

## SEASON OPENER

- ▶ **Who:** Sioux Falls at Fargo Force
- ▶ **What:** United States Hockey League
- ▶ **When:** 7:05 p.m., Friday, Nov. 13
- ▶ **Where:** Scheels Arena

## Experienced Force built to handle complicated USHL season

By Adam Watts  
awatts@forumcomm.com

FARGO — Fargo Force coach Pierre-Paul Lamoureux said his team has to be prepared for anything.

As the coronavirus pandemic continues across the country, the 2020-21 United States Hockey League season will require maximum adaptability from its teams, players and coaches. Players will be forced in and out of practices and game lineups with little notice, and their replacements will be forced to step into new, potentially unfamiliar roles.

The Force already had their season shaken up before it started. The team was scheduled to open its season last weekend, but had to postpone its first two games to later dates. Instead, the Force kick off the season Friday at Scheels Arena against Sioux Falls with a Saturday road trip to play at the Stampede to follow.

"This year is different," Lamoureux said. "Our day-to-day and week-to-week preparation are different. We've had to be extremely flexible as a coaching staff. We've had to prepare our group differently to make sure everybody is ready to go as much as possible. We don't know if we're going to have a healthy lineup from day to day. As a coaching staff, we spend a lot of time preparing for a lot of different variables that are coming at us."

The coach thinks his experienced squad is built to handle it. The Force have 10 players returning to the team either from last year or from previous seasons. Additionally, they have three more players with USHL experience, 20 players total with juniors experience, and three with Division I hockey experience.

Returning players from last season include forwards Tristan Broz, Kyle Smolen, Casey McDonald, Mason Salquist and Jake Dunlap, defensemen Nick Strom and Jack Peart, and

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David Samson / The Forum

Fargo Force forward Tristan Broz (9) returns this season as a member of a veteran-laden squad that features 20 players with junior hockey experience.

## Casey holds lead at the Masters

### Field Level Media

AUGUSTA, Ga. — Even in strange times, the Masters brings out the best in some of the world's top golfers, if Thursday's first round is any indication.

England's Paul Casey shot 7-under-par 65 for the lead during the rain-interrupted opening day of the Masters at Augusta National Golf Club.

"There's still something about it, an energy and a little bit of a vibe," Casey said of the tournament, which is being contested without spectators on the grounds of one of the world's most iconic golf courses.

Defending champion Tiger Woods also had a strong start, posting a bogey-free round of 4-under 68.

"I put a lot together," Woods said. "There was nothing I thought I did poorly."

Webb Simpson, who began on the back nine, and Xander Schauffele ended up sharing the second spot with 5-under 67s among golfers completing their rounds. Simpson had a chip-in from the fringe for

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Photos by David Samson / The Forum

West Fargo Sheyenne quarterback Grant Warkenthien is ready for his second trip to the Dakota Bowl.

## SEEKING REDEMPTION

West Fargo Sheyenne, QB Warkenthien get another shot at Bismarck Century in Class 3A state championship rematch

By Carissa Wigginton  
cwigginton@forumcomm.com

### West Fargo

West Fargo Sheyenne has been preparing to return to the Dakota Bowl since the team stepped off the field at the Fargodome a year ago.

The Mustangs made their first appearance in the North Dakota Class 3A state football championship against Bismarck Century last fall. The Patriots defeated Sheyenne 10-0 in the lowest scoring state title game in 3A history.

That outcome is something junior quarterback Grant Warkenthien thought about every time he hit the weight room during the offseason. At practice this year, the state championship game was always in the back of his mind.

Warkenthien was just a sophomore when he played on the big stage at Gate City Bank Field a season ago. He threw four interceptions in the state championship game.

"Last year's game didn't go quite as planned for me," Warkenthien said. "But getting in the weight room has been pretty big motivation for me; that game pretty much was in the back of my head every time. And then every time I was out there at practice this year, it was just like, 'I want to get back there.' So to actually achieve that and be back there is huge."

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West Fargo Sheyenne Mustangs quarterback Grant Warkenthien gets direction from head coach Jeremy Newton during the season opener on Friday, Aug. 28.

### DAKOTA BOWL

North Dakota high school football championships played Friday, Nov. 13, at Fargodome

#### CLASS 1A

8:10 a.m.: Lisbon vs. Langdon-EM

#### CLASS 9-MAN

11:30 a.m.: Cavalier vs. Linton-HMB

#### CLASS 2A

3:30 p.m.: Beulah vs. Bismarck St. Mary's

#### CLASS 3A

7 p.m.: WF Sheyenne vs. Bismarck Century