

SCOREBOARD

BASKETBALL

NEB. STATE GIRLS TOURN.

March 5-7 at Lincoln

CLASS A

First Round, Thursday

At Pinnacle Bank Arena

Omaha Benson (26-0) vs. Norfolk (13-12), 2 p.m.

Belleview West (20-5) vs. South Sioux City (20-4), 3:45 p.m.

Omaha Westside (21-4) vs. Millard West (19-6), 7 p.m.

Lincoln Northeast (24-1) vs. Kearney (20-5), 8:45 p.m.

CLASS B

At Pinnacle Bank Arena

Elkhorn South (19-6) vs. Omaha Gross (17-9), 9 a.m.

Lincoln Plus X (19-2) vs. Scottsbluff (10-12), 10:45 a.m.

At Devaney Sports Center

Elkhorn (18-6) vs. York (21-4), 7 p.m.

Norris (16-6) vs. Hastings (13-11), 8:45 p.m.

CLASS C1

At Devaney Sports Center

Minden (22-2) vs. Pierce (19-6), 9 a.m.

Lincoln Christian (22-4) vs. Omaha Concordia (18-5), 10:45 a.m.

Norfolk Catholic (20-5) vs. Neumann (19-6), 2 p.m.

Kearney Catholic (24-2) vs. Chadron (20-6), 3:45 p.m.

CLASS C2

At Lincoln North Star

Crofton (26-0) vs. Ponca (18-6), 2 p.m.

Yutan (24-2) vs. Guardian Angels Central Catholic (23-3), 3:45 p.m.

Hastings St. Cecilia (21-3) vs. North Platte St. Patrick's (23-3), 7 p.m.

Freeman (24-3) vs. Sutton (22-4), 8:45 p.m.

CLASS D1

At Lincoln Southwest

Dundy County-Stratton (26-0) vs. Humphrey St. Francis (21-5), 9 a.m.

Emerson-Hubbard (23-3) vs. Howells-Dodge (20-6), 10:45 a.m.

O'Neill St. Mary's (22-2) vs. Friend (21-5), 2 p.m.

Blue Hill (22-2) vs. Fullerton (20-4), 3:45 p.m.

CLASS D2

At Lincoln North Star

Stuart (21-5) vs. Mullen (21-4), 9 a.m.

Crawford (21-3) vs. Falls City Sacred Heart (25-2), 10:45 a.m.

At Lincoln Southwest

Sandhills-Theodor (21-4) vs. Giltner (21-4), 7 p.m.

Wynot (20-5) vs. Hampton (20-4), 8:45 p.m.

AREA CALENDAR

Monday, March 2

BASKETBALL, BOYS'

Nebraska Districts — C-2 at Pierce (Hartington Cedar Catholic vs. West Holt, 7 p.m., KKYA-FM); S.D. Districts — 9B at Freeman (Scotland vs. Freeman Academy, 7 p.m.); 10B at Centerville (Alcester-Hudson vs. Gayville-Voin, 8:30 p.m.); 11B (Tripp-Deimont-Armour at Dakota Christian, 7 p.m.); 12B (Avon at Marty Indian, 7 p.m.); Andes Central at Colome, 7 p.m.

BASKETBALL, GIRLS'

S.D. Districts — 2AA (YHS at S.F. Lincoln, 7 p.m.); KYNT-AM, KVHT-FM

Tuesday, March 3

BASEBALL, COLLEGE JV

Briar Cliff at MMC (DH, 3 p.m.)

BASKETBALL, MEN'S GPAC

Championship

BASKETBALL, WOMEN'S

GPAC Championship

BASKETBALL, BOYS'

District 2AA (YHS at S.F. Lincoln, 7 p.m., KYNT-AM, KVHT-FM); Neb. Districts — D1-3 at Norfolk (Bloomfield vs. Omaha Nation, 7 p.m.); S.D. Regions — 5A (At Salem — Parkston vs. West Central, 6 p.m.; Bon Homme vs. McCook Central-Montrose, 7:30 p.m.; At Colton — Wagner at Tri-Valley, 7 p.m.); S.D. Districts — 9B at Freeman (Parker vs. Scotland/Freeman Academy winner, 6:30 p.m.; Freeman vs. Menno, 8 p.m.); 10B at Centerville (Centerville vs. Alcester-Hudson/Gayville-Voin winner, 6 p.m.; Irene-Wakonda vs. Viborg-Hurley, 7:30 p.m.); 11B (Tripp-Deimont-Armour/Dakota Christian winner at Platte-Geddes, 7 p.m.; Kimball-White Lake vs. Corsica-Stickney at Corsica, 7 p.m.); 12B (Marty Indian/Avon winner at Gregory, 7 p.m.; Colome/Andes Central winner vs. Burke-South Central at Burke, 7 p.m.)

BASKETBALL, GIRLS'

S.D. Regions: 4A at Vermillion (Championship) — Elk Point-Jefferson vs. Dakota Valley, 7 p.m.

Wednesday, March 4

No activities scheduled

Championship, Tuesday

No. 3 Midland (25-7) at No. 1 Morningside (27-3), 8 p.m.

GPAC WOMEN'S TOURN.

Seminfinals, Saturday

Morningside 77, Briar Cliff 66

Concordia 67, Hastings 60

Championship, Tuesday

Concordia (30-2) at Morningside (32-0), 6 p.m.

SUMMIT LEAGUE TOURN.

March 7-10 at Sioux Falls

MEN'S CHAMPIONSHIP

First Round

Saturday, March 7

No. 1 South Dakota State (21-9) vs. No. 8 Western Illinois (8-19), 6 p.m.

No. 2 North Dakota State (20-9) vs. No. 7 Denver (12-17), 8:30 p.m.

Sunday, March 8

No. 4 Fort Wayne (16-13) vs. No. 5 South Dakota (16-15), 6 p.m.

No. 3 Oral Roberts (17-13) vs. No. 6 IUPUI (10-20), 8:30 p.m.

Seminfinals, March 9

SDSU-WIU winner vs. IPFW-USD winner, 8:30 p.m.

NDSU-DU winner vs. ORU-IUPUI

winner, 8:30 p.m.

Championship, March 10

Semifinal winners, 8 p.m.

WOMEN'S CHAMPIONSHIP

First Round

Saturday, March 7

No. 1 South Dakota (23-6) vs. No. 8 Fort Wayne (9-20), noon

No. 2 South Dakota State (21-8) vs. No. 7 Denver (9-22), 2:30 p.m.

Sunday, March 8

No. 4 Western Illinois (17-12) vs. No. 5 IUPUI (14-15), noon

No. 3 Oral Roberts (15-14) vs. No. 6 North Dakota State (11-17), 2:30 p.m.

Seminfinals, March 9

USD-IPFW winner vs. WIU-IUPUI winner, noon

SDSU-DU winner vs. ORU-NDSU winner, 2:30 p.m.

Championship, March 10

Semifinal winners, 1 p.m.

SATURDAY'S S.D. BOYS

Mitchell Christian 55, Wessington Springs 45

District 2AA

Brandon Valley 57, Harrisburg 46

SATURDAY'S S.D. GIRLS

District 4AA

Sturgis 48, Douglas 37

District 5B Championship

DeSmet 59, Castlewood 37

District 7B Championship

Chester 51, Elkton-Lake Benton 43

District 9B Championship

Ethan 49, Hanson 31

SATURDAY'S NEB. BOYS

District A-1 Semifinals

Belleview East 43, Omaha Bryan 41

District A-2 Semifinals

Omaha Central 60, Kearney 28

Omaha Creighton Prep 64, Omaha Northwest 46

District A-3 Semifinals

Omaha South 73, Lincoln Southwest 39

Championship, Tuesday

amillion-LaVista South 43, Millard South 42

District A-4 Semifinals

Omaha North 52, Omaha Benson 44

Omaha Westside 52, Fremont 51

District A-5 Semifinals

Belleview West 66, North Platte 41

Pallilon-LaVista 57, Lincoln East 46

District A-6 Semifinals

Lincoln Southeast 57, Lincoln High 50

Millard West 58, Lincoln North Star 36

District A-7 Semifinals

Lincoln Northeast 73, Millard North 53

South Sioux City 70, Columbus 47

District B-1 First Round

Lincoln Plus X 51, Nebraska City 44

Norris 68, Plattview 63, OT

District B-2 First Round

Ralston 57, Omaha Gross Catholic 48

District B-3 First Round

Blair 61, Elkhorn 52

York 56, Schuyler 29

District B-4 First Round

Hastings 50, Holdrege 29

Lexington 45, Grand Island Northwest 42

District B-6 First Round

Alliance 52, McCook 38

GPAC MEN'S TOURN.

Seminfinals, Saturday

Morningside 89, Briar Cliff 77

Midland 81, Dakota Wesleyan 74

Major League Baseball's First Black Latino Star Minoza Dies

BY JAY COHEN

AP Sports Writer

CHICAGO (AP) — When Minnie Minoza broke into major league baseball, the “Cuban Comet” was part of a wave of black players who changed the game forever. By the time he played in his final game 35 years ago, he was a beloved figure with the Chicago White Sox.

It was one amazing ride for the seemingly ageless slugger, who died early Sunday morning after helping clear the way for generations of minority ballplayers, including a long list of stars from his home country.

“I know we’re all going to go at some time, but I had gotten to the point where I really thought Minnie was going to live forever,” White Sox owner Jerry Reinsdorf said. “There has never been a better ambassador for the game or for the White Sox than Minnie.”

Minoza, who made his major league debut just two years after Jackie Robinson and turned into the game’s first black Latino star, died of natural causes, according to the Cook County medical examiner’s office. There is some question about Minoza’s age, but the medical examiner’s office and the White Sox said he was 90.

Minoza’s death comes on the heels of the loss of Chicago Cubs great Ernie Banks, who passed away on Jan. 23 at age 83.

“For Minnie, every day was a reason to smile, and he would want us all to remember him that way, smiling at a ballgame,” Minoza’s family said in a statement released by the team. “As he so often said, ‘God Bless you, my friends.’”

Minoza played 12 of his 17 seasons in Chicago, hitting .304 with 135 homers and 808 RBIs for the White Sox. The White Sox retired his No. 9 in 1983 and there is a statue of

Minoza at U.S. Cellular Field. For Minoza’s many admirers, his absence from the Hall of Fame remains a sore spot. President Barack Obama, a longtime White Sox fan, praised Minoza for his speed, power and “resilient optimism” while helping integrate baseball in the 1950s.

“Minnie may have been passed over by the Baseball Hall of Fame during his lifetime, but for me and for generations of black and Latino young people, Minnie’s quintessentially American story embodies far more than a plaque ever could,” Obama said.

Minoza made his major league debut with Cleveland in 1949 and was dealt to the White Sox in a three-team trade two years later. He became major league baseball’s first black player in Chicago on May 1, 1951, and homered in his first plate appearance against Yankees right-hander Vic Raschi.

It was the dawn of a long relationship between the slugger and the White Sox. Minoza, a Havana native who spent most of his career in left field, is one of only two players to appear in a major league game in five different decades. He got his final hit in 1976 at age 53 and went 0 for 2 in two games in 1980 for the White Sox, who hired him as a team ambassador after his playing career and repeatedly lobbied for his inclusion in Cooperstown.

“I think that everybody has to respect his legacy because he did so much for the Latin players, for the Cubans, for everybody because when he arrived here it was a tough time because of racism and discrimination,” said White Sox shortstop Alexei Ramirez, another Cuban star. “He wrote a huge legacy for all of us.”

Saturnino Orestes Armas Minoza Arrieta was selected for nine All-Star games and won three Gold Gloves in left field. He was hit by a pitch 192

times, ninth on baseball’s career list, and finished in the top four in AL MVP voting four times.

Despite the push by the White Sox and other prominent Latin players, Minoza has never come close to making it to the Hall. His highest percentage during his 15 years on the writers’ ballot was 21.1 in 1988. He was considered by the Veterans Committee in 2014 and fell short of the required percentage for induction.

“My last dream is to be in Cooperstown, to be with those guys,” Minoza said in an informational package produced by the team for a 2011 Cooperstown push. “I want to be there. This is my life’s dream.”

Minoza, who made his major league debut with Cleveland in 1949, hit .298 for his career with 186 homers and 1,023 RBIs. The speedy Minoza also led the AL in triples and steals three times in each category.

Playing in an era dominated by the Yankees, he never played in the postseason.

“He gave you 100 percent at all times,” former teammate Billy Pierce said. “You have to rate him with the better ballplayers of all time.”

Minoza finished that first season in Chicago with a .326 batting average, 10 homers and 76 RBIs in 146 games for the Indians and White Sox. He also had a major league-best 14 triples and an AL-best 31 steals.

It was Minoza’s first of eight seasons with at least a .300 batting average. He also had four seasons with at least 100 RBIs.

“I have baseball in my blood,” Minoza said. “Baseball is all I’ve ever wanted to do.”

Associated Press writer Caryn Rousseau and Associated Press freelance writer Jack Thompson in Glendale, Ariz., contributed to this report.

Wolter Second At USA Indoor Meet

BOSTON, Mass. — South Dakota track and field graduate assistant coach Kenna Wolter placed second in the women’s triple jump at the USA Track and Field Indoor Championships held at the Reggie Lewis Center in Boston, Mass., on Sunday.

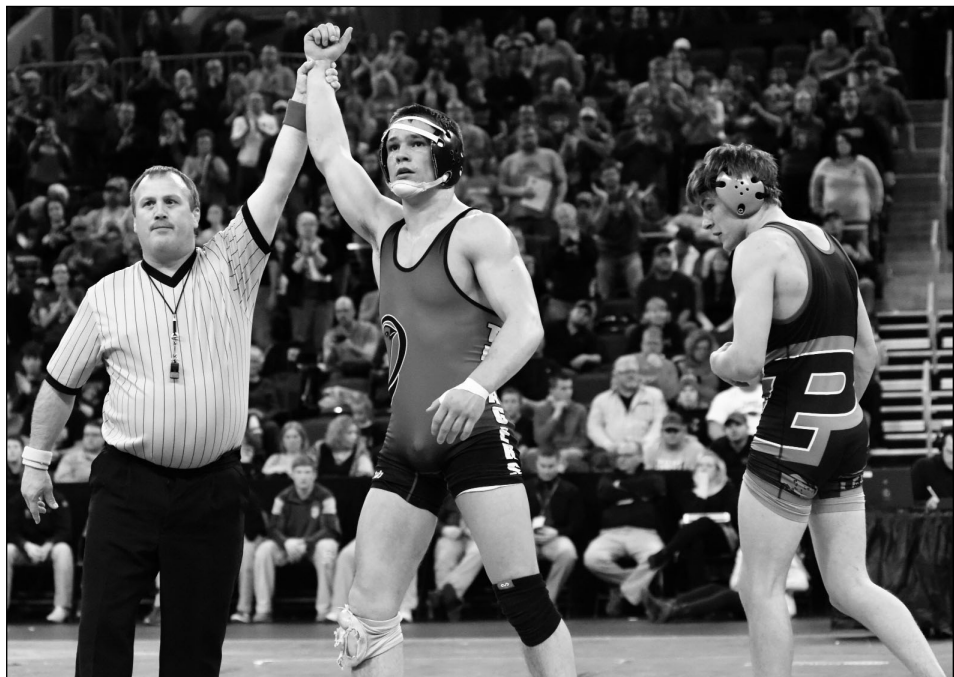
Wolter reached 43 feet, 2 1/4 inches on her second attempt. She was one of 10 competitors in the event.

Amanda Smock of Asics/New York Athletic Club won the event for the fourth consecutive year with a final mark of 43-7.

Wolter graduated from the University of South

Dakota in 2013 and spent three seasons competing for the Coyotes.

She took gold in six conference meets, advanced to two NCAA preliminary rounds and set the school record in the indoor triple jump with a mark of 41-9 1/4 in 2012.



Vermillion's Brett Bye has his hand raised by an official as Pierre's Dawson Monfore walks off the mat after their 170-pound championship match at the South Dakota State Class A Wrestling Tournament on Saturday in Sioux Falls. Bye completed an unbeaten season in winning a second state title.

State A

From Page 7

“Regan is the better wrestler though,” Coach Bye said of a comparison with his son. “He’s much more technically sound it’s not even funny. They eat better now, are better educated, and have all the tools. Not that I didn’t, but they took advantage of those tools.”

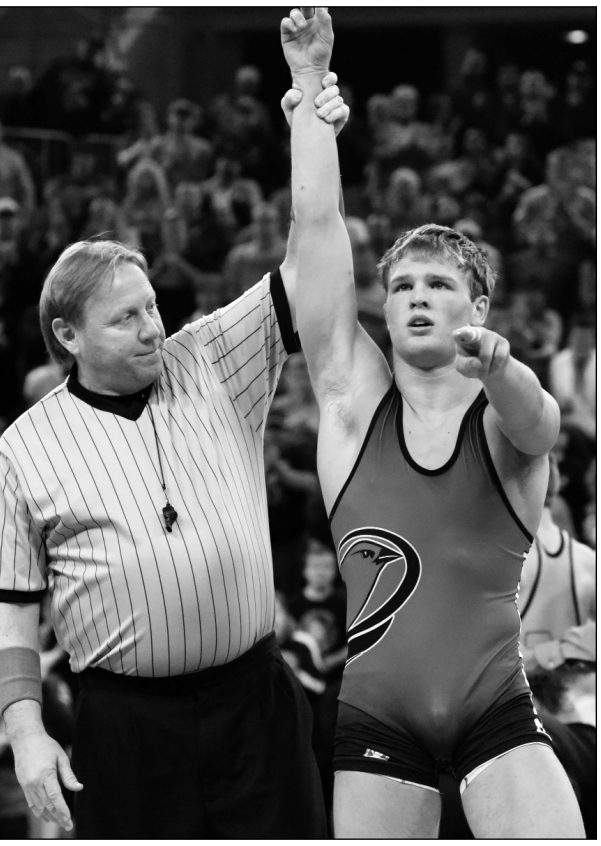
Brett Bye, a South Dakota state recruit, followed his cousin with a title in the 170-pound final, beating Pierre’s Dawson Monfore 3-0.

“I tried to go out there and wrestle my match and do what I am good at I guess,” Brett said. “His front right leg was up there a bit and his arm was up and I saw an opening (for an early take-down).”

The Tanagers took home three other medals on Saturday, freshman Trey Hage (third at 120 pounds), sophomore Carter Kratz (fourth at 145 pounds) and sophomore Jacob Husby (seventh at 113 pounds). Vermillion qualified nine wrestlers, with seven earning at least one victory in the tournament.

The lone Yankton Buck to make it through the opening day, junior Spencer Huber, bounced back from a 6-1 loss to Pierre’s Jebben Keyes in the semifinals to finish third at 126 pounds. Huber tied his school record for victories in a season at 47 and set a school record with 29 pins, breaking the mark of 26 set by former University of Nebraska wrestler Andy Johnson.

“I felt like I had a great season,” Huber said. “I improved from last year. Now I’ll be working hard in the off-season to do it again next year.”



Vermillion's Regan Bye points to the crowd as his arm is raised after winning the 160-pound championship at the South Dakota State Class A Wrestling Tournament on Saturday in Sioux Falls. Bye became the fourth Tanager to win three state titles, joining his current coach (and father) Hazen Bye and his future coach, Nebraska head coach Mark Manning, a Vermillion native.

three losses to Keyes, who won a second state title with his 126-pound title this season. The other setback was to Huron’s Trent Francom, who Huber bounced in a major decision in the quarterfinals.

“He didn’t reach his ultimate goal, but he has another year to do that,” said Yankton head coach Ryan Hage. “He’s not just good on the mat, he’s an awesome kid off the mat, too.”

The Bucks took three wrestlers — all juniors — to state. Both Cody Vornhagen (113) and Brock Folkers (195) earned one victory before being eliminated on the open-

ing day as Yankton finished with 22 points to place 20th.

“All three that got up here got at least one win, and they’re all back,” Coach Hage said. “Every guy in the room this year has an opportunity to come back. They have the off-season to get bigger, faster and stronger so that they can come back a better team at the beginning of next year than we were at the end of this season.”

Summit

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On the women’s side, the Coyotes finished