

PRESS&DAKOTAN

DAILY DOSE

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



BY JAMES D. CIMBUREK
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Some time in the early 1990s then sports-editor Kelly Hertz had me scheduled for one Friday in late March in order to round up scores from something called the "Roger Haas" Tournament. Having has schoolmates who played in Aberdeen's "Y" Tournament back in the day I was familiar with the concept of a big youth basketball tournament, but didn't understand why it was such a big deal. It didn't take long to figure out.

It wasn't just that they played in every gym in Yankton — and I mean EVERY gym in Yankton, Sacred Heart, City Hall, every elementary school, Mount Marty's old Library gym, you name it — but it was why they did it. The tournament wasn't to fatten the pocketbooks of some organization — monies raised went right back

Memories Of Tourneys Past

into youth activities, from equipment for the Yankton School District things that would make the next tournament even bigger.

Because of this, those that worked the tournament came from an even more eclectic background than the teams that played in it. It's not uncommon to see bankers working a game with factory workers, or farmers and financial advisors, etc. Everything that set them apart the rest of the year was set aside and they did what needed to be done, both for the kids and in memory of someone who embodied that spirit of giving, Roger Haas.

At the end of it all, volunteers from all walks of life sit down together for a meal and fellowship, share their stories from the weekend and relax before returning to their regular lives.

That's why it only seemed fitting when I heard that they would re-name the tournament in memory of another kind soul, the late Dale "Ole" Hansen. He was one of the original organizers that helped

build the event into the staple of Yankton life that it is today.

Not only that, but Ole's primary goal was to make sure that all involved — whether it be kids, coaches or volunteers — enjoyed themselves at the event. His primary job for so many years was making sure the t-shirt sales went smoothly — which they always did — then he would jump in wherever needed to keep everything else running as smoothly as possible.

He even make sure that my staff and I were taken care of. Even though I have never been an official volunteer — my work duties make it nearly impossible, though I have jumped in on scoreboard once or twice — Ole always made sure I got a volunteer shirt and made sure that my staff and I knew we were invited to the post-tournament social, neither of which were necessary but appreciated.

So in memory of both Ole and Roger, let's enjoy the rest of the tournament.

SCOREBOARD

BASKETBALL

NCAA TOURNAMENT

REGIONAL SEMIFINALS

Thursday, March 26

MIDWEST REGIONAL

At Quicken Loans Arena, Cleveland

Notre Dame 81, Wichita State 70

Kentucky 78, West Virginia 39

WEST REGIONAL

At The Staples Center, Los Angeles

Wisconsin 79, North Carolina 72

Arizona 68, Xavier 60

Friday, March 27

EAST REGIONAL

At The Carrier Dome, Syracuse, N.Y.

Louisville 75, N.C. State 65

Michigan State (25-11) vs. Oklahoma (24-10), 9:07 p.m.

SOUTH REGIONAL

At NRG Stadium, Houston

Gonzaga 74, UCLA 62

Duke (31-4) vs. Utah (26-8), 8:45 p.m.

REGIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP

Saturday, March 28

WEST REGIONAL

At The Staples Center, Los Angeles

Wisconsin (34-3) vs. Arizona (34-3), 5:09 p.m.

MIDWEST REGIONAL

At Quicken Loans Arena, Cleveland

Notre Dame (32-5) vs. Kentucky (37-0), 7:49 p.m.

EAST REGIONAL

At The Carrier Dome, Syracuse, N.Y.

Louisville (27-8) vs. Michigan St.-Oklahoma winner, 1 p.m.

SOUTH REGIONAL

At NRG Stadium, Houston

Gonzaga (35-2) vs. Duke-Utah winner, 3:55 p.m.

NCAA WOMEN'S TOURNAMENT

REGIONAL SEMIFINALS

Friday, March 27

At Greensboro, N.C.

South Carolina 67, North Carolina 65

Arizona State (29-5) vs. Florida State (31-4), 8:30 p.m.

At Oklahoma City

Baylor 81, Iowa 66

Notre Dame (33-2) vs. Stanford (26-9), 9 p.m.

Saturday, March 28

At Albany, N.Y.

UConn (34-1) vs. Texas (24-10), 11 a.m.

Dayton (27-6) vs. Louisville (27-6), 1:30 p.m.

At Spokane, Was.

Maryland (32-2) vs. Duke (23-10), 3:30 p.m.

Gonzaga (26-7) vs. Tennessee (29-5), 6 p.m.

REGIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP

Sunday, March 29

At Greensboro, N.C.

South Carolina (33-2) vs. Arizona St.-Florida St. winner, 11 a.m.

At Oklahoma City

Baylor (33-3) vs. Notre Dame-Stanford winner, 7:30 p.m.

Monday, March 30

At Albany, N.Y.

Semifinal winners

At Spokane, Was.

Semifinal winners

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SEMIFINALS

At Madison Square Garden, New York

Tuesday, March 31

Miami (24-12) vs. Temple (26-10), 6 p.m.

AREA CALENDAR

Saturday, March 28	Sunday, March 29
BASEBALL, COLLEGE MMC at Doane (DH, 1 p.m.)	BASEBALL, COLLEGE Concordia at MMC (DH, 1 p.m., KYNT-AM)
BASEBALL, CLUB JV S.F. O'Gorman at Yankton (DH, 5 p.m.)	SOFTBALL, COLLEGE USD at IUPUI (10 a.m.)
BASEBALL, CLUB 9/10 S.F. Roosevelt at Yankton (DH, 1 p.m.)	Monday, March 30
SOFTBALL, COLLEGE USD at IUPUI (DH, 10 a.m.); MMC at Midland (DH, 1 p.m.)	BASEBALL, COLLEGE JV Briar Cliff at MMC (DH, 5 p.m.)
SWIMMING & DIVING, COLLEGE NCAA Men's Championships at Iowa City	BASEBALL, CLUB HS Vermilion at Dakota Valley
TRACK & FIELD, COLLEGE OUTDOOR Clyde Littlefield Texas Relays at Austin, Texas (USD); Wildcat Classic at Wayne, Neb.	GOLF, GIRLS' YHS/Brookings at Brandon Valley (2 p.m.)
	SOFTBALL, COLLEGE Dakota State at MMC (DH, 3 p.m.)

Stanford (22-13) vs. Old Dominion (27-7), 8:30 p.m.

WOMEN'S NIT

THIRD ROUND

Wednesday, March 25

Southern Mississippi 76, Eastern Michigan 65

Thursday, March 26

Villanova 63, St. John's 55

Temple 80, NC State 79, OT

Michigan 65, Missouri 55

Florida Southern 79, Belarmine 72

Middle Tennessee 82, Mississippi 70

UCLA 74, Northern Colorado 60

Saint Mary's (Cal) 77, Sacramento State 69

QUARTERFINALS

Sunday, March 29

Villanova (22-13) at West Virginia (21-14), 1 p.m.

Michigan (19-14) at Southern Mississippi (25-10), 2 p.m.

Temple (19-16) at Middle Tennessee (24-9), 4 p.m.

Saint Mary's (Cal) (23-10) at UCLA (16-18), 4 p.m.

NCAA DIVISION II MEN

At Evansville, Ind.

Semifinals

Thursday, March 26

Indiana (Pa.) 72, Tarleton State 68

Florida Southern 79, Belarmine 72

CHAMPIONSHIP

Saturday, March 28

Indiana (Pa.) vs. Florida Southern, 2 p.m.

NCAA DIVISION II WOMEN

At Sioux Falls, S.D.

CHAMPIONSHIP

Friday, March 27

California (Pa.) 86, Cal Baptist 69

USD Track & Field Teams Shine In Texas

SAN MARCOS, Texas—South Dakota senior Taylor Chapman, senior Lukas Bernard, junior Peter Chapman and junior Katie Wetzstein recorded new career bests en route to winning their respective events on Friday at the Texas State Bobcat Invitational.

Wetzstein improved her own school record by three seconds to 4:24.27 when she won the 1,500-meter run.

Taylor Chapman captured the men's 1,500 meters with a new career best of 3:49.91 that ranks second in all-time school history. Chapman led a contingent of four Coyotes to top-10 finishes. Senior Brant Haase took third with a new personal best time of 3:53.85, while junior Isaac Allen placed seventh and sophomore Mach Dojiok finished ninth.

Peter Chapman cleared 17-0 ¾ on his second attempt to win the pole vault with a new career best. Freshman Jake David took fourth in the event with a height of 16-0 ¾.

Bernard improved his career best from yesterday in the 400-meter hurdles when he crossed the line after 52.11 seconds for the win. Senior teammate Erik Hill added a fourth-place finish in 53.64 seconds.

Two days of multi-event competition concluded with junior decathlete Josh

Petersen in fourth with 5,870 points. Petersen clocked 18.37 seconds in the 110-meter hurdles, threw 97-4 in the discus, cleared 13-1 ½ in the pole vault, tossed 113-7 in the javelin throw and ran 5:15.58 in the 1,500-meter run on the second day.

After competing at the Texas Relays earlier today, freshman Gawain Williams and junior Analisa Huschle traveled to San Marcos to run the 100-meter dash again. Williams placed seventh in 10.90 seconds. Huschle added a 15th-place finish in 12.07 seconds.

Freshman Colette Christensen added an eighth-place finish in the high jump when she cleared 5-3.

A trio of Coyotes competed in the 400 meters. Senior Amber Watson led the way in 13th with a new career best of 56.64 seconds. Freshman Brooke Ireland added a collegiate best in 57.10 seconds for 18th, while senior Rachel Weinandt ran 59.14 seconds.

South Dakota track and field teams continue competition at the Clyde Littlefield Texas Relays and Texas State Bobcat Invitational today (Saturday).

Texas Relays

AUSTIN, Texas—South Dakota senior Cody Snyder, sophomore Emily Brigham

and sophomore Ashley Thompson recorded top-10 finishes in their respective field events as the Coyote track and field teams competed at the Clyde Littlefield Texas Relays at Mike A. Myers Stadium on Friday.

Snyder threw the disc 187 feet even on his fifth attempt for seventh place. The discus school record of 194-6 that he threw yesterday would have made him third at Texas Relays.

Brigham took ninth in the pole vault when she cleared 13-1 ½ on her third attempt at the bar.

Thompson reached 38-9 ½ in the triple jump on her third attempt to qualify for the finals. She finished in ninth place. Thompson also ran 15.59 seconds in the 100-meter hurdle preliminaries. Senior Erik Hill clocked 15.38 seconds in the 110-meter hurdle preliminaries for 47th.

Also competing in the preliminaries were freshman Gawain Williams and junior Analisa Huschle in the 100-meter dash. Williams placed 30th with a time of 10.74 seconds while Huschle finished 56th in 12.16 seconds.

Huschle joined freshman Brooke Ireland, freshman Shanice Cannigan and Amber Watson on the 4x400-meter relay. The relay took 28th with a time of 3:48.34.

St. Olaf Cancels Baseball Season Over Hazing

NORTHFIELD, Minn. (AP) — St. Olaf College announced Friday that it is canceling the rest of its baseball season because of hazing.

St. Olaf said federal law and college policy limit its ability to discuss details but said an investigation found the misconduct "constitutes ridicule, harassment, and public displays of servitude under St. Olaf's hazing policy." The incidents also involved underage drinking, the school said in a statement.

The school in southern Minnesota said a formal investigation by the college and its independent counsel found that serious violations of St. Olaf's hazing policy occurred both on and off campus during the weekend of Feb. 28.

"Violations were compounded by an orchestrated attempt to deceive college officials and the outside investigator and prevent them from learning what had happened," the statement said.

In an email to the St. Olaf community, college President David Anderson said: "Hazing has no place at St. Olaf. Any form of hazing is reprehensible and inconsistent with our core values as an institution. Therefore, in the weeks and months ahead we will redouble our efforts to communicate the standards and values that should properly guide our co-curricular programs."

The Minnesota Intercollegiate Athletic Conference said St. Olaf has been removed from the schedule and stand-

ings for 2015. The MIAC will operate as a 10-team baseball conference for the rest of the season, and teams will receive a bye when they were scheduled to face St. Olaf.

The MIAC was scheduled to start conference play on Saturday.

Conference executive director Dan McKane said the MIAC is saddened by the events but commends St. Olaf's administration for its "swift and decisive action."

"Our primary concern is for anyone — especially student-athletes — who have been negatively impacted by the hazing uncovered by St. Olaf's investigation," McKane said.

comprehension.

Just ask the Mountaineers, who never stood a chance.

"I thought going in that the 2010 team may be more talented," Huggins said, referring to the Kentucky squad that featured NBA standouts John Wall, DeMarcus Cousins and Eric Bledsoe. "But I don't think that team guarded the way this team guards. That's the difference. This team is absolutely fantastic defensively."

With a bigger front line than most NBA teams and essentially two starting units to keep the pressure on opponents for the full 40 minutes, Kentucky will stand as the greatest NCAA champion ever if it can win out — with all due respect to those epic teams through the years.

The Wildcats have really been on a roll since what constitutes their only "slump" of the season — consecutive overtime victories over Ole Miss and Texas A&M back in early January, at the start of Southeastern Conference play.

After that blip, the next 22 wins came by an average of 19.1 points, with all but four games decided by double-digit margins. Kentucky has turned it up another notch in the postseason, romping through three SEC tournament games and three NCAA games by an average margin of 21.5 points, including Thursday's 78-39 destruction of West Virginia. During that span, the Wildcats have limited opponents to 34 percent shooting from the field and 23 percent from 3-point range.

"They're just so big and so long," Huggins said, sounding like he was talking about a team from another planet.

He might as well be, given the other-worldly starting front line of 7-footer Willie Cauley-Stein, 6-11 Karl-Anthony Towns and 6-10 Trey Lyles. True, the Wildcats don't have a player

who stands out like Russell, Abdul-Jabbar, Walton or Indiana's Scott May, but that's only because this might be the deepest squad ever. Nine strong, all capable of starting for just about any team in the country. By some projections, there are as many as six first-round NBA picks on the roster.

Also, Kentucky is playing in a deeper era, with more good teams, than the NCAA's seven perfect champions, even taking into account that the top players only hang around for a year or two before heading to the NBA. Making the Wildcats' path even tougher, they must win six tournament games over three weeks to cut down the nets, a big reason there hasn't been an undefeated team since the field expanded to 64 teams in 1985.

Compare that with San Francisco, North Carolina in 1957, and UCLA's four unbeaten teams under coach John Wooden, all of which needed only four NCAA wins to complete their championship seasons. Or Indiana, which had to win five NCAA games to finish 32-0.

Kentucky's juggernaut came together in large part because coach John Calipari, by his usual one-and-done standards, has a very experienced team. He added another stellar recruiting class — Towns, Lyle and guards Devin Booker and Tyler Ulis — to a larger-than-expected group of returnees, including Cauley-Stein (a junior) and four sophomores: twins Aaron and Andrew Harrison, who start in the backcourt; 7-footer Dakari Johnson; and 6-9 Marcus Lee.

The Wildcats didn't miss a beat when one of their stalwarts, Alex Poythress, tore up a knee in December and was lost for the season.

No reason to think they'll slip up now.

Not with No. 1 — in any era — there for the taking.

Brittany Rountree for what turned out to be the winning score.

Fourth-seeded UNC (26-9) had one more chance, but freshman Jamie Cherry's desperation runner hit all backboard as the horn sounded, sending the Gamecocks into an on-court celebration.

Oklahoma City Reg.

BAYLOR 81, IOWA 66: OKLAHOMA CITY (AP) — Sune Agbuke had a career-high 23 points and Baylor advanced to the NCAA Tournament's Elite Eight for the fifth time in six years.

Nina Davis added 20 points and Niya Johnson had 16 assists for the No. 2-seed Lady Bears (33-3), who will face the Stanford-Notre Dame winner on Sunday.

Agbuke finished with 12 rebounds for Baylor, which outrebounded the Hawkeyes 45-35. The 6-foot-4 senior topped her previous career best of 16 points, set last season against Kansas State.

Kristy Wallace hit her first seven shots and finished with 17 points for Baylor.

Samantha Logic had a triple-double to lead third-seeded Iowa (26-8), finishing with 13 points, 10 rebounds and 14 assists. The Hawkeyes were making their first Sweet 16 appearance since 1996.

Column: Is Kentucky The Greatest College Team Ever? Might Be

BY PAUL NEWBERRY

AP National Writer

With every dominating win — we're up to 37-0 — it becomes more and more apparent that Kentucky really isn't competing against the remaining teams in the NCAA Tournament.

History is the opponent now.

Are these Wildcats better than the 1956 San Francisco Dons featuring Bill Russell and K.C. Jones? How about all those great UCLA teams of the 1960s and '70s with the likes of Kareem Abdul-Jabbar and Bill Walton? And is this edition of Big Blue even better than the last champion to go through a season unblemished, the 1976 Indiana Hoosiers?

Nothing against those giants of the game, but we'll take Kentucky — with a caveat.

These Wildcats still must win three more games, starting with Saturday's Midwest Regional final against Notre Dame.

But if they complete their run to 40-0 perfection — and it would take a Villanova-beating-Georgetown-sized upset to stop it — they deserve to be at the top of the list.

Quinn Buckner, one of the stars of that undefeated Indiana team, was asked what it would take to beat Kentucky

"You've got to shoot it exceptionally well, you can't turn it over, and you've got to rebound against them," he said. "And then you still have to play defense, too."

Oh, and one other thing. "They're going to have to have a bad day," West Virginia coach Bob Huggins moaned after the Wildcats blew out his team by 39 points in the round of 16.

Given their size, depth, commitment to defense, and willingness to share the spotlight, a bad day deems beyond

Hoops

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and advance to the Greensboro Region final.

Alaina Coates also scored 18 points, including two key free throws for the lead with 46.1 seconds to go. Then Mitchell, the Southeastern Conference player of the year, answered a tying basket from Jessica Washington in the final minute by driving past

Augustana Volleyball Coach Resigns

SIoux FALLS – Augustana College director of athletics Slade Larscheid announced Friday that Ashley Buckley has resigned as head volleyball coach. Buckley has spent the last seven seasons as the Vikings' head coach.

"Coach Buckley has served Augustana with integrity and provided direction and guidance for our volleyball student-athletes," Larscheid said. "On behalf of the athletics department we thank Ashley for her leadership over the past seven years."

Buckley, the eighth head coach in program history, spent seven seasons on the Viking sideline compiling a record of 124-87, including 80-60 in conference play. Buckley led Augustana to two 20-win seasons, one NCAA Tournament (2008) and two NSIC Tournament appearances.