



Lane Out As Jackrabbits' Softball Coach After Four Seasons

BROOKINGS (AP) — South Dakota State University is looking for a new softball coach. The university said in a statement Wednesday that Athletics Director Justin Sell and coach Joanna Lane agreed that the softball program did not produce the results

they expected and SDSU is making a coaching change. Lane compiled a 59-141 overall record and a 35-40 Summit League mark in four seasons with the Jackrabbits.



Indy 500 Starting Row



Scott Dixon (left), Alex Tagliani and Oriol Servia will make up the first row for Sunday's Indianapolis 500. Tagliani won the pole with a speed of 227.472 miles per hour. (Charles Gauker/For The P&D)

Tennis Leagues Forming

The Yankton Tennis Association is taking registrations for its men's, women's and youth summer leagues.

Men's league will run Monday nights, beginning at 7 p.m. each night. Women's league will run on Wednesday nights, beginning at 7 p.m. each night. These leagues are open to adults and high school tennis players.

The youth league is open to non-varsity boys and girls ages 11-16. The doubles league will run on Tuesday nights, beginning at 7 p.m. each night.

Registration deadline is May 28. League play begins the week of June 6. Registration forms are available at the Yankton Public Library or the Summit Activities Center. Registration forms and more information are available by contacting yankton.tennis@hotmail.com.

Dodgeball Champions



Hanson Briggs Balz of Fury beat Blood, Bath & Beyond 7-6 for the championship of the Yankton coed dodgeball tournament. Team members include (front) Stephany Anderson, Kobe Koletzky, Ariel Ludwig, Micayla Anstine, Amy Livingston, Keshia Shelburg, (back) Travis Pokorney, Dusty Koletzky, Tony Shelburg, Tasha Anderson, Bryan Anstine and Danny Koletzky. Not pictured is John Koletzky.

Quick Hitters

FOOTBALL The NCAA has rejected Southern California's bid to reduce some of the penalties imposed last year on its football program, including a two-year bowl ban and the loss of 30 scholarships over three years, according to media reports. ... The United Football League has announced that the Omaha Nighthawks have signed a lease with the agency that runs TD Ameritrade Park and that the team will play its home games there beginning in August. ... Former NFL kicker Matt Stover will retire after a stellar career in which he scored more than 2,000 points. The Ravens say the 43-year-old will make the announcement on Thursday afternoon at Baltimore's training complex.

BASEBALL Gov. Mark Dayton has proclaimed Thursday as Harmon Killebrew Day in Minnesota, honoring the late Minnesota Twins slugger and Hall of Famer. In his proclamation, Dayton says Killebrew's life "should serve as an inspiration to everyone." ... The Colorado Rockies placed pitcher Jorge De La Rosa on the disabled list a day after he tore a ligament in his left elbow. To take his place, the Rockies recalled right-handed reliever Bruce Billings from Triple-A Colorado Springs.

SCOREBOARD

BASKETBALL

NBA PLAYOFFS

CONFERENCE FINALS

Monday, May 23 Dallas 112, Oklahoma City 105, OT, Dallas leads series 3-1

Tuesday, May 24 Miami 101, Chicago 93, OT, Miami leads series 3-1

Wednesday, May 25 Oklahoma City at Dallas, 8 p.m.

Thursday, May 26 Miami at Chicago, 7:30 p.m.

Friday, May 27 Dallas at Oklahoma City, 8 p.m.

Saturday, May 28 Chicago at Miami, 7:30 p.m.

Sunday, May 29 Oklahoma City at Dallas, 8 p.m.

Monday, May 30 Miami at Chicago, 7:30 p.m.

AUTO RACING

2011 NASCAR SPRINT CUP

May 7 — Showtime Southern 500, Darlington, S.C. (Regan Smith)

May 15 — FedEx 400, Dover, Del. (Matt Kenseth)

May 21 — x-Sprint Showdown, Concord, N.C. (David Ragan)

May 21 — x-All-Star Challenge, Concord, N.C. (Carl Edwards)

May 29 — Coca-Cola 600, Concord, N.C.

June 5 — STP 400, Kansas City, Kan.

June 12 — Pocono 500, Long Pond, Pa.

June 19 — Heluva Good! Sour Cream Dips 400, Brooklyn, Mich.

June 26 — Toyota/Save Mart 350, Sonoma, Calif.

x-non-points race

2011 Driver Standings 1. Carl Edwards, 416.

Central Division

Cleveland 30 17 638

Detroit 25 23 521 5 1/2

Kansas City 22 26 458 8 1/2

Chicago 23 28 451 9

Minnesota 16 32 333 14 1/2

West Division

Texas 26 24 520

Los Angeles 25 25 500 1

Seattle 24 25 490 1 1/2

Oakland 23 26 469 2 1/2

Tuesday's Games

Boston 4, Cleveland 2

Baltimore 5, Kansas City 3

Detroit 7, Tampa Bay 6

N.Y. Yankees 5, Toronto 4

Chicago White Sox 8, Texas 6

Minnesota 4, Seattle 2

Oakland 6, L.A. Angels 1

Wednesday's Games

Boston 14, Cleveland 2

N.Y. Yankees 7, Toronto 3

Tampa Bay at Detroit, ppd., rain

Seattle 3, Minnesota 0

Texas 2, Chicago White Sox 1

Baltimore 9, Kansas City 2

Oakland at L.A. Angels, 10:05 p.m.

Thursday's Games

Kansas City (Francis 1-5) at Baltimore (Guthrie 2-4), 11:35 a.m.

Boston (Acoves 1-0) at Detroit (Scherzer 6-1), 12:05 p.m.

Oakland (Anderson 2-4) at L.A. Angels (Pineiro 2-0), 2:35 p.m.

Chicago White Sox (Humber 3-3) at Toronto (Morrow 2-2), 6:07 p.m.

Friday's Games

Boston at Detroit, 6:05 p.m.

Chicago White Sox at Toronto, 6:07 p.m.

Cleveland at Tampa Bay, 6:10 p.m.

Kansas City at Texas, 7:05 p.m.

L.A. Angels at Minnesota, 7:10 p.m.

Baltimore at Oakland, 9:05 p.m.

NATIONAL LEAGUE

Philadelphia 19 19 604

Florida 27 19 587 1

Atlanta 28 23 549 2 1/2

New York 23 25 479 6

Washington 21 28 429 8 1/2

Central Division

St. Louis 30 21 588

Milwaukee 27 23 540 2 1/2

Cincinnati 16 23 531 3

Pittsburgh 22 26 458 6 1/2

Chicago 21 26 447 7

Houston 19 31 380 10 1/2

West Division

San Francisco 27 20 574

Colorado 24 23 511 3

Arizona 24 24 500 3 1/2

Los Angeles 22 29 431 7

San Diego 20 30 400 8 1/2

Tuesday's Games

Colorado 12, Arizona 4, 1st game

Atlanta 2, Pittsburgh 0

Cincinnati 6, Philadelphia 3

L.A. Dodgers 5, Houston 4

Chicago Cubs 11, N.Y. Mets 1

Milwaukee 7, Washington 6

Arizona 5, Colorado 2, 2nd game

St. Louis 3, San Diego 2, 11 innings

Florida 5, San Francisco 1

Wednesday's Games

Alliant 4, Pittsburgh 2, 11 innings

Milwaukee 6, Washington 4

Houston 2, L.A. Dodgers 1

San Diego 3, St. Louis 1

Cincinnati at Philadelphia, 7:05 p.m.

N.Y. Mets 7, Chicago Cubs 4, 7 innings

Arizona at Colorado, 8:40 p.m.

Florida at San Francisco, 10:15 p.m.

AREA CALENDAR

Thursday, May 26

BASEBALL, AMATEUR Avon at Tabor (7:30 p.m.); Wynot at Menno (7:30 p.m., KVHT-FM); Yankton at Crofton (7:30 p.m.)

TRACK & FIELD, COLLEGE OUTDOOR NCAA West Regionals at Eugene, Ore. (USD)

Friday, May 27

BASEBALL, AMATEUR Irene at Freeman (7:30 p.m.); Scotland at Lesterville (7:30 p.m.); Tabor at Yankton (7:30 p.m., KVTK-AM)

TRACK & FIELD, COLLEGE OUTDOOR NCAA West

Regionals at Eugene, Ore. (USD)

TRACK, PREP S.D. State Meet at Brandon (10:30 a.m.), S.D. State Class A Meet at Madison (9:30 a.m.), S.D. State Class B Meet at Sioux Falls (9:30 a.m.)

Saturday, May 28

FOOTBALL, SEMI-PRO Dakota Warrior at Minnesota Flight

TRACK & FIELD, COLLEGE OUTDOOR NCAA West Regionals at Eugene, Ore. (USD)

TRACK, PREP S.D. State Meet at Sioux Falls (9 a.m.)

Sunday, May 29

BASEBALL, AMATEUR Crofton at Avon (7:30 p.m.); Freeman at Wynot (7:30 p.m.); Irene at Scotland (7:30 p.m.); Lesterville at Tabor (7:30 p.m.); Yankton at Menno (7:30 p.m.)

Monday, May 30

BASEBALL, CLUB State A Tour at Sioux Falls; State B Tour at Flandreau

Thursday's Games

Cincinnati (Bailey 3-1) at Philadelphia (O'Leary 3-4), 12:05 p.m.

N.Y. Mets (Dickey 2-5) at Chicago Cubs (Zambrano 4-2), 1:20 p.m.

Florida (Ani Sanchez 3-1) at San Francisco (Vogelsong 3-0), 2:45 p.m.

Arizona (Owings 0-0) at Colorado (Mortensen 1-1), 7:40 p.m.

Friday's Games

Pittsburgh at Chicago Cubs, 1:20 p.m.

San Diego at Washington, 6:05 p.m.

Philadelphia at N.Y. Mets, 6:10 p.m.

Cincinnati at Atlanta, 6:35 p.m.

Arizona at Houston, 7:05 p.m.

San Francisco at Milwaukee, 7:10 p.m.

St. Louis at Colorado, 7:40 p.m.

Florida at L.A. Dodgers, 9:10 p.m.

Arizona Diamondbacks

Placed RHP Josh Judy to Columbus (IL).

NEW YORK YANKEES—Claimed RHP Kanekoa Teixeira off waivers from Kansas City and optioned him to Scranton/Wilkes-Barre (IL).

Transferred RHP Phil Hughes to the 60-day DL (Vogelsong 3-0), 2:45 p.m.

TAMPA BAY BAYS—Activated SS Reid Brignac from the bereavement list. Placed INF Elliot Johnson on the 15-day DL.

National League

ARIZONA DIAMONDBACKS—Placed RHP Juan Gutierrez on the 15-day DL. Recalled RHP Zach Kroenke Reno (PCL).

COLORADO ROCKIES—Placed LHP Jorge De La Rosa on the 15-day DL. Recalled RHP Bruce Billings from Colorado Springs (PCL).

American Association

EL PASO DIABLOS—Signed INF Antoin Gray.

GRAND PRAIRIE AIRHOGS—Signed INF Chad Bisnette and RHP Jason Jennings.

Can-Am League

BROCKTON ROX—Released RHP Nick

retirement of D Brian Rafalski.

NEW YORK ISLANDERS—Agreed to terms with F Kyle Okposo on a five-year contract.

COLLEGE

ECAC—Announced the retirement of administrator for officiating and special projects Steve Samford.

AUBURN—Announced G Earnest Ross and C Ty Armstrong are leaving the men's basketball program.

HIGH POINT—Named Trey Brown men's assistant basketball coach.

JUNIATA—Named Todd Quinter offensive line coach.

MONTANA STATE—Named George Pfeiffer men's assistant basketball coach.

SOUTHWEST MINNESOTA STATE—Named Brooks McKowen men's assistant basketball coach.

STANFORD—Named Trina Patterson women's assistant basketball coach.

WAGNER—Named Bill Cole director of football operations.

Six Jacks Earn Summit League Honors

SIoux FALLS — Six South Dakota State University players, including five repeat honorees, were named to the 2011 All-Summit League Baseball Team during a pre-tournament banquet Wednesday night in Sioux Falls.

Leading the Jackrabbit contingent were three-time honorees Joel Blake, Jesse Sawyer and Billy Stitz.

Blake was named as the first-team first baseman for the second consecutive year after hitting .393 with eight doubles and 29 runs batted in during the league portion of the schedule. A senior from Langley, British Columbia, Blake is the career leader in doubles at SDSU with 68 and also ranks second in career hits with 257. He was a second-team all-Summit League selection as an outfielder in 2009.

Sawyer dropped to the second team in 2011 after earning first-team recognition at third base in both 2009 and 2010. A senior from Calgary, Alberta, Sawyer leads the team with 12 home runs, seven of which came in league play. He also hit .330 during the conference season and drove in 27 runs. He is the career leader in home runs at

SDSU with 50.

Stitz earned a spot on the second-team outfield after leading the league with five triples and tying for the league lead in hits with 46. A senior from Burnsville, Minn., Stitz holds several Jackrabbit career records, including games played (212), at-bats (898), hits (304), runs scored (187) and total bases (453). He was a second-team all-Summit League selection in 2008 and a first-team honoree in 2010.

Jackrabbit pitchers Blake Treinen and Trevor Vermeulen also repeated as first-team honorees on the all-Summit League squad. Treinen, a senior from Osage City, Kan., compiled a 4-2 record with a 4.15 earned run average in seven Summit League starts. He averaged more than a strikeout per inning, fanning 46 batters in 43 1/3 innings.

Vermeulen again anchored the back end of the SDSU bullpen, recording a 2-2 record with seven saves. A senior from Mitchell, Vermeulen limited conference opponents to a .171 batting average as he struck out 40 batters in 16 appearances, covering 33 2/3 innings.

Rounding out the Jackrabbit

all-league selections was first-team outfielder Beau Hanowski. A junior from Little Falls, Minn., Hanowski compiled a .339 batting average and .442 on-base percentage while batting in the lead-off spot. He also drove in 16 runs.

League champion Oral Roberts led the way with nine selections, including freshman pitcher Alex Gonzalez, who was named Summit League Newcomer of the Year and Pitcher of the Year in addition to receiving first-team honors. ORU's Rob Walton was named Summit League Coach of the Year, while Southern Utah shortstop Bo Cuthbertson was named Summit League Player of the Year.

The Summit League Baseball Championship, presented by American Airlines, gets under way Thursday with top-seeded Oral Roberts taking on fourth-seeded Western Illinois in a 2 p.m. matinee. Second-seeded SDSU will play third-seeded North Dakota State at 7 p.m. Thursday at Sioux Falls Stadium. The double-elimination tournament is scheduled to wrap up Saturday.

NCAA

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"We have kids who have never been in a national meet experience, so I'm sure it'll be a little eye-opening," Huber said. "But in track, these kids routinely face really tough competition."

According to Huber, USD men's coach Dave Gottsleben got a call from the NCAA at 7 p.m. on Monday with news that someone had withdrawn and that Owens — who was in a tiebreaker with four other vaulters — had made the final list of 48 entries.

By Tuesday morning, Owens, a senior from Pierre who red-shirted last year's outdoor season, was on a plane to Oregon.

Huber said there was a lot of second-guessing going on when Owens hadn't initially qualified, because the tiebreaker relies on

an athlete's second-best jump of the season.

"It just goes to show you that you need to always stay prepared," Huber said. "You never know what can happen."

A number of other USD athletes nearly qualified for regionals, according to Huber. The men's 400-meter relay squad, which set a school record in the Great West Conference Championships, nearly made the cut.

The top 12 in each event from the West Region qualify for the NCAA National Championships, set for June 8-11 in Des Moines, Iowa. The top 12 from each East Region event will also qualify, bringing the total number of participants in each event to 24.

Though based on pre-meet rankings alone, Buell might have the best shot to advance to nationals, Huber maintained that anything can happen.

"There are a lot of factors in a meet like this," he said. "Rank-

ings don't matter. It'll just depend on what the weather is like and how the kids handle the competition."

First-round action begins today (Thursday) at historic Hayward Field at the University of Oregon starting at 10 a.m. (PT) with field events.

Huber said that while Coyote athletes will be facing some of the top competitors in the nation, they're ready to showcase their talents.

"It's a big step, we know that," Huber said, "but like we've been thinking for a while but why not us?"

Vikings, Wolves Reject Coleman's Stadium Ideas

ST. PAUL, Minn. (AP) — The Minnesota Vikings and the Minnesota Timberwolves are saying "no" to St. Paul Mayor Chris Coleman's proposed stadium solution.

Coleman on Wednesday proposed a 2-cent per drink sales tax statewide to finance a new Vikings stadium and resolve other stadium issues. He says his proposal would cover the full

\$550 million public investment for a new Vikings stadium and keep the NFL team in Minneapolis.

But Vikings vice president of public affairs Lester Bagley says, "The Vikings are going to Arden Hills."

A bill to build a \$1.1 billion Vikings stadium in Arden Hills didn't get out of the Minnesota Legislature. Supporters believe it

could still pass in a special legislative session.

Coleman also is proposing moving the Timberwolves to St. Paul and having the NBA team share Xcel Energy Center with the NHL's Minnesota Wild. While the Wild say they're willing to discuss the idea with the Timberwolves, the Wolves say they're happy with their home in Minneapolis.

Splittorff

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Paul." Hall of Fame third baseman George Brett called Splittorff's death a tremendous loss for the community and the team.

"He helped put the Kansas City Royals on the map and was such a great player for so many years," Brett told KMBZ radio. "He wasn't a real boisterous guy in the clubhouse. He just went about his work quietly and let everybody else get the headlines."

Baseball commissioner Bud Selig said Splittorff had represented the Royals "with great class."

"I am deeply saddened by the loss of Paul Splittorff, a lifetime Royal who was beloved by the fans of Kansas City and respected throughout our game," Selig said. "I admired his devotion to his craft for many years, especially when he played a key role in helping the Royals reach their first World Series in 1980."

Splittorff was born in Evansville, Ind., and raised in Arlington Heights, Ill. A two-sport star in baseball and basketball at Morningside College in Iowa, he made his major league debut on Sept. 23, 1970, and soon became a mainstay in the rotation.

His best year was 1973 when he went 20-11, the Royals' first 20-game winner. Splittorff was not a hard thrower but had command of several pitches and always prepared carefully for every outing.

"He really got the most out of

his ability," said Denny Matthews, the Royals' radio broadcaster who called every major league game Splittorff pitched