

Track & Field | Nebraska State Meet

Crofton Claims 'C' Crown

BY JEREMY HOECK
jeremy.hoeck@yankton.net

OMAHA, Neb. — It was only fitting that the 2013-14 school year closed with the Crofton girls holding a state championship trophy.

The Lady Warriors won a state title in cross country last fall (their eighth in a row), won a state title in basketball (their third in a row), and Saturday captured a state title in track.

That third accomplishment, though, was a tad surprising, according to junior Maria Wortmann.

Crofton used a pair of relay titles and top-5 finishes in four other events to secure the Class C girls' crown at the Nebraska State Track Meet, which concluded on Saturday in Omaha.

"We didn't expect to come down here and do this; no way," Wortmann said. "We thought maybe next year."

"That was one of our goals, that we'd probably be close this year, but next year we

could try for a title." Instead, Crofton accomplished that goal this year. It was the girls' first track title since 2007, when the Lady Warriors won their fourth in a row.

Doing so this year, however, required a little bit of the underdog mentality, according to assistant coach Gail Peterson.

"A lot of teams didn't expect it," said Peterson, a member of the Nebraska High School Sports Hall of Fame. "We had a district where it was cold and windy, and we brought our times by so much."

"It shows what a lot of desire and hard work can do for you."

Crofton scored 47 points, which was enough to beat defending champion Kearney Catholic by 13 points.

The Lady Warriors shocked many by winning the 3200-meter relay on Friday, and added a first-place clock-



The Crofton Lady Warriors hold their Class C championship trophy following Saturday's final day of action at the Nebraska State Track Meet in Omaha. Team members include (from left) Allison Arens, Quinn Wragge, Maria Wortmann, Kelsey Sanger, Monica Arens and Alex Allen.

JEREMY HOECK/P&D

CLASS C | PAGE 15

Class D: Hegge Vaults Vikings To Fourth

Hartington Boys Place 3rd

BY JEREMY HOECK
jeremy.hoeck@yankton.net

OMAHA, Neb. — One year ago, the Wausa boys scored six points at the Nebraska State Track Meet.

Austin Hegge single-handedly shot the Vikings up the standings this year.

Hegge, a junior, put together a weekend for the ages, winning three individual titles and taking second in another event at the state meet that concluded Saturday in Omaha.

"This exceeded my expectations," he said Saturday afternoon. "I was hoping for two firsts and two thirds, but this went well."

After taking second place in the triple jump (43-feet-5.5) on Friday, Hegge captured titles Saturday in the 100-meter dash (11.34), 200-meter dash (22.81) and long jump (21-4.75).

Together, he accounted for all 38 of Wausa's team points on the weekend.

"It's been a great day," Hegge said. "I wanted to bring home something."

Defending champion Hartington and Wausa finished 3-4, respectively, in the Class D team race. Falls City Sacred Heart was the champion with 49.5 points, with Sterling (44) second.

Hegge's Saturday began, knowing he would have to pick up his pace in the 100 finals if he was going to have a chance at first place.

Instead, he clocked a 11.34 in the finals, which was actually slower than his prelims clocking. Yet it was still good enough for a title.

"I thought I'd have to run a lot faster than that," Hegge said after the race. "I wasn't expecting that at all."

That performance, perhaps more than any other, proved just how far Hegge had come in one year.

He had started running the 100 halfway through the season after realizing Wausa's 400-meter relay squad would have a good chance to qualify for state.

"I asked the coaches if I could try it, and they said, 'Go for it,'" Hegge said.

Shortly after wrapping the long jump title and before taking the blocks for the 200, Hegge said his lower back started hurting. It was nothing new for him — he had dealt with it all season.

"The ibuprofen wore off," he joked after winning the 200.

Other Class D

The Hartington Wildcats, last year's Class D boys' team champion, scored 40 points — all coming on the track.

CLASS D | PAGE 8



Wausa's Austin Hegge competes in the Class D boys' long jump on Saturday at the Nebraska State Track Meet in Omaha. Hegge won the event, along with titles in the 100-meter dash and 200-meter dash.

JEREMY HOECK/P&D

Bucks Finish Eleventh At State Tennis

RAPID CITY — The Yankton Bucks scored two fifth place finishes and three consolation titles to close out the South Dakota State Boys' Tennis Tournament, which concluded on Saturday in Rapid City.

The Bucks finished 11th as a team with 192 points. Sioux Falls Lincoln won the event with 696 points.

Brandon Frick earned a fifth place finish at flight five singles, beating Watertown's Seth Schamens 10-3. Hunter Rockne bounced Roosevelt's Spencer Smith 10-2 for fifth at flight six singles.

Jason Shindler secured the flight two singles consolation title with a 10-1 rout of Roosevelt's Josh Jackson. Greg Hauer earned the flight three singles consolation title with a 10-5 victory over Watertown's Matt Gauger.

Hauer and Paul Fanta earned the consolation title at flight two doubles, beating Pierre's Adam and Patrick Bollinger 10-3.

Shindler and Luke Rockne dropped a 10-3 decision to Brandon Valley's Bill Trevelyan and Nathan Mutschelknaus in the consolation final at flight one doubles.

Frick, Hauer and Ben Jensen graduate from the Bucks.

Junior College Guard Commits To Coyote Men

BY JEREMY HOECK
jeremy.hoeck@yankton.net

Yet another previous recruiting connection has landed the University of South Dakota men's basketball team a recruit for the 2014-15 season.

Sekou Harris, a 6-foot point guard from South Plains College in Texas, told the Press & Dakotan on Sunday that he committed to USD the previous night.

Harris, a native of Plainfield, New Jersey, said he had originally been recruited by USD head coach Craig Smith while Smith was an assistant at Colorado State. Shortly after Smith was hired at USD in April, Harris' phone rang.

"They want me to be that leader and try to win games and get to the (NCAA) tournament," Harris said. "I'm very competitive; I don't like to lose."

Harris, who said he will sign his letter of intent on Tuesday, will become the fourth 2014-15 addition for the Coyotes. He will join fellow transfer Tre Burnette (Williston State), as well as incoming freshmen Logan Power (Lincoln, Neb.) and Dejon Davis (Bloomington, Minn.).

USD hasn't officially announced

COYOTES | PAGE 9



Yankton Spitfire third baseman Allison Sexton fires to first base after forcing a Dakota Fury baserunner at third during the first game of their softball doubleheader on Monday at Riverside Park.

JAMES D. CIMBUREK/P&D

SCL: Bluebirds Bounce Lesterville 11-7



Tabor shortstop Jason Humpal fires the ball to first base during the Bluebirds' home South Central League amateur baseball game with Lesterville on Sunday.

JAMES D. CIMBUREK/P&D

TABOR — The Tabor Bluebirds used a seven-run fifth inning to bounce Lesterville 11-7 in South Central League amateur baseball action on Sunday.

Jason Humpal doubled and singled, and Nate Kloucek, Doug Vanecek and Chris Sutera had two hits each for Tabor.

Cody Ulmer had two doubles and a single to lead Lesterville. Cameron Schiltz and Andy Gall each had two hits for the Broncs.

Nate Kloucek picked up the win, with Blase Vanecek pitching the final 3 2/3 innings for the long-relief save. Alex Wagner suffered the loss in relief.

Tabor, 4-0 overall and 3-0 in SCL play, travels to Irene on Thursday. Lesterville, 0-3 in league play, hosts Menno on Friday.

LESTERVILLE.....020 101 120 — 7 11 6
TABOR.....110 072 00X — 11 11 1
Tyler Edler, Alex Wagner (5) and Zach Johnson; Nate Kloucek, Blase Vanecek (6) and Wes Kloucek

Yankton 8, Menno 6

MENNO — Yankton twice broke ties late in the game to claim an 8-6 victory over Menno in South Central League amateur baseball action on Sunday.

With the game tied at five, each team scored a run in the eighth. Yankton scored two in the ninth on a Heath Arens double for the victory.

Derrick Nelson doubled and singled, and Jason Miller and Devin Gullikson had two hits each for Yankton.

Tom Sattler had three hits to lead Menno. Ryan Liebl doubled and singled for the Mad Frogs.

Josh Teichroew pitched three innings in relief for the win. Jake Broscha pitched a scoreless ninth for the save. Jay Thaler went the distance in the loss.

Yankton, 2-1 in SCL play, hosts Wynot on Thursday. Menno, 0-3 in league play, travels to Lesterville on Friday.

YANKTON.....103 001 012 — 8 12 2
MENNO.....202 100 010 — 6 9 2
Mike Janish, Josh Teichroew (6), Jake Broscha (9) and Kory Bromley, Jay Thaler and Tate Bruckner

Wynot 11, Freeman 4

WYNOT, Neb. — Wynot jumped out to a 6-0 lead and held on for an 11-4 victory over Freeman in South Central League amateur baseball action on Sunday.

Lance Heine had three hits, and Lee Heimes and Scott Heimes each had two hits for Wynot.

Jake Weier had two of Freeman's six hits.

Eric Hames picked up the win. Austin Schmidt took the loss.

Wynot, 2-1 in SCL play, travels to Yankton on Thursday. Freeman travels to Avon on Friday.

FREEMAN.....000 001 102 — 4 6 3
WYNOT.....010 142 03X — 11 14 0
Austin Schmidt, Jake Weier (5) and Derek Wieman; Eric Hames, David Schenk (7), Brett Wiebelhaus (7) and Kyle Wiipen

Irene 10, Scotland 0

SCOTLAND — Irene's George Sees tossed a complete game three-hitter, striking out 12, as the Cardinals blanked

SCL | PAGE 15

Dakota Fury Sweeps Spitfire

The Dakota Fury scored a pair of 2-1 victories over the Yankton Spitfire in girls' softball action on Monday at Riverside Field.

In the opener, the Fury overcame a 12-strikeout performance by Yankton's Jaclyn Arens to win in the second extra inning.

Heather Hauer had a run-scoring single, and Jessica

Wirth, Bailey Kortan and Allison Sexton had hits for Yankton.

In the nightcap, Arens doubled and Liz Suing had a run-scoring single to lead Yankton. Sexton added a hit. Madison Dangler took the loss, striking out six.

Yankton is off until June 7-8 at the Golden Girls Tournament in Norfolk, Nebraska.

Hunter-Reay Gets \$2.4M For Indy Win

INDIANAPOLIS (AP) — Ryan Hunter-Reay's Indianapolis 500 win brought him a \$2.49 million payday.

The Indianapolis Motor Speedway announced the winnings Monday night. Hunter-Reay edged Helio Castroneves by 0.060 seconds Sunday in the second-closest margin of victory in the history of the race. He became the first American to win the Indy 500

since Sam Hornish Jr. in 2006. Castoneves earned more than \$785,000.

Marco Andretti finished third, Carlos Munoz was fourth and Kurt Busch was sixth as Andretti Autosports captured four of the top six positions. Andretti earned \$585,000 and Munoz \$449,000. Busch, named rookie of the year, collected nearly \$424,000.