Plain Talk Sports

July 22, 2011 www.plaintalk.net 05

Upcoming Sports Schedule

Hy-Vee's Annual Scramble for SESDAC Bull-A-Rama

1 p.m. Aug. 15 Aug. 26-27

South Dakota Open victory

Portie finishes at 19-under for

The Bluffs, Vermillion Vermillion Rodeo Grounds

BLUFFS BULLETIN

MEN'S SENIOR GOLF FUN LEAGUE

Eighteen seniors turned out to play on a hot Tuesday morning July

The team of Max Andersen, Lloyd Helseth and Cleland Cook had the lowest round with a score of 35. Lloyd sank a 24-foot birdie putt on #1 and Cleland knocked in a 41 ft. putt on #4.

Coming in second with a score of 36 was the team of Bob Solomon, Don Baer and Louie Fostvedt. The third team of Ross King, Vern Holter and Shorty Hanson also shot a 36, but lost to the second place team on a tiebreaker. The fifth handicap hole finally broke the tie. Shortly made a 15 ft. birdie putt on #2.

VAST travels to **Brookings**

The Vermillion Area Swim Team travelled to Brookings this past weekend to participate in the Brookings Summer Invitational. All members of the team swam well even with the temperatures spiking to nearly 100 degrees all weekend. Hunter Lavin won three events in the boys 7-8 year old division and finished in the top six in all of his eight events throughout the entire weekend. Kylie Martin swam to first place in a highly competitive girls 15-18 year old division three times and placed in the top seven in all of her seven events swum in Brookings.

VAST swimmers also swam well in the Mixed Relays during the weekend. The all girls team of Maddie Lavin, Madisen Martinez, Kyliegh Moran and Lexie Malimanek finished fourth in the 12 and under mixed (boys and girls) 200 Freestyle Relay, while taking 14th in the Open 200 Medley Relay on Sunday. Gabe Telleria, Isabel Telleria, Anna Van Holland and Hunter Lavin finished 20th in the 12 and under mixed 200 Freestyle Relay on Saturday as well. This weekend will mark the last chance to qualify for the state meet for all swimmers in South Dakota. VAST will send a few swimmers to the South Dakota B/C Championships in Mitchell, Friday through Sunday. The South Dakota State Championships will start Friday, July 29 in Sioux Falls and run through Sunday, July 31. For more information about VAST, please contact Head Coach Mike Moran at: vastcoach@yahoo.com

sports@yankton.net

The third round of the South Dakota Open hosted by The Bluffs Golf Course in Vermillion finished Sunday, July 17 with a few surprise endings. The Open is part of the Dakota Tour where professional golfers play with amateurs at some of the best golf courses in the Dakota area.

After tying the course record with a 62 in Saturday's second round, Ben Portie said he felt pretty confident going into the third day.

"I felt good, those rounds don't happen very often. I think that's the third one I've shot in my entire life, so I felt pretty good after shooting that," he said.

Before Portie shot his record-tying score, Benoit Beisser and Tim Ailes were tied for first after the second round. Beisser said he felt much more comfortable being in second for the final round.

"I was actually quite relieved, it's nicer to chase than it is to be chased," he said. "I've played with (Portie) maybe once or twice and it's been a couple years, so I didn't really know how his game was, but obviously with his score he was shooting good and confident."

Despite shooting one of the best scores in his careers, Portie knew that going against Beisser and Ailes for the championship would be tough.

"After playing so good, I still only had a one stroke lead going into (Sunday). I still knew I had to play good today and shoot a good number," Portie said. "In the heat, I knew it was going to be tough today, but I enjoyed it. I had a good time today, stayed in the moment and really enjoyed it."

Portie was able to keep his head and stay focused through the final 18 holes, shooting a 67 in the final round and finishing the tournament at 19 under, enough for first place.

Although Portie played smart through the final holes, his two competitors struggled as they took some risky shots. On 17, Beisser took a bogey and fell to two strokes behind Portie. Overall, Beisser said he was proud of his finish.

"You've just got to go out there and play this course straightforward, be very direct with all your shots, don't take anything for granted because it'll come back and bite you," he said. "It bit me on 17, but I stuck to my game plan and was happy with what I did."

Beisser finished second to Portie, shooting a 68 in the final round and finishing 17 under.

Looking to make a comeback on the final hole, Ailes went all out on his tee shot, but it would come back to hurt him. His first tee shot went out of bounds, forcing him to re-hit and take a one-stroke penalty. Ailes' second tee shot wasn't any better as it, too, went too far wide and out of bounds. When he finally got his tee shot on the fairway, Ailes was already six strokes into the five-par hole.

Ailes would finish in sixth at 12 under after being the money leader at last year's tour.

"People talk about this being a minor league golf tour," tour director Dennis Chandler said. "Tim Ailes made \$75,000 on the tour last year in seven weeks. That's not so bad. Anyone would be happy to make that in 12 months."

Once again, the heat was a factor on the final day of play, but after two days of playing in it, the golfers were pretty used to it.

"Born and raised in Scottsdale so the heat didn't really bother me. I've been telling everyone around here this heat doesn't bother me," Beisser said. "I enjoy being kind of sweaty, I do a lot of yoga, so it reminds me of the yoga room and keeps me relaxed. It's not too bad, if the breeze wasn't up it might've been bad. Back home, when the breeze comes up it feels like someone putting a hot blowdryer in your face, so at least it's cool and breezy out there."

In the Open and The Bluffs this year were 66 pros. Chandler said it's a popular event because the course is so nice.

"The Bluffs is one of the best. I don't want to slight any site, but we really choose only the best golf courses in South Dakota to play on," he said. "The Bluffs is as good as any, but I can't say it's better than any because we only use the best."

The course might be one of the nicest, but it's also one of the toughest to play,



Leroy Veronie of San Diego, CA found the bunker during his approach shot to the 18th green at The Bluffs in Vermillion Sunday, but made a successful shot out of the sandtrap to reach the putting surface and finish his round in the South Dakota Open 2011. (Photo by David Lias)

especially if you've never played it before.

"Some of the golfers hate some of the holes, and we know that from years past. They have to use their brains as much as they use their golf swing on hole 13, hole 15, hole 16," Chandler said. "It depends on whether they are veterans or rookies, or whether they have realized hole 13 is not a birdie hole. If they've realized that, they don't get a bogey or double bogey,

they shoot a par and move on to the next hole. The ones that stand up on the tee box and think they've got the hole walk away with their tails between their legs."

The Tour continues Tuesday in Britton for a one-day event. Portie and Beisser said they don't play at all the Dakota Tour events, but they enjoy The Bluffs and plan to play at Fox Run in Yankton July 29-31.

By Cassie Bartlett

VAST TOP 5 RESULTS

Hunter Lavin, boys 7-8, 200 IM, third, 4:23.26; 200 Freestyle, first, 3:23.71; 100 Breast, first, 2:01.05; 100 Freestyle, second, 1:32.96; 50 Freestyle, second, 42.61; 50 Butterfly, third, 1:01.36; 50 Breaststroke, first, 58.50.

Maddie Lavin, girls 11-12, 200 IM, third, 2:59.84; 50 Backstroke, fifth, 40.08; 100 Butterfly, second, 1:22.45; 50 Butterfly, fifth, 37.45.

Lexie Malimanek, girls 11-12, 200 IM, fifth, 3:02.59; 400 Freestyle, fourth, 5:40.33.

Madisen Martinez, girls 11-12, 100 Breaststroke, second, 1:33.00; 50 Breaststroke, second, 42.15.

Kylie Martin, girls 15-18, 100 Breaststroke, first, 1:24.36; 100 Butterfly, third, 1:20.97; 50 Freestyle, first, 29.54; 200 Breaststroke, first, 3:06.99.

Kyleigh Moran, girls 11-12, 100 Breaststroke, fifth,1:39.38; 50 Breaststroke, fifth, 44.59.

Gabe Telleria, boys 7-8, 200 IM, fourth, 4:31.04; 200 Freestyle, fourth, 3:55.95, 100 Breaststroke, fourth, 2:41.24; 50 Backstroke, fifth, 57.68; 100 Freestyle, fifth, 1:46.25.

Isabel Telleria, girls 9-10, 200 Freestyle, fifth, 3:10.13; 100 Breaststroke, fifth, 1:58.43.

first uprising.

By Parker Knox Sportswriter

If it isn't the repeated rains that plagued baseball players in May and June, it's something else. On Monday night it was the oppressive heat and humidity.

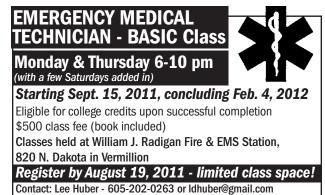
Vermillion's VFW 15-16 Teeners and Lennox were to play two games, but after Vermillion won the opener 15-5 in five innings, coaches mutually agreed to cancel the nightcap because of the brutal conditions.

Vermillion made quick work of Lennox with a four-run first inning that featured a rallyigniting double by Tanner Settles, later back-to-back singles by Nile Morecraft and Jayce Huska and the first two of an eventual total of seven Lennox errors. Huska and Colin Olson had RBIs in that

One Lennox run in the second was answered by six more Vermillion tallies in the bottom half of the inning. Two more gigantic infield errors helped to open the floodgates, but so did doubles by Tanner Anderson and Olson and singles by Joe Mazour, Pete Haught and Seth Heine. Haught, Heine and Olson had RBIs in that inning.

Somehow neither team scored in the third inning, and both scored big-time in the fourth. Either Lennox batters or the heat got to starter Joe Mazour in the top half of the inning as Lennox strung together five consecutive singles and eventually scored four.

But the home team was quick to answer. A balk and an infield error started it all, but a single by Heine, two more errors and an Anderson basehit



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kept the five-run inning going. When Lennox went down in order in the top of the fifth, with two of the outs coming on strikeouts by reliever Morecraft,

15-16 Teeners defeat Lennox 15-5; second game scratched

the game ended via the 10-run rule. Anderson, Heine and Settles had two hits each among Vermillion's total of 11 while

Anderson, Olson and Heine

each drove home two runs and Huska and Haught one each.

Morecraft, after relieving Mazour with none out in the fourth, retired all six men he faced, three of them on strikeouts.

The 15-16 Teeners' last home game will be tonight (Friday) against Harrisburg at 6:30 p.m., then they will play at Garretson

at 10 a.m. Saturday. On Monday the Teeners play the Yankton 16s in Yankton at 6 p.m. before ending the regular season at Tabor at 6 p.m. next Wednesday. The regional tournament is set to open at Elk Point July 30 and run through the following week, determining a champion to play in the state tournament in Flandreau Aug. 13-15.

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