

J.J.'s Day



Yankton's J.J. Hejna clears 6-8 1/4 inches to break the YHS school record in the high jump after winning the event at the South Dakota State Class AA Track and Field Meet on Friday in Sioux Falls. Hejna also finished second in both the long jump and triple jump, setting personal bests in both of those events as well. His mark of 46-5 3/4 in the triple jump Friday ranks second all-time in YHS history.

JAMES D. CIMBUREK/P&D

Senior Shines For Bucks On Opening Day Of State Meet

BY JAMES D. CIMBUREK
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SIOUX FALLS — J.J. Hejna began the final event of his illustrious Yankton High School career by making his mark.

The senior and future South Dakota State football player set a school record in winning the high jump, set personal bests in runner-up finishes in the long and triple jump on the opening day of the South Dakota State Track meet on Friday at O'Gorman's McEneaney Field.

"It's pretty hard to be upset with any result for him when he puts up his best in every event," Yankton head coach Luke Youmans said of Hejna. "He had an incredible day, a great cap to his senior season on his last big day of high school track."

Hejna cleared 6-8 1/4 in his high jump win, breaking



Yankton's Hailey Luken, center, smiles as she beats Mitchell Ellie Rew, 120, for first place in their heat of the girls' 100-meter hurdles at the S.D. State Class AA Track and Field Meet on Friday at McEneaney Field in Sioux Falls. Luken tied for the top time in prelims, and will compete in the finals today (Saturday).

JAMES D. CIMBUREK/P&D

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Cavs, Tanagers Soar In Class A

BY JEREMY HOECK
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MADISON — One year ago, Nick Jensen was injured and could hardly throw the shot, let alone compete at the state meet.

What a difference one year makes.

Jensen, a senior at Vermillion, won the boys' shot put at Friday's Class A portion of the South Dakota State Track Meet at Trojan Field in Madison.

All year, Jensen had battled with Canton's Tyler Lems, but had come up short. Friday, though, was a different story.

Jensen won with a throw of 53-feet-11.5, a half-inch in front of Lems.

"I knew I could be right there with him, but I never thought about it until now," Jensen said. "But now it feels awesome."



Caitlin McLouth of Bon Homme competes in the Class A girls' long jump on Friday at the S.D. State Track Meet in Madison. McLouth finished second in the event.

JEREMY HOECK/P&D

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Lewis & Clark Baseball Classic Begins

Post 12 Blanks S.F. West In Friday Opener

Play began in Yankton, Vermillion and Crofton, Nebraska, in the Lewis & Clark Wooden Bat Classic on Friday.

Pool play will conclude today (Saturday), with the semifinals and finals set for Sunday at Vermillion's Prentis Park.

Here is a look at the games that were reported to the Press & Dakotan.

Yankton Pool

YANKTON 1, S.F. WEST 0: Colin Muth and Mitch Gullikson combined for a shutout as Yankton blanked Sioux Falls West to open play on Friday.

Muth helped his cause with a pair of hits. Lane Sawatzke scored on a Gullikson double for the game's only run. Sheldon Gant tripled and Landon Withrow doubled in the win.



Yankton Post 12 pitcher Colin Muth pitches against Sioux Falls West Friday at Riverside Field, the opening game of the Lewis & Clark Wooden Bat Classic. Muth and Mitch Gullikson combined for a 1-0 shutout. The tournament continues today (Saturday).

ROB NIELSEN/P&D

Justin Kautz doubled for West.

Muth struck out four batters over six innings for the win. Gullikson earned the save. Austin Serck took the loss.

S.F. WEST 2, OMAHA CENTRAL 1: Sioux Falls West bounced back from an opening loss to beat Omaha Cen-

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Freeman's Dayna Roth, 163, cheers on a teammate as fellow Flyer Hannah Eberts, 151, catches her breath during the Class B girls' 3200-meter relay at the South Dakota State Class B Track Meet on Friday in Sioux Falls. The Flyers finished second.

JORDYNNE HART/P&D

B: Area Athletes Stand Out On Day 1

BY JORDYNNE HART
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SIOUX FALLS — Three seniors from Parker High School ended their careers with a state title in the Class B 4x800 relay today. The heat did not stop these athletes from a victory. Running alongside the seniors was teammate freshman Landon Leberman.

The win was a bitter-sweet one for the four teammates.

"It's exciting, but I am going to miss them," freshman Landon Leberman explained pretending to cry while his teammates laughed and patted him on the back.

Though close at the beginning, the Parker Pheasant's closed out with a time of 8:24.95. Following them was James Valley Christian with 8:30.93 and Sunshine

Bible Academy with 8:34.68. Senior Ryan Olson had total trust in his relay team.

"It was a really tight race for a little while. But I knew that with Michael, Landon and Tristan we were going to win this."

Senior Michael Olson was extremely happy with the relays outcome.

"It was an amazing way to end my career."

In other events, Parker's Michael Olson placed third in the 800 meter run while teammate Zach Anderson placed 5th in the triple jump. Kordell Buyck, Eric Hunstad, Tristen Erickson and Ryan Olson will all move on as preliminary finalist. Parker Pheasants Boys will also compete as a finalist in the 4x200 relay today (Saturday).

The Pheasants ranked third on the opening day

with 24 points, four behind Elkton-Lake Benton in the team standings. Several other area boys scored on the day as well.

Irene-Wakonda's Garrett Anderson finished second in the pole vault, clearing 13 feet. The defending state champion in the 300 hurdles, he also qualified for finals in that event. Scotland's Blake Konstanz (12-0) tied for fifth and Centerville's Tyrell Martz placed eighth (11-6) in the pole vault.

Freeman's Grant Preheim finished second in the triple jump at 42-0 3/4.

In the long jump, Platte-Geddes' Carter Dykstra finished third at 20-3.

Scotland's Dan Stibral placed fifth in the shot put with a toss of 46-11. He also placed seventh in the discus

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