.

Instead, some players have pointed to the Arizona loss as the turning point of their season, when they woke up and revived for their march to the national championship.

"I think we learned a lot in terms of having that loss early in the year and kind of experiencing failure a little bit," quarterback Marcus Mariota said a few games afterward. "Now that we have had our backs against the wall, guys feel the need to fight, play loose and play with high intensity."

Lesson learned, Oregon will play for the national title next Monday night against Ohio State in Arlington, Texas. The second-seeded Ducks (13-1) defeated Florida State in college football's first playoffs to advance, while the fourth-seeded Buckeyes (13-1) upset Alabama.

Back in early October, Oregon was undefeated and ranked second in The Associated Press poll. The

Ducks were boosted by a key victory earlier in the season over Michigan State and looking to avoid the pitfalls that had thwarted them the season before, when late-season losses against Arizona and Stanford took them out of a BCS bowl game for the first time since 2008.

The Wildcats were also undefeated, but unranked and 24-point underdogs. And the game was at Autzen Stadium, where the Ducks hadn't lost since 2012.

Oregon led 7-3 at halftime before Arizona freshman Nick Wilson ran for a pair of touchdowns and caught another to build a 24-14 lead heading into the fourth quarter. The Ducks rallied with a field goal and Mariota's touchdown pass to Keanon Lowe to tie the game with 8:21 left.

With Arizona driving downfield, Tony Washington was called for unsportsmanlike conduct to give the Wildcats a first down. Then a pass interference call paved the way for Terris Jones-Grigsby's go-ahead 1-yard touchdown.

On Oregon's ensuing series, Mariota was sacked and stripped of

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STEPHEN M. DOWELL/ORLANDO SENTINEL/TNS Oregon wide receiver Darren Carrington (87) and wide receiver Chris Tewhill (89) celebrate after winning the College Football Semifinal game against FSU on Thursday, Jan. 1, in Pasadena, Calif. Oregon won 59-20 to advance to this Saturday's championship game against Ohio State.

# Snow Wipes Out Area Events On Monday

A limited Monday sporting schedule was wiped out due to snow and poor road conditions. Here are the schedule changes involving area teams, as reported to the Press & Dakotan.

- A wrestling triangular featuring Brookings and Sioux Falls Roosevelt at Yankton was postponed to Jan. 19. Roosevelt is unable to attend on that date, making the event a dual in Yankton with JV at 5:30 p.m. and varsity at 7 p.m.

- The McCook Central middle school wrestling tournament was postponed to Monday, Jan. 19. Yankton is scheduled to participate.

- The Bon Homme at Parker girls' basketball game was postponed to today (Tuesday). JV game will start at 6:30 p.m., with varsity to follow.

- The Irene-Wakonda at Freeman girls' basketball game was postponed to Feb. 5. JV game will start at 6:15 p.m., with varsity to follow.

- The Andes Central at Platte-Geddes boys' basketball game was postponed. No makeup date has been announced.

- The Allen at Lawton-Bronson boys' basketball game was postponed. No makeup date was announced.

- The Santee at Freeman Academy boys' basketball game was postponed. No makeup date was announced.

To report a schedule change, coaches and/or athletic directors are encouraged to contact the Press & Dakotan at sports@yankton.net, by fax at 1-605-665-1721 or by phone at 1-605-665-7811, ext. 106.

# Developers, Including Rams Owner, Plan L.A. Stadium

BY MICHAEL R. BLOOD  
Associated Press

INGLEWOOD, Calif. (AP) — A development group that includes a company controlled by the owner of the St. Louis Rams announced plans Monday to build an 80,000-seat stadium in the Los Angeles suburbs that could become home for an NFL team.

The proposal that envisions a stadium rising on the site of a former horse track again raised the hopes of fans that Los Angeles could end its two-decade drought without an NFL team. It becomes the latest in a string of stadium proposals in the Los Angeles area since the 1994 exit of the Rams and Raiders from Southern California.

The proposal stands out, however, because of the involvement of St. Louis Rams owner Stan Kroenke. His company, The Kroenke Group, has entered a joint venture with Stockbridge Capital Group, which had been developing a 238-acre tract of homes, parks and office space at the former Hollywood Park track in Inglewood, on the edge of Los Angeles.

Kroenke's company owns an adjacent 60 acres, which would be merged into the overall development. The expanded project would include a stadium, a separate 6,000-seat performance venue and parking.

"This is a perfect location for

a venue like this," said Christopher Meany, a senior executive for the joint venture, Hollywood Park Land Co., alluding to its proximity to major freeways, the Los Angeles International Airport and The Forum, the former home of the NBA's Los Angeles Lakers. "I don't know of a place that compares to this."

A rendering of the project depicts a stadium, shielded by a gently sloping dome, surrounded by palm trees and fountains.

Meany was cautious not to characterize the stadium as an NFL venue, emphasizing that any decision on moving a team is "entirely in the hands of the NFL." He repeatedly referred to the stadium as "multipurpose," also capable of hosting soccer games.

The shell of the old racetrack would need to be leveled, and stadium construction is not expected to begin before late this year, with a completion date pegged for 2018.

However, its development would hinge on approval by local voters, Meany said.

The proposal was first reported Monday by the Los Angeles Times.

The plan adds pressure on the city of St. Louis to either strike a deal for a new stadium for the Rams, or watch the team return to Southern California, where it played from 1946 to 1994. The team is unhappy in the Edward Jones Dome, which is

outdated by NFL standards.

St. Louis is expected to offer the team a new proposal by the end of the month.

Missouri Gov. Jay Nixon said in a statement that "St. Louis is an NFL city and I am committed to keeping it that way."

Two of Nixon's advisers on the NFL, former Anheuser-Busch executive David Peacock and lawyer Robert Blitz, said in a statement that "this will be a long-term process, but one that the state of Missouri and the St. Louis region are fully pledged to seeing through."

The San Diego Chargers and Oakland Raiders are also playing in aging stadiums and are considered potential Los Angeles transplants.

The earliest any team could move would be 2016.

Meany made the Inglewood announcement standing outside the shuttered track, where work has been underway razing barns and preparing the site for development.

The city of Los Angeles has been hoping to lure an NFL team to a proposed downtown field. The city's aspirations are hitched to Anschutz Entertainment Group, which owns the NHL's Los Angeles Kings and the downtown Staples Center, home of the Lakers and Clippers. Under its deal with City Hall, the company, led by billionaire Philip Anschutz, has until April to sign a football team.

# Sergeant Bluff Champs



ABOVE: The Yankton Heat won their eighth grade boys' division at the Sergeant Bluff Warrior Zone youth basketball tournament, beating Brandon Valley 47-42 in the final. Team members include Rex Ryken, Michael Frick, Jack Raab, Miles Carda, Nick Kurtenbach, Owen Feser, Ethan Wishon and Cole Sawatzke. Not pictured are coaches Jim Sawatzke and Brian Carda.



LEFT: The Yankton Fusion won their sixth grade boys' division at the Sergeant Bluff Warrior Zone youth basketball tournament, beating Dakota Valley 42-34 in the championship. Team members include (front) Trevor Fitzgerald, Jimmie Cunningham, Quentin Moser, (back) coach Aaron Feser, Aidan Feser, Corbin Sohler and Austin Frick.