Press&Dakotan DAILY DOSE

Daily opinions from the P&D Sports Staff on local and national high school, college and professional sports.

MMC Women Sign Iowa Scorer

Mount Marty College announced Thursday that Erica Dreckman of Marcus, Iowa, will attend the school and play women's basketball.

Dreckman, a 5-foot-7 guard, averaged 22.3 points, 5 rebounds and 3 steals per game as a senior for Marcus-Meriden-Cleghorn High School. She holds the school record for most steals (104), single game scoring (38) and single season scoring (536). "We are excited to have Erica

join our basketball program," MMC women's coach Tom Schlimgen Dreckman said. "We think she will fit in very well into our style of play and are

looking forward to working with her as a student-athlete here at MMC."

In addition to her basketball award, Dreckman is also receiving an academic incentive scholarship at Mount Marty. She plans to major in elementary education.

Buell To Compete At US Olympic Trials Starting Today

VERMILLION - University of South Dakota track and field athlete Bethany Buell has qualified for the U.S.

Olympic Trials and will compete in the qualifying round starting Friday in Eugene, Ore. It is the first trip to the trials for the Coyote standout, who completed her sophomore season this past spring

BY JEREMY HOECK

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sion" to Jim Gray really left a bad taste in my mouth.

Buell will compete at 7:30 p.m. Central time on Friday in the pole vault's opening round. Depending on heights cleared in the qualifying rounds, between 12 and 16 athletes will qualify for the final round, which is set for June 24 at 4:25 CT

Buell (St. Louis, Mo.) is ranked in a tie for 11th going into the trials, thanks to her school record of 14-5 1/4 (4.40 meters) that she cleared at the NCAA National Championships on June 6. That effort her earned her third place and helped her gain first-team All-American honors. Buell had first met the US Olympic B qualifying standard at the Long Beach State Invitational in April at 14-2 1/2.

She collected the Summit League Outdoor Field Athlete of the Year award on Wednesday, thanks to her efforts at the national meet and the outdoor season overall. Buell captured a league-best two Athlete of the Week selections and won the league pole vault title with a leaguerecord height of 14-0 1/2 (4.28m).

South Dakota assistant coach Derek Miles, a two-time Olympian, will begin competition at the US Olympic Trials in the men's pole vault on June 25. Miles recorded a vault of 18-9 1/4 (5.72 meters) in Germany in July 2011 to surpass the A qualifying standard of 5.70.

USD Earns Summit League Institutional Academic Award

I admit it: I'm one of those sports fans who liked the LeBron James in Cleveland and started to lessen my

like for him when he went to the Miami Heat. No, I'm not a LeBron "hater," but the whole thing with "The Deci-

Let me begin by saying that, yes, I was glad to see James pick up his first NBA championship, whenever that is. (Game 5 on Thursday night was still being played at press time). I was in high school up in Sioux Falls when LeBron thrust himself onto the national scene, helped significantly

by his Sports Illustrated cover when he was a high school standout. I started watching Cleveland Cavaliers

ELMHURST, III. - The University of South Dakota athletic department has won the Summit League's Institutional Academic Achievement Award, the league announced on Thursday. The award goes to the school placing its high-est percentage of list-eligible athletes on the Summit League Commissioner's List of Academic Excellence, which was released on Thursday.

South Dakota had league-best 76 percent of its list-eligible athletes (112 total) recognized on the 2011-12 list, ahead of both North Dakota State and South Dakota State, who were at 71 percent.

In addition, Coyote women's soccer earned a Team Achievement Award - which is awarded in each spot based on percentage of list eligible athletes on the Commissioner's list. South Dakota had 100 percent of its eligible women's soccer players on the list.

In order for a student-athlete to be selected to the Commissioner's List of Academic Excellence, he/she must carry a 3.00 or better cumulative GPA, achieve sophomore academic standing at the institution, have used a year of eligibility and be on the squad list in the sport in which he/she is nominated.

Four list-eligible Coyote athletes have cumulative 4.0 grade-point-averages (GPAs) for their academic career: senior Nick Beare (Sioux Falls), juniors Alexa Duling (Gre-

gory) and Megan Meyer (Bismarck, N.D.) and sophomore Jeff Mettler (Eureka). That group is part of the 32 list-eligible athletes in the Summit League to maintain a 4.0 cumulative GPA

Say What You Will About LeBron, I'm Glad To See Him Get His Title

AREA CALENDAR

In terms of total honorees, Coyote women's track and field led the way with 25 honorees, followed by women's swimming and diving with 13, men's track and field with 13, women's cross country with 12 and softball and men's swimming and diving with eight each.

SDSU Teams Rank High For APR

INDIANAPOLIS - Three South Dakota State University athletic teams have been recognized by the NCAA for achieving perfect scores of 1,000 in the most recent Academic Progress Rate survey.

Teams honored include the Jackrabbit women's basketball, women's golf and women's tennis squads during the 2010-11 academic year. APR is a Division I metric developed to track the academic achievement of teams each term. Every student-athlete receiving athletically related financial aid earns one retention point for staying in school and one eligible point for being academically eligible. A team's total points are divided by points possible and then multiplied by one thousand to equal theteam's APR score.

All 20 Jackrabbit athletic teams - equestrian currently is not included in the survey — registered APRs well above the minimum threshold of 925. For the 2012-13 and 2013-14 seasons, teams must achieve a multi-year APR

of 900 or a 930 average for the two most recent years to be eligible for postseason competition.

Correction

games during his rookie season, like most people, because I was curious to see if he could live up to the enor-More than the second se

at such a young age, figured to rack up the championship rings. That's when the Michael Jordan comparisons

state of Ohio for the allure (and money) of a large-market team, I started to lose interest in him. The whole idea

of him leaving his hometown state for more money in a big market just rubbed me the wrong way. The contrived drama of "The Decision," followed by the enormous buildup in Miami, quickly soured many peo-

Yet, when it was evident that LeBron was going to become a free agent, potentially spurning his hometown

began, although you could say they started much earlier when James decided to wear No. 23.

ple on LeBron. But say what you will about him, it's pretty cool to see him win an NBA title.

Due to incorrect information provided to the Press & Dakotan, Jeremy Kudera's place of employment was misidentified in Thursday's story about the University of South Dakota Sports Hall of Fame.

Kudera is an orthopedic surgeon at Yankton Medical Clinic.

We apologize for the error.

Wayne State Announces Athletic **Director Finalists**

WAYNE, Neb. - Wayne State College (Neb.) announced Thursday its four finalists from a national search for the athletic director position. The finalists will be on campus next week for interviews and a final decision is expected by early July.

The finalists are Steve Gearhart (senior associate A.D. for external affairs at Northern Iowa), Brian Jamros (associate A.D. for external relations at Concordia-St. Paul, Minn.), Mike Powicki (asst. A.D. for development and strategic partnerships at Minnesota State-Mankato) and Joshua Snyder (senior associate A.D. for development and administration at Missouri-Kansas City).

SCOREBOARD

JEOREBON	RB							
VOLLEYBALL YANKTON PARKS & REC		8 Colorado 26 42 .382 15 7 San Diego 24 46 .343 18 Wednesday's Games	BASKETBALL NBA FINALS	Friday, June 22 BASEBALL, AMATEUR Irene at Leste KVHT-FM)	erville (7:30 p.m.,	11:30 a.m.; Dakota Valley vs. L vs. Tabor, 3:30 p.m.; Tabor vs. Beresford vs. Yankton, 7:30 p.n	incoln, 1:30 p.m.; Dakota Valley Yankton Split-Squad, 5:30 p.m.; n)	at Wynot, Yankton at Scotland BASEBALL, VFW TEENER Wahoo Tourn. (Yankton Black Sox): Humboldt at Yankton Lakers (DH, 2 p.m.)
COED LEAGUE	NCAA COLLEGE WORLD SERIES	Atlanta 10, N.Y. Yankees 5		BASEBALL, LEGION First Dakota Tourn		BASEBALL, VFW TEENE	R Wahoo Tourn. (Yankton Black	GOLF, SDGA Husband-Wife Championship at Golf Club at
RESULTS: Boomers def. Big Muddy Bud-	At TD Ameritrade Park Omaha, Omah	a, Kansas City 2, Houston 1	Tuesday, June 12 Oklahoma City 105, Miami 94	folk vs. Yankton, 9:30 a.m.; Beresford vs. Norfolk, 11:30 a.m.; Sox) Red Rock; Senior Husband-Wife at Arrowhead CC GOLF. SDGA Husband-Wife Championship at Golf Club at SOFTBALL, GIRLS' Lowell Rang Tourn, at Mitchell (Yank-				
dies (forfeit); The Rivals def. Balls Out 2-0 21-		Milwaukee 8, Toronto 3 Arizona 14. Seattle 10	Thursday, June 14	p.m.; Dakota Valley vs. Yankton Split-Squad,				SOFTBALL, GIRLS' Lowell Rang Tourn. at Mitchell (Yank- ton Spitfire, Yankton Lightning, Yankton Yellowjackets, Yankton
10, 21-9; Getting Diggy With It def. First Chiropractic 2-1 18-21, 21-11, 21-10; Ben's	Monday, June 18 Kent State 5, Florida 4, Florida eliminated	Texas 4, San Diego 2	Miami 100, Oklahoma City 96	berlain vs. Yankton, 7:30 p.m.)	0.00 p.m., onum		Il Rang Tourn. at Mitchell (Yank-	Xtreme)
Brewing Company def. Icebox 2-0 21-7, 21-16;	Arkansas 2, South Carolina 1	Cleveland 8, Cincinnati 1	Sunday, June 17 Miami 91, Oklahoma City 85	BASEBALL, VFW TEENER Wahoo Tour	n. (Yankton Black	ton Spitfire, Yankton Lightning,	Yankton Yellowjackets, Yankton	Monday, June 25
KPI Beachburns def. Non-Spikers 2-0 21-10, 21-	Tuesday, June 19	Minnesota 2, Pittsburgh 1	Tuesday, June 19	Sox)		Xtreme)		BASEBALL, LEGION Yankton at Mitchell (6 p.m.)
10; Bumpin' Uglies def. Koch Insurance 2-1 15-	Florida State 4, UCLA 1, UCLA eliminated	St. Louis 3, Detroit 1 Washington 3, Tampa Bay 2	Miami 104, Oklahoma City 98; Miami leads	SWIMMING, YOUTH Yankton Charity Invi Saturday, June 23	tational (Yankton)		ton Charity Invitational (Yankton) , June 24	BASEBALL, VFW TEENER Yankton Lakers at Brandon Valley (DH, 5 p.m.); S.F. Central at Yankton Reds (DH, 5 p.m.)
21, 21-14, 21-15	Wednesday, June 20	N.Y. Mets 4, Baltimore 3	series 3-1	BASEBALL, LEGION First Dakota Tourn	. at Yankton (Lin-	BASEBALL, AMATEUR A	von at Menno, Beresford at Ver-	valley (D1, 5 p.m.), 5.1. Central at Tankton Neds (D1, 5 p.m.)
STANDINGS: Getting Diggy With It 3-0, Boomers 3-0, The Rivals 3-0, Koch Insurance 2-	Kent State vs. South Carolina, ppd., rain Thursday, June 21	Boston 15, Miami 5	Thursday, June 21 Oklahoma City at Miami, 8 p.m.	coln vs. Yankton Split-Squad, 9:30 a.m.; Chamb			rofton, Irene at Tabor, Lesterville	
1, First Chiropractic 2-1, KPI Beachburns 2-1,	South Carolina 4, Kent State 1, Kent State	te Chicago White Sox 7, Chicago Cubs 0	Sunday, June 24					
Big Muddy Buddies 1-2, Bumpin' Uglies 1-2,	eliminated	Oakland 4, L.A. Dodgers 1 L.A. Angels 6, San Francisco 0	x-Miami at Oklahoma City, 7 p.m.					
Ben's Brewing Company 1-2, Balls Out 0-3, Ice-	Arizona 10, Florida State 3, Arizona a	d- NATIONAL LEAGUE	Tuesday, June 26	2. Dale Earnhardt Jr., 561.		HP Joel Peralta eight games for		
box 0-3, Non-Spikers 0-3	vances Game 12 — Arkansas (46-20) vs. South C	Dhile delahis 7 Oelesede 0	x-Miami at Oklahoma City, 8 p.m.	3. Greg Biffle, 548.	having pine tar	0	Leach to Mississippi (SL).	
BASEBALL	olina (47-18), 8 p.m.	Thursday's Games	AUTO RACING	4. Jimmie Johnson, 532. 5. Denny Hamlin, 514.		American League TIGERS—Activated C Alex Avila	MIAMI MARLINS-Optioner Hatcher to New Orleans (PCL).	
DAJEDALL	Friday, June 22	Detroit 2, St. Louis 1, 10 innings	AUTU KACING	6. Kevin Harvick, 504.		DL. Recalled RHP Jacob Turner	Mike Dunn from New Orleans (PCL).	
SOUTH CENTRAL LEAGUE	x-Game 14 — Game 8 winner vs. Game	10 Oakland 4, L.A. Dodgers 1 Pittsburgh 9, Minnesota 1	2012 NASCAR SPRINT CUP SCHED-	7. Martin Truex Jr., 497.		.). Optioned RHP Luke Putkonen	MILWAUKEE BREWERS-0	Optioned RHP WINNIPEG BLUE BOMBERS—Released
These are the offensive and pitching lead-	winner, 8 p.m.	Washington 5, Tampa Bay 2	ULE AND STANDINGS	8. Tony Stewart, 491.		pladay to Toledo. Assigned 1B An-	Tyler Thornburg to Nashville (PCL)	
ers in the South Central League. Statistics are	Championship Series (Best-of-3)	Boston 6, Miami 5	x-non-points race	9. Clint Bowyer, 481.		RHP Drew VerHagen to the Gulf	Mike McClendon from Nashville.	Aprile and OL Adam Rogers.
updated through the most recent games.	Sunday, June 24 Game 1 — Arizona (46-17) vs. Arkansa	S- NATIONAL LEAGUE	May 6 — Aaron's 499, Talladega, Ala. (Brad	 Brad Keselowski, 458. Carl Edwards, 456. 	Coast Tigers.	CITY ROYALS-Traded RHP	PHILADELPHIA PHILLIES—A with SS Zach Green on a minor le	
HITS Dan Bures, Avon23	South Carolina winner, 7 p.m.	Colorado 4, Philadelphia 1	Keselowski)	12. Kyle Busch, 432.		in to Toronto for cash considera-	Assigned RHP Mitch Gueller, OF	
Lee Heimes, Wynot	Monday, June 25	Friday's Games Detroit at Pittsburgh, 6:05 p.m.	May 12 — Southern 500, Darlington, S.C. (Jimmie Johnson)	13. Ryan Newman, 427.	tions.		and RHP Shane Watson to th	
Jesse Hajek, Avon	Game 2 — Arizona (46-17) vs. Arkansa	s- Tampa Bay at Philadelphia, 6:05 p.m.	May 19 — x-Sprint Showdown, Concord,	14. Paul Menard, 421.		ATHLETICS—Activated LHP Jor-	Phillies.	Brandon Yip to a one-year contract.
Jesse Bailey, Yankton16	South Carolina winner, 7 p.m.	Washington at Baltimore, 6:05 p.m.	N.C. (Jimmie Johnson)	15. Joey Logano, 407.		from the 15-day DL. Recalled C	PITTSBURGH PIRATES—A	
Joe Sees, Avon	Tuesday, June 26 x-Game 1 — Arizona (46-17) vs. Arkansa	Atlanta at Boston, 6:10 p.m.	May 19 — x-Sprint All-Star, Concord, N.C.	16. Kasey Kahne, 391. 17. Marcos Ambrose, 388.		om Sacramento (PCL). Optioned dson and LHP Pedro Figueroa to	Daniel McCutchen from the 15-d tioned him to Indianapolis (IL).	ay DL and op- AUBURN—Named Ty Evans women's assis- tant basketball coach.
Jake Weier, Freeman	South Carolina winner, 7 p.m.	Minnesota at Cincinnati, 6:10 p.m.	(Dale Earnhardt Jr.)	18. Jamie McMurray, 377.	Sacramento.	uson and Enr Fedro Figueroa to	BASKETBALL	CONNECTICUT—Announced it has ac-
Doug Vanecek, Tabor13		N.Y. Yankees at N.Y. Mets, 6:10 p.m. Toronto at Miami, 6:10 p.m.	May 27 — Coca-Cola 600, Concord, N.C. (Kasey Kahne)	19. Juan Pablo Montoya, 377.		AY RAYS-Claimed 2B Brooks	National Basketball Asso	
Devin Gullikson, Yankton	AMERICAN LEAGUE	 Cleveland at Houston, 7:05 p.m. 	June 3 — Dover 400, Dover, Del. (Jimmie	20. Jeff Gordon, 375.		vers from Milwaukee.	GOLDEN STATE WARRIORS	
Simon Healy, Irene11	East Division	Colorado at Texas, 7:05 p.m.	Johnson)	21. Jeff Burton, 375.		BLUE JAYS—Promoted Andrew	Bowers chief marketing officer.	coach.
Jordan Pravecek, Scotland	W L Pot G	minutance at emouge white eex, i.i.e p.m.	June 10 — Pocono 400, Long Pond, Pa.	TRANCACTIONS		stant general manager and Brian tor of amateur scouting. Optioned	ORLANDO MAGIC—Named general manager.	Rob Hennigan MIDDLE TENNESSEE—Announced the res- ignation of women's assistant basketball coach
Kraig Kronaizl, Scotland	New York 41 27 .603 Baltimore 39 30 .565 21	 St. Louis at Kansas City, 7:10 p.m. 	(Joey Logano)	TRANSACTIONS		eno to Las Vegas (PCL).	FOOTBALL	Lynn Burkey.
Steve Heimes, Wynot	Tampa Bay 38 31 .551 31		June 17 — Quicken Loans 400, Brooklyn, Mich. (Dale Earnhardt Jr.)	BASEBALL		National League		providence-Named Chris Gabrielli
5 tied at10	Boston 36 33 .522 5 1		June 24 — Toyota/Save Mart 350, Sonoma,	MAJOR LEAGUE BASEBALL—Suspended	ATLANTA	BRAVES-Optioned RHP Todd	National Football Leac DETROIT LIONS—Signed C	B R.J. Archer. men's lacrosse coach.
HOME RUNS	Toronto 35 34 .507 6 1	² NATIONAL LEAGUE	Calif.					
Mike King, Irene	Central Division W L Pct G	Chicago Cubs at Arizona, 8:40 p.m.	June 30 — Quaker State 400, Sparta, Ky.					
Simon Healy, Irene3 Dan Bures, Avon2		 Friday's Games Detroit (Fister 1-3) at Pittsburgh (A.J.Burnett) 	July 7 — Coke Zero 400, Daytona Beach,			TABOR — The Yank	ton Lakers pounded out	Muth struck out six in the complete game vic-
Bill Guenther, Crofton		¹² 7-2), 6:05 p.m.	July 15 — Lenox Industrial Tools 301,	Basebal			eheader sweep of Tabor	tory.
Wes Robertson, Irene2	Detroit 34 35 .493 2 1	2 Tampa Bay (Shields 7-4) at Philadelphia	Loudon, N.H.	Daseual			ning by scores of 13-3	,
Doug Vanecek, Tabor	Kansas City 31 36 .463 41	(2 (Cl.Lee 0-3), 6:05 p.m.	July 29 — "Your Hero's Name Here" 400 at			and 16-3.	0 /	Lakers 5-2, Mitchell 6-1
Lee Heimes, Wynot2 17 tied at1	Minnesota 27 41 .397 West Division	9 Washington (Zimmermann 3-5) at Baltimore					id Sawatzke, Colin Muth	
WINS	West Division W L Pct G	(Hammel 7-2), 6:05 p.m. Atlanta (Jurrjens 0-2) at Boston (Lester 4-4),	Aug. 5 — Pennsylvania 400, Long Pond, Pa. Aug. 12 — NASCAR Sprint Cup Series at	From Page 8A			ad three hits, while Tyler	MITCHELL — The Yankton Lakers split a
Nate Harrington, Avon		 Atlanta (Jurrjens 0-2) at Boston (Lester 4-4), 6:10 p.m. 	The Glen, Watkins Glen, N.Y.				w, Bradey Sorenson and	teener doubleheader in Mitchell on Wednesday,
Bill Guenther, Crofton		5 Minnesota (Blackburn 3-4) at Cincinnati				Hunter Ryan all chippe		losing by scores of 6-5 in nine innings and 2-1
Jake Weier, Freeman	Oakland 34 36 .486 Seattle 30 41 .423 13 1	9 (Bailey 5-4), 6:10 p.m.	Mich.	in a losing effort.				in five innings.
Josh Engquist, Yankton		N.1. Talikees (Fetute 5-2) at N.1. Mets	Aug. 25 — Irwin Tools Night Race, Bristol, Tenn.	TABOR (6-4) 001 000 0	00 163		t the win, striking out six	In game one, Sawatzke went 3-4, while Muth
Joe Sees, Avon	NATIONAL LEAGUE East Division	(Niese 4-3), 6:10 p.m. Toronto (R.Romero 7-1) at Miami		WYNOT (5-5) 002 101 0		in a complete game effe		and Binder singled. Barger got the loss in relief
Seth Erdmann, Crofton2	W L Pct G		Sept. 8 — Wonderful Pistachios 400, Rich-	Jon Vavruska, Greg Rothschadl (9) and Ste	ve Fefjar; Scott		Townsend was 4-6 with	of Sawatzke.
George Sees, Irene2	Washington 40 27 .597	 Cleveland (Jimenez 6-5) at Houston (Harrell 	mond, Va.	Morrison, Lee Heimes (7) and Steve Heimes, So	cott Heine (7)		atzke went 3-5 with two	In game two, Muth was 2-3, Sheldon Gant
Jordan Pravecek, Scotland2 Gary Kortan, Tabor2	New York 38 32 .543 31		Sept. 16 — Geico 400, Joliet, III.				scored three times, and	tripled, and Guthmiller, Sawatzke, List and Ryan
Jon Vavruska. Tabor	7 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10	4 Colorado (Friedrich 4-3) at Texas (Oswalt 0- 0) 7:05 p.m.		VFW Teener			both had two hits. Lan-	all singled. Sorenson got the win on the mound.
Brett Wiebelhaus, Wynot2		 8 0), 7:05 p.m. 9 Milwaukee (Greinke 7-2) at Chicago White 	Sept. 30 — AAA 400, Dover, Del. Oct. 7 — Good Sam Club 500, Talladega,			don Binder, Austin Barg	per and Nate List all had	an engloar coronoon got no win on no mound.
Eric Hames, Wynot2	Philadelphia 33 38 .465 Central Division	Sox (Sale 8-2), 7:10 p.m.	Ala.	Lakers 13-16, Tabor	3-3	one hit.		
Justin Leise, Wynot2	W L Pct G		Oct. 13 — Bank of America 500, Concord,					
Trey Krier, Yankton	Cincinnati 38 30 .559	zaro 3-1), 7:10 p.m.	N.C.					
11 tied at1		2 L.A. Dodgers (Billingsley 4-5) at L.A. Angels	Oct. 21 — Hollywood Casino 400, Kansas					
STRIKEOUTS Joe Sees, Avon47	01.200.0	4 (Haren 4-7), 9:05 p.m. /2 San Francisco (Lincecum 2-8) at Oakland	City, Kan. Oct. 28 — Tums Fast Relief 500, Ridgeway,			going from grass	to the turf. but	to play in something outside
Josh Engquist, Yankton29	Milwaukee 32 37 .464 61		Va.	Brian	.		whight is com	their came stadium "

going from grass to the turf, but the feeling of how big it is, compared to other fields, is awesome.'



Harvin

on his rookie contract.

Harvin said on Twitter Wednes-

day that his situation is not about

money. But the way Spielman, Fra-

zier and Harvin's teammates have

spoken about addressing and re-

solving this made it sound like at

From Page 84

San Francisco (Lincecum 2-8) at Oakland Milwaukee 32 37 .464 6 1/2 28 41 24 45 Houston .406 10 1/2 .348 14 1/2 Chicago West Division Pct GB W L 42 28 Los Angeles San Francisco Arizona .600 4 .543 4 .493 7 1/2 38 34 32 35

(J.Parker 3-3), 9:05 p.m. Seattle (Millwood 3-5) at San Diego (Richard 4-7), 9:05 p.m. NATIONAL LEAGUE Chicago Cubs (Samardzija 5-5) at Arizona (J.Saunders 4-5), 8:40 p.m.

least some of it is. Harvin is recov-

shoulder surgery, and Frazier also

said the team kept him off limits

from contact so he didn't fall and

confident that things are moving

in the right direction. We feel con-

fident things are moving in the

that was really good to see."

right direction," Frazier said. "So

means is open to interpretation.

Just what the "right direction"

"He leaves going home feeling

ering from supposedly minor

aggravate the joint.

Nov. 4 - AAA Texas 500, Fort Worth, Texas Nov. 11 — Kobalt Tools 500, Avondale, Ariz. Nov. 18 — Ford 400, Homestead, Fla.

DRIVER STANDINGS

"He wants the same thing that

we want. We all want to bring a

championship to Minnesota. He

wants that in the worst way, and

that's one of the most important

things, that we all want the same

Frazier also said he expects

"100 percent" participation from

starts and that he still has a solid

his team when training camp

relationship with Harvin.

thing," Frazier said.

From Page 8A

the amenities the Dome provides video board, in-game stats, etc., the football program will be among the first to play on the new turf. The turf is expected to be installed in time for the 2012 season

Kludt, for one, vividly remembers what it was like to play on the dome field.

"At first, it was very unforgiving; it wasn't very fun to drag your skin across it," he said. "It'll be an adjustment, obviously,

The Thursday release from Briar Cliff said it is believed that BCU is one of only a handful of NAIA schools who will play a regular season home game in a dome — Montana State-Northern is expected to do the same this fall.

"Playing in a facility that's a whole different experience than most players in the NAIA is a cool thing for our guys," Rethman said. "Certain high schools are able to get those opportunities, and this will switch things around for us in that we can take kids in this area and allow them

their same stadium.

For a program that has won just 10 games since the start of the 2007 season, Briar Cliff appears to be on the rise, Kludt said.

"They're very promising," he said. "They're working toward something better; they've definitely got the talent, they just need everything to come together.

"I'm really excited to work with their coaches; they're all really cool."

You can follow Jeremy Hoeck on Twitter at twitter.com/jhoeck

Title IX

From Page 8A

Aside from the general health benefits of any physical activity, studies have shown that female athletes do better in school and have higher graduation rates. White female athletes had a 74 percent graduation rate compared with 68 percent for the overall student body, according to the most recent federal government calculations. The graduation rate for black female athletes was 66 percent, compared with just 46 percent in the overall student population.

A 2002 survey by Oppenheimer Funds found that 82 percent of female business executives had played organized sports after elementary school.

"We compete every day in life, and it taught us how to in a healthy way," Yow said. "In a more comprehensive way, it taught us how to lead."

Female athletes are also less likely to smoke, use drugs or be suicidal. And, according to the Women's Sports Foundation Report: Sport and Teen Pregnancy, published in 1998, teenage athletes were less than half as likely to get pregnant as non-athletes, and are more likely to delay having sex for the first time.

The intangible benefits may be even greater.

Aly Marzonie, one of Miller's

teammates, would barely say a word on the field after making the varsity squad as a sophomore. Two years later she was a co-captain, and it was her voice that could be heard above the crowd during games, calling out directions and encouragement to teammates. Marzonie has learned how to work and get along with teammates she might not otherwise consider friends, and she's got enough self-confidence to hold her own in conversations with both adults and fellow teenagers. Her time-management skills would put some folks twice her age to shame.

Marzonie may have learned these skills through soccer, but she'll use them long after her playing career is over.

'Any situation, I could relate to soccer," she said. "It's nice to revert back to something I'm comfortable with in an uncomfortable situation.

It's not just women whose mindset has changed over these last 40 years. Boys have grown up watching sisters, friends, classmates, even their mothers play sports, and the distinction between an "athlete" and a "female athlete" has faded. All four of tennis' Grand Slam tournaments pay equal prize money to the men's and women's winners. Last year's Women's World Cup final between the United States and Japan earned the highest television rating for any soccer game on an ESPN network.

Not only is Notre Dame guard Skylar Diggins the highest rated college player on Tweetscenter's

most recent "Power Rankings and Swag Index," at No. 6 she's one spot above Kevin Durant. Diggins' jersey may as well be the uniform at Irish coach Muffet McGraw's summer basketball camps — for both girls and boys.

'It's rewarding to look at that and see they have such great respect for (Diggins) and what she's accomplished," McGraw said. 'They don't care she's a girl, they just know she can play.'

For all the strides female athletes have made, however, the playing field is not vet even. Women typically make up more than half of the student population, but were only 43 percent of the athletes last year, according to the NCAA. A 2007 study found that female athletes had received only 35 percent of total athletic expenditures in 2004-05. In the latest update of their "Women in

Intercollegiate Sport" study, R. Vivian Acosta and Linda Jean Carpenter found there were 215 female athletic directors at NCAA schools in 2012. But only 36 were in Division I, and less than 5 percent of those were at Football Bowl Subdivision schools, the power brokers in collegiate sports.

And even though Title IX has been upheld by the courts time and again, it remains a matter of debate in the court of public opinion. There was a net loss of 300 men's teams in Division I between 1988-89 and 2009-10, according to the NCAA, and Title IX is often

blamed for the cuts. Never mind that there's nothing in the legislation about cutting men's teams to create opportunities for women. Or that the huge size — and expense — of football squads creates an inherent imbalance.

There's a lot more gains to be had," Ruggiero said. "I think there's a lot more room for growth, certainly in the participation numbers.

There is also a vast difference when it comes to fan interest in women's sports — at all levels. Though the WNBA has not only

survived but thrived, thanks in large part to early support from the NBA, there is no other major women's professional league. Not even the fervor that surrounded last summer's World Cup could save Women's Professional Soccer, which folded last month after three seasons. The NCAA set an attendance record for women's basketball with 11.2 million people

last season — and that was still only about a third of the 33 million fans the men drew.

Entire towns turn out for a high school football game while the girls are lucky to get a few handfuls of friends to join their parents in the stands.

'Football is so intense for boys, and girls' sports should be looked at like that, too," said Maddie Mulford, another New Trier player. "We're all athletes. Our goals are all the same.'

Equal opportunity, on the field and off.

Though athletics may not have been the main objective of Title IX, the original supporters get immense satisfaction whenever they see a playing field filled with girls. Or hear fathers exhorting their daughters the same as they do their sons: Run! Shoot! Tackle!

Because as girls like Mulford and Miller show, the lessons and attitudes learned on the field are not left there. They apply everywhere, to everyone.

"What makes the papers is the sporting aspect. But at the bottom of it, what we're talking about is how do we educate our children to the best of their abilities?" Ruggiero said. "Whether that's in the science department, math department, athletic department, it's one in the same.

"When you break it down, you're going to support Title IX," she added. "It wasn't, 'Let's make a quota.' It was, 'How do we better educate our children?' And athletics is part of it."



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