



SUNDAY, JUNE 19, 2016 • THE DETROIT LAKES TRIBUNE

1B

Kate Smith leads Lakers to fifth title, breaks individual record

BY ROBERT WILLIAMS
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Kate Smith stared at a must-make six-foot putt on the 18th hole to secure her fifth straight state championship, and watched as it came to a final revolution and dropped in, securing her record-breaking title and the fourth team championship in the last five years for Detroit Lakes.

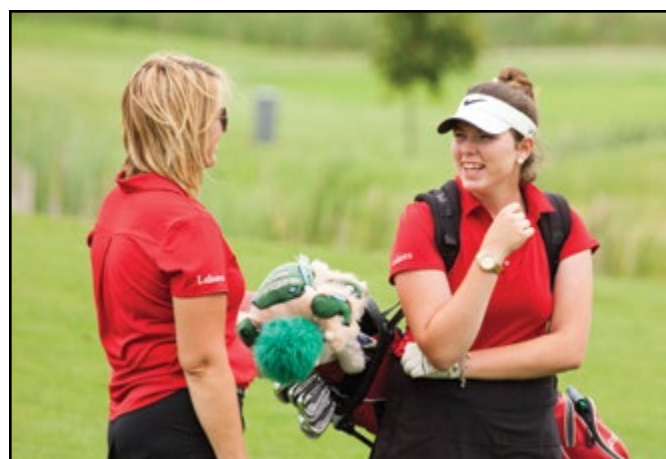
"That was crazy," said Smith. "I don't know how that went in. It's amazing and to share it with my team as team champions, I couldn't ask for more."

Visitation junior Anni Heck shot 68 to Smith's 70, pulling even at the turn and putting the pressure on during the final nine holes. The two were tied at hole 16 and Smith stared at an always tough uphill putt on 18 with a chance for sole possession of the championship, but left the putt short, forcing the tense six-footer to make par and share the title with Heck.

"Thank God," Smith said. "The whole length of the putt, it was the slowest six-footer I've ever watched. I was already coping. I thought it wasn't going to go in."

Smith was not at her best Wednesday, but finished the day and her high school career as Minnesota's best. Smith's fifth championship, of which she has shared three (2013, 2014, 2016), is a new state record in Minnesota. She had previously shared the mark of four titles with Katie Detlefsen (2004-07) of Minnehaha Academy.

"I played as well as I had to, I guess," said Smith. "Not my best, but I definitely hit some good shots coming in."



TOP: KATE SMITH reacts to making her final putt to assure a fifth individual state Class AA title Wednesday in Jordan. Above left: Abby Schrammel finished in sixth place individually to reach the podium with champion Kate Smith. Above right: Head coach Cali Harrier and Kate Smith laugh about the smell of chicken in the air on the 18th fairway, keeping a very tense situation light, as they have for six successful years together.

Head Coach Cali Harrier walked up the final hole with Smith for the last time and stuck to the chemistry she and Smith have used to find success for the past six years,

since Smith first played Ridges at Sand Creek in Jordan when she was 12-years-old.

"I knew I couldn't get emotional; we talked about how we could smell

chicken in the air," Harrier laughed. "For the six years I've coached Kate, we've always kept it light. We don't get real serious and that's what we did today again. When

she looked at me after she made that putt, I knew... the six years I've had with her as a golfer, but to know her as a person too and what a great person she is...that's what's

tough; we're going to miss that."

Smith and Harrier embraced at the side of the green amid tears, in an emotional end to their run together.

Junior Abby Schrammel will lead next year's team. Schrammel was strong both days at state, making the podium in sixth place, tied with Ally Tiedeman of Crookston.

DL sophomores Maddie Herzog and Lauren Tschider placed 12th and 38th overall, respectively.

"It was a very odd bunch; everybody counted during the season," said Smith. "You never knew who was going to play well. I'm just so proud of them right now that they pulled through. There's so much pressure on this course. They handled it really well."

Eighth-grader Shelby Busker shot a backside 46 to put up DL's fourth score and help secure the team championship. Busker played on the 2015 state-runner team that lost a three-shot day one lead to Red Wing.

"Shelby grinded at the end; we needed her to come in and she did," Harrier said.

Fellow eighth-grader Anna Cihak matched her day one score of 95 in her first trip to the state meet.

The victory was the fifth team title for DL (2006, 2012-14) in nine appearances. The Lakers have never finished worse than third place at state.

"I think that this championship was different because we weren't ranked number one all season," said Harrier. "We were the underdogs and having that fifth champion-

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RYAN PASKEY led the Laker boys at this year's state tournament and will head up five returning starters with state experience next season.

CLASS AA STATE BOYS GOLF

Laker boys finish in fifth place

BY ROBERT WILLIAMS
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The Laker boys golf team held steady in fifth place during a marathon 14-hour day of 27-plus holes of golf after a tough start Tuesday, filled with weather delays.

"We played pretty good," said head coach Bob Gorden. "We didn't finish both rounds a little bit and that probably cost us third place in the tournament."

While the girls tournament was largely unaffected by weather, aside from an early two-hour delay Tuesday, evening storms wreaked havoc with the boys scheduling, allowing only six to eight holes of the 36-hole tournament to be played the

first day. "You have to play the course and play whatever you're dealt," Gorden said. "We got the short end a little bit, but that's the way it goes sometimes."

State champion Derek Hitchner, a sophomore from The Blake School, found a way through the turmoil in setting a new tournament record at 10-under (134).

Alex Wilson of Holy Family Catholic was the state runner-up at 145.

Hitchner's 11-stroke victory largely made up the difference in the championship team scores, as The Blake School defeated Holy Family by 15 shots, 589 to 604.

Minnewaska and Her-

mantown tied for third place at 614, followed by the Lakers (620), Rochester Lourdes (652), and Albert Lea (666).

Sophomore Ryan Paskey led Detroit Lakes during both rounds, shooting a 152 (+8) to finish in a tie for 12th place overall with Jordan's Jake Pieper, Breck's Mac Turner, Delano's Austin vanSytzama, Hermantown's Dylan Samberg, and The Blake School's Campbell Morrison.

As a team, DL got off to a great start before the Tuesday interruption, with all six golfers finishing within two shots of each other, led by Paskey's 38.

"I was happy with what we saw the first round with all that confu-

sion," Gorden said. "We had probably the six best scores and everybody played pretty solid."

Junior Aaron Schnathorst and sophomore Wyatt Blomseth both shot 156 to finish tied with three other golfers for 28th place overall.

"For the first time down here, a young team, they should realize they're as good as anybody down here and we can come down and be under 300 next year," said Gorden.

The Blake School shot a 292 to open the tournament, while Holy Family came in with 300, as the second through fifth place teams were separated by only nine strokes

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CLASS AA STATE BOYS GOLF

Blake School paced first round, Lakers fifth



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The Detroit Lakes boys golf team was in the middle of the pack after finishing their opening rounds Wednesday morning due to Tuesday's rain delays.

"We're right in the middle of the thing, hopefully, we've got a few good rounds this afternoon," Ryan Paskey said. "It's doable, but we have our work cut out for us."

Paskey was the low Laker carding a three-over 75, followed by section champion Aaron Schnathorst with a 76.

Wednesday morning's conditions were windy after Tuesday's rainfall, leading to a different start mid-round for all the players.

"The wind is more of a factor than anything, especially down below," said Paskey. "It is what it is. If you have to start your round with a putt, it's a little different but we just didn't think anything different of it. We maybe warmed up a little different on the practice green today, but that's about it."

Paskey had one birdie Tuesday afternoon and hit a lot of pars Wednesday, leading to a tough double bogey

on 18 to finish his round still in the top 10.

"It's a tough green with a tough pin location," Paskey said. "I didn't have any three putts today, just kind of grinding it out."

Isaac Cihak and Wyatt Blomseth completed the scoring foursome for the Lakers, with matching scores of 79.

"It wasn't too bad; I struggled putting a bit," said Blomseth. "I was battling for par and just trying to grind it out."

Austin Fritz shot an 80 and Ben Unruh carded an 83.

The Blake School (292) held an eight stroke lead over Holy Family Catholic (300).

The Lakers were in fifth place with a 309, behind Minnewaska (302) and Hermantown (303).

Becker held sixth place with a score of 318, followed by Rochester Lourdes (324) and Albert Lea (333).

Derek Hitchner posted a strong 65 (-7) to lead the field by five strokes and pace the Blake School to first place.

Alex Wilson shot matching 35s on both sides to grab second place with a two-under 70.

Detroit Lakes faced a difficult task to make up 17 strokes

on the leaders, but had plenty of room to move up the scoreboard nine strokes back of second place Holy Family.

"We want to stay solid and patient; play it one hole at a time," said Blomseth.

Minnesota Class AA state boys golf championship, Ridges at Sand Creek, Jordan, Minn. Wednesday, June 15.

Team scores
The Blake School 292
Holy Family 300
Minnewaska 302
Hermantown 303
Detroit Lakes 309
Becker 318
Rochester Lourdes 324
Albert Lea 333

Leaderboard (Top 10)
Derek Hitchner Blake School 33-32 65
Alex Wilson Holy Family 35-35 70
Dylan Samberg Hermantown 35-36 71
Alex Sverson Albert Lea 35-37 72
Ian Murray Blake School 36-36 72
Esten Stensrud Minnewaska 38-34 72
Isaac Burgess Minnewaska 37-36 73
Jon Espe Duluth Marshall 39-35 74
Lincoln Cizek Holy Family 36-38 74
Ryan Paskey Detroit Lakes 37-38 75

DL scores
Ryan Paskey 37-38 75
Aaron Schnathorst 37-39 76
Isaac Cihak 39-40 79
Wyatt Blomseth 39-40 79
Austin Fritz 40-40 80
Ben Unruh 44-39 83

■ Laker boys to return five starters with state meet experience ■ Perfect ending to DL season

► **BOYS** from page 1B

after the first 18 holes. "Happy with what we did, disappointed because I thought we could finish in the top three and we could have had we finished a little bit," said Gorden.

Isaac Cihak placed 45th with a score of 159, followed by Ben Unruh, who shot 160 in 50th place. Unruh rebounded from a tough opening nine score of 44 to shoot three consecutive rounds of 39, 38 and 39.

Austin Fritz, the team's lone senior, placed 71st with a final score of 168.

"These guys can decide how good they want to be with how much work they put in," Gorden said. "It's been a lot of fun. The kids really came on this year and got better and better."

Wednesday's rounds at the boys tournament ran from 7 a.m. to 9 p.m., making for an exhausting 14-hour day of tournament play.

Minnesota Class AA state golf championship, Ridges at Sand Creek, Jordan, Minn. Wednesday, June 15.

Team scores
1 The Blake School 589
2 Holy Family Catholic 604
3 Minnewaska 614
3 Hermantown 614
5 Detroit Lakes 620
7 Rochester Lourdes 652
8 Albert Lea 666

Leaderboard (Top 10)
1 Derek Hitchner Blake 134
2 Alex Wilson Holy Family 145
3 Drew O'Hern St. Paul Academy 147
3 Esten Stensrud Minnewaska 147
3 Cecil Belisle Red Wing 147
6 Alex Sverson Albert Lea 148
6 Paul Starkey Providence Academy 148
8 Dylan Kolquist Hermantown 149
8 Lincoln Cizek Holy Family 149

DL Scores
12 Ryan Paskey 37-38 40-37 152
28 Aaron Schnathorst 37-39 39-41 156
28 Wyatt Blomseth 39-40 40-37 156
45 Isaac Cihak 39-40 41-39 159
50 Ben Unruh 44-39 38-39 160
71 Austin Fritz 40-40 42-46 168



PAUL GREGERSEN/SPECIAL TO THE TRIBUNE
AARON SCHNATHORST fires his tee shot on hole no. 10 during the final round of the Class AA state meet Wednesday afternoon.

► **GIRLS** from page 1B

ship on the line for Kate and these girls. They're young; they're new and have been looking up to the 2013 and 14 teams for so many years and for them to now pave their own way. This was on our goal sheet. We knew we could do it one stroke at a time, one course at a time, one meet at a time."

Smith has been part of four of DL's five state team championships.

"Knowing that I was there through that, it's pretty cool," she said.

The Lakers capped the season with a perfect ending for both Smith and the team, and did so by taking on the toughest competition early in the season to be prepared for state.

"As a coach that is always a goal, to peak at the end of the season," Harrier said. "We set up the schedule this year to be quite aggressive and we saw Edina and Red Wing and Lake City. That's what I wanted for these girls - to know what's out

there." Smith will continue her golf career this fall at the University of Nebraska.

Minnesota Class AA state girls golf championship, Ridges at Sand Creek, Jordan, Minn. Wednesday, June 15.

Team scores
1 Detroit Lakes 633
2 Lake City 642
3 Breck 675
4 Cathedral 719
5 Minnewaska 720
6 International Falls 733
7 Jordan 759
8 Visitation 764

Leaderboard (Top 10)
1 Kate Smith 139
1 Anni Heck Visitation 139
3 Alayna Eldred Osakis 146
4 Alex Stone Pequot Lakes 150
5 Emily Schimbeno Lake City 156
6 Abby Schramel Detroit Lakes 158
6 Ally Tiedeman Crookston 158
8 Grace Zumwinkle Breck 160
9 Lidia Wallerich Lake City 162
10 Olivia Johnson Hill Murray 163
10 Lexi Geolat Lake City 163

Other DL scores:
12 Maddie Herzog 164
38 Lauren Tschider 178
42 Shelby Busker 180
59 Anna Cihak 190
Area scores
18 Becca Huus Perham 166

NORTHLAND OUTDOORS NorthlandOutdoors.com **THIS WEEK IN Northland Outdoors**

ADDING A HINT OF SAGE TO S.D. HUNTING MIX



As the pheasant flies, it was only about a mile between the two. However and how. Of, in this case, a lodge perched atop the bluff overlooking Pierre, S.D., and the Missouri River, which looked more like nearby Lake Oahe than the massive flood of exactly five years ago.

Yes, it was a different world up here on the bluff in the summer of 2011. While a good chunk of the area and its natural resources was being devoured by the floodwaters below, the main inhabitants of the bluff's trademark tall grass — pheasants — were everywhere up above.



► Brian R. Pittman

Unfortunately, the bluffs — and the sanctuary they provide — in and around Pierre didn't run nearly so deep as those floodwaters: Up until last year, pheasant numbers weren't nearly what they were before the flood in a state that, maybe more than anything, is known for pheasant hunting.

In Northland Outdoors' fall magazine, due out in early August (subscribe for free at <http://www.northandoutdoors.com/subscribe>), we'll chronicle fall hunting in South Dakota. And pheasant season is,

of course, a big part of the hunting landscape in the state. But, as was evident in a recent release by the South Dakota Game, Fish and Parks Department, there's more to hunting in this state than pheasant. Much more.

In fact, another upland game bird is generating special attention from the SDGFP — the agency recently proposed to re-open the sage grouse hunting season in 2016. That season has been closed since 2012 due to a decreasing population, according to the SDGFP (not likely due to the flood, although it couldn't have helped).

The agency's sage grouse management plan states that the season could open again if the spring lek survey count is over 250 male sage grouse on all leks. This spring revealed a count of 278 male grouse on all leks.

With that, the proposed two-day season would run from Sept. 17-18 and would allow for 40 resident hunting permits with a limit of one sage grouse per hunter. If, after the first drawing, permits are still available, both residents and nonresidents will be allowed to apply. Any leftover permits would be first-come, first-served.

The SDGFP Commission will finalize the proposal at its July 7-8 meeting in Pierre. Written comments may be sent to wildlife@southdakota.gov. To be part of the official public record, comments must be received by noon July 7. (Include your

full name along with city and state of residence.) For those who would like to comment in person, a public hearing is scheduled at 2 p.m. (Central Standard Time) July 7 at the RedFace Convention Room in Pierre.

Also in South Dakota, things are looking up on the big-game hunting front, too. According to the SDGFP release, the commission reported that it has opened more areas to archery white-tailed deer hunters. In recent years, the SDGFP has closed certain areas of the state for antlerless deer harvest due to lower deer populations. But according to the release, white-tailed members are increasing across much of the state, and the commission chose to ease restrictions. To view a map of these areas, go to sd.gov/agencies/commissioner/files/2016/05/16maymapwhite.pdf.

Also, deer hunters will have 400 more resident and 32 more nonresident antlerless white-tailed deer hunting licenses for the 2016 Black Hills deer hunting season. And the SDGFP Commission announced that the West River, East River, Musselshell and national railops deer hunting seasons have been finalized, with an overall increase in East River deer hunting licenses for 2016 (4,226 fewer one-tag licenses, but 5,075 more two-tag licenses and 1,400 more three-tag licenses compared to 2015).

Presented by What Pheasant!



Wisconsin's golden-winged warbler belted

June's Bird of the Month is the golden-winged warbler. This songbird actually benefited from widespread clear-cutting in the 1800s and early 1900s.



M.D. stressing summer safety on the water

Failure to wear a personal flotation device is the main reason people lose their lives in water recreation accidents. North Dakota law requires all children ages 10 and younger to wear a personal flotation device while in boats of less than 27 feet in length.

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State Boys Golf

Photos by Robert Williams and Paul Gregersen



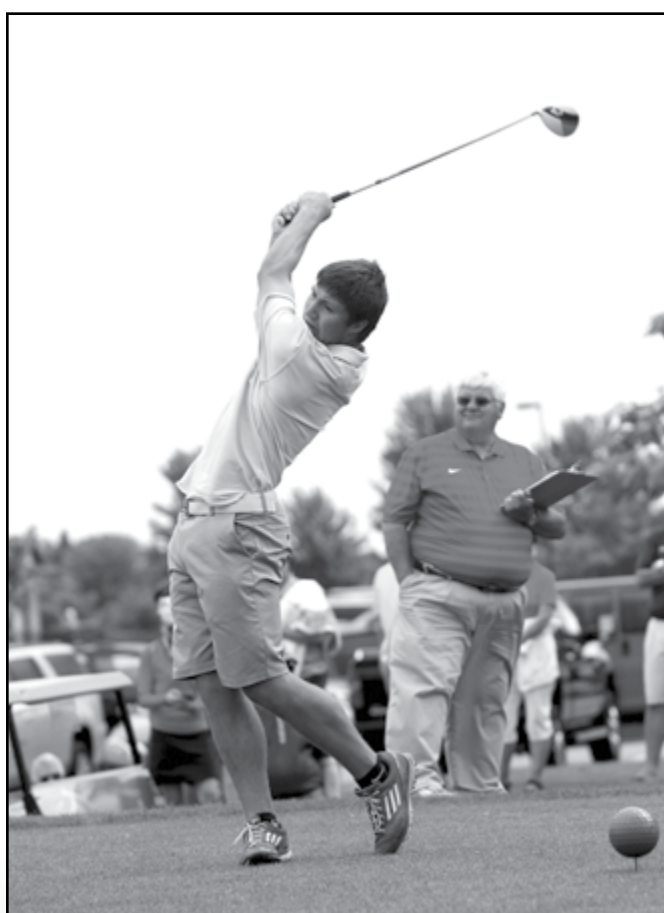
BEN UNRUH hits driver off the elevated second tee box at Ridges at Sand Creek during the state AA meet.



FAR LEFT: Senior Austin Fritz tees off during his final round as a Laker. Above: Wyatt Blomseth on the no. 10 tee box during the final, weather-delayed round, at the state tournament. Left: Aaron Schnathorst eyes up an approach shot with assistant coach and his father Vern Schnathorst at Ridges at Sand Creek Wednesday during the Class AA state meet.



ABOVE: Ryan Paskey watches a drive. Paskey led the Lakers finishing in a tie for 12th place. Middle: Isaac Cihak carded consistent rounds as the fourth Laker on the leaderboard. Right: Aaron Schnathorst tied with teammate Wyatt Blomseth in 28th place overall. Below: Laker boys on the practice green.





State Girls Golf

Photos by Robert Williams and Paul Gregersen



TOP: The Laker girls take the traditional leap in the pond at Ridges at Sand Creek. Left: Shelby Busker tees off during opening round play at state. Above: Kate Smith holds up the championship trophy with her teammates.



ABOVE: Anna Cihak hits a fairway wood on the back nine. Right: Head Coach Cali Harrier and Kate Smith embrace after Smith's final putt to earn a fifth consecutive individual state championship Wednesday afternoon in Jordan.



LEFT: Lauren Tschider watches an approach shot during the final round of the state championship. Middle: Maddie Herzog reacts to leaving a chip hanging on the lip of the cup on hole no. 13 Wednesday. Right: Abby Schramel watches her drive on the way to a sixth place individual finish at the Class AA state meet.