

Yankton Teams Set For State Fastpitch Tourney



P&D FILE PHOTO

Yankton Fury Xtreme pitcher Holly Mines sends the ball home during the Yankton Girls' Softball Association invitational earlier this season. The Xtreme are one of six Yankton teams participating in the South Dakota Amateur Softball Association Girls' Fastpitch Tournament, today (Friday) through Sunday in Sioux Falls.

BY DYLAN HUGGINS
sports@yankton.net

Six teams from Yankton will compete in the South Dakota Amateur Softball Association's Girls' Fastpitch Tournament, which begins today (Friday) at Sherman Park and Harmodon Park in Sioux Falls. Games in the 18-Under and 16-Under divisions, as well as most games in the 14-Under division, will be played at Sherman Park. Here is a look at the Yankton teams participating in the tournament. (Note: coaches from the Yankton Fury Black 12-Under team, which will compete in the 'C' division at state, could not be reached.) Teams from several other area communities will also participate in the event.

Fury Xtreme
(16- Under B Division)
The Fury Xtreme is 28-24-2 on the season and head coach Kim Velk said

her team has had a great season so far. "We've played very well and it's just a matter of staying consistent," she said. Velk mentioned that both offense and defense has been great for her team. "Our bats have been strong and Holly Mines and Hannah Cummins have been great pitchers for us," she said. Liz Suing has recorded a .412 average for the Xtreme with three home runs and 39 RBI's. Also leading the way for the Xtreme have been Traia Hubbard (.302, 4 HR, 29 RBI), Bailey Peterka (.412, 28 RBI, 7 SB), Megan McCorkell (.400, 15 RBI, 5 SB), Holly Mines (.345, 36 RBI, 12 2B,) Avery Kvirstad (.333, 2 H), Alix Peterka (.322, 22 RBI, 9 2B), Dani Dvorak (.300, 13 RBI, 18 1B), Hannah Cummins (.267, 25 1B, 2SB), Lexie McCorkell (.247, 20 RBI, 1 HR), Britney Davis (.247, 15 RBI, 17 1B), Meryle Mason (.219, 12 RBI, 8 1B) and Ivy Mines (.133, 7 RBI, 8 1B). The pitchers include Hannah Cummins (3.25 ERA, 120 K), Avery Kvirstad (3.5 ERA, 1 K), Holly Mines (5.65 ERA, 64 K) and Lexie McCorkell (68.25). The majority of teams the Fury Xtreme have played this season will be ones they will face in the tournament, Velk said. "We'll have to keep the bats going and keep it clean with no errors," she said. The Fury Xtreme will face either Diamonds Ice or Clausen Const. on

Saturday at 8 a.m.

Fury Crush
14 under B Division
Coach Mark Vellek said his team (30-31-2) has been up and down during the season. "We have been really good, and we have been mediocre at time," he said. Vellek said Brooke Madson, the catcher, has been great for his team. "Brooke is a great catcher. Not too many people can steal on here. She is definitely one of the leaders of the team," he said. Peyton Vellek who is a pitcher for the Crush has a record of 7-4. "She doesn't walk many batters," Vellek said. The following girls make up the team: Bridget Nolz (P, SS: 11-5, 5.76 ERA, 44 K in 75 1/3 IP; .325, 6 2B, 8 3B, 1 HR, 31 RBI), Baylee Kenney (P, LF: 8.81 ERA, 52 K in 64 1/3 IP; .209, 5 2B, 7 3B, 24 RBI), Payton Vellek (P, RF: 8-5, 4.53 ERA, 35 K in 80 1/3 IP; .243, 7 2B, 2 3B, 27 RGI), Bailey Sejnoha (P, SS, LF: 5.97 ERA, 45 K in 87 2/3 IP; .391, 12 2B, 4 3B, 30 RBI, 74 runs), Brook Madson (C: .399, 14 2B, 8 3B, 3 HR, 31 RBI, 70 runs), Chloe Koletzky (1B: .283, 2 2B, 37 RBI), Elsie Marquardt (3B: .348, 14 2B, 3 3B, 55 RBI), Rachel Hamburg (2B: .298, 5 2B,

19 RBI), Trinity Fitch (CF: .223, 5 2B, 16 RBI), Leanne Sasse (CF: .113, 9 RBI) and Tiffany Nelson (CF). The Crush will play their first game today (Friday) at 11 a.m. against S.D Fusion Power.

Fury Wildcats
12-Under 'B' Division
Head coach Jim Reinhardt said his team is ready to compete at the state tournament. "Our girls are ready to play. If we focus on the game and play our game, not their game, we will be fine," he said. Reinhardt mentioned how his team has played up until this point. "We started out strong. As the season progressed we went down a bit and so did our batting," he said. "It is slowly starting to come back," he said. The Fury Wildcats faces the Fusion Rookies on Friday at 12:30 p.m. today (Friday).

Fury White
10 under comp. division
The Yankton Fury White is 38-6-1 on the season and is ready to head to the state tournament in Sioux Falls.

SOFTBALL | PAGE 7A

All-Star Rosters Announced

ABERDEEN – Rosters for the South Dakota High School Coaches Association All-Star Games, July 14-15 in Aberdeen, have been announced.

For the all-star girls' basketball game, scheduled for 6 p.m. on Tuesday, the South roster includes Mount Marty College women's basketball recruit Sami Kasowski of Tri-Valley. The North roster includes MMC basketball and track recruit Mikayla Prouty of Clark-Willow Lake.

For the all-star boys' basketball game, scheduled for 8 p.m. on Tuesday, the South Roster includes Platte-Geddes' Coby Johnson and Carter Dykstra, Parker's Zack O'Keefe and Elk Point-Jefferson's Brandon Koupal.

For the all-star volleyball match, scheduled for 5 p.m. on Wednesday, the South roster includes Payton Johannesson of Andes Central, Haley Mines of Yankton, Allison Sanner of Parker, Lindsey Smith of Dakota Valley and Brooklyn Tolliver of Wagner. The South squad will be coached by Yankton's Tiffany Beste.

For the all-star football game, scheduled for 7:30 p.m. on Wednesday, the Blue roster includes Austin Bertram, Miles Semmler, Weslee Dvorak and Caleb Horstman of Parkston; Devin Tolsma and Logan Mudder of Avon, Kole Nordquist and Oliver Doeden of Beresford, and Hunter Young of Bon Homme, who will be a walk-on for the University of South Dakota football program this fall. The Red roster includes Brady Dam of Dakota Valley, Lincoln Langerock of Marion and Matt Fitzgerald of Yankton.

The games are being held in conjunction with the SDHSCA Convention, July 14-15 in Aberdeen. All games will be played on the Aberdeen Central High School campus.

Summit League Championship Sites Set

ELMHURST, Ill. — The Summit League has announced the dates, sites and hosts for all 19 of its sport championships for 2015-16 season on Thursday.

Headlining the schedule is The Summit League Basketball Championships, which will be hosted by the Sioux Falls Sports Authority. After record-breaking attendance in 2015, the championships return to Sioux Falls for an eighth straight year.

Eight of the league's nine schools will host championships with Denver and South Dakota State each hosting a league-high two, all during the fall season. The Jackrabbits will host back-to-back championships in cross country and women's soccer followed by men's soccer and volleyball hosted by the Pioneers.

Omaha, now an active Division I member and eligible for all championships, will host tennis, the first league championships hosted by the Mavs. IUPUI hosts swimming and diving for the third straight year while Fort Wayne has indoor track and field for the third time in the last five years.

For the second-straight season, the men's and women's golf championships will be split each at first-time locations. The men's championship takes place in Newton, Kan., while Nebraska City, Neb., plays host to the women's tournament. South Dakota welcomes the outdoor track and field championships for the first time from May 12-14.

North Dakota State will host softball, while Oral Roberts hosts baseball.

Juniors Fall To S.F. West



JAMES D. CIMBUREK/P&D

Yankton's Caid Koletzky lays down a bunt during the first inning of Post 12's American Legion junior baseball game with Sioux Falls West on Thursday at Yankton's Bob Tereshinski Stadium at Riverside Field.

Former Raiders QB Stabler Dead At 69

BY JOHN ZENOR
AP Sports Writer

Ken Stabler, who led the Oakland Raiders to a Super Bowl victory and was the NFL's Most Valuable Player in 1974, has died as a result of complications from colon cancer. He was 69.

His family announced his death on Stabler's Facebook page on Thursday. The statement said Stabler "passed peacefully" on Wednesday while surrounded by family, including his three daughters and longtime partner, who wasn't named. Raiders owner Mark Davis said the team was "deeply saddened by the passing of the great Ken Stabler."

"He was a cherished member of the Raider family and personified what it means to be a Raider," Davis said in a statement. "He wore the Silver and Black with Pride and Poise and will continue to live in the hearts of Raider fans everywhere. Our sincerest thoughts and prayers go out to Kenny's family."

Stabler's coach with the Raiders, John Madden, said his former quarterback was cool under pressure.

"I've often said, if I had one

drive to win a game to this day, and I had a quarterback to pick, I would pick Kenny," Madden said. "Snake was a lot cooler than I was. He was a perfect quarterback and a perfect Raider. When you think about the Raiders you think about Ken Stabler. Kenny loved life. It is a sad day for all Raiders."

Stabler was a four-time Pro Bowl selection with the Raiders, leading the franchise to consistent success during the 1970s, including a 32-14 victory over the Minnesota Vikings in the 1977 Super Bowl.

The family's statement said he was diagnosed with Stage 4 colon cancer in February.

Stabler's favorite songs were playing, from Lynyrd Skynyrd's "Sweet Home Alabama" to Van Morrison's "Leaves Falling Down," the family said. His brain and spinal cord were donated to Boston University's Chronic Traumatic Encephalopathy Center to support research into degenerative brain disease among athletes, according to the family.

"He was a kind, generous and unselfish man, never turning down an autograph request or an opportunity to help

someone in need," the family said. "A great quarterback, he was an even greater father to his three girls, and grandfather to his two 'grand snakes.'"

The Foley, Alabama, native threw for 27,938 career yards over 15 seasons, which also included stints with the Houston Oilers and New Orleans Saints.

During his college career, Stabler led Alabama to an undefeated 1966 season and was chosen the Sugar Bowl MVP after a 34-7 rout of Nebraska. He also ran for a long touchdown on a rain-soaked field during the 1967 Iron Bowl to lead the Tide to a 7-3 win over Auburn.

Alabama coach Nick Saban got to know Stabler from golf tournaments and the ex-Raiders quarterback's stint as an analyst on Alabama radio broadcasts.

"I think anyone who had the chance to get to know Kenny would appreciate the great person he was and the pride he had for the University of Alabama," Saban said in a statement. "I have had the chance to be around some of the best to ever play college and pro football, and Kenny may have been one of the greatest competitors to ever play the game."

NYC Prepares To Throw Parade For Women's World Cup Winners

NEW YORK (AP) — The Canyon of Heroes, a stretch of Broadway where the nation's largest city has honored its legends, will come to life on Friday for the Women's World Cup winners.

When the U.S. women's soccer team ride floats through the swirling ticker tape to a ceremony at City Hall, they will be the first national team since 1984 and the first women's team ever to be honored with the iconic parade.

For more than a century, tens of thousands of New Yorkers and visitors have made the pilgrimage to Lower Manhattan to honor world leaders like Nelson Mandela, heroes like Neil Armstrong and athletes like gold medal winner Jesse Owens. But since 1999, the honor has been bestowed solely on local championship-winning teams like the Yankees and Giants, meaning Friday's parade will be a break with precedent.

"It's going to be magical," said Mayor Bill de Blasio on Thursday. "The Canyon of Heroes is one of the great New York traditions."

"The magnitude of the U.S. victory, what it means not just for women's soccer, but (as) a statement it was to the world to the growing powerful role of women in this country," said de Blasio. "It was crucial for New York City to honor this extraordinary team."

Sioux Falls West downed Yankton 13-2 in American Legion junior baseball action on Thursday at Bob Tereshinski Stadium at Riverside Field.

Chase Vogt went 3-3 and Miles Carda was 2-3 with a RBI to lead Yankton. Jakob Larson had a double and a RBI. Nathan Hein and Caid Koletzky each had a hit in the effort.

Vogt took the loss. Yankton, 14-20 overall and 2-5 in the south region, hosts Harrisburg on Monday. Start time for the twinbill is 5 p.m.

Yankton 7-3, Renner 2-9

Yankton split with Renner in American Legion junior baseball action on Wednesday at Bob Tereshinski Stadium at Riverside Field.

In the opener, eight different Yankton players had a hit in a 7-2 victory.

Ben Wold had a hit and two RBI, and Miles Carda and Kellen Franzen each had a hit and a RBI for Yankton. Trey Bakke, Jakob Larson, Isiah Woods, Cole Brummer and Tanner Fitzgerald each had a hit in the victory.

Nate Eihacker picked up the win, allowing one earned run in 6 1/3 innings of work.

In the nightcap, Renner claimed a 9-3 decision.

Carda had two hits and a RBI, and Fitzgerald had a hit and a RBI to lead Yankton. Chase Vogt also had a hit. Brummer took the loss.

American Legion Tabor 12, Wagner 1

TABOR – Hunter Young allowed three hits over five shutout innings as Tabor downed Wagner 12-1 in American Legion baseball action on Wednesday.

Alex Caba went 3-4 with three runs scored and Young tripled to lead Tabor.

Zach Cournoyer, Logan Mudder and Jake Mattis each had a hit for Wagner.

Young struck out six for the win. Mace Merkwan finished, allowing one unearned run. Cournoyer took the loss.

Platte-Geddes 8, Wagner 5

PLATTE – Hunter Hallock tossed a complete game six-hitter, striking out 12, as Platte-Geddes downed Wagner 8-5 in American Legion baseball action on Tuesday.

Seth Kirsch had three hits and four runs scored to lead the Platte-Geddes offense. Hallock, who played for the Mount Marty College baseball team this spring, doubled and singled. Allen Muilenburg also had two hits in the win.

Derek Soukup and MMC recruit Drue Soukup each doubled for Wagner.

Hallock allowed one earned run and walked none in the victory. David Kocer took the loss, striking out five in four innings of work.

Amateur Menno 5, Wynot 4

MENNO — The Menno Mad Frogs finished the home portion of their 2015 schedule in style, jumping out to a 5-2 lead and holding on for a 5-4 victory over Wynot in South Central League amateur baseball action on

Thursday.

Tyler Miller had three hits to lead Menno. Dylan Lehr and Macon Oplinger each had two hits. Josh Berndt added a two-run home run in the victory.

Scott Heimes drove in two of Wynot's four runs, including a solo home run, to lead the Expos. Lee Heimes, Kyle Wiepen and Scott Morrison each had two singles to account for the rest of the Wynot attack.

Doug Hall went the distance for the win. Eric Hames took the loss, with Jackson Sudbeck throwing five innings of shutout relief.

Menno, 8-5, concludes the regular season with three straight road games, beginning with Sunday at Yankton. Wynot, 8-6, hosts Irene on Sunday.

WYNOT	.....	101	010	100	—	4	7	0
MENNO	.....	200	300	00X	—	5	12	2

Eric Hames, Jackson Sudbeck (4) and Kyle Wiepen; Doug Hall and Kyler Pekarek

Irene 6, Yankton 1

IRENE — Irene's Logan Hunter and Simon Healy combined to keep the Tappers' offense dry in a 6-1 victory over Yankton in South Central League amateur baseball action on Thursday.

Mitch Dunbar had three hits, including a double, and Matt Sees had two hits for Irene. Healy homered in the victory.

For Yankton, Mike Janish had two doubles and Devin Gullikson had two singles. Colton Thomas and Lane Sawatzke each doubled for the Tappers.

Hunter pitched the first 5 2/3 innings to pick up the win. Healy went the rest of the way to earn the save. Kaleb Bromley took the loss for Yankton.

Irene travels to Wynot and Yankton hosts Menno on Sunday.

YANKTON	.....	000	001	000	—	1	9	3
IRENE	.....	010	020	30X	—	6	9	1

Kaleb Bromley, Dave Schmidt (8) and Ross Heine; Logan Hunter, Simon Healy (6) and Sam Parkison

Vermillion 3, Akron 2

VERMILLION – Rusty Jensen tossed a four-hit shutout as the Vermillion Grey Sox downed Akron 3-2 in State Line League amateur baseball action on Wednesday.

Tom Heisinger went 2-4 with a RBI to lead Vermillion. Jon Merrigan and Jay Thaler also drove in runs in the victory.

Jensen struck out three to pick up the win. Adam McVay took the loss.

Vermillion is off until a non-league game at Wynot on July 16.

AKRON	.....	000	010	010	—	2	4	3
VERMILLION	.....	000	002	10X	—	3	8	3

Adam McVay, Randall Waterbury and Tanner Bundy; Rusty Jensen and Jay Thaler

MLB

Tigers 4, Twins 2

MINNEAPOLIS (AP) — Ian Kinsler had a leadoff homer, a double and three RBIs to back David Price's eight innings as the Detroit Tigers beat the Minnesota Twins 4-2 on Thursday night.

Price (9-2) struck out eight in his final start before going to the All-Star Game. He allowed five hits and two unearned runs.

Yoenis Cespedes added two hits and an RBI for the Tigers. Joakim Soria earned his 20th save in 22 chances.

Mike Pelfrey (5-6) gave up four runs and eight hits in 7 2-3 innings for Minnesota. Torii Hunter had a base hit and an RBI, but the Twins had their three-game winning streak snapped.

Kinsler hit the second pitch of the game into the left-field seats, his 32nd career leadoff homer.