

WAYC Profile: Dutch Archer Enjoys 'Addicting' Sport

BY JEREMY HOECK

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EDITOR'S NOTE: This is another in a series of upcoming Q&As profiling archers who will be coming to Yankton for the World Archery Youth Championships from June 6-14.

Piet van den Berg is used to making long journeys.

The 16-year-old archer from the Netherlands rides his bike eight miles to school every day and eight miles back to his home in Heeswijk-Dinther. And last year for the first time, he flew on a plane, for a tournament in Moscow, Russia.

His flying experience is about ready to take a giant step forward.

In less than a month, van den Berg will be making a much longer journey when he flies to the United States to represent his country at the World Archery Youth Championships.

During a Skype interview Wednesday with the Press & Dakotan, he said his favorite part of archery is the opportunity to meet new people. "It's not really like soccer or swimming, because in between you can talk to people and make friends."

One of five Dutchers set to compete in the Youth Championships, van den Berg will participate in the Recurve Cadet Men division.

P&D: What's a normal day like for you?

van den Berg: I get up at 6:30 and prepare for school, and

by 7:30 I have to go to school. There is 50 minutes of cycling to school; I think it's about eight miles. And I try to shoot every day, but it's not always as easy because there are other things than archery.

Why do you like to shoot?

The thrill of shooting when you manage to hit the 10-ring is amazing.

It's an addicting sport, isn't it?

Yeah, it's really addicting. The feeling you get when you hit the target, you want to hit it again and keep shooting.

What do you like most about it?

It's a very social sport. It's not really like soccer or swimming,

because in between you can talk to people and make friends. That's a great aspect in sports.

Have you made some friends at the different tournaments?

Mostly in countries nearby, like Germany, Belgium and the UK. It's easy to communicate with them, because they sound a bit like me (laughs).

Is archery a big sport in the Netherlands?

We have around 17 million people (in the country), and we have 10,000 members in the federation. The movies over the past years, like Hunger Games, had a big influence on kids, so they wanted to shoot too.



COURTESY PHOTO

Piet van den Berg, pictured here during a tournament last year, is a 16-year-old archer from the Netherlands and will be traveling to Yankton next month for the World Archery Youth Championships.

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LeBron Lifts Softball | Summit League Tournament

Cavs Past Bulls 106-91

CLEVELAND (AP) — LeBron James attacked from the start and scored 33 points, Kyrie Irving added 21 and the Cleveland Cavaliers evened their semifinal series with Chicago with a 106-91 victory over the Bulls in Game 2 on Wednesday night.

Donning his signature headband for the first time in two months and powering to the basket, James kept the Cavs from falling into a 2-0 hole. He added eight rebounds and five assists for Cleveland, which led by 25 in the third quarter and withstood a third-quarter charge by the Bulls.

For the second straight game, the Cavs were without forward Kevin Love (shoulder surgery) and J.R. Smith (two-game suspension). But they had James and he was more like himself after a sub-par performance in the opener.

"We're a little banged up, we're short-handed, so I have to be aggressive," James said. "Even more aggressive than my usual self, and I was happy I was able to make a couple of plays to help our team win tonight."

Jimmy Butler scored 18 and Derrick Rose had 14 points and 10 assists for the Bulls, who host Game 3 on Friday night. Pau Gasol added 11 points — 10 fewer than Game 1, when he destroyed the Cavs on uncontested jumpers.

Iman Shumpert added 15 points, James Jones made five 3-pointers and Tristan Thompson added 12 rebounds for Cleveland. Thompson started at power forward in Love's spot, allowing James to move back to his usual role at small forward. On the perimeter is where James is most dangerous and he made it clear from the outset that he wasn't going to stand around and wait for the game to come to him.

The Bulls used a 14-0 run to get within 11 in the third, but Jones hit consecutive 3s and James scored twice near the basket to put Cleveland up by 16 going into the fourth.

James arrived at Quicken Loans Arena at around 4 p.m., three hours before tip-off. As if there needed to be another sign of the game's importance to Cleveland this was it, as the superstar typically gets to the arena for a home

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USD Ready For Showdown



P&D FILE PHOTO

South Dakota's Allie Daly celebrates a home run by a teammate during a home victory earlier this season. Daly, a first-team all-league selection at catcher, and the Coyotes open play in the Summit League Tournament on Friday. The event was originally scheduled to begin on Wednesday, but was pushed back due to rain. USD will play the IUPUI-Fort Wayne winner on Friday at 2:30 p.m.

BY JEREMY HOECK

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Once again, the road out of the Summit League to the NCAA Division I Softball Tournament travels through Fargo, North Dakota.

That's the home of North Dakota State, whose softball program boasts one of the nation's best pitchers, a sparkling non-conference record, and is looking for a sixth conference championship in seven years.

The top-seeded Bison bring a 40-9 record — with seven of those wins coming against Big Ten teams — into the Summit League tournament, which will begin (today) and continues through Saturday.

In short: It may seem like a daunting task to take down the Bison, according to University of South Dakota senior outfielder Katie Dinning.

"When we get ahead of ourselves, that's when things can start to fall apart," Dinning said of USD, which will play Friday at 2:30 p.m. against the winner of Fort Wayne and IUPUI.

The good news for the second-seeded Coyotes (26-23-1)?

Since winning one game in

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Tanagers Win Eighth Straight

VERMILLION — Vermillion rallied from a 4-0 deficit to claim a 6-5 victory over Beresford-Centerville in club high school baseball on Wednesday at Prentis Park.

Hunter Christopherson doubled and singled, and Joe Miller had two hits to lead Vermillion. Carter Kratz doubled, and Jack Brown, Travis Weber and Cole Anderson added hits in the victory.

Chris Kropuenske had a double and two RBI to lead Beresford-Centerville. Oliver Doeden, Hunter Ingwerson, A.J. Schmidt and Peter Gruz added hits in the effort.

Jacob Odens struck out four in a complete game effort to pick up the win. Logan Busch took the loss, giving up two earned runs in four innings of work while striking out four.

Vermillion, 8-2 and winners of eight straight, hosts Bon Homme-Scotland on Friday. Beresford, 8-3 after having its five-game win streak snapped, travels to Elk Point-Jefferson on Friday.

9/10: Yankton 18-4,

Harrisburg 3-3

HARRISBURG — The Yankton Bucks extended their win streak to eight games with a doubleheader sweep of Harrisburg in freshmen-sophomore baseball action on Tuesday.

In the opener, an 18-3 rout of the Tigers, Caid Koltzky went 4-5 and Oakley Palmer went 3-4 with four RBI to lead Yankton. Carter Peterson added two hits and two walks in the victory. Trey Bakke picked up the win on the mound.

In the nightcap, a 4-3 decision, Koltzky and Miles Carda scored runs, and Ben Wold walked twice to lead Yankton. Jack Schoenfelder picked up the win, with Jackson Somsen earning the save.

The Bucks finish their season this weekend, playing in the Ken Tomek Memorial Tournament in Sioux Falls. Yankton opens play in the event against Sioux Falls Roosevelt on Friday at 7 p.m., and against Sioux Falls O'Gorman on Saturday at 10 a.m.

UND Releases List Of Nearly 1,200 Potential New Nicknames

BISMARCK, N.D. (AP) — From "Amber Waves" to "Zombies," the list of potential new nicknames for University of North Dakota athletic teams ranges from the sublime to the ridiculous.

UND released a list of nearly 1,200 potential new nicknames Monday night, from which a committee will make a short list of finalists that will go to a public vote, likely sometime this year, school spokesman Peter Johnson said Tuesday.

State residents voted overwhelmingly in 2012 to dump UND's "Fighting Sioux" nickname, which had been in place since the 1930s. The NCAA considered it hostile and abusive, and it failed to get the endorsement of one of the state's two namesake tribes. The state Legislature put a moratorium on replacing the nickname until this year.

Among the more popular nickname suggestions were "North Dakota" — essentially no nickname at all — and "Flickertails," the name of a ground squirrel. Many proposals also retained the word "Fighting," including the "Fighting Farmers" and other monikers with Norwegian

or aviation themes. UND's flight school is considered one of the best in the nation.

Among the more humorous suggestions were the "Barn Cats," "Flying Monkeys" and "Sugar Beatles." And an apparent fan of the rival North Dakota State University Bison apparently thought "Baby Bison" would be fitting.

The school also released names that had been excluded because they were profane, their domain names weren't available or they would have conflicted with NCAA policy. Johnson said releasing the profane names might elicit complaints, but the school wanted the process to be as transparent as possible.

Among the excluded names were those with American Indian-themes and "Fighting Sue," a homophonic play on the old nickname.

"Roughriders" and "Rough Riders" were popular suggestions that were excluded for reasons that weren't immediately clear. Both were meant to highlight the state's links to President Theodore Roosevelt, who ranched in the North

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Baseball: MMC's Griffith Named Second-Team All-GPAC

Six Lancers Earn HM Nods, Two Named To Gold Glove Team

BY JAMES D. CIMBUREK

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Despite winning 30 games and tying for third in the Great Plains Athletic Conference regular season standings, the Mount Marty College baseball team was awarded just one second-team selection and six honorable mention selections when the league announced its post-season honors on Wednesday.

It marked the first time since 2008 that the Lancers did not have a first-team all-GPAC selection in baseball.

"It was an offensive year in the GPAC," said MMC head baseball coach Andy Bernatow. "We had guys that had good years but, when you have just one guy taken at some positions, it's difficult to get in there."

"We had a good year and graduate a lot of good seniors."

Senior pitcher A.J. Griffith was named to the second team. Seniors Derek Nelson (shortstop), Zac Hollenback (outfield), Bryton Carlson (designated hitter), Derek Blumenstock (outfield), Nick Sehr (catcher) and junior reliever Josh Teichroew were each named hon-

orable mention honorees.

Hollenback and senior pitcher Brandon Nickolite were each named to the GPAC Gold Glove Team at their respective positions.

Griffith led the GPAC in earned run average, boasting a 2.72 ERA. He finished with a 6-3 record, striking out 41 and walking just eight in 56 1/3 innings of work.

"A.J. had a great year. He had three straight conference starts without allowing an earned run," Bernatow said. "He not only led our staff on the field, but behind the scenes."

Griffith credits Sehr, who was also hurt much of last season, with much of his success.

"A lot of it was Nick," he said. "He's grown in terms of calling a game, and we just clicked this year. He called great games every time that I threw."

Having a second chance at a senior season was also a motivator.

"The big thing was trying to stay healthy and do all I could do for the team," he said. "It was all about trying to win the conference tournament, working hard and staying healthy."

"I was just glad I got the chance to come back and play another year."

For his career, Griffith went 12-12 with a 3.83 ERA and 114 strikeouts in 162 1/3 innings of work. He also collected two saves, both in 2013.

Nelson was honored for the third time by the GPAC, having earned second team honors a year ago and first-team accolades as a freshman. He posted a team-best .346 batting average with one home run and 24 RBI.

"He put together a quality season. He did a good job defensively, and made a lot of great plays," Bernatow said. Nelson posted a .935 fielding percentage this season. "And he did it all while playing injured."

Nelson played in 165 career games, batting .349 with six home runs and 79 RBI. As a pitcher, mostly early in his career, he recorded 15 appearances, going 2-3 with a 6.80 ERA.

Hollenback was also honored for a third time, having earned honorable mention honors last year and first-team honors two years ago. He batted .308



P&D FILE PHOTO

Mount Marty senior pitcher A.J. Griffith sends the ball home during a game earlier this season. He was named second-team all-GPAC as the league announced its post-season honors on Wednesday.

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