

# USD Trio Earn All-American Honors

DES MOINES, Iowa — The University of South Dakota track and field program was looking for its first first-team All-American during the NCAA Outdoor Track and Field Championships.

They got two. Both sophomore Bethany Buell and freshman Emily Grove earned first-team All-American honors in the women's pole vault Wednesday, becoming the first two first-team All-Americans in USD's NCAA history.

Buell finished third, clearing a school-record 14-5 1/4.

After clearing the opening height, Buell battled through the



Buell

next three heights, clearing each with at least one miss. After clearing 13-11 1/4 on the first attempt, she cleared 14-1 1/4 on the second attempt. Buell passed on 14-3 1/4, then cleared 14-5 1/4 on the first attempt before bowing out at 14-7 1/4.

Grove cleared opening height on her second attempt. After clearing 13-3 1/2 on her first attempt, she cleared the next three heights on the second attempt,



Grove

including 13-11 1/4, her final cleared height. Stanford senior Katerina Stefanidi won the event, tying the meet record with a mark of 14-7 1/4. Also competing for USD Wednesday was junior Alexa Duling, who finished 12th in the preliminaries of the 400-meter hurdles. Her clocking of 57.70, good enough for fifth in her heat, put her 0.33 seconds out of a finals spot. The mark is good enough for second-



Duling

team All-American honors. The eight points earned by Buell and Grove are the most for USD in a NCAA Division I meet. The season is not complete for any of the three Coyote competitors. All three are qualified for the USA Track and Field Olympic Trials, scheduled for June 22 in Eugene, Ore. Nebraska's Morgan Wilken (Crofton, Neb.) earned All-America honors, finishing eighth in the

discus with a toss of 178 feet, five inches. The All-America honor was her second.

South Dakota State jumper Jared Vlastuin placed 18th in the men's long jump.

Vlastuin posted a mark of 24 feet, one and one-half inches on his second jump of the trial round.

The trip to the NCAA Outdoor Championships caps a season that included a Summit League Championship and school record in the long jump. Vlastuin set the school record at the league championships with a mark of 25 feet, four inches, to top his own previous mark by two inches.

## Jarrold Uthoff To Transfer To Iowa

DES MOINES, Iowa (AP) — Jarrold Uthoff is staying in the Big Ten — and he figures to see plenty more of Bo Ryan over the next few years.

Uthoff told The Associated Press in a phone interview on Wednesday night that he's transferring to Iowa even though Badgers coach Bo Ryan restricted the Hawkeyes from contacting him.

Uthoff he'll have to pay his own way next year at Iowa and will also have to sit out the 2012-13 season per NCAA transfer rules. But that's not an issue for Uthoff, who hails from nearby Cedar Rapids, Iowa.

"I just didn't want money to be a factor in where I wanted to play," Uthoff said.

Ryan's decision to place what many believed were heavy restrictions on Uthoff's list of transfer options drew national criticism.

Uthoff had previously told an Iowa-based high school sports website, metrosportsreport.com, that Ryan has placed every Big Ten and ACC school, plus Iowa State and Marquette, on the list of schools that can't contact him.

Wisconsin later trimmed the list of schools restricted from talking to Uthoff to the Big Ten.

Uthoff, a 6-foot-8 forward who redshirted in 2011-12, wasn't able to speak directly with Hawkeyes coach Fran McCaffery. But he left Wisconsin in part because he felt the Badgers methodical style didn't fit his skill set, and he said he feels the Hawkeyes uptempo pace will.

Uthoff also told the AP that he hasn't spoken to Ryan since he told him of his plans to transfer, even though Ryan had told Uthoff he'd call him once he returned from vacation.

Ironically, Iowa let prep guard Ben Brust out of his letter of intent back in 2009 when the coach who recruited him, Todd Lickliter, was fired. Brust signed with Ryan and Wisconsin.

## Sullivan Takes Over Leadership Of New Vikes OL

EDEN PRAIRIE, Minn. (AP) — For six years, Steve Hutchinson was the ornery, nasty, head-strong leader of the Vikings offensive line, a highly decorated veteran who grabbed hold of the unit from the moment he arrived in Minnesota and never let go.

The All-Pro left guard was in his third season here when the Vikings drafted an undersized, little-known center out of Notre Dame named John Sullivan, the 187th overall pick in 2008 who was just trying to prove he belonged.

Five years later, Hutchinson is gone and Sullivan has evolved from a question mark into the stabilizing force on a new-look unit. He has a new, long-term contract and an incredible amount of responsibility as the Vikings shuffle roles and bring in new faces to make life easier for quarterback Christian Ponder and the holes bigger for Adrian Peterson and Toby Gerhart.

"It's nuts," Sullivan said on Wednesday after the team held an optional practice. "I feel like it was just yesterday I was drafted at the end of the sixth round. But at the same time, we've had some ups, we've had some downs. It's time for some more ups."

The Vikings are coming off a 3-13 season and their second straight last-place finish, the first time in the team's proud 50-year history that has happened.

One of the focal points of the offseason was improving the play up front, and the changes have been widespread. Hutchinson was allowed to leave and signed a free agent contract with Tennessee. Anthony Herrera, the guard on Hutchinson's right side for most of the last five seasons, was not retained either, and left tackle Charlie Johnson was moved to left guard to make room for first-round draft pick Matt Kalil.

With an open competition between Brandon Fusco, Geoff Schwartz and Chris DeGare for the right guard spot, Sullivan and right tackle Phil Loadholt are the only players who remain in their positions going into training camp.



JAMES D. CIMBUREK/P&amp;D

Yankton second baseman Mike Janish tries to turn a double play after retiring Sioux Falls West's Seth Bjerdal during the opening game of their American Legion baseball game on Wednesday at Riverside Field.

## Sioux Falls West Completes Sweep Of Yankton

Sioux Falls West pitching held Yankton to two runs in a doubleheader sweep of First Dakota Post 12 in American Legion baseball action Wednesday at Riverside Field.

In the opener, Yankton pitching held West to three hits, but was held to three hits itself in a 2-1 West win.

Alex Wagner, Sam Wendte and Lane Sawatzke had hits for Yankton. Wendte scored the lone Post 12 run.

Zach Benjamin took the loss, allowing two runs on one hit. Wagner and Mike Janish each pitched two innings of scoreless relief.

West scored seven runs in the seventh to claim an 8-1 decision in the nightcap. The game was tied at one after six innings.

Kory Bromley had a double and a RBI, and Kaleb Bromley doubled for Yankton. Sawatzke had a hit and a run scored.

Wendte took the loss in relief of Tanner Termansen, who allowed one unearned run in two innings of work.

Yankton, 4-4, faces Sioux Falls East Friday at 5 p.m. in the opening game of the Milt Simmons Tournament in Sioux Falls.

### Amateur

#### Tabor 7, Scotland 5

TABOR — Doug Vanacek had three hits to lead Tabor to a 7-5 victory over Scotland in South Central League amateur baseball action Tuesday.

Jon Vavruska added two hits. Joe Kronaizl homered and Jordan Pravacek had three hits to lead Scotland. Kraig Kronaizl added two hits.

Chad Hovorka picked up the win. Michael Kronaizl took the loss.

## Three Regional Pitchers Taken In MLB Draft

### FROM P&D STAFF REPORTS

Augustana's Derek Hansen, Morningside's Storm Throne and Sioux Falls' Chris Nichols were all selected on the final day of the Major League Baseball First-Year Player Draft Wednesday.

Hansen, a junior right-handed pitcher from Fergus Falls, N.D., was taken in the 25th round with the 769th pick by the Oakland Athletics.

Hansen is the first Viking drafted since 2007 when Mike Loberg was taken in the 33rd round by the San Francisco Giants. He is the fifth player from Augustana to be selected in the MLB Draft and the highest pick in program history.

Hansen was the Northern Sun Intercollegiate Conference Pitcher of the Year and an all-conference first-team selection at both pitcher and first base. The right-hander went 7-4 with a 1.60 earned-run average this season, striking out a school-record 103 batters in just 67 2/3 innings. Opponents were limited to a .181 batting average, and he allowed just one home run all year.

Hansen was the NSIC Pitcher of the Week on April 9 and 24. The National Collegiate Baseball Writers Association named him its Central Region Pitcher of the

Week on April 10 and 24.

Postseason honors in 2012 include nods for NCBWA All-Central Region first team, NCBWA Central Region Pitcher of the Year, NCBWA All-America second team (pitcher) and honorable mention (utility), Daktronics All-Central Region first team, Daktronics All-America third team, Rawlings/ABCA All-Central Region first team, Rawlings/ABCA Central Region Pitcher of the Year and Rawlings/ABCA All-America third team.

Throne, a junior pitcher from Omaha, Neb., was selected two picks later by the Chicago White Sox. Throne went 6-4 with a 4.58 earned run average, earning honorable mention all Great Plains Athletic Conference honors. He allowed 47 hits in 55 innings pitched while holding the opposition to a .224 batting average. Throne walked 22 batters and topped the Mustangs' pitching staff with 61 strikeouts for the 10th highest single-season strikeout total in Morningside history.

Throne has a 9-7 record with a 4.58 earned run average over the last three seasons at Morningside. He allowed 128 hits to go along with 50 walks and 105 strikeouts in 123 2/3 innings pitched.

The 6-7 Throne is also a center on the Morningside men's basketball team. He was the top scorer

### Brewers, Cubs Draft Managers' Sons

MILWAUKEE (AP) — Ron Roenicke of the Brewers and Dale Sveum of the Chicago Cubs got to show some parental pride before their teams met on the field Wednesday: The managers' sons were taken

by their respective teams on the final day of Major League Baseball's first-year player draft.

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and rebounder off the Mustangs' bench with averages of 9.3 points and 4.3 rebounds per game and was their most accurate 3-point shooter with 31 treys in 70 attempts for 44.3 percent during the 2011-12 season.

Throne is the first Morningside player selected in the MLB Draft since 1997 when outfielder Kory DeHaan was selected in the seventh round by the Pittsburgh Pirates and pitcher Travis Wessel was taken in the 54th round by the Atlanta Braves. DeHaan eventually appeared in 102 games with the San Diego Padres over the 2000 and 2002 seasons.

The highest Morningside player ever selected in the MLB Draft was pitcher Mike King, who was the fourth player picked in 1980's first round. Morningside's most successful player at the professional level was the late Paul Splittorff, who was drafted by the Kansas City Royals in 1968 and

went on to compile a 166-143 record with a 3.81 earned run average in a 15-year MLB career with the Royals from 1970-84.

Nichols, a junior right-handed pitcher from Helena, Mont., was taken in the 31st round, 968th overall. He is the first player from USF ever to be taken in the MLB Draft.

The son of former major leaguer Rod Nichols, Chris went 1-3 with a 7.71 ERA in his junior year for the Cougars, but went 9-2 with a 5.01 ERA as a freshman and 5-2 with a 4.53 ERA as a sophomore. Nichols spent last summer pitching for the Lehigh Valley Catz of the Atlantic Collegiate Baseball League, where he went 4-3 with a 1.50 ERA. He returned to the team this season, but has yet to pitch.

Underclassmen who were drafted have until July 13 to sign contracts with their respective teams.

## Levins Gives SUU 1st NCAA Track Champ

DES MOINES, Iowa (AP) — Cameron Levins gave Southern Utah its first NCAA outdoor national champion in track and field, winning the 10,000 meters Wednesday night.

Levins held off Arizona's Stephen Sambu by 2 seconds, winning in 28 minutes, 7.14 seconds.

Oklahoma's Brittany Borman won the javelin at 184 feet, 7 inches, Nebraska sophomore Chad Wright took the discus at 206-0, and Texas's Marquise Goodwin won the long jump at 27-0.

Stanford's Katerina Stefanidi won the women's pole vault at 14-7 1/4, and San Diego State's Whitney Ashley took the discus at 196-10.

Auburn's Harry Adams qualified for the 100 final in 9.96, the fastest qualifying time in the history of the outdoor meet.

The Wednesday session of the national outdoor is typically a light schedule loaded mostly with semifinals. There were only six titles on the line — but Borman went for two of them.

Borman, the school record holder in both the discus and the javelin, took home her second consecutive championship in the javelin. But while the rest of the top eight was honored at midfield, Borman was back out at the discus.

Borman didn't fare as well in the discus, although she wasn't expected to. Borman failed to qualify for the finals with a throw of 172-2, though defending her javelin title more than made up for it.

"I've been surrounded by a great team, great coaches, so I felt like they really prepared me for it," Borman said.

Duke's Curtis Beach, second in the decathlon a year ago, also competed in two events — the 800 and the long jump. But Beach finished 16th out of 24 runners in the 800 and missed the final in the long jump.

Wright's winning throw in the discus came shortly after he noticed a small insect in the ring, which helped calm him down.

"I was so focused and then I saw it and I said, 'Hold it, there's a bug in the ring.' And I was laughing when I said it and it just relaxed me," Wright said.

Many expect the women's team title race to come down to either LSU or Oregon — though Texas A&M can never be counted out since it's won the last three in a row.

The Tigers and Ducks both shone in semifinals on the track.

LSU's 400 relay team qualified first in 42.68, followed by the Aggies, and star sprinter Kimberlyn Duncan was first in her 100 heat in 11.11. Oregon's Anne Kesselring, the defending champion in the 800, qualified in 2:02.66 despite finishing second in her heat in part because she got boxed in by the rail.

"I went out too slow, which kind of surprised me. I feel like I was maybe a little bit asleep. But then I woke up and just gradually moved up and really attacked on the home stretch and it worked out for the best," Kesselring said.

The Florida men are going for their first outdoor title after finishing second four times since 2004.

Sprinter Tony McQuay ran a promising semifinal for the Gators by clocking in at 44.67, which was more than a second faster than the time he posted to win the NCAA indoor meet earlier this year.

Texas A&M's men also have won the last three NCAA outdoor titles. The Aggie men are favored along with the Gators and Florida State, but they could be in trouble.

Sophomore Prezel Hardy Jr., counted on by Texas A&M for major points in the 100, failed to make the final. Hardy finished fourth in his heat in 10.11, missing out on the final spot by 0.02 seconds. Hardy had the fastest time of the year among the NCAA qualifiers, running a 10.03 in winning the Big 12 championship.

The Aggies women also suffered a major setback, as star Ashley Collier ran an 11.33 and finished fourth in her heat, 0.04 seconds out of the final qualifying spot.

Boise State's Kurt Felix leads the decathlon through five events with 4,187, just 10 more than Gunnar Nixon of Arkansas. The decathlon wraps up on Thursday, and unlike in 2011 it should be able to be finished by then.

California's Michael Morrison won the event a day later than scheduled and in an empty stadium because of heavy storms that forced a number of delays. But weather shouldn't be a problem this year, with temperatures expected to be in the high 80s with no rain in the forecast.