

# Varsity Teeners Take Two From Irene

BY ELYSE BRIGHTMAN

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The Vermillion Varsity Teeners baseball team swept Irene in a double header at Prentis Park for the last home stand of the season.

In the first game, Vermillion rolled over Irene for a 17-9 win with six runs in the third and fifth innings.

Gabe DeJong lead the offense with three hits and three runs scored. Devin O'Neill added two hits and scored a team high four runs.

Riley Johnson had two hits and scored three runs and Rylan Pratt added two hits including a double.

Johnson pitched a complete game in the victory allowing three earned runs while striking out five.

Vermillion went on to take the second game 6-3 in a three innings contest.

Pratt led off the first inning with a double followed by another double by DeJong to score Pratt. Johnson brought DeJong home with a single and would steal second eventually coming home on a wild pitch.

Carter Larson made the score 4-0 in the second inning when he



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**Rylan Pratt at the plate for the Vermillion Varsity Teeners baseball team during the 17-9 win over Irene Monday night at Prentis Park.**

came home on another wild pitch after drawing a walk to get on base.

Irene scored three in the top of the third, but Vermillion would get out of the inning holding on to a 4-3 lead.



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**Vermillion Varsity Teener's catcher Gabe DeJong tags out an Irene runner trying to steal home during a 17-9 win Monday night at Prentis Park.**

In the bottom of the third, Cole Christopherson and Brody Surrell each lined RBI singles to score two more runs and the game ended 6-3.

Wyatt Markee pitched the first inning and Larson came in for the last two innings. Markee recorded no hits, no walks and no strike-

outs while Larson gave up four runs on two hits and one walk.

Markee also had a hit in the game.

"We were sloppy defensively against Irene," said Vermillion head coach T.J. Beacom. "That is something we need to clean up before the region tournament. We

are playing our best baseball right now and gained some confidence going into next week."

Vermillion Varsity Teeners travel to Beresford on Monday, July 27 for the region tournament and will face Dakota Valley in the first game beginning at 6 p.m.

## Bye Wins Greco National Title

FARGO, N.D. – Vermillion High School graduate Brett Bye became the first South Dakotan junior wrestler to capture a Greco-Roman national title. The two-time South Dakota high school state champion won the 160-pound title on Tuesday at the Cadet/Junior National Championships in Fargo.

Bye, a South Dakota State University recruit, defeated Riley Jaramillo of Oregon by technical fall (10-0).

In other results from South Dakota wrestlers, Regan Bye of Vermillion finished fourth at 170 pounds and Dan Stibral of Bon Homme-Scotland was seventh at 285 pounds. All three wrestlers earn All-American honors.

## Dakota Dunes Wins NJGT Team Golf Event #16

SIOUX CITY, IOWA – Floyd Park Golf Course played host to NJGT Team Golf on Friday, July 17 where the Dakota Dunes Dragons took the top spot. This is the Dragons second win of the season. Team Golf is the newest installment in the Nebraska Junior Golf Tour's offering and serves as an introduction to competitive golf. With the goal of a fun, social atmosphere, Team Golf hopes to grow the game through events tailor made for the new and beginning level junior golfer. Boys and girls 7-13 years of age will compete with their friends on teams representing their host golf club, school, local youth organization and more with PGA Professionals serving as head coaches.

Youth competed in a scramble format which matched teams against each other with the goal of winning the most points. Teams are outfitted in new Nike Golf Team Jerseys with their team name and own individual number. Team Golf also uses beginner friendly rules such as drop zones instead of hazard penalties, stroke maximums and even throwing a ball out of a bunker.

The Dakota Dunes Dragons Squad 1 was the champions with 44 points on the day defeating the runner-up Vermillion Bandits based out of The Bluffs Golf Course with 41 points along with six other teams from the area. The Dakota Dunes Dragons Squad 1 was comprised of Pierce Conley, Jackson Gravert, Harrison Ward, Brayden Michalak, Camren Tjaden and Hudson Tennifer. The Dragons are coached by Justin Arlt, PGA and Kevin Burchardt of Dakota Dunes Country Club. With great finishes by the Dakota Dunes Dragons, Sioux City Country Club Storm and Vermillion Bandits all three moved inside the cut line for the NJGT TEAM GOLF Championship.

The Vermillion team was made up of Noah Gilbertson, Cael Mockler, T.J. Tracy, Kaleb Preister, Connor Larson, Will Gilbertson and head coach Rusty Jensen.

## Omaha Prep Standout Commits To South Dakota

BY JEREMY HOECK

Press and Dakotan

A two-way player who led his team to a state championship game last fall has committed to the University of South Dakota.

Trystn Ducker, a 5-foot-9 incoming senior wide receiver, defensive back and kick returner from Nebraska, committed Wednesday night, he said.

Ducker, who has also attracted interest from other Missouri Valley Football Conference schools, attended Creighton Prep High School in Omaha as a junior but will transfer to Bellevue West High School this fall.

He has been on USD's radar since March and was offered a scholarship at the spring game in April.

"I love it so far; every time I've been there," Ducker told the Press & Dakotan. "The campus, the coaches, and I've met a few players. I'm in love with it right now."

Ducker, who guided Creighton Prep to the Nebraska Class A state title game last fall (where it lost to Omaha North, which features incoming USD freshmen Calvin Strong and DeValon Whitcomb), attended USD's Senior Prospect Camp last Friday.

Five days later, he informed the Coyote coaching staff. "I've known they're on the rise," Ducker said. "The thing that really sold me was when I met some of their freshmen coming in this year. I did some research and saw how good they are."

A week ago, USD got a verbal commitment from Harrisburg senior Ethan Roth.

Ducker, like Roth, said he embraced the opportunity to eventually help a USD program that won two games last fall.

"I like their style of play," Ducker said. "Coach (Joe) Glenn is a winner; he's got national championships. He's building it on the way up."

As for what position he could be once he arrives at USD, Ducker wasn't sure – it could either be as a wide receiver, defensive back or kick returner.

"Things might change," he said. "When I get there, we'll see."

## USD's Glisar, Haase Earn Postgraduate Scholarships

South Dakota track and field athletes Megan Glisar and Brant Haase have been awarded NCAA Postgraduate Scholarships for their dedication in the classroom and on the track. Glisar and Haase will each receive a one-time \$7,500 scholarship to be used for postgraduate study.

The NCAA Postgraduate Scholarship program was created in 1964 to promote and encourage postgraduate education by rewarding the Association's most accomplished student-athletes. The NCAA awards 174 scholarships across all sports and divisions each year. Awardees must carry a minimum 3.2 grade-point average, be nominated by the faculty athletics representative and intend to pursue graduate studies.

"I am truly honored to be selected by the NCAA for this generous scholarship," Glisar said. "The opportunities that have opened up for me through the NCAA has made my dream of becoming an audiologist possible. I would like to extend my appreciation to my USD professors, coaches and the athletic staff who nominated me for this award. I am extremely grateful for everyone's support."

"I am thankful for the opportunity to have received a quality education and pursued my passion for running

at South Dakota," said Haase. "Coach Dave Gottleben and Coach Dan Fitzsimmons gave me a chance to compete at the Division I level. South Dakota's track and field program has established itself at the top of the Summit League in both athletics and academics. I'm glad I was able to be a part of it."

The duo add to the list of 29 other Coyotes who received this scholarship, 18 of which were also members of the Coyote track and field program. South Dakota ranks among the top-50 schools across all NCAA divisions in the number of postgraduate recipients.

"This is what college athletics should be about," said Lucky Huber, the director of track and field and at cross country at South Dakota. "I am incredibly proud of the hard work Megan and Brant have put in. I am glad that they are being recognized for being both great athletes and outstanding students."

"Both Brant and Megan have been leaders in our athletic programs at USD and are well deserving of this recognition," said Dr. Christina Keller, South Dakota's faculty athletic representative. "The NCAA postgraduate scholarship is given to students who excel in both the classroom and the athletic

venue. These awards continue to demonstrate that our Coyote student-athletes have made an impact at the national level."

Glisar, a two-time All-American for the Coyotes, graduated in May with a bachelor's degree in communication sciences and disorders and held a 3.70 cumulative GPA. Beyond her All-America distinctions, Glisar won four Summit League high jump titles and set the school record at 6-0 ¾ in both the indoor and outdoor high jump. She also earned a spot on two Academic All-Summit League teams.

Haase graduated with a perfect 4.00 GPA and earned a bachelor's degree in health sciences. During his Coyote career, Haase made the 2015 Capital One Academic All-America Men's Cross Country/Track and Field Team, earned seven All-Summit League honors and collected six Academic All-Summit League awards. Haase also won the 10,000 meters at the 2014 Summit League Outdoor Track and Field Championships.

Glisar plans to remain at the University of South Dakota to earn her doctorate in audiology. She was one of five students accepted into this fall's class. Haase will pursue a graduate degree in pharmacy.

## Coyotes Announce 3 New Hires

Dan Gaston has been named senior associate athletic director for facilities and operations, Matt Houston has been hired as the assistant strength and conditioning coach, and Chase Christiansen has been hired as the assistant director of marketing and promotions. The three new hires were announced Friday by South Dakota Athletics Director David Herbster.

Gaston has been the assistant athletic director of event and facility operations at University of Washington since 2012 and has been associated with the Huskies since becoming a student-athlete there in 1997. He served an internship as an assistant event manager in 2004 and was hired full-time in 2006.

"Dan has the unique skill set we were looking for to position our department for the growth into our new facilities," said Herbster. "His knowledge and experi-



ence make him a valuable member of Coyote athletics immediately."

Gaston managed an \$8 million budget at Washington which included a facilities operating budget of \$2 million, a gameday budget for 21 sports of \$3.5 million, and a facility enhancement budget of \$2.5 million. He served as project manager for four capital improvement projects totaling \$37.5 million.

At USD, Gaston will provide oversight of athletic facilities and

event operations for the Coyotes' 17 programs. He will serve as liaison for all new development projects including new construction, upgrades, renovations and ongoing maintenance of USD athletic facilities. In addition, Gaston will serve as sport supervisor for soccer and swimming and diving.

Houston arrives in Vermillion after spending two years working in the strength and conditioning department of University of Hawaii in Honolulu where he obtained his master's degree. Houston earned his undergraduate degree from Washington in the summer of 2010 and played football for the Huskies from 2006-10. Houston served as a personal strength and conditioning trainer for professional basketball player Julian Stone in 2012 when Stone was rehabilitating from a torn labrum.

Houston will work primarily with South Dakota's men's basketball, softball

and football programs. He will help design, develop and implement strength and conditioning programs for Coyote student-athletes.

Christiansen is stepping into a newly created position after serving as a video producer and gameday worker while earning his bachelor's degree in media and journalism at USD. Since graduation in the spring of 2014, he has worked at Dakota Video and Post Productions in Sioux Falls where he edited TV, web and radio commercials for clients from across the country.

Christiansen will assist in developing and designing marketing strategies to increase attendance on Coyote game days. He will also create multi-media content for marketing purposes including video and graphics for use on athletic video boards, website, social media and television.

## USD Track And Field Recognized For Academics

The U.S. Track & Field and Cross Country Coaches Association recognized South Dakota's track and field teams and 10 individual student-athletes with All-Academic awards for the 2015 season.

South Dakota's men and women posted cumulative grade-point averages in the nation's top-20. The Coyote women carry a 3.54, which ranks 12th nationally. The South Dakota men hold a 3.31 to tie for 16th nationally.

The Coyotes also had 10 individuals make the USTFCCA All-Academic Track and Field Team, a prestigious

honor requiring a student-athlete to carry a cumulative GPA above 3.25 and meet one of the following athletic standards: compete at any round of the NCAA Outdoor Championships or be ranked nationally in the top-96 for an individual event or top-48 for a relay during the indoor season.

### Women

Emily Brigham, Pole Vault, Criminal Justice  
Amber Eichkorn, 10,000m, 5,000m, Kinesiology and Sport Science (Pre-Physical Therapy)  
Megan Glisar, High Jump, Commu-

nication Sciences and Disorders  
Sierra Maddox, Pole Vault, Undeclared

Madison Mills, Pole Vault, Business  
Danielle Waldner, Shot Put, Business  
Hunter Wilkes, Pole Vault, Physical Education

### Men

Peter Chapman, Pole Vault, Media & Journalism  
Erik Hill, 400m Hurdles, Medical Biology (Pre-Dental)  
Kevin Sarekhani, Pole Vault, Communication Studies



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