



JEREMY HOECK/P&D
Great Britain's Luke Ralls, left, reacts as a judge signals a tie between Ralls and fellow British archer James Howse during their quarterfinal match Thursday at the World Archery Youth Championships in Yankton. Howse would go on to beat Ralls in a second shoot-off.

Archery | #WAYC Notebook

Rain Can't Dampen Competition



JEREMY HOECK/P&D
Team USA archer Cole Feterl (front), from Lennox, lines up a shot during Thursday's action at the World Archery Youth Championships in Yankton.

BY JEREMY HOECK
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Does the United States have a kind of advantage by being the host country? Three archers have put themselves in a position to find out, as they advanced Thursday to the gold medal matches this weekend at the World Archery Youth Championships (WAYC) in Yankton. Despite a persistent rain coupled with windy conditions, three members of the Team USA contingent won their semifinal matches Thursday in their respective divisions of the week-long tournament. David Houser, Collin Klimitchek and Mackenzie Brown will go for the gold medal this weekend in the finals, which are open to the public and will be held outside the main

entrance to the Easton Yankton Archery Complex. Do those three USA archers have an edge? "There's a little bit of a home field advantage, yeah," said Houser, a 17-year-old from Pennsylvania. Of the three archers to reach the finals, Houser was perhaps the most surprising. He was the No. 14 seed in the Compound Junior Men division, and edged Russia's Hanno De Klerk by one point in the quarterfinals and beat Croatia's Mario Vavro (the No. 2 seed) by four points in the semifinals. Houser will now face top-ranked Stephan Hansen of Denmark in Saturday's finals. "There's not extra pressure, but you want to perform better because you're in the United States," Houser said. It is the same situation

for Klimitchek and Brown. Klimitchek will face Korea's Byeongyeon Min in Sunday's Recurve Junior Men finals, while Brown will match up with Chinese Taipei's Chia-Mao Peng for the Recurve Junior Women gold medal Sunday. With the United States playing host to the WAYC for the first time since 2009, it has allowed parents and other spectators to make the trip to Yankton to cheer on the Team USA archers. "It's nice because a lot of people who came out here wouldn't be able to travel if it was somewhere else," Houser said. For Houser, archery isn't just an activity he enjoys, it's a passion. The full-time shooter graduated from high school

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Easton: 'We're Definitely An Event Here'

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Shortly after arriving in Yankton on Thursday, Greg Easton got a tour of the facility that bears his family name and got a brief update on an event he once helped bring to the United States. Sure, it was a lot to take in for the president of Easton Foundations, but once he finally had a chance to sit down and gather his thoughts, he couldn't help but rave about Yankton serving as host for the World Archery Youth Championships (WAYC). Easton, who lives in Salt Lake City, Utah, is no stranger to Yankton – he likes to use the line "It may be in the mid-

dle of the U.S., but it's not in the middle of nowhere." A year ago, Yankton – and its Easton Yankton Archery Complex – was awarded the bid for the 2015 WAYC, which meant the event would return to the United States for the first time since 2009 when Easton helped host the tournament in Ogden, Utah. Yankton, a town of just under 15,000 residents, had a distinct edge when it came to the WAYC bid, according to Easton. "The real advantages would be, you know archery and you have the facilities," Easton said during an interview in the Yankton complex. "That's probably what set Yankton apart." The size of the community

no doubt also played into Yankton's favor during the bid process, according to Easton – who went through a similar process ahead of the 2009 event in Utah. "What's nice is, we're definitely an event here," he said. "People know we're here, they appreciate us being here, and I think that makes everyone feel good about being here. "You're not just another person on the street." The bidding process, unlike many other prestigious events around the world, for a WAYC is different in that it doesn't stay competitive until the very end, Easton said. There are rarely any secrets as to what countries are interested in the event, he

said, and World Archery officials are honest with those other countries when they receive a bid they prefer. "There were other countries interested in this particular bid, but I think when they (World Archery) saw what Yankton was putting forward, they wouldn't need to go up against that," Easton said. Most notably among the countries Yankton beat out for the WAYC bid was Mexico City, and its population of over eight million residents. Yankton's experience in hosting high-profile national and international tournaments no doubt played into its favor, Easton said.

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JEREMY HOECK/P&D
Greg Easton, the president of Easton Foundations, arrived in Yankton on Thursday to survey the ongoing World Archery Youth Championships which are being held at the Easton Yankton Archery Complex.

Coyotes Open NCAA Meet

FROM P&D AND AP REPORTS

EUGENE, Ore. – Two University of South Dakota athletes just missed top-16 honors in the NCAA Outdoor Track and Field Championships on Thursday. Junior Hunter Wilkes tied for 18th in the women's pole vault, clearing 4.05 meters (13-3 1/2). Junior Amber Eichkorn placed 20th in the 10,000-meter run, finishing in 34:55.53. One Coyote remains to compete in the NCAA meet, senior Cody Snyder in the discus today (Friday). Earlier in the day, Akela Jones of Kansas State won the collegiate title in just the second heptathlon of her career and DeAnna Price of Southern Illinois set a meet record in winning the hammer. Jones, from Barbados, held a big lead after the first day and stayed there throughout Thursday's final three events in the seven-event competition, finishing with 6,371 points. Price, who entered the meet with the fourth-best mark of the season, already had clinched the competition when she uncorked her big throw of 234-6, her first time over 70 meters.

Huskers LB Santos Won't Return; Two Other Players To Transfer

OMAHA, Neb. (AP) — Nebraska's depth issue at linebacker became more problematic Thursday with coach Mike Riley's announcement that David Santos would not be with the Cornhuskers this season. Riley also said safety LeRoy Alexander and receiver Jariah Tolbert would transfer. Santos was the Cornhuskers' most experienced linebacker, having started

eight games last season and 19 in his career. Santos injured his right knee against Miami in September and was limited the rest of the season. He missed two games and the Holiday Bowl but still finished with 50 tackles and an interception in his junior season. Santos, from Spring, Texas, had major knee surgery after the season. Riley didn't say in his statement why Santos wouldn't return. Santos' father, David

Santos Sr., declined to comment. The Huskers practiced with just five scholarship linebackers in the spring, and three scholarship freshmen will join the team in fall camp. Alexander was suspended for the entire 2014 season for an undisclosed reason. The native of Toledo, Ohio, appeared in all 13 games as a redshirt freshman in 2013. He made 34 tackles, with 27 coming in the final six games.

Tolbert, from New Orleans, was charged with marijuana possession in June 2014 and again this past April. He sat out as a redshirt last season and was one of the top receivers in the spring. He led all receivers in the Red-White game, catching three passes for 55 yards and a touchdown. A posting on Tolbert's Facebook page said he would play at Arizona Western Community College this fall.



JERRY HOLT/MINNEAPOLIS STAR TRIBUNE/TNS
Minnesota Twins' Torii Hunter scores on a triple by Eddie Rosario during on Sunday. Despite a 3-7 start to June, Hunter and the Twins are confident that they will be in contention throughout the season.

Twins Still Confident, Despite June Swoon

BY DAVE CAMPBELL
AP Sports Writer

MINNEAPOLIS (AP) — The elbow pad. The shin guard. The batting gloves. Enraged over a called third strike, Torii Hunter had already hurled almost all of his accessories when he ripped off his white pinstriped Minnesota Twins jersey and heaved that onto the field, too. This was the picture of frustration, at the end of a rough few days for Hunter and the Twins. Their surprise 20-7 mark in May that sent them into first place in the American League Central has begun to unravel with this 3-7 record to start June. The swoon hasn't lasted long enough yet to truly test this team's resolve, though. The season is still too young for stress to set in.

The Twins, after all, lost an average of 96 games over the last four years. They were outscored 45-16 while losing six of their first seven games to start 2015. Finishing 1-5 on a home-stand was hardly a major setback for a team that's been trying to rediscover a winning way for most of this decade. "I don't have any particular issue when you go through periods like this," manager Paul Molitor said. "It's unfortunate it came at a time when the games seemed to be, at least externally, a lot bigger. It's just kind of the nature of how your season's going, to have ebbs and flows." In his address to the players after the 7-2 loss on Wednesday to Kansas City that left the Twins two games behind the Royals in the

division standings, Molitor reminded them of the date. "You don't determine the fate of your season in June. That just never happens, one way or another," Molitor said. "So there's a lot of baseball to play. We'll take the day off and we'll regroup and hopefully come back and get back on track." From Hunter's buoyant leadership to Molitor's steady guidance, these Twins have clearly developed a stronger team chemistry and sense of confidence this year. The postgame dance parties that Hunter initiated following wins at Target Field, complete with fog machines, laser lights and the star of the day busting a move in the middle of the clubhouse, would have been uncharacteristic of any of their recent teams.

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