

Yankton Swim Team Set To Host 50th Annual Event



50th Yankton Charity Invitational Swim Meet

WHEN: Today (Saturday) and Sunday, Sessions at 9 a.m. and 4 p.m. each day

WHERE: Memorial Park Pool, Yankton

OTHER INFO: Meet co-sponsored by Yankton and Vermillion swim teams. No charge for admission.

Look for photos in Monday's *Press & Dakotan* and online at spotted.yankton.net

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The Yankton Swim Team is opening the start of its 2013 season — and their 50th summer home invitational — off with a splash.

The 50th annual Yankton Charity Invitational kicks off today (Saturday) at Yankton's Memorial Park Pool. The meet is co-hosted by the Yankton Swim Team (YST) and the Vermillion Area Swim Team (VAST).

The meet, which draws nearly 200 swimmers from South Dakota, Nebraska, Iowa and Minnesota, will follow the format it started in 2012, with preliminaries for swimmers ages 11-over beginning at 9 a.m. each day, and finals beginning at 4 p.m. each day. Younger swimmers will compete in the afternoon session.

The meet is being held on Saturday and Sunday this year, instead of the traditional

Friday and Saturday, to make it easier for parents to attend.

"We had a few complaints about having a Friday morning session last year, so we moved it to Saturday and Sunday," said YST vice president Nancy Trail.

While most smaller meets don't use a prelim and final format, it gives athletes a taste to that format, according to YST head coach Dawn Bergeson.

"This will introduce swimmers to this format," she said. "If they go on to bigger meets, they'll be ready."

For those who finish in the top 16 of preliminary races, there will be 'A' and 'B' finals. The 'B' final will go first, with swimmers who finished ninth through 16th in prelims. Finals will take the top eight, with introductions before and awards following shortly after.

Besides the move to a Saturday-Sunday format, the venue itself is very fan-friendly, noted Trail.

"We have one of the best venues in the state for outdoors," she said. "We have a large deck, bleachers and shade. The park is fabulous. Parking is easy around this park."

"The kids have a blast, the people working have a blast and other fans seem to enjoy coming to meets here."

Speaking of workers, Trail noted that organizers could always use an extra timer or two. While the pool has a fully-automatic timing system, timers are needed as a backup to that system.

"We'll welcome anyone who wants to volunteer to time," she said. "It takes a lot of people."

The meet will be the season opener for YST, which started practices for its summer season in April. With state only six weeks away, it leaves little time to get qualified for state.

"Pretty much everyone on the team has the goal of making it to state," Berge-

son said. "We want to see kids improve their times at every meet to reach their goals."

Besides getting their first opportunity to compete for the season, the YST members are also pumped about getting to show off their skills.

"The kids are excited," Bergeson said. "They get to show their parents and grandparents what they've learned."

While the Yankton Swim Team competes for more than six months out of the year, competitors don't have to be swimmers year round in order to participate on the team, Bergeson noted.

"It's something that kids can do in the winter, the summer or all year," she said. "You can choose. You don't have to do it all year."

You can follow James D. Cimburek on Twitter at twitter.com/JCimburek

Baseball

First Dakota Classic Begins

Dakota Valley scored four runs in the top of the tenth to beat the Yankton Post 12 junior squad in the opening game of the First Dakota Classic American Legion baseball tournament on Friday at Yankton's Riverside Field.

Andrew Prochello went 4-5 with a triple, two doubles and three RBI. Mike Hammond and Trevor Villhaven each had two hits in the win.

Ben Cameron had three hits to lead Yankton. Alex Crandall had two hits and a RBI. Colton Diefenderfer also had two hits. Matt Hilson added a RBI in the effort.

Brady Hale took the loss, pitching five innings in relief. Greg Hauer pitched the first five innings for Yankton.

Chamberlain 15, Dakota Valley 11

Chamberlain scored 13 unanswered runs after dropping behind 11-2 after three innings on the way to a 15-11 victory over Dakota Valley in the First Dakota Classic on Friday. The game was shortened to six innings due to time limit.

Tyson Flurry had two hits, including a home run, and two runs scored for Chamberlain. Wyatt Schumacher had three hits and four runs scored. Chris Swartz added two hits and two runs scored in the win.

Ryan Lammers had three hits and three runs scored for Dakota Val-



LEFT: Yankton's Zach Benjamin takes a cut during First Dakota Post 12's matchup with Chamberlain in the First Dakota Classic American Legion baseball tournament on Friday at Yankton's Riverside Field. The third game of the day was not completed at presstime.



RIGHT: Yankton Post 12 juniors pitcher Greg Hauer sends the ball plateward during the team's matchup with Dakota Valley in the First Dakota Classic American Legion baseball tournament on Friday at Yankton's Riverside Field. Dakota Valley won 8-4 in 10 innings.

BASEBALL | PAGE 9

Oakland U. Says Women's Coach Fired Over Conduct

ROCHESTER, Mich. (AP) — Oakland University women's basketball coach Beckie Francis was fired for behavior in April that led to an internal review, the school said Friday. It did not provide details about Francis' alleged conduct or the review.

The school released a statement Friday saying Francis was suspended without pay on May 30 and terminated June 12.

"Indications of conduct and behavior of the women's basketball head coach that, if true, could be malfeasance and materially adversely affect the orderly or efficient operation of the Women's Basketball Program, came to the attention of an Oakland University administrator in April," the school said.

Other aspects of the women's basketball program are being reviewed, the school said.

In a statement Friday, Francis declined to focus on the firing, saying she has "greatly enjoyed coaching the student-athletes" at Oakland University.

"I have challenged myself personally, professionally, and spiritually, and I am looking forward to the future," Francis said.

Her husband, Gary Russi, announced his retirement as president of the 19,000-student suburban Detroit university on the same day Francis was relieved of her duties.

Francis, the second-winningest women's basketball coach in school history, made national news last year when she publicly discussed her past as a victim of childhood sexual abuse.

She received the 2013 Pat Summitt Most Courageous award for her dedication to fighting childhood sexual abuse.

Iverson Worked Out For T-Wolves

MINNEAPOLIS (AP) — Former Minnesota center Colton Iverson is among the top prospects among centers eligible for the NBA draft.

The 7-foot Iverson transferred from the Gophers and played his senior year at Colorado State, a breakout season in which he averaged 14.2 points and 9.8 rebounds per game while helping lead the Rams to the NCAA tournament.

Iverson was in a small group of players who worked out for the Minnesota Timberwolves at Target Cen-



Iverson

ter on Friday. The native of Yankton, was joined by centers Kelly Olynyk of Gonzaga and Mason Plumlee of Duke and forward Christian Watford of Indiana.

Iverson said after the practice that he's "not the slow slug you saw at Minnesota." He is widely projected as a second-round pick in the draft next week.

Heat Title Parade Monday

MIAMI (AP) — The Heat will have their championship parade Monday, and city officials say fans will not be allowed to carry backpacks.

An estimated 400,000 fans packed the route last season after the Heat won the 2012 title. The parade will be followed by an event for season-ticket holders at the team's home arena, where the parade will end.

Several major events have not allowed fans to carry backpacks or bags of a certain size after the Boston Marathon bombings earlier this year, including the Penn Relays and horse racing's Triple Crown races. Earlier this month, the NFL said it would also not allow backpacks in its stadiums this coming season.

Mississippi State Beats Oregon State For CWS Finals Berth

OMAHA, Neb. (AP) — Hunter Renfroe hit a three-run homer off the back wall of the left-field bullpen, and Mississippi State advanced to the College World Series finals with a 4-1 victory over Oregon State on Friday.

The Bulldogs (51-18) beat the Beavers for the second time in the CWS and will play for the first time in the best-of-three championship round that starts Monday against North Carolina or UCLA.

Oregon State (52-13) went 2-2 in its first CWS appearance since winning back-to-back national titles in 2006-07.

Renfroe's homer off freshman left-hander Andrew Moore (14-2) was only the third in 11 CWS games and put the Bulldogs up 4-0 in the fifth.

Kendall Graveman (7-5) worked the first 5 2-3 innings, allowing one run on four hits. Ross Mitchell and Jonathan Holder finished, with Holder getting the last two outs

for his 21st save of the season and school-record 30th of his career.

It's the sixth straight year a team from the Southeastern Conference has reached the finals.

The Bulldogs built on a 1-0 lead after Moore retired their first two batters in the fifth. Adam Frazier and Alex Detz singled before Renfroe, the No. 13 overall pick by San Diego in the recent draft, drove Moore's 3-1 breaking ball for his first home run since May 4 and 16th of the season.

Moore gave up four runs on nine hits in 4 2-3 innings, his shortest outing of the season. Jace Fry pitched 3 1-3 innings of two-hit shutout relief, but the Beavers' offense couldn't crack Mitchell and Holder.

Mississippi State had beaten the Beavers 5-4 in the CWS opener, with Danny Hayes' deep fly to right dying on the warning track in the bottom of the ninth inning.

There was no such drama this time.

The Bulldogs' Brett Pirtle extended his streak of reaching base to 42 games, and Renfroe extended his hitting streak to 10 games.

Graveman also started the first game against the Beavers, but he allowed four runs in 4 2-3 innings that day and was let off the hook when Wes Rea doubled in the winning runs in the eighth.

Graveman, the eighth-round draft pick of the Toronto Blue Jays, is now 3-0 in four NCAA tournament appearances.

Oregon State left fielder Michael Conforto turned in perhaps the best defensive play of the CWS when he robbed Wes Rea of extra bases in the second inning. Conforto retreated to the warning track on Rea's fly, jumped to make the catch and held on as he slammed against the wall.

Beavers shortstop Tyler Smith was so impressed that he went out to left to give Conforto a hug.

Brazil Should Send Message To All Of Us

BY PAUL NEWBERRY
AP National Writer

ATLANTA (AP) — A million protesters took to the streets of Brazil, angry that basic services have gone unmet even while their country has managed to find billions to spend on the 2014 World Cup and the 2016 Olympics.

This is a message that should resonate around the world.

From Russia, where they've committed an obscene amount of money (a staggering \$51 billion at last count) for the Sochi Olympics next winter, to Jacksonville, Fla., where the city may have to shut down neighborhood libraries because of budget cuts but committed tens of millions of dollars to put up massive new video boards in its NFL stadium.

Seriously, it's time for everyone to rise up.

Enough's enough.

Follow the lead of the people of Brazil (minus the violence and vandalism, of course) and shout an emphatic "No!" the next time someone wants to build a new stadium or arena with tax dollars. Not until the potholes on the way to those venues are fixed. Not until our schools are improved. Not until we have more parks and playgrounds.

"Priorities seem out of whack," said Douglas Turco, an associate academic dean in global studies at Arcadia University near Philadelphia, who has published more than 40 books and articles on major sporting events.

Right in my own backyard, the city of Atlanta is pushing forward with plans to build a \$1 billion retractable roof stadium, even though it already has a perfectly suitable domed stadium, the Georgia Dome, that's barely two decades old.

While the NFL Falcons are putting up the bulk of the money — an estimated \$800 million — the city's cut will be at least \$200 million. Of course, the project comes with all the usual hollow promises: that a new stadium will help revitalize the downtrodden neighborhood right next to the sparkling new stadium.

We've heard that before.

When Atlanta constructed the main stadium for the 1996 Olympics, which was converted to baseball and is now known as Turner Field, it was supposed to spark development in some of the city's poorest neighborhoods.

While a few areas around the Ted have improved — there are rows and rows of attractive townhouses northeast of the stadium, for instance — the main road that runs just beyond the center-field scoreboard is lined mostly with abandoned, boarded-up buildings.

Now, we're being sold the same bill of goods with another new stadium.

Not buying it.

Instead of just grumbling over a few beers about the folly of tearing down the Georgia Dome long before it's time, the people of Atlanta should look to South America for their inspiration. Tell the powers-that-be — right outside their windows — that they want a safer environment for their children, better public transportation, a commitment to completing projects such as the Beltline (an ambitious series of trails and light-rail lines that would encircle the inner city) before they build another new stadium.

You know, money that would actually make the city — the ENTIRE city — a better place to live. Something that's more than just a playground for 70,000 football fans a few Sundays each fall.

But, for some reason, there's been little outrage in Atlanta, or most of the other cities that have built new venues in recent years. Billionaire team owners and in-their-pocket politicians have become the equivalent or pseudo-carnival barkers, persuading a gullible audience (a.k.a. the taxpayers) that they'll somehow be living in a second-class city if they don't have the biggest, newest, fanciest stadium.

And the people, for some rea-