

Archery: ‘This Is Something They Can Do Forever’



JEREMY HOECK/P&D
Chad Owens (left) and his son Conner, of Scotland, add up scores on Sunday during the Rinehart 100 Archery Tournament in Yankton.

BY JEREMY HOECK
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Chad Odens was pulling quadruple-duty on Sunday afternoon at a Yankton archery range.

The Scotland resident was scorekeeper, wagon puller, equipment wrangler and above all, supportive father.

Odens, the father of four young archers, wasn't about to complain for everything he was in charge of on a warm day at the Rinehart (R-100) Archery Tournament, which concluded Sunday.

"This is something we can all do together," Odens said as he watched two of his sons shoot their final target of the day.

Five-year-old son Colton was riding along in a wagon, filled with equipment and water bottles, while Conner, 11, and Kade, 9, walked nearby with bows in hand. Their mother and sister didn't make the trip to Yankton.

The sight of parents and children was far from a rare

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sight at the weekend tournament. The event was open to all ages, from seniors on down to youth, and the unique variety of 3D animal targets certainly helped attract a regional crowd.

"I liked all the different animals," Conner said Sunday after he finished his final target, a small skunk.

Particularly in the Yankton area because of the classes offered at the Easton Yankton Archery Complex, the number of youths taking up the sport has continued to climb – the Odens boys, for example, take lessons in Yankton.

"This is something they can do forever," Chad said.

And then when a tournament such as the R-100 rolls around in the area, those youth have a unique opportu-

nity, Chad added.

"It's nice to have something like this so close," Chad said. "We're really lucky."

Even for those parents who may not shoot as much as their children, experiencing a tournament such as the R-100 is certainly an education.

"I've learned a lot just bringing them out here," Chad said.

O'Neill Brothers

For the second time this summer, brothers Tyler and Justin Beeks shot at an archery tournament that features targets from Rinehart – a national target company.

In early June, the brothers from O'Neill, Nebraska, competed at the Scheels Sixty 3D Archery Shoot in Ponca.

"That was pretty similar," 15-year-old Tyler said Sunday after his round at the R-100 Tournament in Yankton.

"Except there were no giraffes," added a smiling Justin, 13.

That was the biggest difference between the two tournaments: The R-100 features, as its name implies, 100 targets – 50 of the North American variety and 50 exotic, such as a giraffe, elephant and dinosaurs.

"I thought it was well put together and fun to shoot," Justin said of the Yankton-hosted event. "There were a lot of different targets."

The brothers were joined Sunday by mother, Kristy, and grandmother Becky Schmeichel – who was seeing her first archery tournament.

"It was awesome," Schmeichel said, smiling. "I was told to plan on walking. And they weren't kidding."

Addition To Vacation

The Larsen family from Ida Grove, Iowa, had originally planned to only camp on their vacation two hours from home.

The family of four – Adam and Jen, along with sons

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Lakers, Reds Take Second On Weekend

SIOUX FALLS – Sioux Falls East outslugged Yankton 18-11 for the championship of the Sioux Falls Mid-Summer Shootout VFW Teener baseball tournament on Sunday.

Michael Drotzmann had three hits and two RBI, and Rex Ryken had three hits to lead Yankton. Cole Withrow had two hits and three RBI. Kieren Luellman had two hits and two RBI. Levi Wiersma added a hit for the Lakers.

Yankton, 22-12, begins play in region play on Wednesday in Sioux Falls.

LAKERS 13, MOORHEAD, MINN. 11: Levi Wiersma had four hits, including three doubles, and two doubles to lead Yankton to the semifinal victory. Ethan Wishon had four hits, including a double. Rex Ryken had three hits and three RBI. Sam Mooney had two hits and a RBI. Cole Sawatzke had two hits. Michael Drotzmann had a double and RBI. Owen Feser and Kieren Luellman each had a hit in the victory.

Drotzmann tossed six innings for the victory. Wishon pitched the seventh.

LAKERS 11, S.F. CENTRAL 9: Rex Ryken had three hits, including a triple and a double, and three RBI as the Lakers outslugged Sioux Falls Central on Saturday.

Levi Wiersma and Sam Mooney each had three hits and one RBI for Yankton. Owen Feser posted two hits and two RBI. Ethan Wishon recorded a triple. Michael Drotzmann had a hit and a RBI. Cole Sawatzke had a hit and Kyle Withrow drove in a run in the victory.

Mooney went the distance for the win.

S.F. WEST 10, YANKTON 5: Rex Ryken doubled and singled, driving in one, and Sam Mooney had two hits and a RBI for Yankton. Owen Feser had a hit and two RBI. Kieran Luellman had a hit and a RBI. Ethan Wishon, Cole Sawatzke and Case Roth each had a hit.

Renner Roundup

RENNER – The Sioux Falls Cyclones edged the Yankton Reds 3-2 in eight innings in the championship of the

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JAMES D. CIMBUREK/P&D
Tabor's Brendan Bares avoids the tag by Platte-Geddes second baseman Tanner Van Genderen during the championship of the Region 4B American Legion Baseball Tournament on Sunday in Tabor.

4B: Tabor Takes Title

BY JAMES D. CIMBUREK
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TABOR – Chase Kortan has never ended a summer baseball season anywhere other than at a state tournament. He and his Tabor teammates weren't about to start now.

Kortan pitched five shut-out innings and the Bluebird offense did the rest in an 8-1 victory over Platte-Geddes in the second championship game of the Region 4B American Legion Baseball Tournament on Sunday in Tabor. The victory sends Tabor to the South Dakota State Class B American Legion Baseball Tournament, which begins on Friday in Salem.

"It always feels good," Chase said after Sunday's victory, which capped five straight wins after an opening round setback. "This team has never good a season without a state tournament, and we're not going to let it change."

Cole Uecker doubled and

singled, driving in one, and Carter Mecham had two hits and two RBI to lead a balanced Tabor offense. Alex Caba and Hunter Young each recorded a triple. Chase Kortan, Brendan Bares, Sam Caba and Mace Merkwan each had a hit in the victory.

For Platte-Geddes, Hunter Hallock doubled and singled, and Seth Kirsch had two hits to lead the way. Nate Spawn, Coby Johnson, Allen Muilenburg and Payton Foxley each had a hit in the effort.

Kortan struck out four in five shutout innings for the victory. Muilenburg took the loss, allowing seven runs in 2 1/3 innings.

Tabor's pitching depth helped it run off five straight victories, said head coach Gary Kortan.

"We wanted to play our brand of baseball, but Alex (Alexandria, beat Tabor 3-2 on Wednesday) has a good team and Gregory (first losers' bracket opponent, Tabor rallied for 13-6 win) gave us a battle," he said.

"But the deeper we got into the tournament, the depth of our pitching became a difference."

Tabor scored two runs in each of the first two innings to take a 4-0 lead. Platte-Geddes threatened in the third with a leadoff walk to Foxley and a one-out double by Hallock, but Chase Kortan struck out two straight to end the threat.

Tabor chased Muilenburg with three more runs in the third, then scored another on a Young triple and a Mecham hit in the fourth.

Platte-Geddes scored in the seventh on a bases-loaded groundout but could not capitalize more.

"They hit the ball really well," said Platte-Geddes head coach Jeff Kuiper. "If we hit it, it was right at them."

The run to the tournament championship was a good showing for his young team, Kuiper said.

"As a whole we're pretty

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JAMES D. CIMBUREK/P&D
Tabor shortstop Cole Uecker scoops up a ground ball during the championship of the Region 4B American Legion baseball tournament on Sunday at Tabor.

Vermillion Powers Past Beresford For Region 3B Crown



ELYSE BRIGHTMAN/VERMILLION PLAIN TALK
Vermillion's Travis Weber makes contact with a pitch during Post 1's 14-4 win over Beresford Saturday night.

BY ELYSE BRIGHTMAN
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Vermillion Post 1 Legion baseball team is heading to the state tournament after a come from behind 14-4 win against Beresford in the Region 3B championship game at Prentiss Park.

Post 1 was down 4-1 in the sixth inning when Travis Weber's two-run single sparked the offense.

"He sparked it and everything else kind of followed suit," said Vermillion head coach Jason Gault.

Post 1 had eight hits from 19 at-bats and went on to score eight runs in the inning to take the 9-4 lead.

"We're pretty fortunate to be in a situation where we had some guys get contagious hitting," Gault said.

Carter Kratz lined a double to right field for three runs and Jack Brown doubled to centerfield to tack on another two.

In the seventh, Vermillion scored two more off hits from Kratz, Cole Anderson and a Beresford error.

The game ended in the eighth when the 10-run rule came into effect after Hunter Christopherson scored on a wild pitch

and Jake Odens singled to score Miller.

"That was just an incredible team effort and I'm just fortunate to be a part of it," Gault said. "It's so fun to watch them play the game when they do it right."

Kratz drove in four runs in the game off two hits. Anderson and Weber each had two RBI. Brown went 3-for-5 with one RBI.

Kratz picked up the win by pitching five innings giving up no runs off one hit with three strikeouts and three walks. Anderson started the game on the mound and pitched three innings giving up four runs, six hits and two walks with two strikeouts.

"That's what we have to work on this week, having those later inning approaches at the plate earlier," Gault said. "We'd like to put it all together early and jump on people quick because I think we got the pitching to shut some teams down."

Vermillion travels to Salem for the Legion B state tournament and are scheduled for a 10 a.m. start on Friday, July 24.

It's the state tournament and we've got some great baseball," Gault said. "It's a great experience for these guys and they deserve it."

West Takes Junior Legion Regional

BY DYLAN HUGGINS
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Sioux Falls West won the 2A Junior Legion Championship on Saturday after defeating Sioux Falls East 6-5 after losing in the first championship game 7-5.

The game was held at Bob Tereshinski Stadium at Riverside Field. The tournament format was double elimination.

Hunter Thompson led the way for the East. Thompson recorded a triple, a single, and two scored runs. Garret Powell also contributed in the win by stealing three bases and scoring two runs.

Isaac Nelson hit a single, double, and stole a base.

Head coach Damon Baruth was proud of how his team played to win

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