

# Yankton Baseball Squad Set To Open Season Today

BY ADRIENNE KUSEK  
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Experience is the biggest strength for the Yankton High School club baseball team, according to head coach Trey Krier.

"We have a lot of guys who played significant innings last summer with the legion team," said Krier, whose team opens its season today (Saturday) against Brandon Valley at Riverside Field.

The goal for the experienced team is to be in the state high school baseball tournament. Last year Yankton was one win away from getting into the final four. "We return a solid nu-

cleus of that group," Krier said about the state team from last season.

Three of Yankton's returning players will be entering their third year of varsity baseball.

"Tanner Termansen, Lane Sawatzke, and Mitch Gullikson will be the backbone of our success this year," Krier said. "We will look to them to set positive examples for the many younger guys we have filling up our roster."

Another strength Yankton has is a great defense, the coach said.

"We have always been a solid defensive team that makes plays routinely and gets outs," Krier said.

On defense, Yankton has many re-

turning players, one being Sawatzke on first base. "Lane has played first base for us and, in my opinion, is the best defensive first baseman in the state," Krier said.

Another strong defensive player is Landon Withrow at third base.

"We have a good group of older and younger players that will make up our middle infield," Krier said.

The pitching staff for Yankton is very experienced as well.

"The pitching staff understands that we don't expect them to find outs on their own," Krier said. "We expect them to throw strikes and make the hitters put the ball in play."

In the outfield, Gullikson has

proven to be an outstanding outfielder,

"He has the ability to read the ball off the bat and track down most of what is hit out there," Krier said. Yankton is still looking for some depth in the outfield positions. "We may be looking at turning some infielders to outfielders," Krier said.

On the other side of the game, finding ways to score has been Yankton's "Achilles Heel."

"Along with manufacturing runs, we also need to find some guys who can step up and get big hits in big situations," Krier said. "Finding ways on

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YHS BASEBALL		
March 29	vs. Brandon Valley (DH)	5 p.m.
March 30	vs. Brookings (DH)	2 p.m.
April 1	vs. Brandon Valley (DH)	5 p.m.
April 4	vs. Brookings (DH)	5 p.m.
April 6	vs. Watertown (DH)	1 p.m.
April 8	at Washington	6 p.m.
April 17	at O'Gorman (DH)	5 p.m.
April 21	vs. Washington	3 p.m.
April 25	at Roosevelt	6:30 p.m.
April 27	vs. Woodbury County (DH)	3 p.m.
April 27	vs. Mitchell	6 p.m.
May 3	vs. Stevens (DH)	noon
May 4	vs. R.C. Central (DH)	noon
May 8	vs. O'Gorman (DH)	5:30 p.m.
May 9	vs. Roosevelt	6:30 p.m.
May 12	at Mitchell	6 p.m.
May 13	vs. Harrisburg	5 p.m.
May 17	Regions (TBD)	
May 20	State Play-In Game	
May 26	State A Tour.	

# 24th Haas Tourney Begins

Here is the first-day results and second-day schedule for all 18 divisions of the Roger Haas Youth Basketball Tournament, which began on Friday at Summit Activities Center, Laddie E. Cimpl Arena and Yankton Middle School.

## FOURTH GRADE BOYS

**Prep To Pro-Wandy's Red**  
**All Games at Middle School**  
FIRST ROUND: Yankton Slowey Const. Heat 29, Howard Tigers 11; Vermillion 25, Osmond Tigers 11; Yankton Riverfront Dental by forfeit over Freeman Flyers; Cedar Catholic vs. Avon Pirates, 8 a.m. Saturday, Court F.  
SEMIFINALS: Heat vs. Vermillion, 1 p.m., Court D; Riverfront Dental vs. Cedar Catholic-Avon winner, 1 p.m., Court E; CONSOLATION: Heat-Howard loser vs. Osmond-Vermillion loser, 10 a.m., Court D; Riverfront Dental-Freeman loser vs. Cedar Catholic-Avon loser, 10 a.m., Court E.  
FIRST: Semifinal winners, 4 p.m., Court C; THIRD: Semifinal losers, 3 p.m., Court C; FIFTH: Consolation winners, 3 p.m., Court E; SEVENTH: Consolation losers, 3 p.m., Court D.

## FOURTH GRADE GIRLS

**Vision Realty-First National Bank Red**  
**All Games at Middle School**  
FRIDAY: Game 1 — Yankton Hubbs Agency Sparx 15, Wausa 2; Game 2 — Vermillion 25, Santee 3; Game 3 — Corsica-Stickney vs. Yankton Hubbs Agency Sparks, 8:30 p.m., Court E; Game 4 — Santee vs. Wausa, 8:30 p.m., Court D.  
SATURDAY: Game 5 — Vermillion vs. Game 3 winner, 9 a.m., Court E; Game 6 — Game 4 winner vs. Game 3 loser, 9 a.m., Court D; Game 7 — Game 6 winner vs. Game 5 loser, noon, Court E; CHAMPIONSHIP — Game 5 winner vs. Game 7 winner, 2 p.m., Court E; Game 9 — Game 4 loser vs. Game 6 loser, noon, Court D.

## FIFTH GRADE BOYS

**McDonald's-Cherry Berry Red**  
**All Games at Middle School**  
FRIDAY: Madison Bulldogs 21, Beresford Irish 20; Yankton Phinney's Hoosiers vs. Vermillion Runnin' Rebels, 8:30 p.m., Court C.  
SATURDAY: Beresford vs. Hoosiers, 8 a.m., Court C; Madison vs. Vermillion, 10 a.m., Court C; Hoosiers vs. Madison, 2 p.m., Court A; Beresford vs. Vermillion, 2 p.m., Court C.  
MIDCONTINENT-Yankton Medical Clinic White  
POOL A: Wagner 37, Yankton KYNT Bucks 31; Bon Homme vs. Bucks, 8:30 p.m. Friday, Court A; Bon Homme vs. Wagner, 10 a.m. Saturday, Court A.  
POOL B: Hartington Holy Trinity 30, Santee, 22; Holy Trinity vs. S.F. Seminoles, 9:30 p.m. Friday, Court B; Seminoles vs. Santee, 10 a.m. Saturday, Court B.  
CHAMPIONSHIP: Pool A first vs. Pool B first, 2 p.m., Court B; THIRD: Pool A second vs. Pool B second, 1 p.m., Court A; FIFTH: Pool A third vs. Pool B third, 1 p.m., Court B.

## FIFTH GRADE GIRLS

**Slumberland-JoDean's Red**  
**All Games at Middle School**  
FRIDAY: Elk Point-Jefferson 23, Crofton 19; Ponca 24, Yankton Mead Lumber Explosion 1.  
SATURDAY: EPJ vs. Ponca, 8 a.m., Court A; Crofton vs. Explosion, 8 a.m., Court B; EPJ vs. Explosion, 11 a.m., Court A; Ponca vs. Crofton, 11 a.m., Court B.  
Walmart-Subway White  
**All Games at Middle School**  
FRIDAY: Centerville 18, Bon Homme 10; Viborg-Hurley 24, Colome Cowgirls 10; Bon Homme vs. Viborg-Hurley, 9:30 a.m., Court D; Colome vs. Centerville, 9:30 p.m., Court D.  
SATURDAY: Bon Homme vs. Colome, 11 a.m., Court D; Viborg-Hurley vs. Centerville, 11 a.m., Court E.

## SIXTH GRADE BOYS

**Horn Law Office-First Chiropractic Center Red**  
**All Games at Mount Marty**  
FRIDAY: Yankton Pizza Ranch Wolves 39, MCM 27; BBA Impact 41, Battle Creek Braves 40.  
SATURDAY: Wolves vs. Battle Creek, 9 a.m., Court A; MCM vs. BBA Impact, 9 a.m., Court B; Wolves vs. BBA Impact, noon, Court A; Battle Creek vs. MCM, noon, Court B.  
Edward Jones-Gehl Manufacturing White  
**All Games at Summit Center**  
POOL A: M3M 43, Crofton 12; Osmond Tigers vs. M3M, 9 a.m. Saturday, Court E; Crofton vs. Osmond, 11 a.m. Saturday, Court A.  
POOL B: Elk Point-Jefferson 30, Hartington Wildcats 24; EPJ 46, Bon Homme 36; Hartington vs. Bon Homme, 10 a.m. Saturday, Court A.  
CHAMPIONSHIP: Pool A first vs. Pool B first, 4 p.m., Court E; THIRD: Pool A second vs. Pool B second, 3 p.m., Court E; FIFTH: Pool A third vs. Pool B third, 2 p.m., Court E.

## SIXTH GRADE GIRLS

**Northwestern Energy-Lewis & Clark Specialty Hospital Red**  
**All Games at Middle School**  
POOL A: Yankton McDonald's Zelles 37, S.F. Christian Chargers 4; Ethan vs. SFC Chargers, 8:30 p.m. Friday, Court A; Zelles vs. Ethan, 9 a.m. Saturday, Court A.  
POOL B: Tea 40, Yankton Laser Barn Rockets 16; DeSmet vs. Tea, 8:30 p.m. Friday, Court B; Rockets vs. DeSmet, 9 a.m. Saturday, Court B.  
CHAMPIONSHIP: Pool A first vs. Pool B first, noon, Court A; THIRD: Pool A second vs. Pool B second, noon, Court B; FIFTH: Pool A third vs. Pool B third, noon, Court C.



ABOVE: Yankton Thunder's Josh Galvin passes out of an Elk Point-Jefferson double-team during their eighth grade boys' white division matchup on Friday at the Summit Center. (James D. Cimburek/P&D)  
BELOW: Rex Hyken, right, of the Yankton Heat makes a move on an Hills-Beaver Creek Patriot defender during their seventh grade boys' red game Friday night at the Roger Haas Youth Basketball Tournament at Cimpl Arena. (Jeremy Hoek/P&D)

## SEVENTH GRADE BOYS

**Smith Insurance-Burger King White**  
**All Games at Middle School**  
FRIDAY: Game 1 — Wynot 14, Parkston 6; Game 2 — Burke 23, Santee 5; Game 3 — Gayville-Volin vs. Wynot, 9:30 p.m., Court C.  
SATURDAY: Game 4 — Parkston vs. Santee, 9 a.m., Court C; Game 5 — Burke vs. Game 3 winner, 1 p.m., Court C; Game 6 — Game 4 winner vs. Game 3 loser, 11 a.m., Court C; Game 7 — Game 6 winner vs. Game 5 loser, 2 p.m., Court D; CHAMPIONSHIP — Game 5 winner vs. Game 7 winner, 3 p.m., Court A; Game 9 — Game 4 loser vs. Game 6 loser, 3 p.m., Court B.

## SEVENTH GRADE GIRLS

**Home Federal Bank-Kolor Me Kids Red**  
**All Games at Summit Center**  
POOL A: B-E Huskies 27, Wayne Avengers 12; Billion Automotive vs. Wayne Avengers, 9 a.m. Saturday, Court A; Billion Automotive vs. B-E Huskies, noon Saturday, Court E.  
POOL B: West Sioux 24, Crofton 15; Deuel Cardinals vs. West Sioux, 9 a.m. Saturday, Court D; Crofton vs. Deuel, noon, Court D.  
CHAMPIONSHIP: Pool A first vs. Pool B first, 4 p.m., Court A; THIRD: Pool A second vs. Pool B second, 3 p.m., Court E; FIFTH: Pool A third vs. Pool B third, 2 p.m., Court A.

## SEVENTH GRADE BOYS

**Bonanza-Willcockson Eye Assoc. White**  
**All Games at Mount Marty**  
POOL A: Crofton 59, Yankton Sunrise Coffee Bulls 10; DeSmet vs. Bulls, 8 a.m. Saturday, Court A; DeSmet vs. Crofton, 11 a.m. Saturday, Court B.  
POOL B: Hartington Wildcats 47, Yankton KPI 23; McCook Central-Montrose 48, KPI 30; MCM vs. Hartington, 10 a.m. Saturday, Court B.  
CHAMPIONSHIP: Pool A first vs. Pool B first, 3 p.m., Court B; THIRD: Pool A second vs. Pool B second, 2 p.m., Court B; FIFTH: Pool A third vs. Yankton KPI, 1 p.m., Court B.

## SEVENTH GRADE GIRLS

**Home Federal Bank-Kolor Me Kids Red**  
**All Games at Summit Center**  
POOL A: B-E Huskies 27, Wayne Avengers 12; Billion Automotive vs. Wayne Avengers, 9 a.m. Saturday, Court A; Billion Automotive vs. B-E Huskies, noon Saturday, Court E.  
POOL B: West Sioux 24, Crofton 15; Deuel Cardinals vs. West Sioux, 9 a.m. Saturday, Court D; Crofton vs. Deuel, noon, Court D.  
CHAMPIONSHIP: Pool A first vs. Pool B first, 4 p.m., Court A; THIRD: Pool A second vs. Pool B second, 3 p.m., Court E; FIFTH: Pool A third vs. Pool B third, 2 p.m., Court A.

## SEVENTH GRADE BOYS

**Avera Sacred Heart-Sunrise Coffee White**  
**All Games at Summit Center Court F**  
FIRST ROUND (Friday): Ponca 28, Yankton Taco John's Magic 27; Hills-Beaver Creek 30, VH Cougars 13; Premier Panthers 35, MCM Laceys 33; Canton C-Hawks 25, Colome Cowgirls 8.  
SEMIFINALS (Saturday): Ponca vs. Hills-Beaver Creek, 9 a.m.; Premier vs. Canton, 11 a.m.; CONSOLATION: Magic vs. VH Cougars, 8

a.m.; MCM vs. Colome, 10 a.m.; FIRST: Semifinal winners, 3 p.m.; THIRD: Semifinal losers, 2 p.m.; FIFTH: Consolation winners, 1 p.m.; SEVENTH: Consolation losers, noon.

## EIGHTH GRADE BOYS

**Pizza Ranch-CorTrust Bank Red**  
**All Games at Summit Center**  
FIRST ROUND (Friday): Yankton King Buffet Wolves 33, Dell Rapids 30; S.F. CYAL 51, Akron-Westfield 44; OC Cyclones 38, Chamberlain 36; DeSmet 27, Battle Creek Braves 23.  
SEMIFINALS (Saturday): Wolves vs. CYAL, 10 a.m., Court B; Cyclones vs. DeSmet, 11 a.m., Court B; CONSOLATION: Dell Rapids vs. Akron Westfield, 8 a.m., Court A; Chamberlain loser vs. Battle Creek, 9 a.m., Court A.  
FIRST: Semifinal winners, 4 p.m., Court B; THIRD: Semifinal losers, 2 p.m., Court B; FIFTH: Consolation winners, 1 p.m., Court A; SEVENTH: Consolation losers, noon, Court A.

## EIGHTH GRADE GIRLS

**First Dakota National Bank-Wilson Trailer Red**  
**All Games at Summit Center Court B**  
FRIDAY: Yankton Arby's Fury 34, Crofton Lady Warriors 19; Bombers 55, Hills-Beaver Creek 11.  
SATURDAY: Fury vs. Hills-Beaver Creek, 8 a.m.; Bombers vs. Crofton, 9 a.m.; Fury vs. Bombers, noon; Crofton vs. Hills-Beaver Creek, 1 p.m., Court D.  
FIRST ROUND (Friday): Wagner-SP 33, Osmond Lady Tigers 27; Hanson 41, VH Cougars 14; Wagner-JF vs. Lady Hoops, 8:30 p.m. Friday, Court D; DeSmet Bulldogs vs. Cherokee Braves, 8 a.m. Saturday, Court D.  
SEMIFINALS (Saturday): Wagner-SP vs. Hanson, 10 a.m., Court E; Wagner-JF-Lady Hoops winner vs. DeSmet-Cherokee winner, 11 a.m., Court E; CONSOLATION: Osmond vs. VH Cougars, 10 a.m., Court D; Wagner-JF-Lady Hoops loser vs. DeSmet-Cherokee loser, 11 a.m., Court D.  
FIRST: Semifinal winners, 4 p.m., Court C; THIRD: Semifinal losers, 4 p.m., Court D; SEVENTH: Consolation winners, 3 p.m., Court D; SEVENTH: Consolation losers, 2 p.m., Court D.



# Heads Up Football Program Flourishing

BY BARRY WILNER  
AP Pro Football Writer

ORLANDO, Fla. (AP) — When USA Football created a program to teach safe tackling to youngsters, it projected reaching a few hundred football organizations throughout the nation. In one year, Heads Up Football was adopted by nearly 2,800 groups. As the second season of the educational program begins, there's no telling how widespread it will become.

The NFL has noticed, providing USA Football, the national governing body for the sport, with a five-year, \$45 million grant. There are nearly 11,000 football leagues in the United States, and USA Football is hoping Heads Up Football someday becomes a teaching tool for all of them.

"Pioneering is exactly what it is turning out to be," former NFL running back Merrill Hoge, now a member of USA Football's Board of Director, says of Heads Up Football, which teaches youngsters to take the head out of tackling. "Anytime you find you need to do something you haven't been doing because of a lack of information, you absolutely need to do something. We've done a lot of work and put in a lot of man-hours and have people involved who care about the kids."

Among those people is Gabe Infante, the head coach at Philadelphia's St. Joseph's Prep and a master trainer in the program. Infante clearly knows his football, having led the Hawks to the Pennsylvania AAA state title last season.

He was drawn to Heads Up Football because, for years, he's been searching for a teaching progression that made tackling safer. He likes the flexibility to scale down or ramp up the elements of the program to fit the audience, while still focusing on the key points of the techniques USA Football is emphasizing.

"It's really efficient and you can reinforce things. There's a way to measure the different aspects of tackling and then go back and work on that particular part of tackling, all the while stressing we are trying to make it safer," Infante says.

The key components of Heads Up Football are coaching education and certification; equipment fitting; concussion education and response; heat and hydration;

the establishment of a player safety coach; and tackling with the head up and out of contact.

All of that makes perfect sense, yet there had been no formal program incorporating all of them.

Now there is, with the aim to spread Heads Up Football across the nation on the youth and high school levels. USA Football is in the process of hiring more master trainers, expecting to add between 50 and 70 to the first-year roster of about 30.

Infante sees the high school connection as essential.

"I had a conversation with someone in the NFL and I said the high school coach is critical to this program not only continuing to succeed, but grow," Infante said. "The high school coach in the area

is the guy who supports the youth programs, the guy who is looked up to on every level, the guy the kids want to play for some day. The more high schools applied to the program, it will legitimize the program even more. They prepare their kids for high school. If this is part of the high school curriculum, we will see more youth coaches embrace it."

Participation numbers have been down in youth football and in most sports. According to the National Federation of State High School Associations, participation in high school football was down 2.3 percent in the 2012-13 season compared to the 2008-09 season.

Some of that drop-off is attributed to parents' concerns

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# UConn Holds Off Iowa State In Sweet 16

NEW YORK (AP) — DeAndre Daniels scored 27 points, 19 in the second half, and UConn held off Iowa State 81-76 on Friday to reach the East Regional final a year after the Huskies were barred from the NCAA tournament.

Daniels hit his first six shots after halftime, the only Husky to make a field goal for over 8 1/2 minutes. His 3-pointer gave seventh-seeded UConn a 49-32 lead.

The Cyclones rallied late, pulling within 67-63 with 2 1/2 minutes remaining. But senior Niels Giffey hit a 3 in the corner for his first points since the game's opening moments, and when the Huskies (29-8) made their free throws in the final minute, the UConn fans packing Madison Square Garden could celebrate.

Dustin Hogue scored a career-high 34 points for third-seeded Iowa State (28-8), but Big 12 player of the year Melvin Ejim was 3 of 13 for seven points.

UConn will face top-seeded Virginia or fourth-seeded Michigan State on Sunday for a trip to the Final Four.

The Cyclones, in the Sweet Sixteen for the first time since 2000, were playing their second game without third-leading scorer Georges Niang, who broke his foot in their tournament opener.

Iowa State's Naz Long missed a 3-pointer with UConn clinging to a 70-65 lead and less than a minute left, and 6-1 Shabazz Napier pulled down the rebound and was fouled by Hogue. The senior calmly drilled both free throws.

Napier, the American Athletic Conference player of the year, drained four early 3-pointers, then made only one more field goal the rest of the way. But the quick start by Napier and backcourt mate Ryan Boatright opened up space for the 6-foot-9 Daniels, an inconsistent junior who can score all over the court when he's on.

Since a stretch in late February and early March when he failed to reach double figures in four straight games, Daniels had averaged 15 in his last six outings before Friday. He shot 10 of 15 and pulled down 10 rebounds against Iowa State.

After Napier's difficult early 3-pointers — he was falling away on two of them and stepping back to open a sliver of space on a third — Boatright and Daniels took over. The three combined for all but six of the Huskies' points as they built a 36-26 halftime lead.

UConn is back in the NCAA tournament after academic sanctions kept the Huskies out last season. They were also ineligible for their last Big East tournament at the Garden as a member of the conference, but looked right at home Friday.

The last time UConn made it this far, the Huskies won a national title when Napier and Giffey were freshmen.

MICHIGAN 73, TENNESSEE 71: INDIANAPOLIS (AP) — Jordan Morgan scored 15 points and Nik Stauskas had 14 including a key free throw to help Michigan hold on for a 73-71 victory over Tennessee in Friday's first Midwest Regional semifinal.

The second-seeded Wolverines now play either Louisville, who they lost to in last year's national championship game, or 2012 national champion Kentucky Sunday.

The Wolverines (28-8) led by 15 with 10:55 to go, but committed four turnovers in the final 97 seconds. Tennessee (24-13) cut the lead to 72-71 and had a chance to take the lead, but Jarnell Stokes was called for an offensive foul with 6 seconds left.

Stauskas then made 1 of 2 free throws and Tennessee's long desperation heave was off the mark.

Jordan McRae scored 24 to lead the 11th-seeded Vols.

For most of the first 36 minutes, Michigan was in firm control.

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