

# State Softball: Hale's Angels Finish Wild Ride With Title

Notebook: Love Of Softball Keeps Coach Pepper, Players Coming Back

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SIOUX FALLS — Despite the team's propensity to "give me a heart attack," according to coach Mark Mora, the Hale's Angels from Tripp put together a pretty good weekend, winning the 18-under 'C' division of the South Dakota ASA Girls' Fastpitch Tournament, which concluded on Sunday in Sioux Falls.

The Angels went 5-1 in the tournament, needing to play a second championship game with Little Missouri Valley Conference rival Wagner before taking the title with a 10-9 victory.

Tripp opened with victories over Clearfield (16-14), the Sioux Falls Riot (9-4) and Scotland (10-9) before beating Tabor 15-7 Sunday morning to advance to the final. Wagner, which had lost its opener before reeling off four straight wins to get to the final pairing, won 12-3 to force the "if" game.

"It's always good between us and Wagner," Mora said. "They came out hitting."

After taking a 2-0 lead in the deciding contest, Tripp fell behind again.

"We were getting down in time and innings," Mora said. "We had a little chat, then we went ahead 10-9."



ABOVE: Yankton Spitfire players celebrate after their victory in an elimination game in the South Dakota ASA State Girls' Fastpitch Tournament on Saturday in Sioux Falls. The Spitfire kept themselves alive with four wins on Saturday before falling to the eventual 18-under 'A' champion on Sunday morning. (James D. Cimburek/P&D)  
LOWER LEFT: Hale's Angels, from Tripp, won the 18-under 'C' division. Team members include (front) Laura Brown, Liz Bitterman, Morgan Ziegler, Morgan Polreis, Allison Mora, Rachel Mora, Hannah Just, (back) assistant coach Amy Brown, Kelsey Buchmann, Lanae Fuerst, Cara Finck, Tricia Fischer, Rebecca Brown, Kennedy Schatz, Kelli Batterman and head coach Mark Mora (Submitted Photo)  
LOWER RIGHT: Scotland coach Gary Pepper, in hat, congratulates his players during their game with the Tripp Hale's Angels on Saturday. (James D. Cimburek/P&D)



SOFTBALL | PAGE 9

Girls' Basketball | Mount Marty Camp

# Area Teams Relish Summer Action



ABOVE: Yankton's Danielle Schmidt, 42, battles with a Dell Rapids defender during their game Monday at the Mount Marty College team camp at Laddie E. Cimpr Arena.  
RIGHT: Crofton's Maria Wortmann, front, backs down a Dell Rapids defender during their game Monday afternoon at the Mount Marty College team camp at Laddie E. Cimpr Arena.

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In order to face unique and challenging competition, the Yankton Gazelles do not need to look far.

Across town is far enough. The Gazelles sent 23-24 girls' basketball players on two teams to the Mount Marty College varsity team camp on Monday at Laddie E. Cimpr Arena. Yankton's squads, one of 18 in action, each played three games on the day.

"It's convenient for our kids to be right here in town at a great camp that Mount Marty has," head coach Doug Pesicka said. "That way, they don't have to worry about travel."

Then there is the idea of facing some high-level competition, all of which the Gazelles wouldn't otherwise get a chance to face — they were the only Class AA school in attendance.

"The one thing that never shocks me, but it does take me by surprise, is how many good players you see in our state," Pesicka said. "Even here at this camp, you see a bunch of really high quality kids."

Dell Rapids also split its players onto two teams, while Alcester-Hudson, Beresford, Bon Homme, Harrisburg, Irene-Wakonda, Lennox, McCook Central-Montrose, Menno, Mount Vernon-Plankinton, Parker, Vermillion and Viborg-Hurley also competed from South Dakota.

Teams across the state are allowed four out-of-season contacts, and the Gazelles played at both Mount Marty team camps this summer — the first was held in June.

The idea, Pesicka said, is simple: Give the Gazelles an opportunity to compete.

"With so many players here for us, a lot of kids are getting a chance to play," he said. "We can mix and match a lot of different combina-

tions, to see what we could be working with next season."

Unlike South Dakota, Nebraska does not put a limit on team camps — there are, however, regulations regarding individual workouts.

The two-time defending state champion Crofton Lady Warriors, however, find ways to stay active during the summer.

"We come to these to work on our system, and to make sure our kids understand it," head coach Aaron Losing said. "We have kids who do great work in the weight room and work on their individual stuff."

"They just need to come out here and compete."

Crofton was joined by Randolph as the only Nebraska teams in the field Monday. The Lady Warriors opened the day by playing Yankton, later faced Harrisburg and closed the day against Dell Rapids.

While a lot of smaller

schools have smaller rosters and don't have as much flexibility to tinker with lineups, Crofton, by comparison, was able to try out certain things. The Lady Warriors returned starters Allison Arens, Quinn Wragge and Maria Wortmann to a team that was unbeaten last season on the way to a Class C2 title.

"We played 11 kids today and saw some great things," Losing said. "The thing that I like is that we're not settled on a starting five; I'm not sure that you want to have that solidified right now. You want kids battling for spots."

With the focus keyed on individual and team improvements, the actual scores of games is irrelevant, Pesicka said.

"We're more concerned with working on fundamentals and getting kids some experience," he said. "You can't catch yourself looking up at the scoreboard, which I know

CAMP | PAGE 9



# Baseball: Post 12 Falls In Quarterfinals At Gopher Classic; Tappers Roll In SCL

BLOOMINGTON, Minn. — Yankton First Dakota Post 12 advanced to the quarterfinals of the 2013 Jim Hanus Gopher Classic before falling to West St. Paul, Minn., by a 3-1 score Monday in American Legion baseball action.

The finish marked the first time Yankton advanced that far in the 90-team event since 2008.

"We never thought that far ahead. We just wanted to put ourselves in decent position," said Yankton head coach Trey Krier. "Then Tanner (Termansen) throws an amazing game on Friday, Sawatzke pitches five strong innings on Saturday and Benji (Zach

Benjamin), pitching on four days rest, pitches seven strong innings on Sunday."

Andrew Hummel, Brad Ulmer and Termansen had hits for Yankton in the loss. Mitchell Gullikson drove in the lone Yankton run.

Ben Cameron took the loss. Early in the day, Yankton advanced with a 6-2 victory over Chaska, Min.

Andrew Hummel went 2-3 with a triple and three runs scored, and Landon Withrow went 2-4 with four RBI to lead Yankton. Lane Sawatzke had two hits and a RBI in the win.

"We were absolutely a different team this week," Krier said. "Normally we try to play small but, but we were hitting the ball around against some decent pitching."

Cameron picked up the victory. Post 12, 14-18, takes on Brookings on Friday.

"Right now we're focusing on getting some rest," Krier said. "We're going to take a couple days off, then we play a couple this weekend."

Region play begins on July 23, one week from today (Tuesday), and Krier feels the team is ready.

"It's nice to be playing our best

baseball at the end of the season," he said. "Our record isn't anything to write home about, but we're focused on playing our best baseball at the right time of the year."

West St. Paul advances to face Rapid City Post 22 in one semifinal. Eagan, Minn., will face Moline, Ill., in the other semifinal today in Minnetonka, Minn.

## Amateur Yankton 12, Menno 3

Jake Broscha pitched eight strong innings and Ross Heine had three hits to lead the Yank-

ton Tappers past Menno 12-3 in South Central League amateur baseball action Monday night at Riverside Field.

It was a makeup game from earlier this season.

Heine was 3-4 with two runs scored for Yankton (11-3), while Nik Davis was 2-5 with three runs. Heath Arens added a pair of hits and two runs, while Dave Schmidt was 2-3.

Broscha struck out five batters, while Mike Janish had two strikeouts in one inning of relief.

Macon Oplinger was 2-3 for the Mad Frogs (4-11), while Josh Berndt doubled and Ben Fischer scored twice. Will Johnke struck out three in a complete game effort on the mound.

BASEBALL | PAGE 9