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WIAA SOFTBALL CHAMPIONSHIPS THIS WEEKEND AT GOODMAN DIAMOND

Wisconsin Interscholastic Athletic Association Softball Championships Thursday-Saturday, June 17-19, 2010 Goodman Diamond, Madison, Wis.

THE CHAMPIONSHIPS: The 35th Annual Wisconsin Interscholastic Athletic Association Softball State Championships will take place Thursday-Saturday, June 17-19, at the Goodman Diamond on the University of Wisconsin campus in Madison, Wis. Ticket prices for the tourney are \$6 per session for quarterfinals and semifinals and \$4 for championship sessions. Tickets are only available at the stadium.

CHAMPIONSHIPS SCHEDULE AND PAIRINGS: The single elimination tournament features eight teams in Division 1 and four each in Divisions 2, 3 and 4. The second game of each session will follow the first game.

Thursday, June 17

Division 1 Quarterfinals

Game 1 - Wilmot Union (22-2) vs. Homestead (21-3) - 9 a.m.

Game 2 - Watertown (23-3) vs. South Milwaukee (17-7) - 11 a.m.*

Game 3 - Appleton East (24-3) vs. Kaukauna (25-2) - 1:30 p.m.

Game 4 - Chippewa Falls (23-3) vs. Verona (23-4) - 3:30 p.m.*

Division 1 Semifinals

Game 5 -- Winner of Game 1 vs. Winner of Game 2 - 6 p.m.

Game 6 -- Winner of Game 3 vs. Winner of Game 4 - 8 p.m.*

Friday, June 18

Division 4 Semifinals

Game 1 -- Tigerton (19-3) vs. Potosi (21-6) - 9 a.m.

Game 2 -- Hurley (17-6) vs. Racine Lutheran (19-8) - 11 a.m.*

Division 3 Semifinals - 1:30 p.m.

Game 1 -- Peshtigo (19-4) vs. Lancaster (24-0) - 1:30 p.m.

Game 2 -- Arcadia (19-4) vs. Winnebago Lutheran (17-5) - 3:30 p.m.*

Division 2 Semifinals - 6 p.m.

Game 1 -- Luxemburg-Casco (18-9) vs. Fort Atkinson (22-4) - 6 p.m.

Game 2 -- Rice Lake (18-9) vs. Union Grove (25-3) - 8 p.m.*

Saturday, June 19

Division 4 Championship Game - 10 a.m.

Division 3 Championship Game - 12:30 p.m.*

Division 2 Championship Game - 3 p.m.

Division 1 Championship Game - 5:30 p.m.*

* Approximate times

PRE-FINAL GAMES ON WIAA.TV: The quarterfinals and semifinals of all four divisions of the WIAA State Tournament will be streamed live on the Internet on WIAA.TV.

CHAMPIONSHIP GAMES ON FSN WISCONSIN:

Watch the delayed broadcast of the WIAA State Softball Championship finals on FSN Wisconsin. The Division 1 title game is scheduled to be aired on July 12 at 8 p.m. The Division 2 championship game will be aired on July 12 at 6 p.m. The Division 3 title game is scheduled to be aired on July 17 at noon, and the Division 4 championship game is scheduled to air July 17 at 2 p.m. Check local cable listings for the channel in your area.

TEAM TOURNAMENT HISTORY: The WIAA has been sponsoring the State Softball Tournament since 1976. Stevens Point leads all programs in State titles won with seven. Kimberly and Marion have won six, followed by Denmark and Ashwaubenon with four. Ashwaubenon has the most State Tournament appearances with 16. Kimberly and Stevens Point have reached State 12 times, and Homestead has now qualified for the State Tournament 11 times and Verona 10 times.

LAST YEAR: Stevens Point won its second straight title and its seventh State championship overall by defeating Chippewa Falls in the championship game 6-0 in nine innings. Luxemburg-Casco was the State champion in Division 2, topping Monroe in the championship game, 4-1. Grantsburg won the Division 3 crown by blanking Laconia 3-0 in the title tilt, and Oakfield won the Division 4 championship with a 6-0 win over Thorp.

THE DIVISION 1 FIELD: Last year's runner-up Chippewa Falls is making its eighth trip to State and its

fourth in the last five seasons. The Cardinals also finished runner-up in 2006. They finished atop the Big Rivers Conference standings this year and are the representatives out of the Marshfield Sectional following a six-inning, 11-1 win over Marshfield in the final. **Homestead** is making its fourth appearance in the last five seasons and its 11th overall. The Highlanders' runner-up finishes in 1983 and 1988 were their best finish in a State Tournament. They qualified out of the sectional hosted at Germantown with 6-0 shutout over Germantown in the final. The Highlanders are the champions of the North Shore Conference in 2010. Verona is making its ninth appearance in the last decade and its 10th appearance overall. The Wildcats made eight straight tournament appearances from 2001-2008. They finished runner-up in 2001, 2002 and 2008. They are the co-champions of the South Division of the Badger Conference this spring. The Wildcats earned a repeat trip to the State Tournament with a 2-0 win over La Crosse Central in the final of the sectional hosted by Middleton. **South Milwaukee** makes its first appearance since its State championship season of 1998, and it's the eighth time the Rockets have advanced to State. They also won the Class A championship in 1988 and have a pair of runner-up finishes, those coming in 1993 and 1997. The Rockets placed third in the Woodland Conference this season and are the champions of the Greenfield Sectional following a fiveinning, 11-1 win over Oak Creek in the final. It will be Watertown's second consecutive State appearance and its seventh overall. The Goslings previous experiences at State have produced a pair of runner-up finishes, one in 1981 and another in 1984. They are the champions of the Wisconsin Little Ten Conference and the representatives from the Arrowhead Sectional after defeating Menomonee Falls 3-1 in the sectional final. Wilmot Union will play in its seventh State Tournament and its first since 1990 when the Panthers claimed the Class B championship. They made five appearances in the 1980s, one (1982) resulted in a runner-up finish. The Panthers are the champions of the Southern Lakes Conference this spring. They edged Westosha Central 2-1 in the final of the Badger Sectional to earn their first berth in the tournament field in 20 years. **Appleton East** is back at State for the sixth time and for the third year in a row. The Patriots won the State title in 2000 and followed that up with a runner-up finish in 2003. The Patriots finished at the top of the standings in the Fox Valley Association this season and qualified for State by shutting out Hortonville 2-0 in the sectional final hosted by Appleton East. It is Kaukauna's first experience in the State Tournament. They earned the initial appearance following a 1-0 win over two-time defending champion Stevens Point in the Kaukauna Sectional final. The Galloping Ghosts placed second behind Appleton East in the Fox Valley Association this season.

THE DIVISION 2 FIELD: Defending champion Luxemburg-Casco qualifies for State for the third time overall. The Spartans' first-ever appearance ended in a semifinal loss back in 1998. They earned the right to defend their title by virtue of a 1-0 win over Freedom in the Freedom Sectional final. The Spartans finished second in the Bay Conference this season. Rice Lake returns to State for the fifth time, having qualified four times in five years between 2004-08. The Warriors' first-ever appearance resulted in a State title in 2004. The other three experiences resulted in losses in the semifinals. They finished third in the Big Rivers Conference this season and advanced along the tournament path through the sectional they hosted with a 2-0 shutout over Altoona in the final. Union Grove returns to the scene where it won the State title in 2007. This is the fourth time the Broncos have qualified for the State Tournament. They also have a runner-up finish in 1993 on their resume. The Broncos qualified as champions of the Mayville Sectional by virtue of their six-inning, 10-0 win over Waupun in the final. They placed second in the Southern Lakes Conference in 2010. Fort Atkinson is making its third appearance at State and the first since 2000. Each of its previous two appearances were in Division 1 and resulted in losses in the quarterfinals. The Blackhawks claimed the crown of the South Division of the Badger Conference this spring and qualified for the final field of eight with a six-inning, 14-2 win over Monroe, a program that has finished runner-up at State the past two seasons.

THE DIVISION 3 FIELD: Lancaster qualifies for the second straight season and for the third time overall. The Flying Arrrows finished runner-up in their first appearance in 2006. They are the champions of the Southwest Wisconsin Conference. The Flying Arrows proceeded to win the Darlington Sectional with a 2-0 win over Poynette in the final. Arcadia is making its third appearance at State. The Raiders were runners-up in 2007 and lost in the semifinals in 2005. They qualified as champions of the Saint Croix Central Sectional by virtue of their eleveninning win, 3-2 over last year champion Grantsburg. The Raiders were third place in the Coulee Conference. Winnebago Lutheran is making its first tournament appearance. The Vikings finished runner-up in the Wisconsin Flyway Conference and earned a position in the final four with a 4-2 win over Horicon in the Horicon Sectional final. Peshtigo is also a first-time qualifier following its 3-0 win over Neillsville in the Stratford Sectional final. The Bulldogs were co-champions of the Marinette & Oconto Conference this season.

THE DIVISION 4 FIELD: Hurley makes its sixth appearance in the tournament and its first since 2007 when the Midgettes finished runner-up. They also were runners-

up in Division 3 in 2001. The Midgettes are the champions of the Indianhead Conference and earned the opportunity to return to the State Tournament with a 2-1 win over last year's runner-up Thorp in the final of the Gilman Sectional. Potosi is appearing in its second State Tournament. The first resulted in a loss in the semifinals in 2005. The Chieftains finished second in the Six Rivers West Conference this season. They doubled-up New Lisbon 8-4 in the Boscobel Sectional final to advance to the State Tournament. Racine Lutheran is making their intitial appearance in the State Tournament following a 2-0 win over Sevastopol in the Beaver Dam Sectional final. The Crusaders placed third in the Midwest Classic Conference this year. **Tigerton** will also make its first-ever appearance at State. The Tigers finished second in the Central Wisconsin 10 Conference. They earned their first trip by defeating their conference's champion Rosholt 7-5 in the Wausau West Sectional final.

NEED THE QUALIFIERS?: Information for qualifying teams in the State Tournament are available on the restricted area of the Media Center on the WIAA Web site.

NEED CREDENTIALS?: Media requesting credentials

for the 2010 WIAA Softball Championships must be done by submitting the online Media Credential Request form found on the restricted area of the Media Center on the WIAA Web site no later than noon Tuesday, June 15. Verification of approved credentials is available on the restricted area of the Media Center on the WIAA Web site. Please verify credential requests have been approved by 2 p.m. the same day as the request deadline. Credentials can be picked up at Goodman Diamond ticket office.

NEED RESULTS?: The quickest way to get results will be to access the softball results page on the WIAA Web site at: http://www.wiaawi.org/index.php?id=410 and choose the appropriate links on the softball State Tournament results page.

PARKING AT GOODMAN: Parking permits for media with in-and-out privileges in Lots 60 and 76 near Goodman Diamond will be available for purchase. The limitied parking behind the field available in past years for television stations is not available. Media will be allowed to temporarily access the circle in front of the stadium to drop off equipment prior to parking. Please plan accordingly.