

## Press&Dakotan DAILY DOSE

**Daily opinions from the P&D Sports Staff on local and national high school, college and pro sports.**



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South Dakota state girls basketball tournaments in three locations. Nebraska boys in their state tournament (in one spot, down in Lincoln). South Dakota boys teams gearing up for state tournaments in three locations.

Yes, March is a busy month on the area sports scene. Especially right now over at the University of South Dakota. Consider the past week for Coyote athletics: Ground-breaking date set for new athletic facilities. Men's basketball coaching search begins on a national scale. Women's basketball team wins the Summit League crown. Volleyball coach leaves. Oh, and USD is still searching for a 12th football game for the 2014 season.

Think it's a busy stretch for the folks over in the DakotaDome? You've got the highs of the high (women headed to the NCAA Tournament) and some lows (you

## NCAA Tournament Means Extra Work, But It's Worth It

never want to see coaches leave). But all those frustrations will be alleviated by the national exposure about to be thrust upon Coyote nation, once the women's basketball team is placed on the bracket and the national media starts calling.

In that way, USD has been even busier preparing its staff, coaches and players for the barrage of tasks awaiting them for the NCAA Tournament. Travel will have to be organized (and rather quickly), credentials will have to be sent in, interviews will have to be set up, and oh yeah, a game will have to be considered.

Someone who has been through the grind — and excitement — of an NCAA Tournament was telling me the other day what exactly I need to be ready for. It's more than simply conducting interviews, writing a story and driving to the game. From a newspaper standpoint, the *Press & Dakotan* staff has already been hard at work calling prospective advertisers for our upcoming coverage, and we still have three days until we know where to send me for the tournament — it could be as close as Ames, Iowa, or as far away as Seattle or Los Angeles.

In short, everyone involved is busy. But you'll never hear one person complain; it's an exciting time.

## YGSA Clinics March 23

The Yankton Girls Softball Association will be holding its final clinic on Sunday, March 23, at the Yankton Middle School gym.

This clinic is an all-around softball session. U-10 runs from 5-6:30 p.m. and U12-U18 will be held from 6:30-8 p.m.

Players must be registered to play in the summer to attend the clinic. Registration forms can be found at [www.yanktongirlssoftball.com](http://www.yanktongirlssoftball.com).

The registration deadline for summer action is March 23, 2014.

## USD's Barnes Named To Academic All-Summit Team

VERMILLION — South Dakota sophomore swimmer Morgan Barnes is one of 10 student-athletes named to the 2014 Summit League Men's Swimming and Diving Academic All-League Team released Thursday by the league office.

Barnes, a native of Cedar Rapids, Iowa, is the only men's student-athlete on the team to boast a perfect 4.00 grade point average. He is working to-

wards a degree in mathematics.

In the pool, Barnes excels in distance events. He placed eighth in the 1,650-yard freestyle at the Summit League Championship Meet in late February and was ninth in the 500-yard freestyle. He was also a member of USD's 800-yard freestyle relay team, which placed fourth at the championships.

## USD Softball Runs Win Streak To Five

WINTER HAVEN, Fla. — South Dakota starting pitchers Rachel Cue and Madison Frain continued their dominance in the circle and the Coyotes ran their season-long winning streak to five games following a 5-1 win against Indiana State and a 10-1 win against Bucknell Thursday at the Rebel Games.

The Coyotes improved to 15-8 overall and are 5-1 in three competition days at the Rebel Games. The team has allowed one run or fewer in each of the six games. Cue and Frain have combined to pitch 38 innings in that span. They have allowed four runs on 23 hits (22 singles) and have 38

strikeouts against six walks.

Offensively, the team was paced by junior catcher Allie Daly and sophomore first baseman Yvon Minoque. Daly was 2-for-2 with a two-run home run and a two-run single in the Coyotes' win against Indiana State. Minoque was 4-for-5 and drove in five runs in the nightcap against Bucknell.

Junior outfielder Katie Dinning moved her hitting streak to eight games. She has hit safely in 20 of 23 games overall. Dinning was 2-for-4 with a triple against Indiana State. She was 3-for-5 with two doubles and three RBIs against Bucknell.

The Coyotes are batting .325 in six Spring Break games. Dinning is batting .522 (12-for-23) with 11 RBIs. Minoque is 10-for-21 (.476) with nine RBIs. Morgan Hancock is batting .400 (8-for-20) with a home run and seven RBIs.

## Club Soccer Tryouts March 23, 30

Yankton Youth Soccer will hold tryouts for club soccer teams on March 23 for girls and March 30 for boys. Each tryout will be at the Lewis & Clark Soccer Complex. All players wishing to participate

in the tryout must be registered with YYSA for the spring season.

Rain date for either tryout will be April 6.

Tryouts for U-12 players will run from 1-2 p.m. U-13 and U-14 tryouts will run from 2:15-3:15 p.m., U-15 through U-18 tryouts will run from 3:30-5 p.m.

For more information please contact Warren Brenner at 605-665-1602 or email [lbwrenner@yahoo.com](mailto:lbwrenner@yahoo.com) or Deb Lillie at 605-661-1296 or email at [lilliepad@iw.net](mailto:lilliepad@iw.net). More information and spring registration are also available at [www.yanktonsoccer.com](http://www.yanktonsoccer.com).

## Perkins, Twins Reach 4-Year Deal For \$22,175,000

FORT MYERS, Fla. (AP) — Closer Glen Perkins and the Minnesota Twins have agreed to a four-year contract that guarantees the pitcher \$22.175 million.

Perkins had been due \$4,975,000 this year and \$3.75 million in 2015 under his previous deal, which included a \$4.5 million team option for 2016 with a \$300,000 buyout.

His new contract calls for him to earn

\$4,025,000 this year, \$4.65 million in 2015, \$6.3 million in 2016 and \$6.5 million in 2017. The Twins have a \$6.5 million option for 2018 with a \$700,000 buyout.

The 31-year-old left-hander converted 36 of 40 save chances last year and was 2-0 with a 2.30 ERA. He had 21 saves at the break and was selected for the AL All-Star team for the first time.

## Gross Claims NCAA National Championship For USF

WINSTON-SALEM, N.C. — University of Sioux Falls track & field had a successful first day at the NCAA Division II National Championships in Winston-Salem, N.C. on Friday. The Cougars came away from the first day of competition at the JDL Fast Track with two All-American performances, including the first NCAA National Champion in USF history in Brigitte Gross.

A three-time NCAA All-American from Alexandria, S.D., Gross brought home the title with her winning vault of 12-11.5 (3.95m). Gross made it through the competition having only missed two attempts before hitting the winning mark.

## SCOREBOARD

### BOWLING

#### CROFTON, NEB.

##### MEN'S COMMERCIAL LEAGUE

HIGH TEAM GAME: Coor's Light

920

HIGH TEAM SERIES: Don's Auto

2550

HIGH INDIVIDUAL GAME: Rob

Wiebelhaus 236, Frank Osborn 234, Joe

Wiebelhaus 234

HIGH INDIVIDUAL SERIES: Joe

Wiebelhaus 653, Rob Wiebelhaus 629,

Todd Moody 622

A STANDINGS: Leader Angus 69-51,

Don's Auto 65-55, Wiebelhaus Rec 53-67,

Coor's Light 53-67

B STANDINGS: Bud Light 73-5-46.5,

DSM Apt 60.5-59.5, Crofton Elevator 59-62,

Merkel Insul 48-72

HIGHLIGHTS: Luke DeBlauw — 75

over game avg.; Raymond Phillips — 97

over series avg.

### BASKETBALL

#### YANKTON PARKS & REC

##### MEN'S COMPETITIVE LEAGUE

RESULTS: Horn Law Office def.

Ben's Brewing Company 79-55

STANDINGS: Flint Tropics 9-1,

Neighborhood Dental-Kaiser Heating &

Cooling 8-2, Ben's Brewing Company 4-6,

Horn Law Office 2-8, Nash Polatoes

## AREA CALENDAR

### Saturday, March 15

BASKETBALL, MEN'S NAIA Tour. at Branson, Mo.

BASKETBALL, WOMEN'S NAIA Tour. at Sioux City, Iowa

BASKETBALL, GIRLS' S.D. State Class AA Tour. at Brookings, S.D. State Class A Tour. at Spearfish (EK Point-Jefferson, KVHT-FM), S.D. State Class B Tour. at Huron (7th place — Gayville-Volin vs. Lyman, noon, KVHT-FM)

BASKETBALL, BOYS' Neb. State Tour. at Lincoln

Concordia-St. Paul 68, Harding 57

Central Missouri 82, Northern State

69

Second Round

Emporia State vs. Wayne State (Neb.), 5 p.m.

Central Missouri vs. Concordia-St. Paul, 7:30 p.m.

NATIONAL BASKETBALL ASSOCIATION

EASTERN CONFERENCE

Atlantic Division

W L Pct GB

Toronto 37 27 578 —

Brooklyn 33 30 524 3 1/2

New York 26 40 394 12

Boston 22 44 333 16

Philadelphia 15 50 231 22 1/2

Southwest Division

W L Pct GB

x-Miami 44 18 710

Washington 34 31 523 11 1/2

Charlotte 32 34 485 14

Atlanta 28 35 444 16 1/2

Orlando 19 48 284 27 1/2

Central Division

W L Pct GB

x-Indiana 48 17 738

Chicago 36 29 554 12

Detroit 25 40 385 23

Cleveland 25 40 385 23

Minneapolis 13 52 200 35

WESTERN CONFERENCE

Southwest Division

W L Pct GB

San Antonio 48 17 750

Houston 44 21 677 4 1/2

Dallas 39 27 591 10

Memphis 38 27 585 10 1/2

New Orleans 26 38 406 22

Northwest Division

W L Pct GB

Oklahoma City 48 17 738

Portland 42 23 646 6

Minnesota 32 32 500 15 1/2

Denver 28 36 438 19 1/2

coln (D1 — Championship: Randolph vs. Overton, 11 a.m.)

SOFTBALL, WOMEN'S Rebel Spring Games at Winter Haven, Fla. (USD vs. Creighton, 10 a.m.; USD vs. St. Peter's, noon); Arizona Trip (MMC vs. Presentation, DH, 1:30 p.m.)

TRACK & FIELD, COLLEGE INDOOR NCAA Indoor Championships at Albuquerque, N.M.

Sunday, March 16

SOFTBALL, WOMEN'S Arizona Trip (MMC vs. Valley City State, 9 a.m.; MMC vs. Mayville State, 11 a.m.)

Monday, March 17

BASKETBALL, MEN'S NAIA Tour. at Branson, Mo.

BASKETBALL, WOMEN'S NAIA Tour. at Sioux City, Iowa

SOFTBALL, WOMEN'S Arizona Trip (MMC vs. Huntington, 9 a.m.; MMC vs. Dickinson State, 11 a.m.)

PHILADELPHIA PHILLIES — Re-

leased C Louis Marson. Optioned LHP

Jeremy Horst, C Tommy Joseph, OF

Tyson Gillies and OF Zach Collier to their

minor league camp. Reassigned LHP

Cesar Jimenez, RHP Ken Gien, INF And-

res Blanco and C Sebastian Valle to their

minor league camp.

PITTSBURGH PIRATES — Option-

ed OF Gregory Polanco and RHP Duke

Wekker to Indianapolis (IL).

ST. LOUIS CARDINALS — Re-

assigned RHP Sam Gaviglio to their minor

league camp.

MINNESOTA TWINS — Agreed to

terms with LHP Glen Perkins on a four-

year contract.

SEATTLE MARINERS — Optioned

C Jesus Montero, OF Xavier Avery and

OF James Jones to Tacoma (PCL). Re-

assigned INF Chris Taylor to their minor

league camp.

National League

ATLANTA BRAVES — Optioned

RHP Aaron Northcraft, LHP Carlos Perez

and RHP Wirtlin Olsojo to Gwinnett (IL).

Reassigned LHP Daniel Rodriguez,

RHPs J.R. Graham, Jason Hursh, Mark

Lamm, Lay Batista, Shae Simmons,

Cody Martin and Yunesky Maya; Cs Matt

Kennelly, Braeden