

Soccer | Yankton Invitational

‘Hand-Picked’ Wisemen Coed Team Holds Their Own

BY JEREMY HOECK

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Asked about his team, Justin Lillie turned around and pointed to the collection of players gathered before their soccer game Sunday afternoon.

“I hand-picked these guys,” he said, smiling. “Well, girls too.”

The Yankton squad — which called itself “The Wisemen” — was one of three co-ed teams in the U-19 division of the Yankton Invitational youth soccer tournament, which concluded Sunday at Lewis & Clark Soccer Complex and the Summit Center fields.

With the U-19 division in need of one more team, Lillie — with the blessing of his mother, Deb, the president-elect of the Yankton Youth Soccer Association — asked his male and female friends if they would be interested in forming their own team.

Justin got some quick responses, he said.

“My friends were pumped when I asked them to play,” said Lillie, who finished his first year at Baker University (Kan.) this spring. “It only like four or five days to get everyone on the team.”

Yankton was able to find 18 willing players, including five girls (Morgan Bakke, Maggie Bisgard, Audrey Fuks, Brianna Newman and Rachel Ruffinott). Most of the players are out of high school, while the youngest, Parker Kuchta, is 16 years old.

Joining a coed team was a new experience for everyone, according to Fuks, 19, who finished her first



JEREMY HOECK/P&D

Champions were crowned in 12 divisions at the ninth annual Yankton Invitational youth soccer tournament, which concluded on Sunday at Yankton's Lewis & Clark Soccer Complex and Summit soccer fields.

LEFT: Yankton's Audrey Fuks, right, steps in front of a pass during Sunday afternoon's U-19 game against South Sioux City at the Yankton Invitational youth soccer tournament, at Lewis & Clark Soccer Complex. Fuks was one of five female members on the “Wisemen,” a team put together for the tournament. Mitchell and O'Neill, Neb., also fielded coed teams.

ABOVE: Kolbi Kennedy, left, of the Yankton Little Rebels battles with a South Sioux City defender during their U-14 game Sunday afternoon at Lewis & Clark Soccer Complex.

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Baseball Roundup: Post 12 Goes 1-3 In Spearfish



JAMES D. CIMBUREK/P&D

Yankton Lakers second baseman Nathan Heine fires the ball to first baseman Chase Vogt during their matchup with Mitchell in the Bob Deery Classic VFW Teener baseball tourney on Saturday at Yankton's Riverside Field.

SPEARFISH — Laramie, Wyo., beat Yankton First Dakota Post 12 8-0 in the Alan Tellinghuisen Memorial American Legion baseball tournament, which concluded Sunday in Spearfish.

Austin Johnson went 2-3, and Adam Walter and Kaleb Bromley had hits for Yankton.

Will Steward took the loss.

Yankton, 5-7, hosts Sioux Falls East on Tuesday. Start time is 6 p.m. at Riverside Field.

MANDAN, N.D. 4, YANKTON 3 (8): Andrew Hummel, Adam Walter and Austin Johnson each had two hits for Yankton.

Lane Sawatzke took the loss, striking out six in a complete game eight-inning loss.

YANKTON 13, SIDNEY, NEB. 1 (5): Brad Ulmer had three hits and two runs scored as Post 12 rolled to victory. Lane Sawatzke had two hits, two runs scored and two RBI. Mitch Gullikson had two hits and two runs scored. Tanner Termansen had two hits and two RBI in the win.

Austin Johnson picked up the win, striking out five.

SPEARFISH 4, YANKTON 1: Zach Benjamin went 2-2 with a run scored for Yankton. Austin Johnson had a hit and a RBI. Andrew Hummel added a hit.

Dustin Hopper took the loss, pitching 5 1/3. Will Steward got the final two outs.

Tabor 8, Platte 4

PLATTE — Ross Kortan tossed a complete game, striking out 17, as Tabor downed Platte 8-4 in American Legion baseball action on Friday.

Lincoln Stoebner, Sawyer Fridrich and Nate Bares each had two hits for Tabor.

Matt Randall had four hits, including a triple and double, to lead Platte, which outhit Tabor 10-8.

Kortan did not allow a walk in the victory. Phil Shroeder took the loss, striking out 10.

Tabor hosts Corsica on Wednesday. Start time is 6:30 p.m.

VFW Teener

Mitchell 9-8, Reds 8-12

MITCHELL — The Yankton Reds and Mitchell split in a VFW Teener baseball double-header on Friday.

In the opener, Mitchell rallied in the bottom of the seventh to take a 9-8 victory.

For Yankton, Caid Koletzky and Nate Eichacker each had two hits to lead Yankton. Miles Carda, Carter Peterson, Garret Tennant, Jack Schoenfeder, Isiah Woods and Ben Wold each had hits.

Wold took the loss in relief. Schoenfelder struck out four in four innings of work in the start.

Rose Wins US Open

ARDMORE, Pa. (AP) — Justin Rose could see all the pieces coming together in this U.S. Open.

The sun was breaking through the clouds Sunday evening at Merion as he stood in the 18th fairway with a one-shot lead. That famous Ben Hogan plaque was in front of him, a road marker bronze that one pure swing and two putts might be all that stood between Rose and his first major championship.

That and Phil Mickelson in the final group behind him.

Rose followed his script to perfection with a par. So did Mickelson, who can't seem to win a U.S. Open no matter how hard he tries.

Rose drilled a 4-iron just through the green and used a 3-wood to bunt the ball to an inch of the cup for par. Mickelson, who made two careless bogeys on the back nine, needed a birdie on an 18th hole that didn't yield a single one all weekend at Merion.

“What a piece of silverware to be sitting to my right,” Rose said, gazing at the shiny trophy after closing with an even-par 70. “It's just an incredible experience and a childhood dream come true at this point.”

It was a recurring nightmare for Mickelson, extending his record collection of silver medals in the major he covets.

“Heartbreak,” Mickelson said on his 43rd birthday. “This is tough to swallow after coming so close. This was my best chance of all. I had a golf course I really liked. I felt this was as good as opportunity as you could ask for. It really hurts.”

With remarkable poise and three pure swings under pressure, Rose became the first Englishman in 43 years to win America's national championship.

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CWS: UCLA, N.C. State, Indiana, Mississippi State Win In First Round

OMAHA, Neb. — UCLA downed national fourth-seed LSU 2-1 in the opening round of the College World Series on Sunday.

No game story was available by presstime due to the late completion of the game.

UCLA will face North Carolina State in winner's bracket action on Tuesday. LSU will face national top seed North Carolina in an elimination game on Tuesday.

N.C. STATE 8, NORTH CAROLINA 1:

OMAHA, Neb. (AP) — North Carolina State and North Carolina were playing each other in baseball for the 285th time, but never on a stage like this.

Carlos Rodon pitched like the star he is, throwing eight shutout innings and holding the Tar Heels to five hits in an 8-1 College World Series victory Sunday.

This is the College World Series, and it doesn't get any better than this, so why not bring your 'A' game? Rodon said. “Of course, I try to bring my 'A' game every time.”

Rodon (10-2), who required 108 pitches to record his third complete game of the season, held the No. 1 national seed Tar Heels hitless

into the fifth inning. He allowed five hits and struck out eight.

It was the sophomore left-hander's second straight dominating performance against the Tar Heels. The result was more satisfying this time. Three weeks ago he allowed one hit and struck out 14 in 10 innings but got no decision in a 2-1, 18-inning loss in the Atlantic Coast Conference tournament.

“He was as good as I've seen him all year,” Wolfpack catcher Brett Austin said.

Saturday INDIANA 2, LOUISVILLE 0: OMAHA, Neb.

(AP) — Joey DeNato threw a four-hitter and Indiana looked right at home in beating Louisville 2-0 on Saturday night in the Hoosiers' first appearance in the College World Series.

The Hoosiers manufactured their runs early, and DeNato (10-2) made them stand up in a masterful performance in front of a TD Ameritrade Park-record crowd of 27,122.

Indiana (49-18) has beaten the Cardinals (51-13) in three of four meetings, shutting them out twice. The Hoosiers will play Monday against Mississippi State, and the Cardinals will face Oregon State in an elimination game.

MISSISSIPPI ST. 5, OREGON ST. 4: Mis-

issippi State took the lead on Wes Rea's two-run double in the eighth inning, closer Jonathan Holder turned back two Oregon State threats, and the Bulldogs beat the Beavers in the opening game.

Hunter Renfroe's hard comebacker off the leg of Matt Boyd (10-4) put runners on first and second in the eighth for the Bulldogs (49-18). Rea then sent a double into the right-center gap. Andy Delz scored easily and Renfroe beat second baseman Andy Peterson's relay throw home.

The Beavers (50-12) are the No. 3 national seed.

Softball: Mitchell Squad Eliminates Both Yankton Teams In YGSA Inv.

The Mitchell Venom took a bite out of Yankton in the Yankton Girls' Softball Association Invitational, eliminating both of Yankton's squads in the U-16/18 division of the 21st annual event.

In Sunday's championship round, the Venom beat the Yankton Lightning U-16 squad 6-4, then beat the Yankton Spitfire U-18 team 4-2. The Venom went on to beat the Mitchell Hurricanes for the title.

Sioux Falls Drake won the U-14 division, with Sergeant Bluff-Luton Xtreme claiming the silver bracket. Brookings Blast Red won the U-12 division, with the Yankton Shamrocks toaking the silver bracket. The Norfolk Golden Girls won the U-10 division.

MITCHELL VENOM 4, YANKTON SPITFIRE 2: Brooke Loecker drove in both Yankton runs with a single. Jess Wirth, Andi Sprakel and Katie Koletzky added hits.

Lizzy Bye struck out six in the loss.

MITCHELL VENOM 6, YANKTON LIGHTNING 4: Bailey Kortan had two hits, and Jaclyn Arens had a hit and a RBI for Yankton. Heather Hauer, Madison Dangler, Morgan Rothschadl and Ellen Andersen added hits.

Arens took the loss.

U-14 DIVISION

SBL XTREME 7, YANKTON XTREME 3: Lexie McCorkell and Emily Oswald each had a hit and a RBI for Yankton in the silver bracket championship game. Bailey Peterka, Holly Mines and Alix Peterka added hits.

Mines took the loss, striking out one in four innings of work. Bailey Peterka struck out one in an inning of relief.

YANKTON XTREME 10, DAKOTA VALLEY 2: Eight different players had hits for Yankton as the Xtreme advanced to the silver division final.

Traia Hubbard had two hits, including a triple, and four RBI to lead Yankton. Emily Bye posted four hits. Madyson Gilbertson had a hit and two RBI. Holly Mines and Emily Oswald each had a hit and a RBI. Bailey Peterka, Madie Cordell and Kara Ulmer added hits.

Ulmer picked up the win, striking out one.

U-12 DIVISION

The Yankton Shamrocks won the silver bracket on Sunday. The Yankton Crush were eliminated in gold bracket play.

U-10 DIVISION

NORFOLK IMPACT 10, YANKTON FURY 5: Annika Ahlers, Elle Feser, Annika Gordon, Tori Vellek and Britta Pietila scored runs for Yankton.

Saturday's Pool Play

U-16/18 DIVISION

YANKTON SPITFIRE 12, LENNOX MEAN MACHINE 0: Lizzy Bye and Karlee Kozak each went 2-3 with three RBI, with Bye recording a double for Yankton. Abby Schulte had a hit and two RBI. Paige Thieman posted a RBI double. Andi Sprakel had a hit and a RBI. Brooke Loecker added a hit in the victory.

Katie Koletzky earned the win, striking out three.



JAMES D. CIMBUREK/P&D

ABOVE: Yankton Fury second baseman Jillian Eidsness winds up to fire the ball to first base during her team's U-10 semifinal at the Yankton Girls' Softball Association Tournament on Sunday at Sertoma Park.

RIGHT: Yankton Shamrocks baserunner Lillie Ryken slides safely into home plate to score on a wild pitch during their U-12 silver division championship on Sunday at Sertoma Park. The Shamrocks won the silver division title.



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