



ELYSE BRIGHTMAN/VERMILLION PLAIN TALK  
Professional golfer Riley O'Neill tees off at the first hole of Friday's first round at the first stop of The Dakotas Golf Tour at The Bluffs Golf Course in Vermillion.

# Dakotas Tour Kicks Off In Vermillion

BY ELYSE BRIGHTMAN  
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VERMILLION – Golfers from all over the country were at The Bluffs Golf Course Friday for the first stop of the Dakotas Golf Tour, the South Dakota Open.

“This is the very first event of the season,” said Dennis Chandler, the executive director of the tour and an assistant pro golfer at The Bluffs. “The Bluffs kind of sets precedent for the season with ‘this is appropriate behavior’, ‘this is appropriate attire’, that kind of thing.”

This pro-am event puts local amateur golfers with professionals traveling from all across the country together for a three-day event.

“It’s all good preparation for (qualifying) school which is in October, November, December and it’s an opportunity to make money,” said Thomas Campbell, a professional golfer originally from New Zealand.

The qualifying school is the tournament golfers play in to qualify for the PGA Tour.

Campbell plans on being at most

of the tour stops, with the exception of the one day tournaments, and mentions that The Bluffs is one of the more unique courses he’s played on.

“It’s quite unique with the first 12 holes being kind of flat and the back nine with (hole) 13, you go down the bottom (of the bluffs), it’s quite the test,” he said.

Each of the stops has a professional component and an amateur component. Each stop has teams of four that usually sees three amateurs with one professional, though some teams consist of four professionals.

“This event is the first event of 19,” Chandler said. “There are 64 pros and 90 ams, which means there are some groups that don’t have ams, they just play as pro only groups. We’ll have about 200-225 players over the course of the summer that play in our events from all over.”

Team scores and individual scores are kept at each tournament.

“The pro plays his own ball and works for his own score, and the ams do that as well, but there’s a team component where the team on each hole will take the three best scores

of the four players and play against every other team on the golf course,” Chandler said. “At the end of the day there’s that team score as well as individual score.”

The amateurs play scratch with their handicap and the professionals play scratch with no handicap.

The professional golfers play for a prize purse of approximately \$750,000 over the course of the nine week tour. They also have to opportunity to win a bonus pool of \$40,000 that’s split among the top 10 golfers on the tour.

“To get part of that bonus pool, they have to play in eight of the 11 three or four day events,” Chandler said. “We have some one and two day events that we call satellite events that happen in midweek and they don’t have to play in those to qualify for the bonus round.”

The tour travels across several Midwest state including North Dakota, South Dakota, Minnesota, Iowa, Wyoming and Nebraska. Local stops include Fox Run Golf Course and Hillcrest Golf Course in Yankton, Bakkers Crossing in Sioux Falls and Dakota Dunes Country Club.

## All In Good Fun



# MMC Alumni Baseball Game

To help kick off this weekend’s Mount Marty College All Class Reunion in Yankton, baseball players from all age ranges gathered together Friday night for an alumni game at Bob Tereshinski Stadium at Riverside Field.

One team was coached by MMC head baseball coach Andy Bernatow and the other team was coached by former Lancer baseball coach Tereshinski.

LEFT: Third baseman Scott Swanson, left, tags out Derrik Nelson during Friday night’s Mount Marty College alumni baseball game at Bob Tereshinski Stadium at Riverside Field.

ABOVE: Sister Candyce Chrystal throws out a ceremonial first pitch before Friday night’s Mount Marty College alumni baseball game at Bob Tereshinski Stadium at Riverside Field.

BOTTOM: Mount Marty College head baseball coach Andy Bernatow delivers to home plate during Friday night’s alumni baseball game at Bob Tereshinski Stadium at Riverside Field.

PHOTOS BY JEREMY HOECK/P&D



# Towns And Tyus Arrive With T’Wolves

MINNEAPOLIS (AP) — Jacqueline Cruz-Towns sat on a bench in the Minnesota Timberwolves’ sparkling new practice facility, proudly wearing a Wolves hat on her head and a big smile on her face as she recalled a pre-draft visit her son Karl-Anthony made to Minneapolis last week.

“He toured this beautiful facility and he told me, ‘Mom, this is the place for me,’” Cruz-Towns said Friday, a day after the Timberwolves made him the No. 1 overall draft pick.

Long considered the NBA’s version of Siberia, a losing franchise playing in a frigid climate ignored by free agents, the Timberwolves found two players in the draft who couldn’t be happier to be coming to Minnesota.

Karl-Anthony Towns was widely considered the best

player in the draft, and he made no secret about his happiness in being selected by the Timberwolves, even though the tradition-rich Lakers playing in glitzy Los Angeles were sitting there at No. 2.

“He wanted to be here,” Towns’ father, Karl, said. “He loves this place.”

After grabbing Towns at No. 1, the Wolves traded back into the first round to get Duke’s Tyus Jones at No. 24, a point guard who was The Associated Press Minnesota player of the year three times while playing in suburban Apple Valley.

Jones was 8 years old the last time his hometown Wolves made the playoffs, but that didn’t stop the Duke star from dreaming about playing for the team when he grew up.

“It doesn’t feel real. It feels like a dream,” Jones

said. “To find out I’m going to be a Timberwolf and going to be staying home was really the cherry on top.”

Towns and Jones join a roster that is suddenly smitten with Minnesota. Andrew Wiggins won rookie of the year honors last season and told the AP at season’s end that he hopes he plays his whole career with the Wolves. Ricky Rubio went against the advice of his agents and signed a four-year contract extension last season in part because he wanted to stay in Minnesota and the notoriously reluctant to change Kevin Garnett consented to a trade at the deadline in February to leave Brooklyn and come back to the Timberwolves.

“We’ve got some kids here these last few years that really want to be here,” president and coach Flip Saunders said. “I think they

see this has a chance to be really special.”

Jones picked Towns up from the airport on Friday morning and gave him a walking tour of the Minneapolis skyway system that connects skyscrapers and apartments downtown to the team’s new \$25 million Mayo Clinic Square practice facility and Target Center arena.

“I loved every single minute of walking the skyways with the fans,” Towns said. “They’re passionate and amazing and I can’t wait to give them the best version of myself.”

Jones, who will backup Rubio, said he was unfazed by the added expectations that will come with playing in his hometown.

“I plan on dealing with it just like I deal with any other pressure that has come in

# Baseball: Yankton, Crofton Pick Up SCL Road Wins

WYNOT, Neb. – The Yankton Tappers jumped out to a 6-2 lead and held on for a 7-5 victory over Wynot in South Central League amateur baseball action on Thursday.

Ross Heine had three hits to lead Yankton. Derrik Nelson had two hits, Nik Davis homered, and Kory Bromley and Devin Gullikson each doubled for the Tappers.

For Wynot, Lance Heine doubled and singled, and Matt Hames had two hits to lead the way.

Jesse Bailey picked up the win, striking out seven in six innings of work. Mike Janish pitched the final three innings, striking out five, for the save. Scott Morrison took the loss.

Yankton travels to Scotland on Sunday.

YANKTON .....141 000 001 - 7 10 7  
WYNOT .....201 011 000 - 5 8 4  
Jesse Bailey, Mike Janish (7) and Kory Bromley, Scott Morrison, Jackson Sudbeck (4) and Steve Heimes

## Crofton 18, Scotland 2

SCOTLAND – Kyle Mueller had four hits and Rand Thygeson homered as the Crofton Bluejays rolled past Scotland 18-2 for their eighth consecutive South Central League victory on Thursday night.

Austin Filipis added three hits and Thygeson singled twice for Crofton (8-2), which pounded out 18 hits and hasn’t lost in league play since an 0-2 start. Gage Rethwisch started for the Bluejays.

For Scotland, Sawyer Schmitz and Joe Kronaizl both had two hits. Seth Ireland took the loss.

Crofton visits Freeman on Sunday.

CROFTON (8-2) .....207 72 - 18 18 0  
SCOTLAND .....002 00 - 2 7 2  
Gage Rethwisch, (other pitchers not listed) and Carl Schieffer, Seth Ireland, Wyatt Brown (4) and Anthony Walloch