



Steve Kohls / Brainerd Dispatch

Brainerd Warriors Zakia Herron (left), Emma Tautges, Alletta Howard, Olivia Tautges, and Catlin Banks celebrate their 1-0 win over St. Michael-Albertville Tuesday, June 8, 2021, at Adamson Field to advance to play Elk River Thursday.

SOFTBALL

Warriors pitch 14 shutout innings to advance

By Conrad Engstrom
Sports Writer

Pitching and defense reigned supreme for Brainerd Tuesday, June 8. In 14 innings, the Warriors allowed no runs to win two games in the Section 8-4A loser's bracket at Adamson Field. Emma Tautges threw

seven shutout innings in a 6-0 win against Buffalo. Her performance in the circle was followed by Olivia Tautges who struck out seven in seven scoreless innings as Brainerd beat St. Michael-Albertville 1-0 to advance. "Today we played exceptional softball,"

Warriors head coach Shane Jordan said. "A 6-0 game and a 1-0 game against two pretty good programs. Both those teams have been to the state tournament in our section. These are big wins for our kids." Olivia Tautges struck out the side in the top of the seventh against STMA to get

the final outs of Brainerd's one-run victory. "I just wanted to go at them and get ahead," Olivia Tautges said. "I was able to throw my rise ball and change-up, so they could either pop it out or get another strikeout like I did."

WARRIORS ADVANCE

Key: Pitching and defense gets Brainerd two shutouts in Section 8-4A loser's bracket.
Overall: Brd 20-4.
Next: Brainerd vs Elk River at Rogers 11 a.m. Thursday, June 10.

SOFTBALL: Page B3

BOYS TENNIS

The pressure of state unlikely to get to Moraghan

By Conrad Engstrom
Sports Writer

Matthew Moraghan tried not to think about it. But after the Brainerd freshman singles player won the first set in his true second-place match in the Section 8-2A individual tournament it was hard not to. He was one set away from state. "I was focusing point for point, but when I won the first set I did start thinking about it a little," he said. "I did try and block it out, but as I got closer

to the finish line it started to creep in with the nerves." Moraghan's match ended up going to a tiebreaker where he finally won 6-4, 7-6(5) against Becker's Zach Bengtson to reach the state tournament. "It was definitely tough because going into the tie-breaking set in the true second-place match I had already served for the match twice," he said. "I just had to concentrate on the ball and not think about



Steve Kohls / Brainerd Dispatch

Brainerd's Matthew Moraghan returns the ball during practice Monday, June 7, 2021, at the Brainerd High School tennis courts.

CLASS 2A STATE SINGLES TOURNAMENT

Who: Brainerd's Matthew Moraghan
Matchup: Joshua Christensen of Century High School
Where: Prior Lake High School
When: 8 a.m. Thursday, June 10



Moraghan

TENNIS: Page B3

Charles leads the Mystics past the Lynx

Field Level Media

Tina Charles converted half of her six 3-point attempts and all 10 free-throw tries, scoring 31 points as the host Washington Mystics topped the Minnesota Lynx 85-81 on Tuesday night, snapping the Lynx's three-game winning streak. Charles shot 9-for-18 from the field, Myisha Hines-Allen notched 19 points, and Natasha Cloud contributed 11 points and eight assists for the Mystics, who outscored the Lynx 27-18 in the third quarter in taking control before hanging on late. The Mystics (3-5) sank 42.6 percent of their field-goal attempts and were 6 of 20 (30 percent) from behind the arc. Meanwhile, the Lynx (3-5) were 6-for-22 from 3-point range. Napheesa Collier led the team with 22 points and nine rebounds, but was 0-for-5 from beyond the arc. Sylvia Fowles reg-

istered 15 points, five rebounds and three steals for the Lynx. Layshia Clarendon racked up 14 points, seven rebounds and six assists, while Crystal Dangerfield scored 10 for Minnesota. Kayla McBride tied the game by converting a 3-pointer from the corner with 6:38 left in the third quarter. On the next possession, Fowles gave the Lynx their first lead since the 7:15 mark in the second quarter, 48-47. The Mystics pulled away midway through the third quarter, orchestrating a 12-0 run led by Charles and Hines-Allen. The Mystics entered the fourth quarter up 70-56; the Lynx outscored the Mystics 15-15 in the fourth quarter. With 1:33 remaining in the game, the Lynx cut the Mystic's lead to 78-73. Clarendon later hit a 3-point shot with 31.3 seconds left, making it 80-76 and preserving hope for the Lynx.



Craig Lassig / Special to the St. Paul Pioneer Press
Quarterback Kellen Mond (11) during the Minnesota Vikings rookie minicamp at Twin Cities Orthopedics Performance Center in Eagan, Minn. on Friday, May 14, 2021.

Vikings beat Texans to Mond on draft day

By Chris Tomasson
St. Paul Pioneer Press

Quarterback Kellen Mond will play next season for the Minnesota Vikings, 1,250 miles north of his hometown of San Antonio. For an instant, though, it looked as if he might have stayed in his native Texas. Mond was drafted out of Texas A&M with the No. 66 pick in the third round by the Vikings on April 30, the second day of the NFL draft. They

apparently snatched him away from the Houston Texans, who had the No. 67 selection. "(There was a) phone call from his agent, text message, and the agent said, 'Hey, the Houston Texans are getting ready to select (Mond) at pick 67,'" Mond's father, Kevin, said. "So, we're sitting (at the San Antonio family home) on the couch and (Mond) gets the phone call a couple of minutes later and it's a team.

Vikings announce signing of cornerback Amari Henderson

By Chris Tomasson
St. Paul Pioneer Press

The Minnesota Vikings have had success with players who try out at rookie minicamps. They hope that trend will continue. The team on Tuesday, June 8, announced the signing of cornerback Amari Henderson, who tried out at the May 14-16 rookie minicamp. The St. Paul Pioneer Press reported the impending move on Monday. Previous tryout players to make a mark for the Vikings include

two-time Pro Bowl wide receiver Adam Thielen, receiver Chad Beebe and former kick returner Marcus Sherels. Henderson was undrafted out of Wake Forest in 2020 after being second in the Atlantic Coast Conference in 2019 with four interceptions. He was then signed by Jacksonville and spent the first week of the season on the Jaguars' practice squad before being released. The 6-foot-1 Henderson has bulked up from 168 to 188 pounds since being undrafted.



Brad Penner / USA TODAY Sports

Michigan State running back Elijah Collins (24) runs the ball against Wake Forest defensive back Amari Henderson (4) during the third quarter of the 2019 Pinstripe Bowl at Yankee Stadium. The Minnesota Vikings signed Henderson this week.

AREA BASEBALL

WDC, Aitkin, Pierz in contention

WDC 17, Thief River Falls 2
WADENA — Connor Davis' three doubles and Carson Kern's two doubles were part of a 20-hit parade for No. 2 Wadena-Deer Creek in a 17-2 win over No. 4 Thief River Falls in the Section 8-2A loser's bracket Tuesday, June 8.
 Josh Dykhoff doubled, homered, drove in five runs and scored three times. Payton Rondestvet was 3-5 with four RBIs, three runs and a home run. Carson Kern notched two doubles and Tony Kreklau, who went 4-4 with three runs, knocked out a double for the

winning Wolverines.
 The win went to Dykhoff who gave up two runs, struck out two in 2.2 innings of pitching.
Thief River Falls 2 5 5
Wadena-Deer Creek 17 20 1
 WP: Josh Dykhoff. LP: Zach Westlund. 2B: WDC-Connor Davis (3), Tony Kreklau, Carson Kern (2), Josh Dykhoff. HR: WDC-Payton Rondestvet, Josh Dykhoff. Overall: WDC 21-3.
WDC 6, Menahga 5
DEER CREEK — Carson Kern doubled twice and Connor Davis homered to power No. 2 Wadena-Deer Creek to a 6-5 victory over Menahga in the Section 8-2A loser's bracket game Tuesday, June 8.
 Evan Lunde and Josh Dykhoff each doubled for the Wolverines. Isaac Hamann was 2-4

with two RBIs
 Tony Kreklau gave up just one hit over 3.2 innings to nail down the win. He struck out four.
Menahga 5 6 1
Wadena-Deer Creek 6 5 2
 WP: Tony Kreklau. LP: Jack Pietlla. 2B: WDC-Evan Lunde, Carson Kern (2), Josh Dykhoff. HR: WDC-Connor Davis. Overall: WDC 22-3. Next: Wadena-Deer Creek vs. Roseau/Perham loser in Section 8-2A loser's bracket at Wadena noon Thursday, June 10.
Aitkin 13, Proctor 0
SUPERIOR, Wis. — Logan Olson struck out six and allowed just three hits in one walk for the 13-0 complete-game shut-out for the No. 2 seeded Aitkin Gobblers over the No. 4 seeded Proctor Rails in the Section

7-2A winner's bracket final Tuesday, June 8.
 Joey Simonson finished 4-4 with two runs scored as Aitkin posted 21 total hits. Landon Janzen finished 2-4 with two doubles, three RBIs and two runs. Jake Ince was 3-3 with a double, triple, two RBIs and two runs.
 Olson helped himself by going 3-4 with two doubles, an RBI and two runs scored and Owen Miller tripled and scored twice.
 Aitkin advances to the Section 7-2A Championship Thursday, June 10 in Duluth.
Proctor 0 3 2
Aitkin 13 21 0
 WP: Logan Olson. LP: Grant Walker. 2B: A-Jake

Ince, Landon Janzen (2), Logan Olson (2), Joey Simonson (2). 3B: A-Ince, Owen Miller. Overall: A 19-4. Next: Aitkin in the Section 7-2A Championship at Wade Stadium, Duluth, 5 p.m. Thursday, June 10.
Pierz 10, Cathedral 2
ST. CLOUD — The No. 4 seeded Pierz Pioneers found their way into the Section 6-2A championship after eliminating No. 6 St. Cloud Cathedral 10-2 in the loser's bracket Tuesday, June 8.
 The Pioneers will now face No. 2 Albany in the section title game. Pierz will have to beat the Huskies twice.
 The Section 6-2A final will be 4:30 p.m. Thursday, June 10 in St. Cloud.

AREA SOFTBALL

3 teams remain alive in section playoffs

Sebeka 9, BHV 2
Bertha-Hewitt Verndale tallied four doubles, but couldn't overcome a three-run second inning and the East No. 2 seeded Raiders fell to the No. 1 seeded Sebeka Trojans 9-2 in the Section 5-1A winner's bracket final Tuesday, June 8, in Brainerd.
 Madison Schmitz, Brandi Warren, Carissa Winscher and Miranda Line all doubled for the Raiders, who collected six hits.
 Hailey Hudalla pitched seven innings and took the loss
BHV 2 6 4
Sebeka 9 6 0
 WP: Kaitlyn Eckman. LP: Hailey Hudalla. 2B:

BHV-Madison Schmitz, Brandi Warren, Carissa Winscher, Miranda Line.
BHV 11, Hill City/Northland 3
MADISON Schmitz and Carissa Winscher each totaled three hits and Hailey Hudalla pitched seven innings, giving up just two earned runs to lead East No. 2 Bertha-Hewitt/Verndale to an 11-3 win over West No. 2 Hill City/Northland in the Section 5-1A loser's bracket Tuesday, June 8, in Brainerd.
 With the win, the Raiders earned a spot in the section championship against Sebeka.
 Schmitz tripled and stole two bases and Winscher scored

three runs in the victory.
BHV 11 9 2
Hill City/Northland 3 7 6
 WP: Hailey Hudalla. LP: Mayce Lathrop. 3B: BHV-Madison Schmitz. Overall: BHV 12-13. Next: BHV in Section 5-1A Championship in Brainerd 4 p.m. Thursday, June 10.
Pierz Splits
WAITE PARK — The No.1 seeded Pierz Pioneers lost to No. 2 seeded Annandale 6-4 in the Section 6-2A winner's bracket final Tuesday, June 8, but came back to defeat No. 3 Albany 6-3 to advance to the section championship.
 It will be a rematch against Annandale Thursday, June 10 in Waite Park. Pierz will have to beat Annandale twice.

Hawley 11, Pequot Lakes 1
FRAZEE — Kaitlyn Geschwill finished with two hits and Morgan Eckes had a hit and RBI for the No. 1 seeded Pequot Lakes Patriots who suffered through eight errors in an 11-1 loss to No. 2 Hawley in the Section 8-2A winner's bracket final Tuesday, June 8.
 Eckes suffered the loss. She struck out four. She allowed 11 runs, four earned, on five hits.
 Pequot now faces Frazee in the loser's bracket game. A victory would create a rematch with Hawley for the section championship. Pequot would

have to beat Hawley twice.
Hawley 11 5 1
Pequot Lakes 1 3 8
 WP: Abby Rux. LP: Morgan Eckes. Overall: PL 19-4. Next: Pequot Lakes vs. Frazee in Section 8-2A loser's bracket noon Thursday, June 10.
Bemidji 11, Little Falls 0
BEMIDJI — The No. 3 seeded Bemidji Lumberjacks ended the season for No. 5 seeded Little Falls with an 11-0 win over the Flyers in the Section 8-3A loser's bracket Tuesday, June 8.
 Izzy Dukowitz collected the only hit for Little Falls, which concluded the season with a 4-17 record.
Little Falls 0 1 4
Bemidji 11 8 0
 LP: Avery Threkald Overall: LF 4-17.

AREA BOYS GOLF

Closing 9 sends Zaczkowski to state

PERHAM — With a second-round 83 Tuesday, June 8, Pine River-Backus sophomore Joseph Zaczkowski fired a two-day 172 to place fifth in the Section 6-1A Tournament and secure a spot in the Class 1A State Tournament.
 Zaczkowski improved upon

his opening round by six strokes as he fired nines of 45 and 38. His back nine 38 included two birdies on holes 11 and 16.
 Teammate Isaiah Aulie improved on his opening round by 15 strokes to finish with a two-day 183 and place

15th in his first section tournament.
 Brady Bristow shot a two-day 184 to finish one spot behind Aulie in a tie for 16th place.
Team scores: 1-West Central 709, 2-Hillcrest Lutheran Academy 725, 3-Breckenridge 738, 4-Nevis 754
 Section champion: Trevor Swonger (Underwood) 161
 Pine River-Backus results: 5-Joe Aczkowski 89-83

— 172 15-Isaiah Aulie 99-84 — 183, 16i-Brady Bristow 93-91 — 184, 30-Ethan Burns 101-100 — 201
 Next: Class 1A State Tournament at Pebble Creek Golf Club, Becker, June 15-16.
Woods 27th
BEMIDJI — Wadena-Deer Creek's Cole Woods improved upon his opening round 86 with an 85 Tuesday, June 8, during the final round of the

Section 8-2A meet at Bemidji Town and Country Club.
 Woods' two-day 171 placed him in a tie for 27th place.
Team scores: 1-Roseau 636, 11-Detroit Lakes 636 3-Barnesville 653, 4-Warroad 656, 5-Hawley 662, 6-Fergus Falls 669
 Section champion: Lukas Justesen (DL) 145
 Wadena-Deer Creek results: 27-Cole woods 86 85 — 171
 Next: Class 2A State Tournament at Ridges at Sand Creek, Jordan, June 15-16.

AMATEUR BASEBALL

Bees finish 2-1 over weekend

Brainerd 10, Sartell 1
SARTELL — Brain Voigt, Gunar Wicklund and Tom Fairbanks all bashed home runs as the Brainerd Bees knocked off the Sartell Stone Ponies 10-2 Saturday, June 5.
 Voigth went 3-4 with three runs and an RBI. Wicklund was 3-4 with two RBIs and

Fairbanks went 2-4 with three RBIs. Phil Synnda finished 2-4 with two doubles and two RBIs.
 Eric Martin pitched the two-hit complete game. He struck out eight and walked just one.
Sartell Stone Ponies 1 1 2
Brainerd 10 12 1
 WP: Eric Martin. 2B: Phil Zynda 2. HR: Brd-Brian Voigt, Gunnar Wicklund, Tom Fairbanks.

Muskies 7, Brainerd 0
SARTELL — Wyatt Gabrielson finished 2-3 for the Brainerd Bees who suffered a 7-0 loss to the Sartell Muskies Saturday, June 5.
 Ben Dorseif was tagged with the loss. He pitched 3.2 innings and allowed five runs, three earned, on three

hits and three walks. He struck out two.
Sartell Muskies 7 6 0
Brainerd 0 7 3
 LP: Ben Dorseif. Brainerd 4, Elrosa 0
ST. STEPHEN — Brain Voigt retired the last 15 batters he faced to post a two-hit shut-out of Elrosa Sunday, June 6.
 Voigt struck out six and

walked two. He also finished 2-2 with a sacrifice fly.
 Gunnar Wicklund was 2-3 with a double and an RBI and Zynda hit an RBI single.
Elrosa 0 2 2
Brainerd 4 7 0
 WP: Brian Voigt. 2B: Brd-Gunnar Wicklund. Record: Brd 2-2. Next: Brainerd at Cold Spring 7:30 p.m. Wednesday, June 9

AMATEUR BASEBALL

Buckman wins 2 1-run games

Buckman 10, Brewers 9
BUCKMAN — Joe Kahl hit a home run and drove in four runs and Noah Boser was 2-4 with two home runs and three RBIs as the Buckman Billygoats hung on to defeat the Pierz Brewers 10-9 Sunday, June 6.
 Travis Kahl earned the victory in relief. He pitched five innings and allowed three runs, two earned on eight hits and two walks. He struck out one.
 Aaron Weber finished 2-5 with a double and two RBIs and Austin Dickman was 2-5 with a double, two runs and RBI for Buckman.
 Jesse Marshik went 4-5 with four RBIs and a run. Brian Kiel was 2-3 with two runs and Cody Kimman was 2-5 with two RBIs, a double and a run scored for Pierz.
Brewers 9 12 0
Buckman 10 14 0
 WP: Travis Kahl. LP: Cody Kimman. 2B: Prz-Cody Kimman, B-Aaron Weber, Austin Dickman, Andrew Rueckert. HR: B-Noah Boser 2, Joe Kahl.

Buckman 5, Opole 4
BUCKMAN — Noah Boser finished 3-5 with a double and solo home run as the Buckman Billygoats scored runs in five different innings to top the Opole Bears 5-4 Sunday, June 6.
 Jack Suska was 2-5 with a double and two runs. Aaron Weber was 2-4 with a double, run and an RBI. Travis Kahl was 2-5 with a run and an RBI and Shawn Laners collected two hits for Buckman.
 Travis Kahl came on in relief to earn the win.
Opole 4 8 2
Buckman 5 12 2
 WP: Travis Kahl. LP: Tate Lange. 2B: B-Jack Suska, Noah Boser, Aaron Weber. HR: B-Boser.
Sobieski 8, Fort Ripley 2
FORT RIPLEY — Riley Hirsch finished 3-4 with a triple, four RBIs and two runs scored as the Sobieski Skis collected an 8-2 road victory over Fort Ripley Sunday, June 6.
 Collin Eckman doubled and drove in two runs.

Matt Baier was 3-5 with an RBI and Tyler Jendro went 2-4 with two runs scored. Jendro also pitched the victory. He struck out seven over 5.1 innings. He allowed one unearned run on two hits and three walks.
 Dusty Parker also allowed one unearned run on three hits and a walk in 3.2 innings for the save.
 Zach Heidmann went 2-4 with a double and a solo home run. Bill Sather drove in the other run for Fort Ripley.
Sobieski 8 11 0
Fort Ripley 2 5 0
 WP: Tyler Jendro. LP: Ethan Branum. S: Dusty Parker. 2B:FR-Zach Heidmann, Nick Jelacie, S-Collin Eckman. 3B: S-Riley Hirsch. HR: FR-Heidmann.
Sobieski 10, Freeport 1
FREEPORT — Beau Hanowski, Matt Baier and Scott Litchy all drove in two runs for the Sobieski Skis who secured a 10-1 victory over Freeport Saturday, June 5.
 Jake Kappahn tripled and Josh Wenzel was

2-5 with a run scored for the Skis.
 Litchy pitched the victory. He struck out 10 over seven innings. He allowed one run on two hits and two walks. Kappahn pitched the final two innings and struck out three.
Sobieski 10 12 0
Freeport 1 4 0
 WP: Scott Litchy. LP: Taylor Erickson. 2B: LF-Beau Hanowski. 3B: LF-Jake Kappahn.
Lakers 5, Royalton 3
ROYALTON — Peter Herman was 2-5 with a double, home run, two runs and two RBIs and Preston Rocheleau struck out nine to pitch the Pierz Lakers to a 5-3 victory over Royalton Saturday, June 5.
 Paul Herman went 2-4 with a solo home run and Luke Girtz secured another RBI for Pierz as he finished 2-4.
 Rocheleau did surrender 11 hits and two walks, but allowed just three unearned runs.
Pierz 5 10 1
Royalton 3 11 0
 WP: Preston Rocheleau. LP: Zach Leibold. S: Reggie Litke. 2B: Prz-Peter Herman. HR: Prz-Paul Herman, Peter Herman.

11th with a 216. Kassidy Bristow improved by three strokes and placed 20th.
Team scores: 1-Park Christian 742, 2-Ottertail Central 847, 3-West Central 668
 Individual medalist: Emily Stueland (Park Christian) 161
 Pine River-Backus results: 8-Hannah Barchus 107-97 — 204, 11-Cate Travis 109-107 — 216, 20-Kassidy Bristow 124-121 — 245
 Next: Class 1A State Tournament at Pebble Creek Golf Club, Becker, June 15-16.

AREA GIRLS GOLF

PR-B's Barchus headed to state

PERHAM — Hannah Barchus shaved 10 strokes off her opening round for a 97 Tuesday, June 8, and placed eighth in the Section 6-1A Tournament at Perham Lakeside Course.
 The Pine River-Backus sophomore's two-day 204 was good enough to land her a spot in the Class 1A State Tournament June 15-16.
 Barchus fired nines of 51-46 for her 97 Tuesday, which was the sixth-best score of the day.
 Teammate Cate Travis improved by two strokes Tuesday and finished

11th with a 216. Kassidy Bristow improved by three strokes and placed 20th.
Team scores: 1-Park Christian 742, 2-Ottertail Central 847, 3-West Central 668
 Individual medalist: Emily Stueland (Park Christian) 161
 Pine River-Backus results: 8-Hannah Barchus 107-97 — 204, 11-Cate Travis 109-107 — 216, 20-Kassidy Bristow 124-121 — 245
 Next: Class 1A State Tournament at Pebble Creek Golf Club, Becker, June 15-16.

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SOFTBALL

From Page B1

What calmed Olivia Tautges and gave her confidence heading into the seventh inning was in the bottom of sixth she ripped a frozen rope single to lead off the inning.

"It took a weight off my shoulders and gave me confidence in what I can do in this game," she said. Against Buffalo, Emma Tautges wasn't as overpowering and tallied just one strikeout. Instead, she pitched to contact and induced nine groundouts.

"Her strength is hitting spots," Jordan said. "She's not going to throw 70 MPH and blow it by hitters, but she hits her spots. Today, we played great defense and took care of the ball. It's pretty cool when your pitchers can be in the circle and have confidence to hit their spot and if they hit it in play the defense is going to have their back to get them out."

Emma Tautges said her gameplan coming in against Buffalo was to pitch inside and low to induce weak

contact. "I just had to trust in that process," Emma Tautges said. "And even if it didn't result in a lot of strikeouts, it did result in a lot less pitches for me, so I can keep on hitting my spots."

The Bison nearly scratched a run across in the third. With a runner on second and two outs, Buffalo leadoff hitter Madi Peterson ripped a base hit to Brainerd right fielder Kasia Kroll.

Kroll threw to cutoff Olivia Tautges who threw home in time to get the runner coming from second to keep the score 2-0 and end the inning.

"Our infield really had a good day," Emma Tautges said. "They didn't miss any plays at all."

Emma Tautges also got Brainerd on the board in the third inning against Buffalo with a two-run single. The Warriors added one in the fourth on a Mya Tautges single that scored Josie Kappes and scored three in the sixth for insurance.

Karlie Anderson ripped a double for an RBI and Kroll tallied an RBI as well in the three-run sixth for

Brainerd. STMA was coming off a 6-2 win over Moorhead at Central Lakes College while Brainerd was playing Buffalo.

The only run Brainerd needed against STMA came in the bottom of the first. Kappes walked and advanced to second on a sacrifice bunt by Mya Tautges. With two outs, Emma Tautges hit a single that drove in Kappes on a close play.

"That's what you want from your leadoff hitter," Jordan said. "Get on base, see a lot of pitches, get her over to second with either a steal or bunt and then have one of your boppers hit her in."

The Knights' biggest threat came in the sixth inning when a mini two-out rally put runners on the corners. STMA's cleanup hitter Khendal Johnson grounded out to short to end the threat.

Olivia Tautges allowed just three hits and five base runners total.

"I was proud," Emma Tautges said. "It's not easy to pitch with a 1-0 score, because you know that if you mess up then the game could be over, but she did

a good job with the pressure and our infield made pretty good plays again."

Meghan Smith had the lone extra-base hit with a double in the fifth inning for the Warriors.

Brainerd advances to play Elk River at Rogers High School 11 a.m. Thursday, June 10. Brainerd lost to Elk River 9-0 May 7.

If the Warriors were to beat Elk River they would play Rogers in the Section 8-4A championship game needing to beat them twice to get to state.

Rogers put Brainerd in the loser's bracket June 3 when they beat the Warriors 3-0.

"We've talked all year about just making good contact," Jordan said. "Putting the ball in play, so they have to throw it and catch it to get you out. We are going to try to limit our strikeouts and put the ball in play and go from there."

Rogers put Brainerd in the loser's bracket June 3 when they beat the Warriors 3-0.

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SCOREBOARD

AREA EVENTS

Wednesday, June 9

TRACK AND FIELD Brainerd, Little Falls in Section 8-2A Prelims at Sartell Pierz in Section 5-1A Final at St. John's University, Collegeville

Thursday, June 10

BASEBALL Section 8-2A At Wadena Loser's bracket No. 2 Wadena-Deer Creek vs. Roseau Noon Section final WDC/Roseau winner vs. Perham 2 p.m. Section 7-2A At Wade Stadium, Duluth Section championship Eveleth-Gilbert/Proctor winner vs. Aitkin 5 p.m. 7:30 p.m. (if necessary) Section 6-2A Section championship At Putz Field, St. Cloud Pierz vs. Albany 4:30 p.m. (2nd game if necessary)

SOFTBALL Section 8-4A At Rogers Loser's bracket No. 1 Elk River vs. No. 3 Brainerd 11 a.m. Championship game Elk River/Brainerd winner vs. No. 2 Rogers 1:30 p.m. Section 8-2A At Frazee Loser's bracket No. 1 Pequot Lakes vs. No. 2 Frazee Noon Section final Pequot Lakes/Frazee winner vs. No. 2 Hawley 2 p.m. Section 6-2A Section final At Waite Park Pierz vs. Annandale 5 p.m. (2nd game if necessary) Section 5-1A Section final At Brainerd No. 2 Bertha-Hewitt/Verndale vs. No. 1 Sebek 4 p.m. (2nd game if necessary)

TRACK AND FIELD Section 7-1A Finals Aitkin, Crosby-Ironton at Mesabi East Section 6-1A Finals Pequot Lakes, Pillager, Pine River-Bergus, Staples-Motley in Subsection meet at Fergus Falls 11 a.m.

BOYS TENNIS Class 2A State Individual Tournament At Prior Lake Brainerd's Matthew Moraghan vs. Century's Joshua Christensen 8 a.m. Class 1A State Individual Tournament At St. Cloud Tech Aitkin's James Much vs. Breck's Clayton Haberman 8 a.m.

TV AND RADIO

Wednesday, June 9

BASEBALL: MLB: New York Yankees at Minnesota, 7 p.m., BSN, KKIN-FM (94.3), KUAL-FM (103.5), WYRQ-FM (92.1), KWAD-AM (920) MLB: Kansas City at Los Angeles Angels, 8:30 p.m., ESPN

BASKETBALL: NBA playoff games, 6:30 p.m. and 9 p.m., TNT WNBA: Indiana at Chicago, 7 p.m., CBSN WNBA: Dallas at Phoenix, 9 p.m., CBSN

HOCKEY: NHL playoff games, 7 p.m. and 9:30 p.m., NBCSN

SOCCER: International friendly: U.S. vs. Costa Rica, 6 p.m., ESPN2

SOFTBALL: College softball: Women's College World Series game, 6 p.m., ESPN

TRACK AND FIELD: College track and field: NCAA outdoor championships, 8 p.m., ESPN2

Thursday, June 10

BASEBALL: MLB: New York Yankees at Minnesota, 7 p.m., BSN, KKIN-FM (94.3), KUAL-FM (103.5), WYRQ-FM (92.1), KWAD-AM (920)

BASKETBALL: WNBA: Los Angeles at Washington, 6 p.m., CBSN NBA playoff games, 6:30 p.m. and 9 p.m., ESPN

GOLF: Euro Tour: Scandanavian Mixed Hosted By Henrik & Annika, 6 a.m., GOLF Korn Ferry Tour: BMW Charity Pro-Am, 11 a.m., GOLF PGA: Palmetto Championship at Congaree, 2 p.m., GOLF LPGA: Medinah Championship, 5 p.m., GOLF

HOCKEY: NHL playoff games, 7 p.m. and 9:30 p.m., NBCSN

MMA: PFL: Featherweights and lightweights, 9 p.m., ESPN2

OLYMPIC SPORTS: Track and Field: Diamond League, 1 p.m., NBCSN

SOCCER: Women's international friendly: U.S. vs. Portugal, 7:30 p.m., FS1

TENNIS: French Open, 10 a.m., NBC and NBCSN

TRACK AND FIELD: College track and field: NCAA outdoor championships, 5:30 p.m., ESPN2

HOCKEY

Professional NHL Playoffs

Sunday's Games Montreal 5, Winnipeg 1 Vegas 5, Colorado 1 Monday's Games NY Islanders 5, Boston 4 Montreal 3, Winnipeg 2, OT Tuesday's Games Tampa Bay 2, Carolina 0 Vegas at Colorado, 8 p.m. Wednesday's Games Boston at NY Islanders, 6:30 p.m.

BASEBALL

Victory League standings North/East Division Name Division Buckman 6-0 Pierz Lakers 4-1 Foley 4-3 Nisswa 3-3 St. Mathias 3-3 Pierz Brewers 3-4 Roylton 3-5 Fort Ripley 1-3 Pierz Bulldogs 1-6 South/West Division Name Division Sobieski 9-0 Upsala 8-0 Avon 5-1 Randall 5-2 St. Stephen 4-2 Freeport 4-3 Opole 2-5 St. Wendel 2-6 Swanville 0-5 Flensburg 0-7

Upcoming games Wednesday, June 9 Avon at Pierz Lakers 7:30 p.m. Friday, June 11 Elrosa at Freeport 7:30 p.m. Avon at Pierz Bulldogs 7:30 p.m. Foley at Isanti 7:30 p.m.

Saturday, June 12 Buckman at Sobieski 11 a.m. Bemidji at Sobieski 1:30 p.m. Upsala at St. Mathias 1:30 p.m. Flensburg at Fort Ripley 1:30 p.m. Buckman vs. Bemidji at Sobieski 4 p.m.

Swanville at Nisswa 6:30 p.m. Farming at Avon 6 p.m. St. Stephen at Freeport 7:30 p.m.

Sunday, June 13 Swanville at Foley 1:30 p.m. St. Stephen at Roylton 1:30 p.m. Randall at Nisswa 1:30 p.m. Sobieski at St. Mathias 1:30 p.m. Opole at Pierz Lakers 1:30 p.m. Sartell at Fort Ripley 1:30 p.m. Pierz Brewers at St. Wendel 1:30 p.m.

BASEBALL

Professional MLB

Table with columns: American League, East, West, Central, National League, East, West, Central. Rows include teams like Tampa Bay, Boston, Toronto, NY Yankees, Oakland, Houston, Seattle, LA Angels, Texas, NY Mets, Atlanta, Philadelphia, Miami, Washington, Milwaukee, Chi. Cubs, St. Louis, Cincinnati, Pittsburgh, San Francisco, San Diego, LA Dodgers, Colorado, Arizona.

TENNIS

From Page B1

what this point would mean. Just play each point and not get too far ahead of myself."

The win brought him more relief than anything.

"I was happy, but just really relieved that it was over and I had done it," Moraghan said. "I was proud of myself that I had fought as hard as I could and all that hard work paid off. Not having a season last year was a bummer and made me enjoy this season even more.

"I just wanted to play more consistently. When you get into a tiebreaker every point matters. You don't want to make silly errors because that could end up costing you the set."

Warriors head coach Ellen Fussy called Moraghan very steady in his ability to handle the pressure.

"You couldn't tell if it was match point or first point because he was very constant throughout the whole match," Fussy said. "He doesn't show emotion. He has a very good poker face. As a freshman, he is very mature beyond his years."

Fussy admitted to tearing up after Moraghan won the true second-place match.

"He's such a worker and has a strong work ethic," Fussy said. "He's such a humble athlete and I couldn't be happier for him."

Moraghan will go against Joshua Christensen of Century High School in the first round of the Class 2A state individual singles tournament 8 a.m. Thursday, June 10, at Prior Lake High School.

His strategy is unlikely to change from the one he used in sections. Moraghan's record stands at 19-12 headed into state.

"My strategy throughout the whole tournament was to just play my game," Moraghan said. "I

wanted to play the way I wanted to and not have my opponent play their game. That's when I feel like I am at my best — when I am able to control the points and keep the ball deep."

"It'll be fun to compete against players of a high level," he said. "It's going to be the best players in the state and I just want to enjoy myself there."

On the court, Moraghan likes the baseline and can hit shots that put his opponent off balance.

"It's hard to play him because if you think you have a good shot and come up to the net you have to make sure it's out of Matt's range because he is going to hit a passing shot on you," Fussy said. "He has the total package. He has a strong baseline game. His approach shots and his volleys are coming along."

The pressure of going to state as a freshman doesn't get to Moraghan.

"I've already accomplished that goal and I have three more years left to do it," he said.

Moraghan is used to having pressure on him since he was moved to Brainerd's No. 1 singles player mid-season.

"When I first got moved up to No. 1 singles there was a little bit of pressure, but I think I settled in pretty quickly and realized that I was being put where I could compete at a high level," he said. "The pressure at the individual level was a lot higher because I played in a lot of matches where if I lost I'm out of the tournament."

Fussy thinks Moraghan playing No. 1 singles has him ready for the challenges of playing the state's best.

"I think it was really good preparation for the pressure he is going to have playing at state," Fussy said. "He just got better with each match. He is a very intelligent kid and matches his opponent's play very

well."

Aitkin's Much prepares for Class 1A State Singles

James Much has always dreamed of getting to state.

The Aitkin senior's dreams will become a reality Thursday, June 10, when he faces Clayton Haberman of Breck High School at 8 a.m. at St. Cloud Tech High School in the Class 1A State Singles Tournament.

"Ever since I started playing varsity in the eighth grade I've wanted to get to state," Much said. "My eighth grade year we had a few guys who were a hair away, so it's always been something I've wanted to achieve. The fact that I am even there is the best part of it."

Much has been practicing with former Aitkin tennis player Joel Fremling who is currently a member of the University of North-western, St. Paul tennis team to prepare.

"Just trying my best to work on strategy and the fine points of my game," Much said. "Anything I can change up before heading to state that will help me go far."

Playing early in the morning isn't a concern for Much because he has not gotten out of his school routine yet.

"(8 a.m.) doesn't feel too bad," Much said. "I think we are going to have a hotel the night before so we won't have to wake up

at 5 a.m. to drive down. Playing that early can be very challenging for a lot of players, but I've been practicing for that."

One thing that will help Much according to Aitkin head coach Jen Waldorf is his poise.

"He is frustrating for opponents to play because a lot of times when you play tennis you feed off your opponent's emotions," Waldorf said. "James is tough because you can't tell if he's frustrated inside or happy or calm."

Waldorf thinks Much has the right attitude headed into state. Much holds a 12-10 record with 43 career wins as he goes to state.

"He's just a great guy and always has been," Waldorf said. "He's easy to talk to, easy to coach and we want the same things. We want to be a great representation of Aitkin tennis and have fun."

Much is delighted to finish his tennis career reaching state and hopes it will draw more attention to Aitkin's tennis program, but his main focus is having a good time.

"I play my best when I'm relaxed and not taking things too seriously," he said. "But also playing competitively and playing to win."

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Steve Kohls / Brainerd Dispatch Aitkin Gobbler James Much returns the ball during practice Wednesday, June 2, 2021, on the Aitkin Tennis Courts.

CLASS 1A STATE SINGLES TOURNAMENT

Who: Aitkin's James Much Matchup: Clayton Haberman of Breck High School Where: St. Cloud Tech High School When: 8 a.m. Thursday, June 10



Much