Sports

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Examining UMD's two newest athletics contracts New deals include raises, but also system-wide language on termination

By Matt Wellens mwellens@duluthnews.com

The recent contract extensions awarded to University of Minnesota Duluth athletic director Josh Berlo and Bulldogs women's hockey coach Maura Crowell include raises and other financial incentives, however, the new agreements also contain broad and extensive language that allows the university to terminate Berlo and Crowell for cause prior to the expiration of their contracts in 2026.

Berlo, who was hired by the Bulldogs in April 2013, is scheduled to make a base salary of \$181,750.82 in 2021-22 financial management, funwith a \$5,000 retention base salary increase scheduled for May 1, 2022. Another \$10,000 increase scheduled for May 1, and outstanding accomplish-2024, would bring his salary ments in competition.'

to \$196,750.82.

On top of that, the university will now make a \$5,000 yearly payment to Berlo's beginning in 2022.

"Under Josh Berlo's leadership, our athletic programs continue to see sustained suc-cess on multiple levels," UMD chancellor Lendley Black said in a statement. "This contract extension exemplifies my confidence in his leadership and the direction of Bulldog athletics. Josh is a valuable part of my leadership team and has brought benefit to UMD through his sound draising success, enhanced community engagement, student success in the classroom,

Berlo last signed an extension in 2017 that gave him a base salary of \$156,829, with retention bonus salary university retirement plan increases of \$5,000 in 2018 and 2020.

Crowell, who was hired as the second head coach in UMD women's hockey history in 2015, also last signed an extension in 2017. After taking the Bulldogs to the NCAA Frozen Four last season, she was entering the final year of that extension with a scheduled base salary of \$190,000 in 2021-22 after making \$180,000 in 2020-21. Per her new deal, Crowell will still receive a base salary of \$5,000 increase coming each season after that, culminating at \$215,000 in 2025-26.



Don Davis / file / The Rink Live \$190,000 in 2021-22 with a University of Minnesota Duluth athletic director Josh Berlo (left) and men's hockey coach Scott Sandelin (third from left) meet with Gov. Tim Walz and Lt. Gov. Peggy Flanagan on April 24, 2019, as they made the rounds of the Minnesota Capitol celebrating the Bulldogs' recent national championship.

PREP TRACK AND FIELD

Esko goes for a double Eskomos looking to make a run at both

By Jon Nowacki

Section 7A titles

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Esko track and field coaches were always wondering how far it was to the baseball infield from the discus throwing circle at Cloquet High School.

Nobody ever bothered to measure it because they had never known anybody who could throw it that far.

Well, at the last-chance meet May 27, Esko senior Gage Stankiewicz found out, hitting the infield 176 feet away.

"We were joking after that, 'Well, I guess we know where the baseball infield is,'" Esko track coach Matt Peterson said. "We were all like, 'Oh, oh,' that's getting out there.''

Stankiewicz won the discus and finished second to Barnum's Garrett Coughlin in the shot put last week as Esko swept both the boys and girls Section 7A South Subsection team titles. That was the first time the Esko girls won it since 2016 while the boys won it in 2019. Esko also swept the Polar League titles this season. "We've had a good year so far," Peterson said, laughing.

UMD: Page B4





Cloquet's Olivia Jameson wins the 100 meter hurdles during the meet at the NBC Spartan Sports Complex in Superior on May 4.

Peterson coaches the girls team while Gary Beaudot coaches the boys. The Esko girls haven't won the section title since 2012.

The two programs qualified nearly 50 athletes for the section finals.

"What's crazy about it is that both teams are very young," Peterson said.

Esko will be looking to challenge the likes of Mesabi East and Rock Ridge, a co-op of Vir-ginia and Eveleth-Gilbert, for the girls team title while the boys will look to challenge Greenway/Nashwauk-Keewatin and Rock Ridge for the boys team title. It's almost the same Mesabi East girls team that won the section two years ago except one Ava Hill, but that's one big exception (Hill is now running for Minnesota).

ESKO: Page B3



Jamey Malcomb / file / jmalcomb@pinejournal.com Esko senior Gage Stankiewicz practices throwing the discus April 6. Stankiewicz qualified for the state meet in the discus as a sophomore in 2019.

CENTER OF ATTENTION

Cloquet the place for section meets all week

By Jon Nowacki jnowacki@duluthnews.com

f you're a fan of high school track and field, you're in for a treat this week as Cloquet High School will host both the Section 7AA and 7A meets this week.

Normally Section 7AA rotates each year between a northern location and a metro location. This year, the north is not only the host, but the meet will be held over two days instead of the traditional single day. It was originally scheduled with COVID-19 in mind.

"It was just a way to reduce the amount of people and capacity there," Lumberjacks coach Tim Prosen said. "The whole year has been planned, then changed, then re-planned. Eventually you just have to go with what you have, you know?"

The Section 7AA girls meet is at 10 a.m. Wednesday, the Section 7A boys and girls meet is at 10:30 a.m. Thursday and the Section 7AA boys meet is at 10 a.m. Saturday. That's a triple helping of track with a lot of field on the side.

"That's good though," Prosen said, laughing. Esko girls coach Matt

Peterson agreed: "It'll be crazy, but that's awesome."

Track coaches really get into it, crunching and comparing numbers like they work for NASA, but Prosen admits this year's Section 7AA meet is more of an unknown as teams kept their meet schedules closer to home due to COVID-19.

While the Section 7A meet is basically all teams from the Northland, the Section 7AA meet includes Twin Cities schools, as there just aren't that many large schools in the Northland.

"I just don't know what the north metro looks like, because we just haven't seen them." Lumberjacks coach Tim Prosen said. "It's been a very untraditional year, so I just don't have a feel for it. Typically, those big schools down there, the Forest Lakes and the Andovers, just because they're so significantly bigger than all the other schools, do quite well. And the weather down there helps, too, but we expect to hold our own with them."

Track is big in Cloquet. It's not just a novelty or to stay in shape for other sports but taken seriously.



Cloquet's MIles Fischer leads a lap on his way to a first-place finish in the 1600 meter run at the triangular at the NBC Spartan Sports Complex in Superior on May 4.

Both the Lumberjacks boys and girls teams have swept the Lake Superior Conference team titles every year since 2016, and they both won their respective section True Team meets this spring.

The state True Team meets were done virtually this year,

with the Lumberjacks boys finishing second to Willmar by just 3.5 points and the girls finishing seventh.

"I just don't have a feel for what's out there," Prosen said. "I didn't realize how strong we were."

TRACK: Page B3



SCOREBOARD

TODAY'S EVENTS

Baseball

MLB Brewers at Cincinnati, 6:10 p.m. N.Y. Yankees at Twins, 7:10 p.m. (Bally Sports North and KDAL AM 610/FM 103.9)

NORTHWOODS LEAGUE La Crosse at Huskies, 6:35 p.m. (WKLK FM 96.5)

BASEBALL

Pro	ofess MLB		al	
American Le				
	East W	Ĺ	Pct	GB
Tampa Bay	38	23	.623	00
Boston	37	23	.617	.5
Toronto	30	27	.526	6.0
NY Yankees	31	29	.517	6.5
Baltimore	21	38	.356	16.0
	Centr W		Det	C D
Chi. White Sox	36	L 23	Pct .610	GB
Cleveland	31	26	.544	4.0
Kansas City	29	28	.509	6.0
Minnesota	24	35	.407	12.0
Detroit	24	35	.407	12.0
	Wes			
Quildand	W 35	L 26	Pct	GB
Oakland Houston	33	26 26	.574 .559	1.0
Seattle	30	20 31	.359	5.0
LA Angels	27	32	.458	7.0
Texas	23	38	.377	12.0
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NY Mets	29	23	.558	_
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Philadelphia	28	30	.483	4.0
Washington Miami	24 25	32 34	.429 .424	7.0 7.5
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Milwaukee	33	26	.559	_
Chi. Cubs	33	26	.559	_
St. Louis	31	29	.517	2.5
Cincinnati	28	29	.491	4.0
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Atlanta	28	29	.491	3.5	
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San Francisco	37	22	.627	_	
San Diego	36	25	.590	2.0	
LA Dodgers	34		.576	3.0	
Colorado	24	36	.400	13.5	
Arizona	20	41	.328	18.0	
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Detroit 4, Chi. White	6 30	x s			
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Tampa Bay 3, Texa					
Cleveland 10, Baltin	more	94			
Minnesota 5, Kansa					
Boston 7, NY Yank					
LA Angels 12, Seat	ttle 5	;			
Sunday's Results					
Baltimore 18, Cleve	eland	15			
Houston 6, Toronto	3				
Chi. White Sox 3, E	Detro	oit O			
Minnesota 2, Kansa					
Tampa Bay 7, Texa					
Seattle 9, LA Angel					
Boston 6, NY Yank		5 10	0 innir	0.00	
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Monday's Games					
Kansas City (Kow			at LA	Ang	els
(Bundy 0-6), 8:38					
Tuesday's Games					
Houston (Valdez	1-0)	at I	Bosto	ו (Pei	rez
4-2), 6:10 p.m.					
Seattle (Gonzales	1-3) at	Detro	oit (Bo	byd
2-6), 6:10 p.m.				``	-
NY Yankees (Mont	taom	ierv	3-1) a	at Minr	ne-
sota (Pineda 3-3)					
Toronto (Ray 3-2				hite S	Sox

Toronto (Ray 3-2) at Chi. White Sox (Rodon 5-2), 7:10 p.m. (Heaney 3-3), 8:38 p.m. National League

HOME RUNS

HOME RUNS Guerrero Jr., TOR, 18; Garcia, TEX, 16; Ohtani, LAA, 16; Devers, BOS, 15; Olson, OAK, 15; Haniger, SEA, 14; Judge, NYY, 14; Meadows, TB, 14; Perez, KC, 14; 4 tied 13. RUNS BATTED IN Devers, BOS, 48; Meadows, TB, 48; Guerrero Jr., TOR, 47; Abreu, CHW, 46; Mancini, BAL, 44; Grichuk, TOR, 43; Garcia, TEX, 42; Ohtani, LAA, 42; Gur-riel, HOU, 41; 3 tied 40. PITCHING Civale, CLE, 8-2; Petit, OAK, 7-0; Lynn, CHW, 7-1; Eovaldi, BOS, 7-2; Pivetta, BOS, 6-1; Berrios, MIN, 6-2; Greinke, HOU, 6-2; Bieber, CLE, 6-3; Cole, NYY, 6-3; Matz, TOR, 6-3.

6-3; Matz, TOR, 6-3.

NL leaders

DATTING										
Batter,	GAB	R	н	AVG						
Castellanos, CIN	53209	37	75	.359						
Winker, CIN	51200	44	70	.350						
Frazier, PIT	57229	35	76	.332						
Turner, WAS	56228	31	71	.311						
Bryant, CHC	57204	38	63	.309						
Riley, ATL	58187	31	57	.305						
Smith, ARI	59212	34	61	.288						
Arenado, STL	59230	30	66	.287						
Reynolds, PIT	56202	34	58	.287						
Longoria, SF	50161	28	45	.280						
HOME RUNS										
Acuna Jr., ATL,										
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bar, ARI, 14; 6 tie										
RUNS BATTED I	N									
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nado, STL, 40; B										
SD, 39; Bryant,	CHC, 38	3; Na	quir	ı, CIN						
38; Albies, ATL,	37; Cra	awfo	rd, S	SF, 37						
Winker, CIN, 37.										
PITCHING										
Flaherty, STL,	8-1; Uri	ias,	LAD), 8-2						
Gausman, SF,	7-0; He	ndri	cks,	CHC						
7-4; Kershaw, L	AD. 7-5	; Da	irvis	h. SD						
6-1; Peralta, MIL	7-4; Kershaw, LAD, 7-5; Darvish, SD 6-1: Peralta, MIL, 6-1; Rogers, MIA, 6-3									
		gers								
Suter, MIL, 6-3; E	, 6-1; Ro		5, MI							

Monday's results Poston 5 Miami 2

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ab rhbi

Sawamura 2-0, Whitlock 2-0, HBP Chisholm (by D.Hernandez). WP—Pop (1), Z.Thompson (1). Umpires—Home, Brian Gorman; First, John Tumpane; Second, Marvin Hudson; Third, Sean Barber. T—3:38. A—25,374 (37,402)

Sunday's results

 Minnesota 2, Kansas City 1

 MiN
 ab r hbi KC
 ab r hbi

 Polanco dh 5
 0 2 0
 Mrrfid 2b
 4 1 2 0

C.Smith L, 2-2	5	3	1	1	2	8
R.Smith	1	2	1	1	1	0
Clarke	1	1	0	0	0	2
Crichton	1	0	0	0	0	1
Milwaukee						
Burnes W, 3-4	7	4	0	0	0	13
D.Williams H, 9	1	1	0	0	0	2
Boxberger S, 2	1	1	0	0	0	1
HBP—Pina (by C	.Smit	:h).				
Umpires-Home,						
Edwin Moscoso; S	Seco	nd, 、	Joe	Nes	t; TI	hird,
Bruce Dreckman.						
T-3.04 A-20 1	17 (4	5.80)8)			

04. A—20,117 (45,8

BASKETBALL

Professional NBA Playoffs Conference Quarterfinals (Best-of-7; x-if necessary)

Central

Eastern Conference

Philadelphia 4, Washington 1 Sunday, May 23: Philadelphia 125, Wash-ington 118 Mcdreaday, May 26, Philadelphia 120, Wednesday, May 26: Philadelphia 120,

Washington 95

Washington 95 Saturday, May 29: Philadelphia 132, Washington 103 Monday, May 31: Washington 122, Phila-delphia 114 Wednesday, June 2: Philadelphia 129, Washington 112 Procklime 4 Poston 1

Brooklyn 4, Boston 1 Saturday, May 22: Brooklyn 104, Boston 93

ร Tue 108 ัปา sday, May 25: Brooklyn 130, Boston Friday, May 28: Boston 125, Brooklyn 119 Sunday, May 30: Brooklyn 141, Boston

126 Tuesday, June 1: Brooklyn 123, Boston 109

Milwaukee 4, Miami 0 Saturday, May 22: Milwaukee 109, Miami

107 Monday, May 24: Milwaukee 132, Miami 98

Thursday, May 27: Milwaukee 113, Miami

Saturday, May 29: Milwaukee 120, Miami 103

Atlanta 4, New York 1

Sunday, May 23: Atlanta 107, New York 105 Wednesday, May 26: New York 101, Atlanta 92

Friday, May 28: Atlanta 105, New York 94 Sunday, May 20: Atlanta 100, New York 96 Wednesday, June 2: Atlanta 103, New York 89

Western Conference Utah 4, Memphis 1 Sunday, May 23: Memphis 112, Utah 109 Wednesday, May 26: Utah 141, Memphis

129 Saturday, May 29: Utah 121, Memphis 111 Monday, May 31: Utah 120, Memphis 113 Wednesday, June 2: Utah 126, Memphis 110

Phoenix 4, L.A. Lakers 2

Sunday, May 23: Phoenix 99, L.A. Lak-ers 90

Tuesday, May 25: L.A. Lakers 109, Phoe-nix 102 Thursday, May 27: L.A. Lakers 109, Phoe-

nix 95 Sunday, May 30: Phoenix 100, L.A. Lak-ers 92

Tuesday, June 1: Phoenix 115, L.A. Lak-

ers 85 Thursday, June 3: Phoenix 113, L.A. Lakers 100

Denver 4, Portland 2 Saturday, May 22: Portland 123, Denver 109

Monday, May 24: Denver 128, Portland 109 Thursday, May 27: Denver 120, Portland 115

Sat 95 urday, May 29: Portland 115, Denver Tuesday, June 1: Denver 147, Portland

140 Thursday, June 3: Denver 126, Portland 115

x-Sunday, June 20: L.A. Clippers at Utah, TBA Phoenix 1. Denver 0

Monday, June 7: Phoenix 122, Denver 105 Wednesday, June 9: Denver at Phoenix, 8:30 p.m. Friday, June 11: Phoenix at Denver, 9 p.m. Sunday, June 13: Phoenix at Denver,

7 p.m. x-Tuesday, June 15: Denver at Phoenix,

x-Thursday, June 17: Phoenix at Denver, TBA

x-Sunday, June 20: Denver at Phoenix, TBA

Conference Finals

(Best-of-7) Eastern Conference Milwaukee or Brooklyn vs. Philadelphia

Clippers

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Dal

or Atlanta Western Conference Phoenix or Denver vs. Utah or L.A.

WNBA

Lastern comerence									
	w	L	Pct	GB					
nnecticut	8	2	.800	_					
v York	5	4	.556	2.5					
inta	4	4	.500	3					
shington	2	5	.286	4.5					
cago	2	7	.222	5.5					
ana	1	9	.100	7					
Western	Con	fere	ence						
	w	L	Pct	GB					
attle	7	2	.778	_					
Vegas	7	3	.700	0.5					
penix	5	3	.625	1.5					
Angeles	4	3	.571	2					
nesota	3 3	4	.429	3					
las	3	5	.375	3.5					
ndav's Games									

Sunday's Games Minnesota 100, Atlanta 80 Dallas 68, Seattle 67 Tuesday's Games Minnesota at Washington, 6 p.m. Dallas at Phoenix, 9 p.m.

Wednesday's Games Seattle at Atlanta, 6 p.m. Indiana at Chicago, 7 p.m.

Sunday's result

ATLANTA (80) C.Williams 5-12 1-1 13, Hayes 7-12 3-4 21, E.Williams 2-2 1-2 5, Sims 0-5 0-0 0, Hawkins 0-0 0-0 0, McDonald 4-10 6-6

Hawkins 0-0 0-0 0, McDonald 4-10 6-6 15, Billings 1-2 0-0 2, Ch.Parker 4-6 2-3 12, Bradford 5-12 1-3 12, Stricklen 0-3 0-0 0. Totals 28-64 14-19 80. **MINNESOTA (100)** Carleton 3-7 1-2 8, N.Collier 6-16 1-2 14, McBride 7-14 1-1 19, Fowles 6-7 5-6 17, Clarendon 2-6 0-0 4, Dangerfield 4-8 7-7 17, Achonwa 2-3 4-6 8, Banham 5-5 0-0 13, Shepard 0-2 0-0 0. Totals 35-68 19-24 100. Attanta 23 15 26 16 — 80

Atlanta 23 15 26 16 - 80 Minnesota 29 23 24 24 - 100 Minnesota 29 23 24 24 –100 3-Point Goals—Atlanta 10-25 (Hayes 4-5, Ch.Parker 2-3, C.Williams 2-6, Bradford 1-4, McDonald 1-4, Sims 0-1, Strick-len 0-2), Minnesota 11-25 (McBride 4-7, Banham 3-3, Dangerfield 2-4, Carleton 1-4, N.Collier 1-4, Achonwa 0-1, Clar-

Hard, N.Collief 1-4, Actolium dori, Clarine endon 0-1, Souled Out— None. Rebounds—Atlanta 33 (Billings 6), Minnesota 32 (Fowles 7). Assists— Atlanta 16 (C.Williams 5), Minnesota 26 (N.Collier 6). Total Fouls—Atlanta 22 (Hayes, McDonald 5), Minnesota 20 (Fowles 6). 4 – 2 021 (Fowles 5). A-2,021.

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 at Carolina, 5:30 p.m. Vegas at Colorado, 8 p.m. Wadnesday's Wednesday's Games Boston at NY Islanders Islanders,





Thursday Friday at St. Cloud at St. Cloud 7:05 p.m. 7:05 p.m.

Tickets: (218) 786-9909 or duluthhuskies.com

Rochester 9, Bismarck 8

Wisconsin Rapids 2, Wisconsin 1 Monday's Results

Eau Claire 3. Duluth 2. 10 innings

NORTHWOODS LEAGUE STANDINGS

Gre	at Pla	ins	East	
Team	w	L	Pct	GB
Waterloo	7	1	.875	—
La Crosse	4	4	.500	3
Duluth	2 2 1	6	.250	3 5 5 5
Eau Claire	2	6	.250	5
Minnesota	1	5	.167	5
Grea	at Pla	ins \	West	
Team	w	L	Pct	GB
Willmar	6	2 3	.750	_
Bismarck	5	3	.625	1
Mankato	5	3 4	.625	1
Rochester	4	4	.500	1 2 3
St. Cloud	2	4	.333	3
Great Lakes Ea	st			
Team	W	L	Pct	GB
Traverse City	6	2 3 4 4 5 5	.750	_
Kenosha	5	3	.625	1
Kalamazoo	4	4	.500	2 2 3.5
Kokomo	4	4	.500	2
Battle Creek	2 2	5	.286	3.5
Rockford		5	.286	3.5
Great Lakes We			D .4	00
Team	W 6	L 2	Pct	GB
Wisconsin Fond du Lac	5	2	.750 .625	_
Fond du Lac Madison	5	4		1
	4	4	.500 .500	2
Wis. Rapids Green Bay		4 5	.375	2
Lakeshore	3 2	6	.250	1 2 3 4
	ے day's			-
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Duluth 4, Eau (Kokomo 10, Ka				
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Dulu Battle Kenosha 10, Fond du Lac 5 Green Bay 5, Lakeshore 3 Madison 5, Traverse City 4 Waterloo 7, Minnesota 1 Willmar 4, St. Cloud 1 La Crosse 10, Mankato 9



Rockford at Kokomo, 5:30 p.m. Lakeshore at Kalamazoo, 5:35 p.m. Traverse City at Battle Creek, 5:35 p.m. Fond du Lac at Wisconsin Rapids, 6:05 p.m.

Madison at Kenosha, 6:05 p.m. St. Cloud at Rochester, 6:35 p.m. Minnesota at Eau Claire, 6:35 p.m. Bismarck at Mankato, 6:35 p.m. Green Bay at Wisconsin, 6:35 p.m. Waterloo at Willmar, 7:05 p.m

Wednesday's Games La Crosse at Duluth, 6:35 p.m. (WKLK

FM 96.5) Rockford at Kokomo, 5:30 p.m Lakeshore at Kalamazoo, 5:35 p.m Traverse City at Battle Creek, 5:35 p.m. Wisconsin Rapids at Fond du Lac, 6:05

p.m. Madison at Kenosha, 6:05 p.m Wisconsin at Green Bay, 6:35 p.m. Bismarck at Mankato, 6:35 p.m. Minnesota at Eau Claire, 6:35 p.m. Rochester at St. Cloud, 7:05 p.m. Waterloo at Willmar, 7:05 p.m.



Wendell Cruz / USA Today Sports

Milwaukee Bucks guard Bryn Forbes (7) goes up against Brooklyn Nets guard Joe Harris (12) in the second quarter during game two in the second round of the 2021 NBA Playoffs at Barclays Center in Brooklyn on Monday, June 7.

Reeling Bucks head home with tails between legs

DULUTHNEWSTRIBUNE.COM

National League
Saturday's Results
Cincinnati 5, St. Louis 2
Philadelphia 5, Washington 2
Pittsburgh 8, Miami 7, 12 innings
Milwaukee 7, Arizona 5
San Francisco 4, Chi. Cubs 3
Atlanta 6, LA Dodgers 4
NY Mets 4, San Diego 0
Sunday's Results
Miami 3. Pittsburgh 1
Philadelphia 12, Washington 6
Atlanta 4, LA Dodgers 2
Milwaukee 2, Arizona 0
Cincinnati 8, St. Louis 7 Chi. Cubs 4, San Francisco 3
Chi. Cubs 4, San Francisco 3
NY Mets 6, San Diego 2
Monday's Games
Chi. Cubs (Alzolay 4-4) at San Diego
(Weathers 2-2), 9:10 p.m.
Tuesday's Games
LA Dodgers (Buehler 4-0) at Pittsburgh
(Brubaker 4-4), 6:05 p.m.
Atlanta (Smyly 2-3) at Philadelphia (Nola
4-4), 6:05 p.m.
Milwaukee (Houser 3-5) at Cincinnati
Milwaukee (Houser 3-5) at Cincinnati (Gray 1-4), 6:10 p.m.
Colorado (Senzatela 2-5) at Miami (Lopez
1-3), 6:10 p.m.
Chi. Cubs (Davies 2-3) at San Diego
(Lamet 1-0), 9:10 p.m.
Interleague
Saturday's Results
Saturday's Results
Saturday's Results Oakland 6, Colorado 3 Sunday's Results
Saturday's Results Oakland 6, Colorado 3 Sunday's Results Colorado 3, Oakland 1
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Saturday's Results Oakland 6, Colorado 3 Sunday's Results Colorado 3, Oakland 1 Monday's Results Boston 5, Miami 3
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Arizona

L.A. Clippers 4, Dallas 3 Saturday, May 22: Dallas 113, L.A. Clip-pers 103 iesday, May 25: Dallas 127, L.A. Clipers 121

iday, May 28: L.A. Clippers 118, Dal-as 108 Inday, May 30: L.A. Clippers 106, Dal-as 81

Clippers 100 iday, June 2: Dallas 105, L.A. iday, June 4: L.A. Clippers 104, Dal-as 97

unday, June 6: L.A. Clippers 126, Dal-las 111

onference Semifinals

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onday, June 14: Philadelphia at Atlanta, 30 p.m.

Nednesday, June 16: Atlanta at Phila-lelphia, TBA riday, June 18: Philadelphia at Atlanta,

TBA Sunday, June 20: Atlanta at Philadel-ohia, TBA

rina, IBA rooklyn 2, Milwaukee 0 aturday, June 5: Brooklyn 115, Milwau-cee 107 poder: onday, June 7: Brooklyn 125, Milwau-kee 86

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saturday, othe The Storm, and saturday, June 19: Milwaukee at Brook-yn, TBA estern Conference

) Utah, (4) L.A. Clippers Jesday, June 8: L.A. Clippers at Utah, p.m ursday, June 10: L.A. Clippers at Utah, p.m. iturday, June 12: Utah at L.A. Clippers, ':30 p.m. onday, June 14: Utah at L.A. Clippers, 9 p.m. Wednesday, June 16: L.A. Clippers at

Jtah, TBA Friday, June 18: Utah at L.A. Clippers, ГВА

–1, Montreal, Perry 3 (Staal, First Period

Armia) 4:45. Second Period—2, Montreal, Lehkonen 1 Second Period—2, Montreal, Lehkonen 1 (Danault, Gallagher) 9:24. 3, Montreal, Armia 3 (unassisted) 13:41 (sh). 4, Winni-peg, Lowry 2 (Perreault, Appleton) 17:51. Third Period—5, Montreal, Suzuki 4 (Cau-field, Toffoi) 8:52 (pp). 6, Montreal, Armia 4 (Edmundson) 16:42 (sh). Shots on Goal—Winnipeg 7-6-14—27. Montreal 10:15-8—33. Power-play opportunities—Winnipeg 0 of 2. Montreal 1 of 5. Goalies—Winnipeg Hellebuyck 4-3-0 (36 shots-31 saves). Montreal Price 7-3-0 (30-29).

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Los Angeles FC	2	3	2	8	8	9	
Vancouver FC	3 2 2 2 2 2 2 2	4	1	7	6	9	
Austin FC	2	4	1	7	5	8	
Minnesota United	2	4	1	7	6 1	1	

Minne 1 3 3 6 8 11 FC Dallas NOTE: Three points for victory, one point

By Stefan Bondy New York Daily News

They say a series never starts until the home team loses. But this one feels over.

For one side Monday night, the excellence was stunning. For the other, the stench was toxic.

The Nets didn't need Iames Harden to pummel the Milwaukee Bucks in Game 2 on Monday, 125-86, dominating with the type of performance that put every team — no matter the conference on notice:

The path to Larry O'Brien should go through Brooklyn.

Kevin Durant was again spectacular, dropping 32 points in 33 minutes on 12-of-18 shooting. If he continues throughout the playoffs, it's hard to imagine a greater recovery from Achilles surgery. He punctuated Monday's performance by crossing up Giannis Antetokounmpo and blowing past the former Defensive Player of the Year for an upand-under lay-up at the end of the third quarter. Then Durant sat for the entire fourth quarter because Brooklyn's lead hit obscene levels.

Despite the remarkable return from the Achilles tear, Durant didn't want to look back. "I'm just looking for-

ward," he said.

Antetokounmpo, on the other hand, was a mess. He managed just 18 points while forced into uncomfortable shots and positions. He was joined in struggling by teammate Khris Middleton (17 points, 7-for-20 shooting, five turnovers), who has looked overwhelmed and anxious in the opening two games.

Harden was in street clothes on the Nets bench and could rest comfortably. Since he sustained the hamstring injury in the opening seconds of Game 1, the Nets have steamrolled the Bucks over eight quarters at Barclays Center.

Saturday was at least competitive until the end of the third quarter. Game 2 felt over after the opening tip.

The Nets led by as many as 27 points in the first half. They shot 50% from beyond the arc, hitting a remarkable 21 treys. Kyrie Irving added 22 points in 34 minutes on 9-of-17 shooting. Joe Harris and Landry Shamet hit a combined six 3-pointers. Even Brooklyn's bench dominated garbage time.

It was never close. The Nets never trailed. It was a clinic.

Game 3 is Thursday in Milwaukee and the Nets don't need to change a thing. But Durant wasn't ready to celebrate.

"I think we still have a long ways to go," he said. "(The Bucks) is an amazing team. We know they're going to come back. We just did what we were supposed to do and win at home."

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Rodgers absent from Packers minicamp

Field Level Media

hope for a resolution to the Aaron Rodgers standoff with the Green Bay Packers are out of luck.

Rodgers is not present at the team's mandatory minicamp, which began Tuesday morning with team meetings.

the front office.

Rodgers has told members of the organization cos. he wants a trade and will not play in Green Bay again.

Those holding out tied to the team's man- the reigning NFL MVP, agement of the roster despite inquiries from and communication with multiple teams, including the San Francisco 49ers and Denver Bron-

With Rodgers staying away — he's been training in California But team president and recently vacationed Mark Murphy and gen- in Hawaii — the Pack-The 38-year-old quar- eral manager Brian ers are using 2020 firstterback is entangled in a Gutekunst insist there's round pick Jordan Love each absence this week.

tense holdout he said is no trade coming for at quarterback with the first-team offense.

> If he sticks to his holdout stance or retires, Rodgers has a base salary of \$14.7 million in 2021 he'd forfeit. He could also be forced to pay back previously earned bonuses.

> Because the minicamp is mandatory, Rodgers is subject to daily fines for

Gophers' Joel Johnson to lead St. Thomas women's hockey

By John Shipley St. Paul Pioneer Press

Joel Johnson, the interim Team USA women's hockey coach who helped the Gophers win four NCAA titles as associate head coach since 2010, has been hired to lead the St. Thomas women's hockey team as it transitions to Division I.

Johnson has been the associate head coach to Brad Frost hockey program, now and at Minnesota for the past 11 into the future," St. Thomyears. The Tommies, which as vice president and athlethas been playing the Division ics director Phil Esten said in coach from 2004-10, leading look forward to building upon III Minnesota Intercollegiate a statement released by the the Royals to their only NCAA that.



of candidates, it became clear that Joel is the right individual to lead our women's

ence, will play

its first Division I

schedule this fall.

national search

that spanned an

impressive pool

"Through our

school. "He epitomizes what tournament appearance, He Athletic Conferrelationship-focused servant leader that develops his student-athletes both on and off the ice."

> Tommies program for the past 14 seasons, going 202-87-36 over the past 12 seasons and two Division III Final Four appearances in the past six.

> Johnson joined the Gophers as an assistant coach in 1999, then became the Bethel men's

it means to be a Tommie as a is currently the interim head uniquely positioned to attract coach of the USA Hockey's national women's team.

"I have been so impressed first with the overall direction Minnesota, but from across Tom Palkowski led the of the University of St. Thomas, and specifically the bold and impressive commitments shown as the department of athletics transitions to Division I status," Johnson said in a statement. The women's hockey program has a great foundation of success, and I

"I believe St. Thomas is and develop the very best student-athletes not only from the Twin Cities and greater North America."

While at Minnesota, Johnson helped guide the Gophers to six national titles and 11 Frozen Fours. Primarily responsible for the defense, he has coached six WCHA Defensive Players of the Year.

Johnson will be formally introduced at a press conference on Thursday afternoon.

TRACK

From Page B1

Cloquet junior Olivia Jameson is one of the Northland's top athletes. She's good in the hurdles and jumps and was a state qualifier in the high jump in 2019.

Junior Bella Harriman and sophomore Seija Suominen are strong in the throwing events, Taylor Wick and Katie Turner are strong in the jumping events and Alexa Snesrud and Caley Kruse are strong in the sprinting events.

"Olivia Jameson is as good as they come," Prosen said. "She'll do some damage, but again, I just don't know what the north metro schools will have. A team might have a good athlete in one event, but Olivia could go to state in four events."

Among other athletes to watch ...

Paul Nisius has been running the Duluth Denfeld program after recently retiring as Minnesota Duluth's track and field coach. The Hunters only have two seniors, including Claire Barlass (800/400). Junior Elliana Jouppi is the only returner who scored points in the 2019 section meet as she placed in both the high jump and triple jump events.

Duluth East has been led this spring by seniors Allie Niska, a state qualifier in the 200 in 2019, distance runner Crystal Kaczmarczyk and thrower Kylene Schubitzke. They also have an up-andcoming distance runner in eighth-grader Anna-Brita Helmer and a junior sprinter and pole vaulter in Bianca Lott.

Hermantown is strong in the hurdles with the likes of senior Allison Anderson and sophomore Elise Harriman, senior Addie Peterson in the 1,600 and sophomore Liv Birkeland in the 400/800.

Hibbing has a gifted pole vaulter in junior Julia Gherardi, who has the top mark in the state at 12-foot-6 this spring, a school record. The Bluejackets also have a multi state qualifier in senior Ayva Burkes in the 400 and senior Haley Hawkinson, a basketball standout who is strong in the hurdles and jumping events. This was Hibbing's final season in the Iron Range Conference as the Bluejackets are joining the Lake Superior Conference for 2021-22.

► Look for a preview of the Section 7AA boys meet in Saturday's News Tribune.



Jed Carlson / jcarlson@superiortelegram.com

Hermantown's Liv Birkeland runs her way to a first-place finish in the 800 meter run during the triangular at the NBC Spartan Sports Complex in Superior on May 4.

ESKO

From Page B1

traditionally Esko loads up on the relays,

trying

qualify

ing events

and

Dylan

in

to

as



Stankiewicz



many athletes as possible for the state GILL meet. The Eskomos only have six seniors but they've got a couple good ones: Stankiein wicz the throw-





Esko's Keone Anderson is the first to cross the finish line in the 4x800 relay at the Packy Paquette Invitational at the NBC Spartan Sports Complex in Superior on May 21.

iust break Esko's school a good moment." discus record this year. The current record is He shattered it.

Stankiewicz didn't right afterwards. It was

the 178-4 that Stankie-

Edland the hurdles.

"It's interesting when you talk about our boys team," Peterson said. "Our boys team doesn't have a lot of heavy hitters. Gary just has a lot of good depth, picking away at it at subsections with a lot of thirds and fourths."

The Esko girls only have two seniors. Again, they got a couple good ones in Zoie Johnson (throwing events) and Allison Thornton (high jump, relays).

Stankiewicz and Johnson are something special.

"I've had the pleasure of working with them since they were eighthgraders," said Peterson, who specializes in the throwing events. "Throws are kind of my thing."

Johnson is making her mark in track even as she competes as a power-hitting first baseman in softball. She is the daughter of Minnesota Duluth Hall of Famer Kerrick Johnson, who was the first Bulldogs male athlete to ever capture an NCAA individual title in any sport, which he accomplished in the 1992 NCAA Division II indoor shot put and 1993 DII outdoor discus.

Zoie Peterson will play college volleyball at Augsburg.

"Zoie is unbelievably talented," Peterson said. "With all the attention shown toward Gage, Zoie has kind of

Photos by Jed Carlson / jcarlson@superiortelegram.com Esko's Gwendolyn Lilly (right) clears a hurdle just ahead of Northwestern's Lily Nichols to take second place in the 100 meter hurdles at the Packy Paquette Invitational at the NBC Spartan Sports Complex in Superior on May 21.

Right now, she has the state of Minnesota in sophomore 121-10."

Among other Esko Emily Rengo and eightgrader Kaitlyn McConnell in the sprints and relays.

"We're hopeful," out a section title for the year due to COVID-19. first time in nine years. We're hoping."

Among boys, GNK and Rock Ridge have the "big hitters" Peterson was refer- it. There'll be a lot of ring to. The boys 800 fun stuff to watch on

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DEPARTMENT

OEHLER

JUST

been lost in the shuffle. and 1,600 meter races Thursday will be statethird-best throw in the caliber, with Rock Ridge Cameron Class A in the discus at Stocke and Isaac Swanson both running sub-2 minutes at subsections. standouts are junior Stocke will continue his rivalry with GNK senior Geno Uhrbom in the 1,600. Uhrbom swept the Class A 1,600 and 3,200 titles as a sopho-Peterson said. "We're more but wasn't able hoping we can squeak to defend his titles last

> "Those are top-five matchups in the state," "It's both Peterson said. going to be great -I can't wait to watch

Thursday, Hopefully the weather holds out and it's not blazing hot (he laughed, knowing how that feels)."

Another one to watch will be Stankiewicz. When he throws the discus, people take notice.

The record was held by Bill Hudspith, a toss of 162-7 in 1975.

Stankiewicz went 169–9 April 20 at Moose Lake when it was 30 degrees and snowing. One of the people who couldn't have been more proud was Hudspith, who works with Esko's throwers.

"Gage has taken that record and is running away with it," Peterson said. "There's a them standing together of what he decides."

wicz tossed at the Packy Paquette Invitational May 21 in Superior, giving him Minnesota Class A's best mark for a time. The Eskomos can only imagine what's next.

"That's a bomb," Peterson said. "I know as of (Monday night), he was on the phone with North Dakota State, so he's starting to get a lot of attention. I'd venture to guess that great picture that Angie everyone in the Midwest Hudspith, Bill's daugh- will reach out to him ter, took of the two of now. It's just a matter

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Despite another early exit, this Wild team feels different

By Dane Mizutani St. Paul Pioneer Press

In a perfect world for the Wild, they would be battling the Colorado Avalanche in the second round of the NHL playoffs right now, not talking about this season in the past tense.

After a round of exit interviews earlier this week, Wild players and coaches have gone their separate ways with their offseason in full swing much sooner than they expected.

Perhaps coach Dean Evason put it best. While the Wild should feel a lot of pride in what they accomplished this season, they should also be feeling immense disappointment that they are watching the rest of the playoffs from the discomfort of their couch.

After finishing 35-16-5 in the regular season, third in the West division, the Wild lost in seven games to Vegas in the opening round of the playoffs.

"Every season when we go in, our goal is to win the Stanley Cup, so in that sense, it was a failure," Evason said. "But we had a good regular season and we can build on that. We are looking forward to that next season."

If it feels different heading into this offseason from a fan's perspective, just know the Wild are feeling that, too. There's an overarching sense of optimism surrounding this core and its potential to Bill Guerin. He has been trybecome a legitimate Stanley ing to change the culture of



Brad Rempel / USA TODAY Sports

Minnesota Wild forward Nick Bjugstad (27) celebrates his goal with forward Nico Sturm (7) and forward Nick Bonino (13) against Vegas Golden Knights in the third period in Game 6 of the first round of the 2021 Stanley Cup Playoffs on May 26 at Xcel Energy Center.

Cup contender in the future. With star rookie Kirill Kaprizov leading the way, and other highly skilled players taking the next step, the Wild established themselves among the most exciting teams in the league this season. Let's just say the highoctane offense is nothing like the Jacques Lemaire-coached teams of the past that used to win by lulling opponents to sleep.

"It's felt different," defenseman Matt Dumba said. "'This isn't your old Minnesota Wild team."

That has to be music to the ears of general manager the franchise ever since he took over 22 months ago, and he finally started to see the fruits of his labor this season.

Wild battled tooth and nail with the Golden Knights in the playoffs. After falling behind 3-1 in the series, the Wild battled back to tie the series with back-to-back victories before ultimately running out of gas in Game 7.

"If we're going to go out, that's the way to go out," Guerin said. "I'm proud of our players and I'm proud of our coaching staff. I feel like there's a lot of buzz in the market for our team, and for other and supporting each good reason."

have loved to make a deeper happy for each other, whethrun at the Stanley Cup this er they were scoring goals, season, that seemed like a making plays or getting that long shot. This was always recognition. I think that's going to be a transitional huge." year for the Wild, and they exceeded expectations every step of the way.

taking the league by storm, dynamic winger Kevin Fiala continuing his ascension, two-way center Joel Eriksson Ek taking a gigantic leap, or various other players stepping up, the Wild have a lot to feel good about moving forward.

"I think the steps that our players took as individuals and the steps that we took as a team were big," Guerin said. "The process that we're going through to try to build a championship team is good. I really do feel that we took steps in the regular season. And in the playoffs. It was disappointing to go out in Just look at the way the the first round, but the signs I see in my seat as a general manager were positive."

Maybe the biggest step forward for the Wild came off the ice. There was a closeknit vibe in the locker room this season with captain Jared Spurgeon in charge. While playing in the middle of a pandemic could have pulled ule? Not really, because we the team apart, Spurgeon got knocked out in the first made sure it brought the team together.

"Just being happy for each ood reason." other is a big thing," Spur- We made some Though the Wild would geon said. "Everyone was steps this year."

Added Fiala: "I feel that our team is like a family. There's something special in Whether it was Kaprizov this team. Everybody wants to win and wants to do everything for each other. We had some up and downs all season, but we always stuck together. That's why I love this team."

What's the next step for the Wild?

"We just need to continue to grow," Evason said. 'We've seen the individual growth in so many players. That just has to continue to get better and better. The way we played as a group and as a team on a nightly basis, with a team-first mentality, was very exciting to us as a coaching staff and as a franchise. We just want to continue to build on that."

As for Guerin, while he admitted the Wild are maybe a little further along than he expected at this point, he isn't satisfied with where they are.

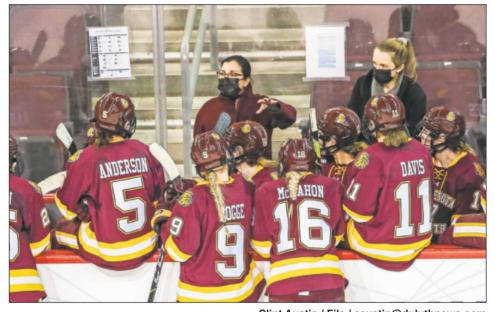
"It's going in the right direction," Guerin said. "Can I say we're ahead of schedround, and that's not good enough. There are some signs from this team that I'm extremely happy with. We made some really good

UMD

From Page B1

Per their contracts, both Berlo's and Crowell's salaries are subject to furloughs, pay freezes, salary reductions and other adjustments that may be required of other UMD employees, the university or athletic department, as was the case during the last two seasons because of the COVID-19 pandemic. Both were part of the University of Minnesota's system-wide pay cuts for employees who

made \$60,000 or more. - which was signed on May 24, 2021 — is still subject to approval by



Clint Austin / File / caustin@duluthnews.com

Berlo's new contract Minnesota Duluth head coach Maura Crowell talks to her players during a timeout at the NCAA Women's National Collegiate Ice Hockey Championship quarterfinal game on March 15 at Erie Insurance Arena in Erie, Pennsylvania.

and student-athletes to doubled to \$5,000, of the support of both sota Board of Regents at reaching their greatest a \$2,500 NCAA title Josh and the chancellor, game bonus was added and the university, realthe \$2,500 Frozen ly, to make that happen. which was signed back contract, men's hock- Four bonus remains the (My staff) is a big part same — and there is of the operation." now \$7,500 available Sandelin also added to split among the two bonuses for his direcassistants for winning tor of operations in his a national championmost recent extension ship, compared to just in 2019. \$4,000. Crowell's director of 2019, Crowell is also fraud and dishonesoperations is now also eligible for WCHA and up to eight tickets for NCAA bonuses, with all conference and NCAA that person receiving tournament games for \$250 when UMD hosts personal use. The unia first-round WCHA playoff series or fin-Crowell's spouse and controlled substances, der of the agreement.

Under Josh Berlo's leadership, our athletic programs continue to see sustained success on multiple levels.

LENDLEY BLACK, UMD chancellor

children to accompany her to any NCAA tournament games UMD is includes broad lanplaying in, subject to a maximum of \$750 per person for tickets, travel and two additional rooms for lodging.

'Terminate for cause'

added financial perks, Crowell and Berlo's new agreements include extensive new language on how to terminate them for cause. It's a around that is typical trend sweeping across for university contracts the University of Min- like this," said Lynne nesota system as much Williams, UMD's direcof the same language tor of marketing and can also be found in the 2020 contract extension of Gophers athletic right to terminate both director Mark Coyle. Section 3.1 of both contracts, "The University's Right to Terminate for Cause" includes specific language that And like Sandelin in covers NCAA violations, now eligible to receive ty, gambling, outside tract. Crowell's termiactivities and income, honoring the decisions of the sports medicine staff, and the use of versity will also pay for drugs, alcohol and other payable for the remain-

Section 3.1 also guage that allows the university to fire Berlo and Crowell for "participation in any act, situation, or occurrence, which, in the University's judgement, brings In addition to the Athletic Director or the University into public disrepute, embarrassment, contempt, scandal or ridicule."

like steroids.

"All of the language public relations.

the University of Minnetheir meeting this week.

Crowell's contract, on May 6, 2021, is not subject to board of regents approval.

It pays to win

Berlo's new deal also includes new competition related incentives related to the men's and women's hockey programs that are retroactive to the 2020-21 season. Berlo will receive \$1,000 if the men's hockey team reaches the NCAA tournament and \$1,000 if the women do as well. Both teams made the NCAA tournament in 2020-21. It was the sixth-consecutive NCAA tournament berth for the men.

on the NCAA's National Collegiate Women's Ice Hockey Committee, which is in charge of overseeing the selection and seeding of the NCAA ticipating bonus pool tournament. In 2020-21 because of the pandemic, it was the committee members who selected the eight-team field, but in 2021-22, the Pairwise rankings are expected to once again dictate who is in and out of the tournament.

"I value and appreciate the commitment and compensation the university provides myself and all of our athletic department staff and coaches," Berlo said. "My motivation and purpose have always come from the opportunity to support and lead our programs

potential."

While new to Berlo's ey coach Scott Sandelin, football coach Curt Wiese and Crowell all have competition bonuses written into their contract for themselves and their assistant coaches.

In her new deal, Crowell saw her bonus for reaching the NCAA tournament doubled to \$5,000. A new \$2,500 bonus for reaching the NCAA championship game is also available while the \$5,000 bonus for reaching the Frozen Four and \$10,000 for winning the national championship remain the same.

The bonus pool for Berlo currently sits Crowell's two assistant coaches also increased, most notably when it comes to NCAA tournament success. The NCAA tournament par-

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ishes in the top four of the league, \$500 for winning a WCHA regular or postseason title, \$500 for reaching NCAA tournament, \$750 if the team reaches the Frozen Four and \$1,000 for winning an NCAA title.

"It's always been important for me to take care of the people that take care of me and our players," Crowell said. "I'm very appreciative

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The university has the Berlo and Crowell without just cause, however, it could be costly.

If UMD fires Berlo without cause, the university must pay Berlo his base salary for the remainder of the connation fee when without cause is one half of the remaining base salary that would otherwise be



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PREP SUMMARIES

GOLF

Saturday's Results Section 7AAA At Grand National Golf Club, Hinkley Par 72

BOYS Team

1. Duluth East 308-309-617; 2. Princeton 314-311—625; 3. Andover 310-322—632; 4. Elk River 316-316—632; 5. Forest Lake 313-320-633; 6. Anoka 312-326-638; 7. St. Michael-Albertville 318-323-641.

Individual

1. Bradu Holland, ER, 72-72—144; 2. Ben Mertz, DE, 75-72—147; 3. Jack Reinardy, And, 76-73—149; 3. Kaden Nelson, DE, 73-76—149; 5. Lucas Ostlund, P, 77-73-150; 5. Alex Wold, DE, 75-75-150.

SOFTBALL

Saturday's Results **7AAAA** Coon Rapids 5, Duluth East 1 WP: Abby Ness 6IP, 1R, 8H, 0BB, 2K.

LP: Cassie Bergman 6IP, 2R, 9H, 3BB, 2K. DE: Sydney Zwak 1-3, R CR: Leah Nummela 2x2, 2R, 2SB.



" I remember just like it was yesterday, the feeling that I had being confused when our Japanese players were congratulating each other at the end of the 12th inning and we tied and I asked my pitching coach, 'What are they doing?' He said, 'A tie's better than a loss.' - TREY HILLMAN, Miami Marlins third base coach

MLB extra-inning rule a hit with some, whiff with others

By Jorge Castillo Los Angeles Times

LOS ANGELES — May 1 was the 101st anniversary of a remarkable if obscure baseball game rediscovered every year. On that date in 1920, Leon Cadore, a righthander for the Brooklyn Robins, and Joe Oeschger of the Boston Braves tossed 26-inning complete games opposite each other. Cadore is estimated to have thrown 338 pitches. Oeschger tossed 316. The game ended in a 1-1 tie because of darkness after 3 hours and 50 minutes.

The Dodgers — the Robins' descendants – were in Milwaukee for the anniversary this year. Cadore's name accordingly resurfaced during the television broadcast while the Dodgers and Brewers played a game that would've been unrecognizable to him.

The Brewers beat the Dodgers that day, 6–5, in 11 innings at American Family Field. Starter Dustin May blew out his elbow in the second inning and the Dodgers used 10 pitchers. The Brewers countered one fielder off the field with six. The Dodgers, left without a bench, used Clayton Kershaw as a pinch-hitter with the bases loaded in the 10th inning for the second time in a week. The game still lasted 4:48.

gone longer if a runner wasn't placed at second base to start each with nobody out or run-Major League Baseball with one out are postially implemented in on defense wins. 2020 to expedite results during the pandemicshortened regular season after trials in the minors. It was kept for the 2021 regular season — not the postseason — after widespread approval outweighed initial aversion. The rationale: The league wants to avoid marathon games for both baseball and entertainment purposes. On the baseball front, limiting the need for teams to hastily overarms. As for entertainment, MLB has been spurred by the reality regular-season games go 15 innings at the pace games are played today. "The current regularseason extra-innings rule has been enormously popular with our and has significantly reduced the length of extra-inning games," executive vice president of baseball operations, said in a statement. The rule isn't a perexpected to discuss permanently adopting it when the current collective bargaining agreement expires Dec. 1. choosing "the minor league rule," including ending games in a push

Mitch Stringer / USA TODAY Sports Minnesota Twins outfielder Rob Refsnyder (38) scores in the 10th inning on a wild pitch by Baltimore Orioles pitcher Adam Plutko (35) at Oriole Park at Camden Yards in Baltimore on May 31, 2021.

game worth two wins, having a statistic serve as the tiebreaker after the ninth inning (most hits or fewest strikeouts are examples), taking each inning, a home run derby, and sudden death to end the game after an extra half inning.

In the sudden-death scenario, a situation would be created normal 10th inning and in which the team on It probably would've offense has a roughly 50% chance of scoring (a runner at first extra inning. It's a rule ners at first and second an institution slow sible examples). If the to enforce change in team on offense scores, recent decades — ini- it wins. If not, the team The league also contemplated enforcing 60-game the answer adopted by sports leagues around the world: the tie. Though an odd concept even sacrilegious to some — for Major League Baseball, Japan's Nippon Professional Baseball league and Korea's KBO League, the highest level of baseball in those countries, have ties after 12 innings. Miami Marlins third shorter games help base coach Trey Hill-reduce injuries when man spent five seasons base coach Trey Hillpitchers are throwing as a manager in Japan harder than ever while and two in Korea. Hillman said he's against the countries' iterahaul bullpens for fresh tion because ties aren't included in the standings. Theoretically, Hillman said, a team that most fans aren't can win the first game, sticking around to watch tie for the rest of the season and finish in first place with a 1.000 winning percentage. He said MLB would have to adopt a points system to give wins more value. "I remember just like fans and with our Clubs, it was yesterday, the feeling that I had being confused when our Japanese players were con-Morgan Sword, MLB's gratulating each other at the end of the 12th inning and we tied and I asked my pitching coach," Hillman said. manent solution — at "I said, 'What are they least not yet. The league doing?' He said, 'A tie's and players' union are better than a loss.' " Players, executives and scouts offered opinions on the tie split along three groups: indifferent, pro, and against. The league consid- "Just tradition," one ered several ideas before executive said. "That's pretty much the only

scout said. "I would vote for that over ties. I think the runner on second adds some excitement. Much more exciting than just starting an inning clean."

"I've always said ties should be a thing," Toronto Blue Jays and former Dodgers pitcher Ross Stripling said in a text. "Maybe play a then it's a tie. There are 162 games. [I] find it hard to think it'd really affect standings that much."

In late April, the Dodgers third base-Pioneer League went man Justin Turner In late April, the another route, announcing it would settle ties this year not with extra innings, but with a home run derby. Each team designates a hitter to see five pitches. The game's winner is determined by who hits more home runs. The teams pick another hitter to see five pitches if the round ends in a draw. In its announcement, the league explained the reason for the change is "to avoid excessive strain on our pitching staffs." The home run derby isn't unprecedented. The Futures Collegiate Baseball League, an eight-team New England summer league, introduced a variation of the home run derby to break ties in 2016. In the FCBL, up to three batters on each team are given three minutes and two timeouts to hit as many home runs as possible. Any member of the team, player or coach, can throw the pitches.

and the first league with a direct relationship with MLB to venture into this territory. The league's eight teams began their 92-game seasons May 22. Through Wednesday, one game had been decided by the home run derby.

"I'm not a fan of it," Dodgers manager Dave Roberts said. "I get the fan interest to finish a game with a derby. It is what it is if that's the rule. But I kind of like baseball determining the outcome of a game."

tweeted his approval of the Pioneer League's decision within hours in 2021.

to make the next day's runner on second," one first professional league of the announcement. It wasn't the first time he lobbied to use a home run derby as a tiebreaker. Last April, during the league's shutdown, Turner pushed for MLB to implement the home run derby after the 10th inning as the league contemplated ways to curtail the toll on players in anticipation of a truncated schedule.

MLB instead chose to start extra innings with a runner on second base. The change was initially met with resistance, as with most changes in baseball, but it grew on people within the sport, leading to its adoption

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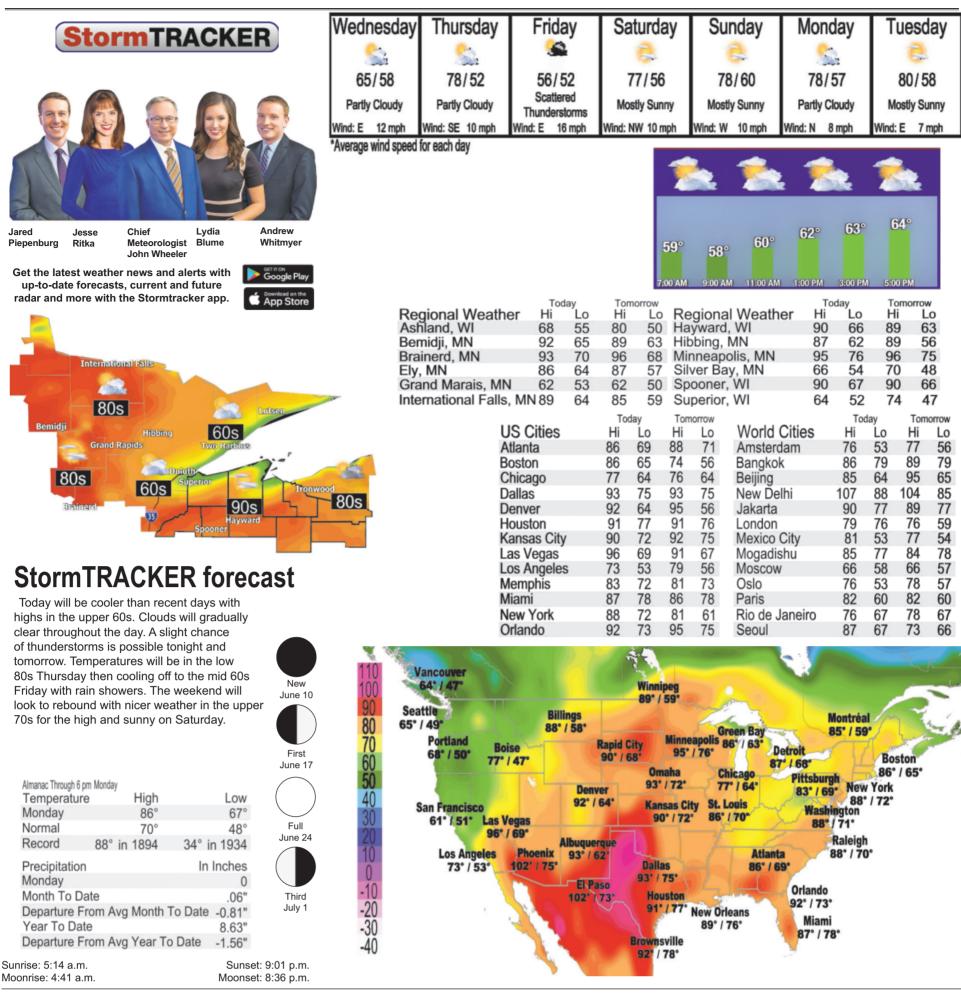
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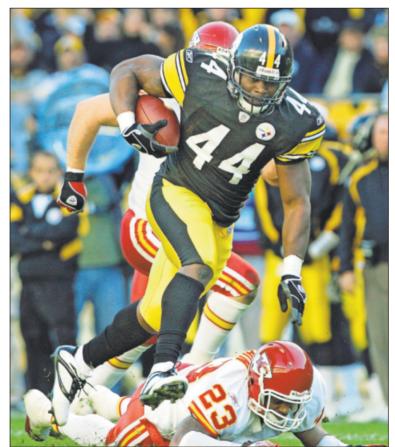
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NFL must make amends for 'race-norming' fiasco

Black players were eligible for smaller concussion



This was a matter of policy, and that's what makes it different than segregation. That's what makes it different than the lack of Black head coaches, the dearth of Black GMs and front-office personnel. This was policy, which made it not just different but dumb.

settlements due to race-based mental baseline

By Sam Farmer Los Angeles Times

The NFL has promised to put an end to the controversial practice of "race-norming," which assumed Black players started out with a lower level of cognitive function and thereby makes it harder for those retirees to prove they qualify for payouts in the administration of the 2017 \$1 billion-plus concussion settlement.

"We are committed to eliminating race-based norms in the program and more broadly in the neuropsychological community," the NFL said in a statement, while maintaining that no such discrimination took place in the administration of the settlement.

The revelation came to light last year when former players Najeh Davenport and Kevin Henry sued the league, alleging that race-norming led to them being denied a portion of the settlement. A judge dismissed the case earlier this year, and the NFL and Christopher Seeger, the lead attorney for the players in the concussion settlement, said the use of race-norms was not mandatory and up to the individual doctors to use or ignore while performing the evaluations.

Harry Edwards, a sociologist and longtime staff consultant for the San Francisco 49ers, has spent a halfcentury studying the intersection of sports and society. ly unsustainable and legal-He spoke Sunday to the Los ly indefensible. You can't was to fight the lawsuit. So at sary, we're not just going to Angeles Times about race- have 74% of the players in the end of the day we've got grant access but do what we

John Sleezer / The Kansas City Star / TNS Pittsburgh Steelers running back Najeh Davenport (44) steps over Kansas City Chiefs' Patrick Surtain on a 48-yard run in the second quarter, at Heinz Field in Pittsburghon Oct. 15, 2006.

norming, what it suggests the league Black but when and what the NFL should do it comes to actually being to repair the damage it has able to claim access to funds caused.

When did you first become aware of race-norming as it relates to the NFL concussion settlement?

Edwards: I've known about this since last August. When it first became an issue, I was contacted by some people who have been looking at ranking. A lower baseline. this thing as a eugenics issue details of it didn't start coming out until the NFL faced more and more into it, it simply unacceptable.

It's morally unconscionable, most certainly political-

resulting from brain damage, dementia, CTE, other kind of cognitive-deficit-inducing conditions that are directly related to football, all of a sudden there's a different standard for them. There's a presumption that they come in at a cognitively lower

What was your initial reacfor quite some time. But the tion to the notion of racenorming?

Edwards: It's ridiculous, that lawsuit. Then as we got it's asinine, it's almost comedic that it would get became clear that this was this far. And not only that but that the NFL would be fighting a lawsuit by two Black isn't fair." And the response

HARRY EDWARDS, sociologist and longtime staff consultant for the San Francisco 49ers

some work to do.

requests to be included in the settlement were rejected with insufficient explanation. From your perspective, is that common among players?

Edwards: Of course. You just get a no. But when you go back to it and start digging into it, you find out that the whole situation is race-normed, where you have to show greater decline to get the same benefits that a white player does. Because the presumption is that as a Black player, you start with lower cognitive capability to begin with. The Black dumb jock.

Most of the time this stuff takes place within the context of gentlemen's agreements. That was the case with the Black quarterback, Blacks being blocked from the league up until 1946, but those were based on gentlemen's agreements.

This was a matter of policy, and that's what makes it different than segregation. That's what makes it different than the lack of Black head coaches, the dearth of Black GMs and front-office He answers to 32 franchise personnel. This was policy, which made it not just different but dumb.

What would you advise the NFL to do?

Edwards: Complete transparency. "We're going to rectify this. We're going to go back and review every case players who say, "Hey, this that was turned down, Black and white. And where neces-

can in terms of reparations **Some players say their** for the damage that has been done in the meanwhile."

> Do you have reason to be optimistic that will happen?

Edwards: One of the things I'm optimistic about is that there are some good people at the NFL, at the top, in the middle, and people who just came in. Coaches, administrators, front-office folks who want to get this right. Hopefully with the additional pressure of sunlight, they will have a greater chance of prevailing in terms of transparency, rectification, reparations when necessary, and turn the corner on this.

I put [NFL Commissioner] Roger Goodell in that category. I know him off-site, off-script and out of the spotlight. He's the commissioner when he sits up in that office on Park Avenue, but as a human being and a man he's an eminently decent guy. If I didn't think that was the case, I wouldn't bother bringing this kind of stuff up to him.

It's a tough situation because, hey, that's his job. owners. He can't just fly off and say, "We're going to do it this way," if the medical committee or whoever says, "We're going to do it that way."

But this is one the whole league should get behind and say, "This is not us. This is not who we are."

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