

PRESS & DAKOTAN

DAILY DOSE

Opinions from the P&D Sports Staff on local and national high school, college and pro sports.



BY JEREMY HOECK
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Yankton Is Fortunate To Have The WAYC

Sioux Falls will never have this. Rapid City will never have this. Omaha won't have this. Lincoln won't have this. Minneapolis won't have this. Kansas City won't have this. No, not even Chicago. But Yankton will.

What am I talking about? The upcoming World Archery Youth Championships (WAYC), which begin in just over a week in Yankton. Youth archers — ages 15-20 — from 50 countries will converge on our small town on the prairie for an event that could easily be billed as the most diverse in South Dakota history.

(What other athletic, political, etc., event would attract this kind of a crowd?) Last summer's international archery tournament in Yankton was only a sample of what we can all expect for nearly two weeks. The actual number of WAYC archers (probably under 400) won't exactly stagger you, but when you add in all the coaches, trainers, officials and other World Archery support

staff, not to mention any family members who make the trip, we're probably talking 1,000 people in total arriving in Yankton. And not just for a weekend, but for a full week.

Are you ready, Yankton?

Very rarely, if ever, in this town do we experience other cultures. Be honest, when's the last time you met anyone from Russia? Or Hungary? Or Cuba? Or South Africa?

Discounting the numbers altogether, the World Archery Youth Championship is a unique event for Yankton and for the surrounding area because of exactly those kinds of cultures. It's an opportunity to meet someone new. To learn their language. To learn their customs. To listen to their stories. To hear them rave about our wide open spaces. To hear how impressed they are with our trucks (had just such a conversation last summer). And, if we're lucky, to talk to them about OUR culture. The way we live our lives.

You don't have to be a fan of archery to appreciate what we have coming our way. This will literally be a once-in-a-lifetime experience. I encourage you to embrace the opportunity. Trust me, you won't regret it. And you'll never forget it.

Mount Marty Baseball Signs Hartington's Steffen



Steffen

Mitchell Steffen, a recent graduate of Hartington Cedar Catholic (Nebraska) High School, will attend Mount Marty College and play baseball for the Lancers, the institution announced Thursday.

The Lancers plan to have Steffen join the team as a catcher. Steffen has been a member of the Hartington American Legion baseball program and during his playing time in the Hartington baseball program he has been coached by Tim Loberg, Robb Koerting, Cale Haberer, and Bob Wiebelhaus.

Last summer Mitchell had a quality season batting .358 while scoring 24 runs and stealing 20 bases. For his efforts Steffen was selected twice as Elkhorn Valley League All-Star and last summer he helped guide the Hartington Legion team to a 2014 Elkhorn Valley League Runner-up finish. As a multi-sport athlete, Steffen also lettered three times in football and twice in track

for Hartington Cedar Catholic.

"I am excited for Mitchell to join the program. It is always a good feeling to have talent from the area choose to continue their athletic and academic endeavors at Mount Marty," MMC head coach Andy Bernatow said. "During the recruitment process I became very impressed with Mitchell as he is a highly involved young man athletically, academically and has a strong sense with his faith. Mitchell will be a great fit for the baseball program and campus community."

"Athletically, we are very intrigued by him and our coaching staff is currently making speed a priority and his past history as a track athlete should help."

During his high school career Steffen was involved with Peer Ministry, Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion, and umpired youth baseball. Academically he was also a member of the Honor Roll.

Steffen will major in nursing at Mount Marty College. The son of Alan and JoAnn, Mitchell is the recipient of a Mount Marty College Academic Honor Scholarship for his academic achievement and Catholic Leadership Award in addition to his baseball scholarship.

MMC Softball Adds Gregory Infielder

Mount Marty College announced Thursday the athletic signing of Gregory High School student athlete Briana Leber to the Lancer softball program for the 2015-16 softball season.

Leber is an infielder that was a dual athlete at Gregory High School. She was a four year Honor roll member, two year National Honor Society member and a 2014 South Dakota Girls State participant.

"I am excited to have Briana join our softball program next fall," Mount Marty head coach Albert Fernandez said. "We believe Briana has a good work ethic which is what we look for in players. She is a good student and has many good intangibles. She is a great fit with our team and the Mount Marty College community."

The daughter of Jeff and Beth Leber of Colome, Briana will be a nursing major at MMC. In addition to her softball award Leber will be receiving an Academic Achievement Scholarship.

ceiving an Academic Achievement Scholarship.

SDSU Announces Football Kickoff Times

BROOKINGS — Four of South Dakota State's six home football games during the 2015 season will be played under the lights, in what will be the final season at Coughlin-Alumni Stadium.

The Jackrabbits, who finished the 2014 campaign with a 9-5 overall record and made their third consecutive appearance in the Football Championship Subdivision playoffs, open the home slate with a 6 p.m. game Sept. 12 against Southern Utah in the Dairy Drive game.

Following its lone bye week of the season, SDSU continues home action Sept. 26 with its first-ever meeting against Robert Morris (Pa.) in the 49th Annual Beef Bowl. The game will kick off at 5 p.m.

All four home games against Missouri Valley Football Conference opponents will feature contests against fellow FCS playoff qualifiers from a year ago. The league slate kicks off against defending national champion North Dakota State on Oct. 3 in the annual Battle for the Dakota Marker. Kickoff is set for 6 p.m.

The final night game of the season is scheduled for 6 p.m. on Oct. 10, when the Jackrabbits host Indiana State.

Each of the Jackrabbits' last two home games is scheduled for a 2 p.m. kickoff. SDSU resumes home action Oct. 24 by facing Northern Iowa on Hobo Day, with the Nov. 7 contest against Illinois State designated as the Coughlin-Alumni Stadium Farewell.

Season tickets remain available for the 2015 season by logging on to JackrabbitTickets.com, or by calling 1-866-GO JACKS.

Yankton Jackrabbit Club Golf Outing June 3

Many of the South Dakota State coaches will be in attendance for the Yankton Jackrabbit Club annual golf outing, set for June 3 at 1 p.m.

Football coach John Stiegelmeier, along with men's basketball coach Scott Nagy and his assistants will be there, as will golf coaches Casey Van Damme and Dean Ellis. Assistant athletic director Leon Costello will also be participating.

If you haven't registered your team, email steny926@gmail.com ASAP. Golfing will begin at 1 p.m., followed by a dinner at 5:45 p.m.

SCOREBOARD

BASEBALL AMERICAN LEAGUE					BASEBALL NATIONAL LEAGUE				
East Division					West Division				
W	L	Pct	GB		W	L	Pct	GB	
New York	25	22	.532	—	Los Angeles	28	18	.609	—
Tampa Bay	24	24	.500	1 1/2	San Francisco	28	20	.583	1
Baltimore	22	27	.449	4	San Diego	23	25	.479	6
Toronto	21	26	.447	4	Arizona	21	25	.457	7
Boston	21	26	.447	4	Colorado	19	26	.422	8 1/2
Central Division					West Division				
W	L	Pct	GB		W	L	Pct	GB	
Kansas City	28	18	.609	—	Pittsburgh	24	22	.522	6 1/2
Minnesota	28	18	.609	—	Cincinnati	19	27	.413	11 1/2
Detroit	28	20	.583	1	Milwaukee	16	32	.333	15 1/2
Chicago	21	25	.457	7	Friday's Games				
Cleveland	21	25	.457	7	Kansas City (Volquez 4-3) at Chicago Cubs (Arrieta 4-4), 3:05 p.m.				
West Division					Tampa Bay (Karns 3-2) at Baltimore (M. Gonzalez 5-3), 8:05 p.m.				
W	L	Pct	GB		Friday's Games				
Houston	30	18	.625	—	Chicago White Sox (Rondon 1-0) at Houston (McCullers 1-0), 7:10 p.m.				
Seattle	23	23	.500	6	Toronto (Buehrle 5-4) at Minnesota (May 3-3), 7:10 p.m.				
Los Angeles	23	24	.489	6 1/2	Detroit (An.Sanchez 3-5) at L.A. Angels (Santiago 3-3), 9:05 p.m.				
Texas	23	24	.489	6 1/2	N.Y. Yankees (Capuano 0-2) at Oakland (Bauer 4-1) at Seattle (T.Walker 1-5), 9:10 p.m.				
Oakland	17	32	.347	13 1/2	Saturday's Games				
Wednesday's Games					Toronto at Minnesota, 1:10 p.m.				
Cleveland 12, Texas 3					Chicago White Sox at Houston, 3:10 p.m.				
Chicago White Sox 5, Toronto 3, 10 innings					Boston at Texas, 6:15 p.m.				
N.Y. Yankees 4, Kansas City 2					Kansas City at Chicago Cubs, 6:15 p.m.				
Minnesota 6, Boston 4					Detroit at L.A. Angels, 9:05 p.m.				
Seattle 3, Tampa Bay 0					N.Y. Yankees at Oakland, 9:05 p.m.				
Detroit 3, Oakland 2					Cleveland at Seattle, 9:10 p.m.				
Baltimore 5, Houston 4					Friday's Games				
San Diego 5, L.A. Angels 4					Pittsburgh at San Diego, 10:10 p.m.				
Thursday's Games					Atlanta at San Francisco, 10:15 p.m.				
1st game					Kansas City (Volquez 4-3) at Chicago Cubs (Arrieta 4-4), 3:05 p.m.				
Baltimore 6, Chicago White Sox 3,					Colorado (Bettis 1-0) at Philadelphia (Hamel 5-3), 6:05 p.m.				
2nd game					Miami (Haren 4-2) at N.Y. Mets (Harvey 5-2), 8:10 p.m.				
Boston at Texas, 8:05 p.m.					Washington (Strasburg 3-5) at Cincinnati (DeSclafani 2-4), 6:10 p.m.				
St. Louis					Arizona (R.De La Rosa 4-2) at Milwaukee (Nelson 2-5), 7:10 p.m.				
Chicago					L.A. Dodgers (Bolsinger 3-0) at St. Louis (Lackey 2-3), 7:15 p.m.				
Chicago					Pittsburgh (Lirio 2-4) at San Diego (Shields 6-0), 9:10 p.m.				
Chicago					Atlanta (Foltynewicz 3-1) at San Francisco (T.Hudson 2-4), 9:15 p.m.				
Chicago					Saturday's Games				
Chicago					Colorado at Philadelphia, 2:05 p.m.				
Chicago					Arizona at Milwaukee, 3:10 p.m.				
Chicago					Miami at N.Y. Mets, 3:10 p.m.				
Chicago					Washington at Cincinnati, 3:10 p.m.				

AREA CALENDAR

Friday, May 29	Saturday, May 30	Sunday, May 31
BASEBALL, AMATEUR Menno at Lesterville (7:30 p.m.)	BASEBALL, LEGION Lewis & Clark Wood Bat Classic (Yankton); South Sioux City Tour. (Yankton Juniors)	BASEBALL, AMATEUR Vermillion Greysox at Larchwood (2 p.m.); Menno at Scotland (7:30 p.m.); Yankton at Lesterville (7:30 p.m.)
BASEBALL, LEGION Lewis & Clark Wood Bat Classic (Yankton)	BASEBALL, VFW TEENER Mitchell Tour. (Yankton Lakers)	BASEBALL, LEGION Lewis & Clark Wood Bat Classic (Yankton); South Sioux City Tour. (Yankton Juniors)
TRACK & FIELD, COLLEGE OUTDOOR NCAA West Preliminaries at Austin, Texas	TRACK & FIELD, COLLEGE OUTDOOR NCAA West Preliminaries at Austin, Texas	BASEBALL, VFW TEENER Mitchell Tour. (Yankton Lakers)
TRACK & FIELD, PREP S.D. State Class AA Meet at Sturgis; S.D. State Class A Meet at Spearfish; S.D. State Class B Meet at Rapid City	TRACK & FIELD, PREP S.D. State Meet at Rapid City	SOFTBALL, GIRLS' Wayne Dirt Devil Tour. (Yankton Fury White, Yankton Fury Wildcats)
BASEBALL, AMATEUR Menno at Lesterville (7:30 p.m.)	BASEBALL, LEGION Lewis & Clark Wood Bat Classic (Yankton); South Sioux City Tour. (Yankton Juniors)	BASEBALL, VFW TEENER Mitchell Tour. (Yankton Lakers)
BASEBALL, VFW TEENER Mitchell Tour. (Yankton Lakers)	SOFTBALL, GIRLS' Wayne Dirt Devil Tour. (Yankton Fury White, Yankton Fury Wildcats)	BASEBALL, LEGION Lewis & Clark Wood Bat Classic (Yankton); South Sioux City Tour. (Yankton Juniors)
TRACK & FIELD, COLLEGE OUTDOOR NCAA West Preliminaries at Austin, Texas	TRACK & FIELD, COLLEGE OUTDOOR NCAA West Preliminaries at Austin, Texas	BASEBALL, VFW TEENER Mitchell Tour. (Yankton Lakers)
TRACK & FIELD, PREP S.D. State Class AA Meet at Sturgis; S.D. State Class A Meet at Spearfish; S.D. State Class B Meet at Rapid City	TRACK & FIELD, PREP S.D. State Meet at Rapid City	SOFTBALL, GIRLS' Wayne Dirt Devil Tour. (Yankton Fury White, Yankton Fury Wildcats)

Golf: Randolph Wins Class D Title

KEARNEY, Neb. — Trailing first place by eight strokes entering the final day, the Randolph Cardinals surged Thursday to capture the Class D team championship at the Nebraska State boys' golf tournament in Kearney.

Randolph carded a team score of 666, three shots in front of Overton. Creighton took third place at 697.

McPherson County's Kyon Neal beat Randolph's Andrew Schnoor in a 1-hole playoff for the individual title after they tied at 155. Also in

the top 20 were Randolph's Mason Stubbs in fourth (159), Creighton's Chase Largen in a tie for 10th (167), Creighton's Cole Wetzler in a tie for 15th (169) and Randolph's Cade Invillie in a tie for 15th (169).

Class C

LINCOLN, Neb. — Hartington Cedar Catholic finished in 11th place at the Nebraska State Class C boys' golf tournament, which was held at Holmes Park Golf Course

in Lincoln.

Cedar Catholic recorded a two-day score of 674, led by Brad Kathol's 158. Also for the Trojans were Sam Anderson (170), Matthew Schaefer (174), Adam Leise (178) and Capp Bengston (191).

Grand Island Central Catholic won the team championship with a two-day score of 620, six shots in front of Ord, Bishop Neumann and Lincoln Christian who all tied for second place.

Crofton's Brock Mueller tied for 25th place at 158.

Baseball

FROM PAGE 6A

afternoon at 2 p.m.

Legion

Honkers 8, S. Central 1

PLATTE — Hayden Thiry had two hits and three RBI to lead Platte-Geddes-Dakota Christian-White Lake-Corsica past South Central 8-1 in seven innings in Region 4B playoff action Wednesday in Platte.

VFW

Reds 15-20, Norfolk 0-3

The Yankton Reds exploded for 35 runs in a VFW Teener baseball doubleheader sweep Wednesday over Norfolk. Yankton won by scores of 15-0 and 20-3.

Nate Spawn and Tanner VanGendren both doubled for the Honkers (8-5), while Riley Hoffman pitched all seven innings for the victory.

PGDCWLC advances to the Region 4B super regional in Rapid City on Sunday, where it will play Winner-Colome. The other semifinal is Lead-Deadwood vs. St. Thomas More.

In the first game, Yankton pitchers Matthew Mors (2 innings) and Caden Peterson (1 inning) combined to record a perfect game.

Mors added two runs, a triple and three RBI at the plate, while Peterson had a hit, two runs scored and an RBI. Princeton Vollmer, Nick Lembey, Will Pease and Justin Payer all scored twice.

In the second game, Mors recorded three hits, four runs scored and four RBI, while Paris Beeson homered, tripled, scored twice and drove in three runs. Matt Hein added two hits, three runs scored and two RBI. Grant Nelson scored four runs, while Peterson and Andy Knapp scored twice.

Yankton

FROM PAGE 6A

on relays for the Bucks, who rank among the top teams in the 400, 800 and 1600 relays.

"If you look at our senior class, none of them were impact players the last couple of years. They stuck it out and worked extremely hard," Youmans said. "It took them four years to get to this points. That's what athletics is all about — you work hard for all those years, then you emerge."

"They are the examples of what you want a student-athlete to be in Yankton, in our school district."

While the Bucks do not have a title contender in a sprint race, they have a chance to win in the sprint relays because of teamwork.

"Typically the best sprint relays have a guy that's in the top three in the 100 or 200," Youmans said. "We have four guys that are very good and consistent. What we lack in having one horse, we make up for in getting the baton around the track in the most efficient way possible."

Chris Kinsley is qualified in both the long and triple jumps. Also entered in individual events for the Bucks are Joseph Kelly (pole vault), Jordan Payer (discus) and Kenneth Schroeder (triple jump).

For the Bucks to make a run at a top-four finish, they need some things to go well and most to go as planned.

"We need to show up in places where we are in the hunt to score big," Youmans said. "We also need a few 'sleeper' events to come through for us, like the triple

jump. We have a couple guys in there, and we need one to come in and have a good day.

"Everywhere else, we need to hold our position, go to state and do what we've done all season long."

Girls

Youmans has similar aspirations for the Gazelles: A top-four finish and, hopefully in concert with the boys, a combined team title.

The Gazelles placed in all five relays in 2014, led by a runner-up finish in the medley relay and a third place finish in the 3200 relay. Yankton also finished fourth in the 1600 relay, fifth in the 400 relay and seventh in the 800 relay.

Yankton also returns three individual placewinners: Junior Savannah Woods in the 3200 (fourth), sophomore Emma Stewart in the long jump (sixth) and sophomore Madason Tessier in the 300 hurdles (seventh).

"We don't have the depth to be number one, but we have the depth to be a contender," Youmans said. "We have a lot of places where we can potentially score on the girls' side."

While the Gazelles have just one senior in an individual event this weekend — Erica Westerman in the 800 — they have several that will be competing on relays.

"We had a couple of kids that had to accept different roles, and our kids have willingly accepted those roles and done everything they can to help us place where we can," Youmans said. "We certainly have some veteran girls on the team, but we also have a lot of younger athletes. Hopefully our leadership from up top will help

the younger girls."

Freshman Kate Budig is the only Yankton athlete qualified in three individual events, competing in the high jump and both hurdle races. Woods (1600, 3200), Stewart (long jump, triple jump), Tessier (100 hurdles, 300 hurdles), Adrienne Kusek (shot put, discus), Lindsey Hale (long jump, triple jump), Madison McClure (1600, 3200) and Emily Oswald (long jump, triple jump) are each entered in two individual events for the Gazelles. Kaitlin Guthmiller (pole vault) and Danielle Salvatori (100 hurdles) each have one individual event.

Home Away From Home

While the opening day of the state meet will be held in Sturgis, the final day of competition will be held in Rapid City on a track similar to Yankton's. In fact, Yankton and Rapid City have the only two Mondo track surfaces in South Dakota.

"We like to think of it as a home field advantage away from home," Youmans said. "We'll take advantage of every situation that we can."

Youmans hopes to see Yankton riding momentum going into Saturday as well.

"What I'm hoping for is that we have enough enthusiasm and adrenaline that the excitement of the day helps take us over the top," he said. "If we have two teams in the hunt on Saturday, if it isn't just the girls or just the boys, everyone will jump on board and support each other."

"You never know. We might be in the hunt for the combined team title."

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Rose

FROM PAGE 6A

calm."

Rose credits his classmates for helping push him as well.

"It's helped having people to run with like Ryan (Stenhagen), Charlie (Stephenson) and Mason (Strahl)," he said.

Youmans credits Rose for not just relying on his natural ability but honing those skills to be a better performer.

"Lee's a tremendous athlete, but also an incredible worker," he said. "He's worked incredibly hard in numerous sports for four years."

Rose has signed with the University of Sioux Falls for track and field, but has gotten plenty of calls since he began regularly eclipsing the 22-foot mark.

"I call him the number one recruit that college coaches didn't get their hands on," Youmans said. "A lot of college coaches look at younger athletes, but it took him four years to get to the point where he is, hands down, one of the best male athletes in South Dakota."

Youmans is looking forward to Rose having his events more spread out than usual. While the senior will still compete in four events on Friday — the long jump finals, then prelims in the 400 and two relays — the meet schedule allows him more rest than he usually gets between events.

"I'm looking forward to state for him. It will be the most time he's had to recover and prepare all season," Youmans said. "It could push him to do something really big."

Rose is looking for big



P&D FILE PHOTO
Yankton's Lee Rose has a season-best mark of 22 feet, 10 3/4 inches in the long jump, leading Class AA.

things for himself as well.

"I'm hoping for a state title and school record in the long jump," he said. "I'm hoping the four-by-four (1600 relay) and four-by-one (400 relay) get top three, and I get top three in the 400."

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