

Coyotes To Put Sights On Oregon In 2014 Season

Football: \$525K Payday For Game Will Be USD's Highest To Date

BY JEREMY HOECK

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In the land of Nike's 'Just Do It' campaign, the University of South Dakota football program will see next fall if it can do what not many have done: Beat a perennial title contender on its home field.

The Coyotes announced Friday that it will play the University of Oregon on Aug. 30, 2014 in Eugene. The seventh such FBS guarantee game for USD in five seasons will net the visitors a payday of \$525,000, athletic director David Herbster said.

"They're definitely one the premier programs in the country, and it certainly

gets us into an area we wouldn't normally have exposure in," Herbster said. "For our players and our program, it gives you a chance to compete in a top-notch environment like that."

Oregon, a member of the Pac-12 Conference, was 12-1 last season and beat Kansas State in the Fiesta Bowl. The Ducks were ranked No. 2 in the final Associated Press poll — success that ultimately lured head coach Chip Kelly to the NFL.

The Coyotes, meanwhile, are coming off a 1-10 season last fall, the first for head coach Joe Glenn.

The addition of Oregon to USD's future schedules means the Coyotes now have FBS games locked up for the next

three seasons. USD will face Kansas in September, the Ducks in 2014 and Kansas State in 2015.

"We're always in the hunt for games, but it comes down to two sides who need a game and when," Herbster said.

The conversations between the two schools began last fall with previous USD athletic director David Saylor, and was later passed on to Herbster. USD and Oregon officials went back and forth on the contract amount was later set earlier this year, Herbster said.

The \$525,000 check USD will receive is by far the highest payday from an FBS school over its previous six matchups. By comparison, USD will receive between \$420,000-\$425,000 for its game

Sept. 7 at Kansas — about the same amount the Coyotes garnered for its eventual win at Minnesota in 2010.

USD could have waited to schedule an FBS opponent for 2014, but there are risks involved, Herbster said.

"The longer you wait, you run the risk of not finding someone, or someone that is really desperate," he said. "Those are going to your Alabamas or LSUs.

"But we looked at it from the standpoint of, let's not wait, we have a situation that benefits our student-athletes, let's go ahead and do it."

That mutual benefit was important, Glenn said in Friday's release.

"It will be an experience that our players will be able to share with their children and grandchildren," he said. "Financially, it helps out our department

and helps make ends meet."

Did Glenn sound anxious for the challenge?

"Is he excited about it? No. But I wouldn't be either," Herbster said, jokingly. "But he understands it's an opportunity for the student-athletes to participate in something like this."

Herbster alluded to Glenn's upset of Tennessee in 2008 (when he was coaching at Wyoming) and USD's upset of Minnesota in 2010 as proof that yes, anything can happen.

"You're going to take your lumps, but at the end of the day, you have to take your shot."

You can follow Jeremy Hoeck on Twitter at twitter.com/jhoeck

Track & Field | S.D. State Meet

Race To The Finish Begins

B: Parker Leads, Cougars In The Hunt

BY JEREMY HOECK

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SIOUX FALLS — Duane Jongeling saved perhaps his widest smile and most intense celebration for his final individual distance race.

And his performance helped Parker to the Class B boys' team lead by 3.5 points after day one Friday at the South Dakota State Track Meet at Howard Wood Field in Sioux Falls.

Jongeling, a senior, won the boys' 3200-meter run in a time of 9:48.34, finally edging his rival Jase Kraft of Wessington Springs. Kraft, a junior, had beaten Jongeling in the 3200 each of the previous three years.

This year, Jongeling flipped the script.

"This one felt really good," he said. "Being able to hold off Jase for once was my goal. It's always been him and then me in the 2-mile the last three years."

Jongeling, a South Dakota State recruit, celebrated in his usual style. He waved at the Howard Wood crowd as he approached the finish line and later kissed the track.

Earlier the day, Parker's distance group won the 3200-meter relay in a time of 8:29.26. The Pheasants also got points from junior Michael Olson, who took third in the 800.

Tristen Erickson (fifth) and Zack Anderson (tied-seventh) added to Parker's day one total with their performances in the high jump.

Parker leads Herreid-Selby Area 33.5-30 in the team race, followed by defending champion Viborg-Hurley (17).

"I'm actually surprised we're in the lead right now, but I think we'll still do OK," Jongeling said. "We don't have field events and sprints like the other teams do, but third or fourth is possible."

Viborg-Hurley, meanwhile, is looking to repeat last year's championship performance.

The Cougars were led Friday by senior Tyler Gerdes, who won the long jump (21-feet-2) and later took fourth in the triple jump (40-6.25).

My goal was to win both, but I loved winning the long jump twice in a row. I'll take that," Gerdes said. "It was nice to have Shaun Becker (of Freeman) finish second. We're best friends."

Viborg-Hurley also advanced Trevor Jacobsen and Tyler Novak to the finals of the 100- and 200-meter dashes. The Cougars also moved on to the finals of the 400 and 800 relays — both with the top time.

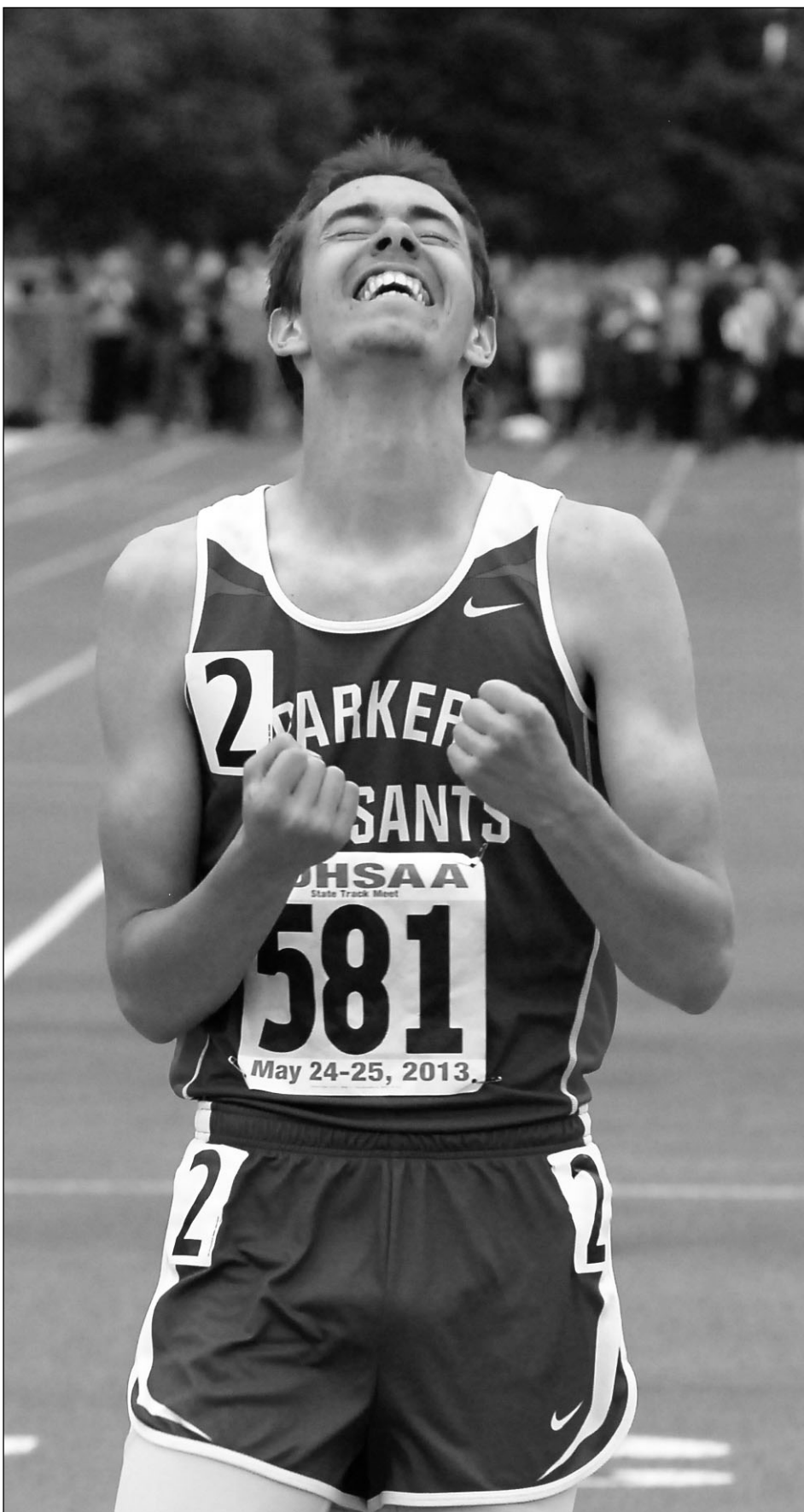
"Trevor and Tyler should do pretty well in the sprints, and our relays are looking great," Gerdes said. "I'm feeling good about where we sit."

"It's going to be close, though, just like last year."

Irene-Wakonda, last year's runner-up sits in sixth place after day one with 14.5 points.

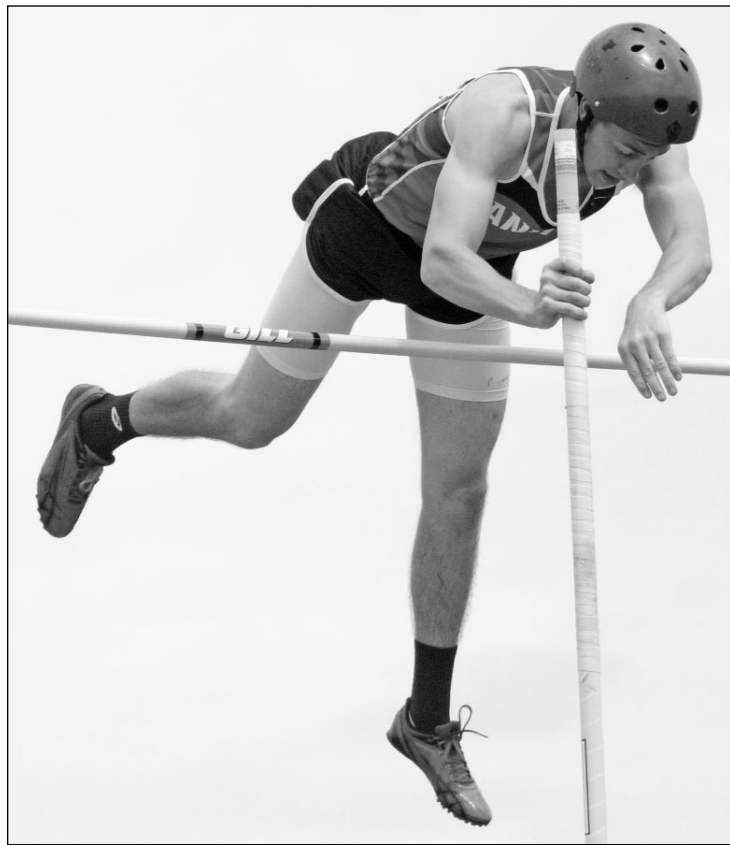
Senior Dustin Livingston accounted for eight of those points Friday with his second-place finish in the pole vault at 12-6. He tied Cooper Schaeffbauer of Herreid-Selby Area but had more misses.

"It's bittersweet, but it's still really good," said Livingston, who has finished second in the pole vault three straight years. "It's kind of



Parker's Duane Jongeling celebrates after winning the boys' 3200-meter run Friday at the South Dakota State B Track Meet at Howard Wood Field in Sioux Falls. Jongeling also helped the Pheasants to victory in the 3200 relay, putting the squad in first place after the opening day of competition. Defending champion Viborg-Hurley is in third.

JEREMY HOECK/P&D



JAMES D. CIMBUREK/P&D

Yankton's Casey Skillingstad competes in the boys' pole vault at the S.D. State Class AA Track and Field Meet on Friday in Brandon. Skillingstad cleared 13 feet on his first attempt to place fifth. Teammate James Hofer placed seventh, also clearing 13 feet.

AA: Fast Start To Day Puts YHS On The Board

BY JAMES D. CIMBUREK

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BRANDON — Going into Friday's opening day of competition in the S.D. State Class AA Track and Field Meet, Yankton coach Luke Youmans said that his team needed to have a strong first day to set up the potential for some point opportunities on the final day.

On a day where the only thing that disrupted the Bucks and Gazelles was the weather, they did just that.

Yankton snuck several finalists and places where the pre-meet seeds said it shouldn't, giving the young YHS squad optimism going into today's (Saturday) final session at Sioux Falls' Howard Wood Field.

"Especially at the beginning of the meet, we started off pretty hot," Youmans said. "Through the course of the day, we had some good, some bad."

Weather twice disrupted the preliminary event at the Brandon Valley High School track on Friday, but not even that could derail a good day for the Bucks and Gazelles.

The Gazelles got things going on both the track and in the shot put ring early in the day on their way to 21 1/2 points through the opening events of the meet.

In the shot put, senior Clara Schild ended her career with a fourth place finish (38-5 1/2), while junior Allie Murphy earned a spot on the awards stand with an eighth place toss of 36-1 1/4. Freshman Adrienne Kusek just missed the finals, placing tenth (34-8).

"That was a great thing for us," Youmans said of the throwers. "We had three jump up in place, and we get two of them back. We'll lose Clara Schild, an (Eastern South Dakota Conference) champ, but we get two of the three back."

"If they continue to improve like they did the second half of this season, they're going to do very well."

Schild finishes her YHS career with her first state meet medal.

"I'm very happy," she said. "It was a good way to end my high school career."

Murphy had the top throw in the first flight, and waited anxiously as the second flight com-



JAMES D. CIMBUREK/P&D

Yankton senior Clara Schild fires the shot put during prelims of the girls' event at the S.D. State Class AA Track and Field Meet on Friday in Brandon. Schild placed fourth in the meet with a toss of 38-5 1/2, while teammate Allie Murphy finished eighth with a toss of 36-1 1/4.

menced. She finished ninth a year ago, just missing finals.

"I usually don't get nervous, but today I did," she said. "Usually I do my own thing, focus on what I'm doing."

After the prelims, both Murphy and Schild had time to kill, as the first weather delay of the game hit right as finals were getting ready to start.

"We had to stay in the (team) tent for a while," Schild said. "We tried to stay loose, then we were able to get out and warm up."

With a state meet medal under her belt, Murphy is even more pumped for her senior season.

"I'm really excited," she said. "I think I can finish a lot better next year."

On the other side of the grandstand, Yankton senior Kelsey Fitzgerald started her final state meet by tying for fifth in the high jump, clearing 5-1. Later in the day, she finished 18th in the long

Class A Competition Begins In Lennox

BY EMILY NIEBRUGGE

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LENNOX — Madison and Custer sit in first place after the first day of the State A track meet held in Lennox Friday.

In the girls' division, Madison stands in first place with 40 points, followed by Spearfish in second (27 points) and Tri-Valley in third (22). Beresford is tied for 17th with three points, followed by Vermillion in 20th with two points.

Custer stands in first place with 46 points, with Madison in second (34) and Dell Rapids in third (26). Wagner, Ethan-Parkston and Dakota Valley sit in 10th with eight points, while Beresford sits 23rd with one point.

Local athletes were just happy to be able to compete, Vermillion's Austin Krier said.

"We all put in long hours during practice every single day after school, where we'll go an hour to two hours just pushing ourselves to make sure we're ready for this," he said. "The thing we all look forward to the most as a team is the

competition. You get to run against the best teams in the state and even though people run great times during the regular season, everybody gets better and runs crazy times they've never run before at state."

Keely Bertram of Elk Point-Jefferson took third in the 200M dash in a time of 26.2 and seventh in the 200M dash. Dakota Valley placed first in the 1600M sprint and sixth in the 4x200M relay, while Elk Point Jefferson took third in the 1600M sprint.

For junior Blake Perryman of Dakota Valley, it was good to see his team finish well on the day he said.

"Finishing ninth as a team is a really good feeling being because I like watching people achieve at things they like to do," he said. "I really enjoy seeing my teammates do that well. They're great people and I like seeing their hard work pay off."

For field events Mackenzie Huber of Vermillion placed fourth



EMILY NIEBRUGGE/P&D

Maddie Lavin of Vermillion, center, takes off for the 3200-meter run final during the State A track meet in Lennox. Lavin, a seventh grader, finished seventh in the race.

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