

Spitfire Roll To YGSA Invitational Title

The Yankton Spitfire scored a combined 25 runs in their semifinal and championships on the way to winning the 16/18-Under Division of the Yankton Girls' Softball Association Invitational on Sunday at Riverside Field.

The Spitfire clinched the title and a 5-0 weekend with a 12-5 rout of the Hartford Fusion Silver.

Jess Wirth went 4-4 with three doubles, two RBI and four runs scored. Karlee Kozak went 3-4 with two doubles and three RBI. Bailey Kortan tripled and doubled, driving in two runs. Allison Sexton doubled and singled, driving in a run. Jaclyn Arens had two hits and two RBI. Brooke Loecker drove in two runs. Morgan Rothschild and Sophie Drotzmann added hits.

Arens struck out seven for the win.

SPITFIRE 13, S.F. DRAKE 4: Three different Yankton hitters had three hits each as the Spitfire advanced to Sunday's final.

Jaclyn Arens had two doubles, a single and three RBI to lead Yankton. Sophie Drotzmann also had two doubles and a single. Heather Hauer added three hits.

Also for Yankton, Jess Wirth doubled twice, driving in one, and Alison Sexton had two hits and three RBI. Brooke Loecker had two hits and two RBI. Karlee Kozak had a triple and a RBI.

Arens picked up the win, striking out four.

POOL PLAY

SPITFIRE 7, S.F. DRAKE 4: Jaclyn Arens had two hits and two RBI, and Karlee Kozak had a two-run single to lead Yankton.

Bailey Kortan had a RBI double, Sophie Drotzmann had a RBI single, and Jess Wirth and Morgan Rothschild added hits.

Rothschild picked up the win, striking out six. Arens pitched the final inning for the save.

SPITFIRE 2, HARTFORD FUSION SILVER 1: Jess Wirth and Brooke Loecker each doubled and singled to lead Yankton. Heather Hauer had a RBI double, Karlee Kozak doubled and Jaclyn Arens singled in the win.

Arens struck out six for the victory.

SPITFIRE 15, R.C. BALLISTIX 1: Jaclyn Arens had four hits and seven other Yankton players had at least one hit as Yankton opened with a rout of Rapid City Ballistix.

Arens also drove in three runs. Karlee Kozak had three hits, including a two-run double. Allison Sexton had two hits and four RBI. Heather Hauer had two hits and two RBI. Brooke Loecker had a RBI double, Liz Suing had a RBI single, and Jess Wirth and Sophie Drotzmann added hits in the win.

Arens and Loecker pitched for Yankton, with Loecker throwing the final two innings of the three-inning contest.

14-Under

The Yankton Xtreme took care of their younger competitors in the Silver division final, blanking the Crush 12-0 on Sunday afternoon.



For the Crush, Brooke Madsen, Bailey Sejnoha, Brittany Davis, Kara Ulmer and Riley Andrus had hits.

Ulmer took the loss, striking out two.

CRUSH 11, NORFOLK GOLDEN GIRLS 4: Bridget Nolz drove in five runs and five other Yankton players had two hits or more as the Crush blasted the Norfolk Golden Girls on Saturday.

Nolz had a triple, a single and a run scored to go along with her five RBI. Brooke Madsen had three hits, three runs scored and a RBI. Kara Ulmer had three hits, two RBI and a run scored. Rachel Hamburg had two hits, two runs scored and a RBI. Payton Vellek had two hits, a run scored and a RBI. Bailey Sejnoha had two hits and a run scored.

Also for the Crush, Elsie Marquardt had a double, a run scored and a RBI. Chloe Kozletzky had a hit and a run scored. Bailey Kenney added a hit in the victory.

Ulmer picked up the win, striking out five.

POOL PLAY

DAKOTA VALLEY 3, CRUSH 2: Kara Ulmer had two hits and Payton Vellek had two RBI for Yankton.

Also for the Crush, Bailey Sejnoha had a triple and a run scored, and Brooke Madsen had a hit and a run scored.

Ulmer took the loss, striking out five.

CRUSH 8, BROOKINGS BLAST 4: Kara Ulmer had two hits at the plate and struck out 10 on the rubber to lead Yankton to victory.



Making Big Plays

Champions were crowned in four divisions on Sunday at the Yankton Girls' Softball Association Invitational tournament. The Yankton Spitfire won the

ABOVE: Yankton Shamrocks pitcher Gabby Pietila, behind, makes a diving catch of a pop-up by a Dakota Valley batter during their game in the Yankton Girls' Softball Association Invitational on Sunday at Sertoma Park.

LEFT: Yankton's Bailey Kortan triples to the wall during the first inning of the 16/18-Under championship of the Yankton Girls' Softball Association Invitational on Sunday at Sertoma Park. Kortan also doubled in the game as the Spitfire rolled to the title 12-5.

JAMES D. CIMBUREK/P&D

Notebook: Volunteers Help Make Tourney Happen

BY JORDYNNE HART
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A record field of 34 teams, featuring 336 players, gathered for the 22nd annual Yankton Girls Softball Invitational (YGSA) Saturday and Sunday. Seven teams from Yankton along with 27 out-of-town teams from South Dakota, Nebraska and Iowa all participated in the event.

With so many people attending, YGSA President Robin Wirth, along with YGSA board members, players, coaches and parents had a ton of work to do to pull off such an event.

"It's the largest tournament we have ever had," Wirth said. "All of our volunteer work comes from our board members, players and parents. All the proceeds help the girls go to state."

The tournament is an all volunteer program.

"We had a lot of our equipment donated from area businesses, which was great. The parents also are very involved. They get the water out of the diamond and get the fields dried out and clean and do chalking," said board member Dave Kokesh.

Besides some light showers, the tournament went smoothly thanks all of the volunteer work. Games on six of the fields — four at Sertoma Park and two at the Summit Center athletic complex — were set back about 90 minutes. Volunteer efforts also allowed play to begin on time at Riverside Park, which had a later start time.

Young Spitfire Have Talent

"If they are ready, they should play," Coach Robin Wirth said about Yankton's 18-and-under team, the Spitfire.

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SOFTBALL | PAGE 9

Baseball: Lakers Win Bob Deery Classic; Post 12 3-0 In Spearfish



JAMES D. CIMBUREK/P&D
Yankton Reds third baseman Jack Raab scoops up a ground ball during the opening game of the Bob Deery Classic VFW Teener baseball tournament on Saturday at Riverside Field.

The Yankton Lakers won 3-0 to claim top honors in the Bob Deery Wood Bat Classic VFW Teener Baseball Tournament, which concluded Sunday at Riverside Field.

The Yankton Reds finished 2-1 in the tournament.

The Lakers travel to Sioux Falls to face East on Tuesday. The Reds, 8-7, hosts Sioux Falls West on Tuesday.

Sunday

LAKERS 3, S.F. CENTRAL 2: Yankton scored the game-winning run on an error in the bottom of the seventh.

Caid Kozletzky went 2-4, and Miles Carda, Oakley Palmer, Carter Peterson, Jack Schoenfelder and Wyatt Duncan each had hits for Yankton.

Carda picked up the win in relief of Trey Bakke, who allowed one run in four innings of work.

REDS 7, RENNER 6: Ethan Wishon had three doubles and five RBI, including a bases-loaded double to drive in the game-winning runs, as the Reds rallied past Renner.

Levi Wiersma had three hits and a

RBI, and Rex Ryken had a hit for Yankton. Jack Raab drove in a run in the victory.

Mike Frick, the fifth Yankton pitcher, picked up the win.

Saturday

LAKERS 6, RENNER 1: Three different Yankton players had two hits each in the victory.

Oakley Palmer had a pair of doubles and drove in two runs to lead the Lakers. Kellen Franzen had two hits and two RBI. Garret Tennant also had two hits. Caid Kozletzky, Miles Carda, Trey Bakke, and Isiah Woods each had hits.

Woods picked up the win, allowing no runs on two hits over six innings. Lance Haak pitched the seventh.

S.F. CENTRAL 2, REDS 1: Sioux Falls Central scored a pair of first-inning unearned runs and held on for victory.

Levi Wiersma had two hits, and Michael Drotzmann, Cole Sawatzke and Peyton Mueller had hits for Yankton.

Owen Feser took the loss despite allowing just one hit over seven innings.

LAKERS 7, PARKSTON 6: Jack Schoenfelder and Carter Peterson each had a hit and two RBI to lead Yankton to victory.

Miles Carda, Trey Bakke, Caid Kozlet-

zky and Oakley Palmer also had hits in the win.

Palmer started, allowing two runs over four innings of work. Peterson and Jackson Somsen finished the game for the Lakers.

REDS 4, PARKSTON 1: Yankton had just one hit, but it was enough to claim the rain-shortened game.

Michael Drotzmann had a hit and two RBI, and Cole Sawatzke and Mike Frick drove in runs for Yankton.

Ethan Wishon picked up the win, allowing one hit and striking out five.

Legion

Spearfish Tour.

SPEARFISH — Yankton Post 12 went 3-0, including a pair of walk-off victories, at the Spearfish American Legion baseball Tournament this weekend. Post 12 is now 12-3 on the season.

Yankton's next games are a doubleheader at South Sioux City, Nebraska, on Thursday.

YANKTON 4, BROOKINGS 3: Colin Muth's three-run double in the bottom of the ninth lifted Post 12 past Brookings on Sunday afternoon.

Lane Sawatzke had three hits, and Sheldon Gant had a hit and a RBI for Yankton. Austin Johnson, Tanner Termansen and Ben Cameron also had hits. Landon Withrow scored twice for Post 12.

Mitch Gullikson picked up the win, getting the final two outs of the top of the ninth.

YANKTON 6, ALLIANCE 5: Lane Sawatzke's RBI single completed a two-run rally in the bottom of the seventh as Yankton ousted Alliance, Nebraska, on Friday.

Landon Withrow doubled and singled, scoring a run, for Yankton. Sheldon Gant had two hits and a game-tying RBI in the seventh. Colin Muth had a hit and two RBI. Tanner Termansen had a hit, a run scored and a RBI. Sawatzke and Ben Cameron each had a hit and a RBI. Mitch Gullikson had a hit and a run scored. Will Steward added a hit.

Gullikson picked up the win in relief, striking out three in two innings of work.

YANKTON 11, STURGIS 2: Lane

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Spurs Rout Heat Again To Claim Title

SAN ANTONIO (AP) — The San Antonio Spurs won their fifth NBA championship, beating the Miami Heat 104-87 on Sunday night to win the series in five games.

Kawhi Leonard had 22 points and 10 rebounds for the Spurs, who added this title to the ones they won in 1999, 2003, '05 and '07. They nearly had another last year, but couldn't hold off the Heat and lost in seven games.

The rematch was no match at all.

San Antonio rebounded from an early 16-point deficit by outscoring the Heat 37-13 from the start of the second quarter to midway in the third.

LeBron James had 31 points and 10 rebounds as Miami's two-year title reign ended.

SCL: Freeman Holds Off Menno 3-1

MENNO — Austin Smidt and Lee Scherschligt combined on a six-hitter as Freeman downed Menno 3-1 in South Central League amateur baseball action on Sunday.

Brett Scherschligt had a double and two RBI, and Christian Wolfgang had a double for Freeman, which also had six hits.

Tate Bruckner recorded two hits and Josh Berndt doubled for Menno.

Smidt pitched 6 2/3 innings for the victory, with Lee Scherschligt getting the final seven outs for the save. Doug Hall tossed a complete game in the loss.

Freeman, 3-3 in league play, hosts Yankton on Friday. Menno, 1-7 in the SCL, hosts Irene on Thursday.

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MENNO 000 000 100 - 1 6 1
Austin Smidt, Lee Scherschligt (7) and Derek Wierman, Doug Hall and Tate Bruckner

Yankton 5, Lesterville 4

LESTERVILLE — The Yankton Tappers needed a four-run rally in the ninth to rally past Lesterville 5-4 in South Central League amateur baseball action on Sunday.

Lesterville led 4-1 before Nik Davis' two-run blast closed the gap, and RBI singles by Derek Blumenstock and Kory Bromley gave Yankton the lead.

Heath Arens also doubled and singled for Yankton.

Tyler Edler doubled and singled, scoring twice, to lead Lesterville. Ian Powell and Darrin Svacina each doubled and singled for the Broncos, who outhit Yankton 7-6.

Mike Janish struck out six in six innings of relief for the win. Alex Wagner took the loss, striking out nine in a



JEREMY HOECK/P&D

Scott Heimes, center, celebrates with this teammates after the Wynot Expos turned a triple play in the top of the third inning of Sunday night's South Central League game against Crofton in Wynot, Nebraska. The game was not completed by presstime.

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