

PHOTO OF THE DAY

Huskers Move On To Sweet 16



Kelsey Griffin (23) of Nebraska pulls down a rebound over Christina Nzekwe of UCLA during first-half NCAA Women's Basketball Tournament action at Williams Arena in Minneapolis, Minnesota, on Tuesday. (Jerry Holt/Minneapolis Star Tribune/MCT)

AREA DIGEST

Bids Approved For Mitchell Stadium

MITCHELL (AP) — The Mitchell School Board has approved bids for a \$2.9 million stadium to replace the aging concrete structure at Joe Quinlan Field.

The bids had come in \$400,000 over initial estimates because of a rise in construction costs but were unanimously approved Monday.

The finance package for the project includes money from a variety of sources, ranging from bond proceeds to a \$50,000 anonymous donation. Officials also are trying to sell naming rights.

BHSU Names New Men's Hoops Coach

SPEARFISH (AP) — Black Hills State University has named assistant coach Brad Schaffer as the new head men's basketball coach.

Roger Haas Scholarship Alumni Games March 27

Yankton Basketball, Inc. will hold games on Saturday, March 27, featuring Yankton High School alumni who have received scholarships from past Roger Haas Tournament.

YYSA Coaches Meeting Tuesday

The Yankton Youth Soccer Association will hold coaches meetings on Tuesday, March 30, at the Summit Activities Center.

Inaugural River Rat Marathon April 24

The inaugural River Rat Marathon will be held Saturday, April 24, in Yankton.

JDRF Tourney April 10

The annual Juvenile Diabetes Youth Basketball Tourney will be held Saturday, April 10, at the Summit Activities Center.

Coaches: Send In Spring Sports Info

The 2010 Press & Dakotan Spring Sports Preview will be released on the Friday, April 2 edition.

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LANCERS

Goehring. "She's definitely athletic enough, and I know that's the style — up and down the court — Mount Marty uses."

Goehring said Schuurmans, traditionally a low-post presence, added a new dimension to her game this season — the ability to drain jump shots.

"We don't get 5-10 girls that athletic very often, so you do need to use her inside," Goehring said.

"But we knew shooting would just add another element for college coaches to see. So she really diversified her game."

Though Mount Marty — which was 20-10 last season — got the majority of its points from the guard position, the Lancers will return their top two post players next season, including Cassie Neth (11.5 ppg, 6.8 rpg) and Kylie Gross (8.5 ppg,

6.8 rpg). And now, the Lancers will bring in two posts who averaged double figures at the high school level.

"We're really establishing some nice depth there, especially with our recruits," Schlingens said. "We think Jessie and Cassie are really different players, so that adds just another wrinkle to our team."

In addition to her basketball prowess, Schuurmans is also one of the state's premier jumpers in track and field.

The six-year track letterwinner earned a state title in the triple jump two years ago, and finished fifth in the event her freshman and junior years.

"Just watching her over the last few years, I would say her ability will translate very well to the NAIA level," said Goehring, who is also Bon Homme's jumps coach. "She will definitely improve again this year, and has that ability to do so in college."

Schuurmans plans to major in Special Education at MMC, where she has received a Trustee Scholarship.

SCOREBOARD

Table with columns for event name, date, and results. Includes South Regional, City Bowling, City Volleyball, Area Bowling, Prep Track, and Women's Hoops.

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Transactions

Table with columns for player name, team, and transaction details. Includes transactions for RHP Josh Judy, RHP Frank Hermann, and others.

The NBA

Table with columns for team, wins, losses, and percentages. Includes Eastern Conference, Western Conference, and National League.

Women's Hoops

Table with columns for team, wins, losses, and percentages. Includes Eastern Conference, Western Conference, and National League.

Area Bowling

Table with columns for event name, date, and results. Includes South Regional, City Bowling, City Volleyball, Area Bowling, Prep Track, and Women's Hoops.

Prep Track

Table with columns for event name, date, and results. Includes South Regional, City Bowling, City Volleyball, Area Bowling, Prep Track, and Women's Hoops.

Women's Hoops

Table with columns for team, wins, losses, and percentages. Includes Eastern Conference, Western Conference, and National League.

NFL Changes Overtime For Playoff Games

ORLANDO, Fla. (AP) — Sudden death has gotten a little less sudden in the NFL playoffs.

The league on Tuesday changed its overtime rules for postseason games. Starting next season, if a team wins the coin toss and then kicks a field goal, the other team gets the ball.

If the team winning the toss immediately scores a touchdown, however, the game is over.

Team owners voted 28-4 on Tuesday in favor of the proposal at the NFL meetings. Minnesota, Buffalo, Cincinnati and Baltimore opposed the change.

Passage was helped by commissioner Roger Goodell's support and by a spate of statistics indicating the coin toss had become too prominent in determining OT winners.

Minnesota lost last season's NFC championship game in overtime to New Orleans. The Saints won the toss, drove downfield and kicked a field goal to win.

"Modified sudden death is an opportunity to make a pretty good rule ... even better," said Atlanta Falcons president Rich McKay, co-chairman of the competition committee.

"Statistically, it needed to change. It wasn't producing the fairest result."

Those statistics showed that since 1994, the team that won the overtime coin toss won the game on the first possession 34 percent of the time.

Overall, the team that correctly called the coin toss won overtime games nearly 60 percent of the time in the last 15 years, or since kickoffs were moved back 5 yards to the 30.

"Plenty of people on the committee, myself included, are so-called traditionalists," Indianapolis Colts president Bill Polian said. "I am proud to be one. But once you saw the statistics, it became obvious we had to do something."

The new rule applies only to postseason games. But McKay said even that could change, and several owners expressed interest in further discussions at their May meetings in Dallas.

"There was a lot of sentiment in the room to change this rule for the regular season," McKay said, adding

he doesn't expect that to happen this year. "Our thought is to take our time and study it a bit and make sure everyone understands the implications there would be for that."

McKay and Polian said the Vikings-Saints game had little role in the vote to modify the rule.

"That's interesting," McKay said. "One of the teams that voted against was in the game and, last I checked, I don't think they won."

Vikings owner Zygi Wilf said Monday he was inclined to vote no. "You need consistency of the regular season and the postseason," Wilf said.

But the overtime rules already are different. During the season, games end in ties after a 15-minute OT. In the playoffs, a winner must be determined.

McKay and Tennessee Titans coach Jeff Fisher, the other competition committee co-chairman, said coaches quickly began favoring the change once they learned the details. It became such a hot issue that the owners' vote was taken one day earlier than expected.

MMC

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throw it away into center field, but he made a great play." Lancer's head coach Andy Bernatow said. The game ended with the Mayville State on top 15-13.

For Mayville State, McLain went four for five with two home runs and seven runs batted in, while Howerton helped out by going two for two with two home runs and five runs batted in.

The Lancers fought hard with the help of Trey Krier, who went three for four with an RBI. Zach Lambrechts also went three for five with three runs batted in and Hemeyer went one for three with a two-run home run.

The win went to Draws (1-0), while the loss went to Nick Wenande (3-2).

Bernatow said his team played well against a good Mayville team, but just could not pull out a sweep. "We were in a position to win the game in one swing of the bat, and that is always a position you want to be in," Bernatow said about the last

at bat of the game.

The Lancers play on Saturday for their Great Plains Athletic Conference opener at Nebraska Wesleyan. The Wolves (3-3) were picked to be the preseason conference favorite.

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