DAILY DOSE

As evidenced by Wednesday's Press & Dakotan, archers from the U.S. Paralympic Team are in town, training for their chance at glory, which will come Aug. 29-Sept. 9 in London. Having the world's top archers in Yank-

Yankton Sports Scene To Be Busy Over Next Two Weeks ton is nothing new, as four of the six members of this year's Olympic team competed here in the Pan Am trials

the NCAA Championships during

either indoor or outdoor seasons.

tle. Neb., carries a 3,77 grade

science. She is a six-time national

can in track and field. Pollard was

NSIC Outdoor Championships

Pollard, a senior from Newcas-

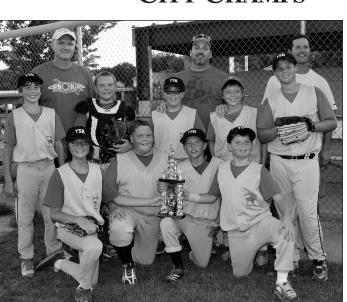
Yankton's Riverside Field will be home to a state event again this year, as the first weekend of the Class A Amateur Tournament will take over the park Aug. 3-5. Eight teams will enter Yankton, with six of those teams advancing to the second weekend of the tournament, Aug. 10-12 in Mitchell.

This event has provided some exciting action the past two times it has come to town. The first time the Class A was held here under its current format, the tournament opened with an 18-inning game, one of the

longest games in state tournament history. The last time, in 2010, Yankton's Trey Krier threw the first nine-inning state tournament no-hitter since 1948.

Needless to say, there is plenty of excitement to be had in Yankton in the coming weeks.

CITY CHAMPS



ter Federal Credit Union team won the 11-12 year-old division of the Yankton Sertoma Baseball league. Team members include (front) Sammie Schmidt, Lance Haak, Alex Cutler. Willie Schmidt, Lucas Schoenfelder, Jace Kapla, Gage Taylor, Isaac Klimisch. **Tanner** Fitzgerald, (back) and coaches Rob Klimisch, Merle Schmidt and Jay Fitzgerald.

The Services Cen-

Glenn To Speak At S.D. Junior Football Coaches Clinics In Yankton, Sioux Falls

VERMILLION — South Dakota head football coach Joe Glenn will be speaking at a pair of South Dakota Junior Football coaches clinics in the region this week. Glenn will open at the Yankton coaches clinic on Sun-

day, July 29 at the First United Methodist Church, located at 207 W 11th Street in Yankton. Start time is 6:30

He will be the opening speaker at the Sioux Falls coaches clinic today (Thursday) at 6:30 p.m. The event will be held at Riverdale Park in Sioux Falls.

WSC Trio Honored BY USTFCCCA

WAYNE, Neb. — Nicole Brungardt, Mackenzie Masching and Paige Pollard of Wayne State College were named All-Academic honorees by the U.S Track and Field and Cross Country Coaches Association released today. Brungardt, Masching and Pollard were three of 317 student-athletes from 82 NCAA Division II institutions to earn the award.

To qualify for the USTFCCCA All-Academic Track and Field Team, the student-athlete must have compiled a cumulative grade point average of 3.25 and have reached a provisional or automatic qualifying mark for



Pollard

winning the 400 hurdles and heptathlon while placing third in the long jump and seventh in the 100 hurdles. She was an outdoor national qualifier in the 400 hurdles and heptathlon. Pollard swept Indoor and Out-

door NSIC Field Athlete of the Year honors. Brungardt, a senior from Norfolk Catholic, maintains a 3.70 grade point average majoring in mid-level education. She earned All-American honors in the 100 meter dash with an eighth place finish and new school record time of 11.70 seconds. Brungardt was a two-time NSIC Champion in the 100 and 200 meter dashes and also holds school records in the 200 meter dash and 4x200

Masching, a sophomore thrower from Lawton, lowa, holds a 3.74 GPA while majoring in natural and social sciences. Masching set a NCAA provisional mark in the hammer throw at the Concordia Open with a toss of 1625 to finish fifth at the event. She finished ninth in the weight throw at the NSIC Indoor Championships with a throw of 52-1.75.

PRESS & DAKOTAN ■ THURSDAY, JULY 26, 2012

'Inside The Summit League' TV Show To Debut In August

ELMHURST, III. — The Summit League and Midco Sports Network will debut a weekly 30-minute show titled "Inside The Summit League" on Aug. 22. Part of the "See The Summit" initiative, the show will include highlights, news and features from The Summit League

Midco Sports Network, based in Sioux Falls, will produce and originate airing of 42 weekly programs during an exclusive 7 p.m. (CT) time slot on Wednesdays from Aug. 22 through June 5, 2013. Fox College Sports will provide The Summit League national coverage by airing the show weekly throughout the season. "Inside The Summit League" will also be made available to league markets and segments can be seen on The Summit League's official website.

Inside The Summit League" will review and preview games and provide feature stories on student-athletes and coaches from across the league. Segments will also include "insiders" and news and notes from around the league. In addition, a weekly "Campus Spotlight" will profile the happenings on campuses across the league.

Tom Nieman, who has called Summit League Basketball action

for each of the past four seasons, will serve as host for "Inside The Summit League."

Midco Sports Network has produced and aired 46 men's and

women's games live from The Summit League Basketball Championships since 2009, including all quarterfinal and semifinal games

over the past three years.

Additional information, including show dates, air times and local

affiliates will be available on The Summit League website in August.

SCOREBOARD

OLYMPICS WEDNESDAY'S SCORES

Women
Britain 1, New Zealand 0 Japan 2, Canada 1 United States 4, France 2 Brazil 5 Cameroon 0

North Korea 2, Colombia 0 **GOLF**

LAKEVIEW GOLF COURSE

THURSDAY MEN'S LEAGUE LOW GROSS: Brandon Bruders 35 LOW NET: Brandon Bruders 27 TEAM LOW GROSS: Sacred Heart nastery 179 TEAM LOW NET: Sacred Heart Monastery

STANDINGS: Wild Boar Enterprises 149. Welfl Construction 138, West-Hodson 137, Goe-den Construction 132, Town & Country Insur-ance 130, Wankers 128, Sacred Heart Monastery 127, One Holerz 122, Huether Seamless Siding 122, WCC-007 114. The Glass Cutter 112, Duh Duffers 111, Photography by Jerry 104, EZ Swingers 96, Rounding 3rd 90, FISO 87

TUESDAY MEN'S LEAGUE LOW GROSS: Michael Kuchta 38, Tom LOW NET: Duane Schurman 29

STANDINGS: Baily-Kuchta 116, Sailor-aveland 101, Wiebelhaus-Wiebelhaus 97, Zavadil-Pooler 97, Sprakel-Zavadil 95, Kuchta-Merkel 95, Tramp-Leader 89, Folkers-Romero 88, Wieseler-Merkel 83, Nohr-Goeden 82, Hysell-Brauer 81, Wilken-Sprakel-Schurman 75 Kuehn-Edwards 75, Bartles-Hoffart 72, Jackson Thunker 72, Pokorney-Trenhail 71, Murphey-Pe tersen 66. Haubrick-Van Essen Ferden-Johannasen 60, Jannsen-Pautler 57, Tramp-Potts 57, Kaiser-Steffen 56, Anderson-Larson 52, Clark-Fish 52, Sprakel-Wilken 46, Schmidt-Ryan 32

BASEBALL

DISTRICT 6B TOURN. July 19-28 at Menno

Thursday, July 19 Freeman 5, Menno 1

Friday, July 20 Wynof 10, Scotland 0 Tabor 6, Lesterville 3

Saturday, July 21 Menno 5. Scotland 1: Scotland eliminated Crofton 8, Freeman 3 Avon 4, Irene 1

Sunday, July 22 Irene 5, Freeman 1; Freeman eliminated Lesterville 6, Menno 5, 11 innings; Menno

Tuesday, July 24 Crofton 11, Avon 1, 8 innings Tabor 5, Wynot 4

Thursday, July 26 GAME 11: Wynot vs. Irene, 6 p.m., winner is

Rep #2 GAME 12: Avon vs. Lesterville, 8 p.m., winner is Rep #3

Saturday, July 28 GAME 13: Game 11 loser vs. Game 12 loser, 5 p.m., winner is Rep #4 CHAMPIONSHIP: Crofton vs. Tabor, 7:30

p.m., winner is champion, loser is Rep #1 AMERICAN LEAGUE

Baltimore Tampa Bay .520 .520 .495 10 1/2 .495 10 1/2 **Central Division** Pct GB .541 — .541 — .500 4 .423 11 1/2 .408 13 Chicago Detroit Cleveland Kansas City Minnesota West Division
 Pct
 GB

 .598
 —

 .546
 5

 .545
 5

 .430
 16 1/2

Los Angeles Seattle Tuesday's Games
Cleveland 3, Detroit 2
Tampa Bay 3, Baltimore 1
Oakland 7, Toronto 2
Boston 2, Texas 1 Chicago White Sox 11, Minnesota 4 Kansas City 4, L.A. Angels 1 Seattle 4, N.Y. Yankees 2

Texas Oakland

ednesday's Games Chicago White Sox 8, Minnesota 2 L.A. Angels 11, Kansas City 6 N.Y. Yankees 5, Seattle 2 Detroit 5, Cleveland 3 Tampa Bay 10, Baltimore 1 Oakland 16, Toronto 0 Texas 5, Boston 3

Thursday's Games
Tampa Bay (Shields 8-6) at Baltimore (Tillman 2-1), 11:35 à.m. Oakland (Milone 9-6) at Toronto (Laffev 2-1), 11:37 a.m.

Detroit (Verlander 11-5) at Cleveland (McAllister 4-2), 6:05 p.m. Kansas City (Mendoza 4-6) at Seattle (Vargas 10-7), 9:10 p.m. Friday's Games Boston at N.Y. Yankees, 6:05 p.m. Oakland at Baltimore, 6:05 p.m.
Detroit at Toronto, 6:07 p.m.
Chicago White Sox at Texas, 7:05 p.m. Cleveland at Minnesota, 7:10 p.m. Tampa Bay at L.A. Angels, 9:05 p.m.

NATIONAL LEAGUE East Division Pct GB L Washington .598 .551 .480 39 44 51 53 54 4 1/2 11 1/2 Atlanta New York .459 13 1/2 .455 14 Philadelphia Central Division .588 .567 .526 GB Pittsburgh St. Louis 53 57 64 .454 .412 .347 West Division **W** 55 53 Pct GB 55 43 53 45 49 48 42 58 36 60 .561 .541 .505 San Francisco Los Angeles San Diego .420 .375

Chicago Cubs 5, Pittsburgh 1
Philadelphia 7, Milwaukee 6
Atlanta 4, Miami 3
Washington 5, N.Y. Mets 2 Cincinnati 4. Houston 2 St. Louis 8, L.A. Dodgers 2 San Francisco 3, San Diego 2 dnesday's Games Washington 5, N.Y. Mets 2

Pittsburgh 3, Chicago Cubs 2
Atlanta 7, Miami 1
Philadelphia 7, Milwaukee 6, 10 innings San Diego 6, San Francisco 3 Cincinnati at Houston, 8:05 p.m. L.A. Dodgers at St. Louis, 8:15 p.m. Colorado at Arizona, 9:40 p.m.

Thursday's Games L.A. Dodgers (Capuano 10-5) at St. Louis

(Westbrook 8-8), 12:45 p.m. Pittsburgh (A.J.Burnett 11-3) at Houston (Keuchel 1-2), 7:05 p.m. Washington (E.Jackson 5-6) at Milwaukee (Gallardo 8-7), 7:10 p.m.

N.Y. Mets (Harvey 0-0) at Arizona (Miley 11-Friday's Games St. Louis at Chicago Cubs, 1:20 p.m.

San Diego at Miami, 6:10 p.m. Philadelphia at Atlanta, 6:35 p.m. Pittsburgh at Houston, 7:05 p.m. Washington at Milwaukee, 7:10 p.m. Cincinnati at Colorado, 7:40 p.m. N.Y. Mets at Arizona, 8:40 p.m. L.A. Dodgers at San Francisco, 9:15 p.m.

BASEBALL American League
BOSTON RED SOX — Assigned RHP Jose
De La Torre to Pawtucket (IL).
CLEVELAND INDIANS — Transferred 3B

Lonnie Chisenhall to the 60-day DL. Designated OF Aaron Cunningham for assignment. KANSAS CITY ROYALS — Named Jim rower pitching coach for Surprise (Arizona Fall League).

MINNESOTA TWINS — Agreed to terms

NEW YORK YANKEES — Placed 3B Alex Rodriguez on the 15-day DL. Recalled INF Ramiro Pena from Scranton/Wilkes-Barre (IL). Transferred INF Eduardo Nunez from Tampa (FSL) to Scranton/Wilkes-Barre.

SEATTLE MARINERS — Recalled OF

Trayvon Robinson from Tacoma (PCL).
TAMPA BAY RAYS — Designated OF/DH TORONTO BLUE JAYS — Agreed to terms

AREA CALENDAR

Thursday, July 26
BASEBALL, AMATEUR District 6B Tourn. at Menno (Game 11 — Wynot vs. Irene, 6 p.m., KVHT-FM; Game 12 — Avon vs. Lesterville, 8 p.m., KVHT-FM) Lesterville, 8 p.m., kVH1-FM)

BASEBALL, LEGION Region 2A Tourn.

BASEBALL, VFW TEENER Yankton

tck Sox at Pierre Green (DH, 5:30 p.m.)

Friday, July 27

BASEBALL, LEGION Junior Legion

Regional at Sioux Falls (Yankton Split-Squad); S.D. State Class B Tourn. at Milbank

BASEBALL, VFW TEENER Brandor GOLF, DAKOTAS TOUR First Dakota

SWIMMING, YOUTH S.D. State Meet at SWIMMING, YOUTH S.D. State Meet at Rapid City (Yankton)
Saturday, July 28
BASEBALL, AMATEUR District 6B
Tourn. at Menno (Game 13 — Game 11 loser vs. Game 12 loser, 5 p.m., KVHT-FM, Cham-pionship — Crofton vs. Tabor, 7:30 p.m.,

BASEBALL, LEGION Junior Legion

tract through 2018. Assigned OF Jason Pridie outright to Lehigh Valley (IL).
PITTSBURGH PIRATES — Promoted RHP
Logan Kensing from Altoona (EL) to Indianapolis (IL) and LHP Jhonathan Ramos from Braden-

Frontier League
FLORENCE FREEDOM — Signed INF Stephen Cardullo

INF Noberto Susini.
RIVER CITY RASCALS — Sold the contract of RHP David Haselden to the Chicago

RHP Mike Devine.
WINDY CITY THUNDERBOLTS — Sent LHP Matt Costello to River City to complete an earlier trade. Signed LHP Paul Montalbano.

FOOTBALL DeChristopher on the waived-injured list.

Regional at Sioux Falls (Yankton Split-Squad); S.D. State Class B Tourn. at Milbank

GOLF. DAKOTAS TOUR First Dakota

Transferred RHP Todd Coffey to 60-day DL.
MIAMI MARLINS — Traded 3B Hanley
Ramirez and LHP Randy Choate to the L.A.
Dodgers for RHP Nathan Eovaldi and RHP Scott NEW YORK METS — Optioned C Mike

ton (FSL) to Altoona, Optioned RHP Evan Meek

LAKE ERIE CRUSHERS — Signed LHP

BASKETBALL

National Football League ARIZONA CARDINALS — Placed G Blake

Kowalski on the physically-unable-to-perform

GOLF, DAKOTAS TOUR First Dakota Fox Run Pro-Am
GOLF, SDGA Mid-Amateur Champi-

Rapid City (Yankton)

Sunday, July 29

BASEBALL, LEGION Junior Legion

GOLF, SDGA Mid-Amateur Champi-

with RHP Scott Copeland on a minor league

Nickeas to Buffalo (IL).

PHILADELPHIA PHILLIES — Agreed to terms with LHP Cole Hamels on a six-year con-

to Indianapolis. Recalled OF Starling Marte from Indianapolis.

Sox. FRAVERSE CITY BEACH BUMS — Signed

zlies for G/F D.J. Kennedy.

DALLAS MAVERICKS — Signed C Bernard don Romans assistant baseball coach.

UTAH JAZZ — Agreed to terms with G tor of women's basketball operations.

Brandon Thompson.
DALLAS COWBOYS — Placed G
Mackenzy Bernadeau, WR Danny Coale, CB
Mike Jenkins, S Matt Johnson and C/G Kevin

BASEBALL, VFW TEENER Brandon Valley Tourn. (Yankton Lakers, Yankton Reds); Pierre White at Yankton Black Sox

ship at The Bluffs GC SWIMMING, YOUTH S.D. State Meet at

National League LOS ANGELES DODGERS—Optioned RHP Shawn Tolleson to Albuquerque (PCL).

Josh Hungarman.

NORMAL CORNBELTERS — Released

ny Pargo, a second-round draft pick in 2014, I cash considerations from the Memphis Griz-

 ${\tt MINNESOTA\ TIMBERWOLVES-Signed}$

BUFFALO BILLS — Signed DE Sean Ferguson. Released DE Lionel Dotson.
CHICAGO BEARS — Placed WR Johnny
Knox on the physically-unable-to-perform list. CINCINNATI BENGALS — Signed DT

Regional at Sioux Falls (Yankton Split-Squad); S.D. State Class B Tourn. at Milbank

SWIMMING, YOUTH S.D. State Meet at

BASEBALL, VFW TEENER Brandon

st.
DETROIT LIONS — Released OT Johnny
ulbreath. Signed OT Jonathan Scott, CB Drew
oleman and CB Justin Miller.
GREEN BAY PACKERS — Signed G Greg
an Roten. Released G Grant Cook and S Char-

JACKSONVILLE JAGUARS—Signed Bryan Anger. MINNESOTA VIKINGS — Signed CB Josh

Robinson.

NEW ENGLAND PATRIOTS — Signed DL

Tim Bulman and TE Visanthe Shiancoe. Released RB Joseph Addai. NEW ORLEANS SAINTS — Agreed to terms with TE Derek Schouman. Signed WR Marques Clark. Waived WR Kevin Hardy. PHILADELPHIA EAGLES — Signed P Mat

McBriar to a one-year contract.
PITTSBURGH STEELERS — Placed S Damon Cromartie-Smith, NT Casey Hampton, LB James Harrison, RB Rashard Mendenhall, OT Max Starks and LB Jason Worilds on the physically-unable-to-perform list.

SEATTLE SEAHAWKS—Signed C Max Unger to a multi-year contract.
TENNESSEE TITANS — Waived OL Chandler Burden. Placed WR Kenny Britt and S

Markelle Martin on the physically-unable-to-per

Traynor athletics academic adviser.

TEXAS-SAN ANTONIO - Promoted KC

National Hockey League BOSTON BRUINS — Entered into a oneyear affiliation agreement with South Carolina (ECHL).

NEW YORK ISLANDERS — Agreed to terms with D Nathan McIver on a one-year, twoway contract.
OTTAWA SENATORS — Re-signed F National Basketball Association
CLEVELAND CAVALIERS—Acquired G JeStephane Da Costa to a one-year, two-way con-COLLEGE JACKSONVILLE STATE — Named Bran-

MINNESOTA - Named Mike Ellis senior ociate athletics director for administration NEW YORK KNICKS — Signed G Ronnie

NEW YORK KNICKS — Signed G Ronnie

Newr.

ABDFORD — Named Lindsay Walter directives. ROANOKE — Named Richmond Bramblet istant sports information director.

SIU-EDWARDSVILLE — Named Kelly

> Cowgill to women's assistant basketball coach.
> Named Deidra Johnson women's assistant basketball coach.
> TEXAS TECH — Named Russell Raley voland Lane Sawatzke added hits. unteer assistant baseball coach. UNC GREENSBORO — Named Sarah Sargent women's golf coach.

SWEET ESCAPE



WALLY SKALIJ/LOS ANGELES TIMES/MCT

United States goalie Hope Solo, middle, is all smiles after defeating France, 4-2, in a preliminary round of the 2012 London Olympics in Glasgow, Scotland, on Wednesday. France led 2-0 early in the match.

Baseball

From Page 7

Kory Bromley, Alex Wagner and Chris Kanaly finished their Legion eligibility with the season

Valley Springs 6, Yankton 5

MITCHELL — Valley Springs sent Yankton to the loser's bracket in Region 2A with a 6-5 decision on Tuesday afternoon at

Cadwell Park. Alex Mueller had three hits and a run scored, and Evan Schroeder scored three runs to lead Yankton. Kory Bromley had a double and a run scored. Nik Davis had a hit and a RBI. Andrew Hummel, Zach Benjamin

Mike Janish took the loss in relief of Alex Wagner, who allowed four earned runs in eight innings.

District 6B Amateurs Tabor 5, Wynot 4

MENNO — The Tabor Bluebirds survived a late-inning surge by Wynot, scoring in the ninth to claim a 5-4 victory over Wynot in the semifinals of the District 6B Amateur Baseball Tournament on Tuesday in Menno.

Tabor led 4-1 before the Expos

tied the game with three runs in

Bluebirds rallied with a run in the

the bottom of the eighth. The

ninth to take the victory and secure a trip to the South Dakota State Class B Amateur Baseball Tournament, Aug. 1-12 in Mitchell. Wes Kloucek went 2-5 with a double and a RBI, and Blase Vanecek went 2-4 with two RBI to

lead Tabor. Chris Sutera also had

two hits. Steve Fejfar singled

once and walked three times in Scott Heine had a hit and two RBI, and Lance Heine had a hit and a RBI for Wynot. Lee Heimes singled, scored a run and stole

two bases. Gary Kortan pitched the final 1 1/3 innings to pick up the win in

relief of Jon Vavruska, who struck out 11 in 7 2/3 innings. Scott Morrison, who pitched into the ninth, took the loss. Tabor faces Crofton in the district final, a rematch of the 2011 state championship game, on Saturday at 7:30 p.m. Wynot has two

more chances to qualify for state, the first being on Thursday against Irene. Start time is 6 p.m. in Menno. WYNOT......010 000 030 — 4 5 3 Jon Vavruska, Gary Kortan (8) and Steve Fejfar; Scott Morrison, Lee Heimes (9) and Steve Heimes, Scott Heine (9)

District 7B Amateurs

Renner Oldtimers 5, Canton Aces 2 AKRON, Iowa — Curt Cutler tossed a complete game as the Renner Oldtimers beat the Canton Aces 5-2 for a berth in the

South Dakota State Amateur

ner's bracket. In order to do that,

these teams will hit and we know

we will hit, so it's a matter of who

The tournament runs through

You can follow James D. Cim-

Roor

we have to pitch well and play

defense," he said. "We know

fields best.'

Tuesday.

burek on Twitter at

twitter.com/aceman904

Baseball Tournament.

Stadium

wearing a Cards' T-shirt.

From Page 7

free if they were with a paid adult and

"I would truthfully have to say it's a

to lose an icon here. The Omaha Zoo Foundation bought the property to expand the adjacent zoo. Some 900 parking spots will occupy the space at this time next year. In a nod to history, a small park also will be built, with a miniature baseball field paying

tribute to the stadium named in honor

of former Mayor Johnny Rosenblatt.

sad day," Gernandt said. "We're going

The stadium is coming down piece by piece over six months rather than by an implosion that lasts seconds so the zoo's operation isn't disrupted. Cost for demolition and site preparation is about \$2.5 million. Seats and other stadium fixtures were sold to the Don Goers, project manager for An-

cled along with masonry. Just before the backhoe began its work, Gernandt pulled a handkerchief from his pocket. He paused when asked if he needed it for allergies or for

derson Excavating, said the estimated

4,000 to 5,000 tons of steel will be recy-

His eyes fixed on the stadium, he said, "I'll take the fifth on that."

There's work to do all over, but

explaining his choice. There's a thin line between good and bad. So if we get just a little bit better, I think this can be a playoff-caliber type of football

Legion

From Page 7

we need to play."

the team in runs batted in. "Collin moved to the leadoff spot. He's a smart leadoff hitter," Gault said. "Tanner is one of the better third basemen I've had. He has soft hands, a strong arm and

Stormy Mirtz (.321, 1 HR, 26

RBI) has also provided offensive

pop.
"Stormy Mirtz is probably our bitter on the

only true power hitter on the

team," Gault said. "If the ball is

up, he can hit the ball a long ways. Vermillion's first-round draw, Corsica, will be a tough way to

start the tournament.

"That was a loaded region, too. Platte and Corsica must be really tough, because it's not often that Tabor doesn't make the region championship," Gault said. "They are a team that certainly has the ability to win the whole thing. They'll quietly be one of the favorites.'

Whoever Vermillion plays on

We'll face either Groton or

said. "We faced Milbank in the

semis of the high school tourna-

ment, and Collin threw a one-hitter and their guy threw a three-hitter. Groton, year in and year out, has a solid team.' The event, with the potential for five or six games in five days,

is a test of both pitching and perseverance, Gault noted. "It's easier to stay on the win-

GOT SPORTS?



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Bruce Tirre

Vikings

shoved to the back over their last seven matchuns.

"We're going into this thing with the right attitude and the right approach, and now we just have to take care of some things when we get down to Mankato and put the pads on," Frazier said. "We'll learn a lot more about our team when that happens.

The Vikings report to Minnesota State on Thursday for the 47th straight summer, and the immediate focus will be on Ponder's two most important teammates. Percy Harvin and Adrian Peterson. Harvin stirred up a quiet minicamp by vaguely expressing widespread unhappiness with the organization, requesting a trade and skipping a practice. Then he showed up the next day and claimed on Twitter he had no clue where those "crazy reports" were coming from. How Harvin acts, performs and

keeps his body healthy will be another major factor in this year's success. Peterson more recently provided a round of offseason stories for allegedly pushing a police officer who was trying to clear out a Houston nightclub at closing time. He has a court hearing on a misdemeanor resisting arrest charge set for Aug. 6, but he and his attorney have vehemently denied the accusation.

More relevantly, when the Vikings hold their first practice, Peterson will be roughly seven months out from surgery on his left knee that repaired the torn anterior cruciate and medial collateral ligaments suffered in the second-to-last game of 2011. He's

been ahead of schedule on his rehabilitation and has vowed to be in uniform for the Sept. 9 opener. But he still has work to do to persuade the team to put him out there so

a 10-deep draft class led by ex-USC left tackle Matt Kalil has rejuvenated the roster a bit. The signings of free agents wide receiver Jerome Simpson and tight end John Carlson have strengthened the depth chart on offense. Antoine Winfield and Chris Cook have helped restock a depleted secondary, along with rookie safety Harrison Smith and free agent cornerbacks Zack Bowman and Chris Carr. "I saw opportunity," Carr said,

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Saturday won't be any easier, Gault noted. hits the ball hard. He fits the way Milbank the following day," he