Sagedahl living the dream in hoops, football, baseball

By Bruce Strand

Jordan Sagedahl is well aware that his high school career is the kind every kid dreams about, not just for one sport but for all three of his sports.

The BOLD senior leader has played in a state baseball championship game (and won) at Target Field and two Prep Bowls (losing both) at U.S. Bank Stadium. Currently, his basketball team is 27-1 and top-ranked in Class A, and has opened its state bid with two playoff wins.

“I think about it often,” said Sagedahl. “I am very fortunate to be in the place I am with great teammates and coaches and have been taught to never take things for granted.

“Many of the big stadiums I have played in, other athletes don’t even dream of. I am very blessed and happy that everything has worked out the way it has.”

The 6-2, 190-pound Sagedahl has stood out among an excellent band of BOLD athletes that includes his brother Drew, a year younger.

Despite playing on a bothersome ankle all season, Sagedahl is delivering 18.3 points, 3.1 assists, 5.7 rebounds and two steals per game to the Warriors. He notched his 1,500th point in the last regular-season game.

“Jordan can score at all three levels when needed, and rebound and defend,” coach Jake Brustuen said. “He’s a good leader and communicator on the floor.”

In football, Sagedahl passed for 102 touchdowns and 6,683 yards while hitting 67 percent of his passes in his four-year tenure as the Warrior quarterback. He was one of 10 finalists for the Mr. Football award this fall when he passed for 2,331 yards and 32 touchdowns (just two interceptions) and rushed for 12 touchdowns. His teams were 26-2 the last two years, losing in the finals to Mahomen/Waubun 22-21 and Blooming Prairie 41-14.

In baseball, Sagedahl led BOLD to the state Class 1A championship last spring, capped by his one-hit, nine-strikeout, 8-0 shutout of New York Mills in the finals, in which he also belted an inside the park homer at Target Field.

Also a catcher and infielder, he batted .500 with three homers, 34 RBI, 32 runs and 23 steals in 25 games while posting a 6-3 record, 1.19 ERA and 77 strikeouts. He was conference MVP, Class A all-state, and an all-tournament pick. His junior year, he batted .432 with 16 RBI and 14 runs.

BOLD basketball has a veteran lineup that also includes Drew Sagedahl averaging 22 points, Gavin Vosika 18.4, and Matt Moorse 9.4.
They had a great year last winter also, finishing 22-4 with a second-round loss (to New Ulm Cathedral in overtime) in a section stacked with ranked teams.

Section 2A is daunting again, including No. 1 BOLD, No. 5 Waterville-Elysian-Morristown, No. 6 New Ulm Cathedral, No. 7 Springfield and No. 19 Niclollet.

“Our section is very tough,” Sagedahl acknowledged. “We have to play our best basketball in order to get out, but I believe we have as good of a shot as they do to go to state.”

BOLD, which consists of Bird Island, Lake Lillian, Olivia (where he lives) and Danube, has never gone to state as BOLD. However, BI-LL won state titles in 1980 and 1981, and Danube made four state trips.

Regarding the ankle that’s an issue on a team without a lot of depth, Brustuen said, “Jordan dealt with an ankle injury early that lingered and caused some other ailments in that same leg. He has been hampered by this all year and still hasn’t fully regained his explosiveness we saw last year. He probably is playing this year at 75 to 80 percent healthy all year, but gives 110 percent every night.”

Sagedahl said he sprained it last week but the ankle is “getting better and better every day” with the help of chiro.

In college, Sagedahl’s sport will be baseball. He plays for the high school, Legion and town teams and has signed with South Dakota State.

“When I was younger my favorite sport was whatever season it was,” he said. “Now I would say baseball. I just love playing baseball. It is very stress free, and you can be loose compared to other sports I play. I chose baseball because I’ve always been successful in it.”

BOLD will continue its quest for a state tournament against New Ulm Cathedral on Monday, 6 p.m., at Gustavus Adolphus.

Got a tip for MN Basketball News? Send a note to bruce.a.strand@gmail.com.
State girls: who’s in so far

State girls basketball tournament qualifiers have been determined in the following sections as of Thursday evening.

**CLASS 4A**

Hopkins (28-0) posted their 60th straight win, 86-76 over Wayzata, to capture their sixth consecutive Section 6AAAA title and earn a chance to repeat as the big-school champs. Paige Bueckers tallied 33 points for Hopkins. Annika Stewart had 27 for No. 3 ranked Wayzata.

Lakeville North (18-10) beat Rosemount 53-44 in the Section 3AAAA finals led by Sara Tuma with 19 points.

Park Center (25-4) scuttled Centennial 68-52 for the Section 5AAAA title with Adalia McKenzie scoring 28 points and Lauren Frost 22.

St. Michael-Albertville (23-5) took Section 8AAAA with a 70-52 conquest of Maple Grove. The Knights had lost to the Crimson the last two section finals. McKenzie Kramer sank 22 points and Tessa Johnson 17.

Stillwater (23-5), last year’s Class 4A runner-up, repeated as Section 4AAAA champion with an 83-37 win over East Ridge, led by Alexis Pratt with 21 points and Grace Cote with 19.

Cambridge-Isanti (20-9) tipped Forest Lake 59-50 for the Section 7AAAA title, led by Jackie Olander with 19 points and Mikayla Aumer with 15.

**CLASS 3A**

Holy Angels (22-6) is Section 6AAA champ for the fifth straight year after beating Orono 72-50, sparked by Grace Massaquoi with 23 points off the bench and Francesca Vascellaro with 14.

DeLaSalle (24-4), defending state Class 3A champs, will try defend its title after winning Section 4AAA again with a 62-31 conquest of Hill-Murray. Nurjei Weems had 18 points and Kiani Lockett 17.

Hermantown (26-3) nipped Hibbing 45-43 for the Section 7AAA title as Elly Schmotz hit 17 points, Ava Asgaard 14 and Maiah Christianson 10.

St. Michael-Albertville (23-5) took Section 8AAAA with a 70-52 win over Maple Grove. The Knights had lost to the Crimson the last two section finals. McKenzie Kramer sank 22 points and Tessa Johnson 17.

Stillwater (23-5), last year’s Class 4A runner-up, repeated as Section 4AAAA champion with an 83-37 win over East Ridge, led by Alexis Pratt with 21 points and Grace Cote with 19.

Cambridge-Isanti (20-9) tipped Forest Lake 59-50 for the Section 7AAAA title, led by Jackie Olander with 19 points and Mikayla Aumer with 15.

**CLASS 2A**

Rochester Lourdes (26-3) edged Goodhue 50-46 for the Section 1AA title behind Alyssa Ustby with 22 points and Sydney Elliott with 15.

**CLASS 1A**

Cromwell-Wright (28-2) is Section 7A champion after ending Mountain Iron-Buhl’s string of nine consecutive state trips 68-43.

Fillmore Central (22-8) is Section 1A champion with a 69-56 conquest of Blooming Prairie behind Kandace Sikkink with 25 points. Emma Breitsprecher added 16 and Hope Sexton 12. It’s the first state trip for the Preston, Harmony, Chatfield fusion.
Albert Lea almost sweeps Austin; ends playoff skid

Albert Lea, which ended a 27-game losing streak against Big Nine rival Austin 72-71 on Jan. 21, almost made it two in a row against their ancient nemesis. Austin (22-5) fended off the Tigers (12-13) in their conference final 41-40 on Feb. 28. Albert Lea took a 40-37 lead on a 3-pointer by JJ Owens with about 1:15 left. Austin's Agwa Nywesh, game high with 19 points, scored with :45 left, then stole the ball, got fouled and hit both free throws for a 41-40 lead. Albert Lea had two more possessions and missed a shot in each. Chay Guen scored 12 points, and Connor Veldman and JJ Mucha-Owens 11 each. “Fun game,” said Lantt Bena videz, Tiger coach. “It was Senior Night in Albert Lea with a big crowd supporting both teams in the I-90 rivalry. We would love to get another game with them, but to do that we need to advance to the section finals.”

Pine Island: early playoff giant-killer

Nobody paid much attention to the Pine Island boys heading into playoffs, a 15-11 team, seeded 10th in a section with four Top 20 teams. The Panthers are getting some attention now, after tripping No. 16 ranked Lewiston-Altura 53-50 in their Section 1AA opener Feb. 28 and topping that by stunning No. 4 Lake City 70-65 Monday in the second round.

“After the game, the excitement level was incredible,” coach Jim McNamara said about his team. “They were proud of their effort, but also were talking about their desire to extend the season as far as possible.”


Against Lake City (24-4), the Panthers hit their first six 3-pointers and finished 7-for-9. Caleb Henderson was 5-for-6 and totaled 21 points. Carter O’Reilly added 18 points and Owen 15. Lake City, normally dangerous outside the arc, put up 40 three’s and made 12.

Football star joins North cagers, helps win TC title

Minneapolis North drafted a star football lineman this season who’s made a solid impact in his first year of prep hoops. Quientrail Jamison-Travis delivered 27 points and 11 rebounds to lead the Polars past St. Paul Johnson 86-79 in the Twin Cities Championship last Saturday. It all started with a tweet, the Star-Tribune reported. Jamison-Travis, who logged 17 sacks this fall for North’s state runner-up football team, slam dunked a ball so hard during a pickup basketball game during lunchtime that he broke the rim. When that story got out on Twitter, basketball coach Larry McKenzie said his response to the football star was “You’re playing basketball.” The rugged 6-3 senior averages 10.4 points in an offense led by 6-6 junior Davon Townley (17.2) and 6-1 sophomore Willie Wilson (16.0). Wilson added 17 points and Jacob Butler 13 for North (19-8), which was playing in its sixth consecutive Twin Cities title game, of which they’ve won four. Julian Hodges netted 22 and Jeremiah Knox 20 for Johnson (16-8). North went 12-0 in the Minneapolis Conference. Johnson was 11-1 in the St. Paul Conference, tying Central for first place.

Lake City’s Mr. Basketball finalist Nate Heise scored 20 points in a premature career finale for him. Justin Wohlers also scored 20 and Reid Gastner nine.

Pine Island, which has never gone to state, now faces Stewartville (24-5) and state scoring leader Will Tschetter (34.4 ppg) Saturday, 6:30 p.m., at the Civic Center. McNamara notes that 1AA is “stacked with good teams and many incredibly talented players” so it’s tough to win no matter where you got seeded.
2,000-point duo drives Ponies

By Bruce Strand

Stillwater’s opponents face a daunting match-up problem. You’ve got a couple of 2,000-point scorers to deal with, and one of them is big, strong and agile, the other tiny but frightfully fast.

Junior guard Alexis Pratt and senior forward Aliza Karlen have led the Ponies to their second straight state tournament, capped by their 83-27 win over East Ridge in the Section 4AA finals Thursday evening.

Last year they played in the state finals, losing to Hopkins, on a team led by Miss Basketball finalist Sara Scalia, who’s currently a Gopher starter. Sara’s sophomore sister Amber gives the Ponies a third double-digit threat.

The 5-foot-3 Pratt is averaging 18 points, 3.0 rebounds, 3.3 steals and 4.4 assists. She’s got speed to burn. She placed fourth in the state 100-meter dash finals last year and fifth in the 200. In ninth grade she was part of two state champion relays (4-by-100 and 4-by-200) with North St. Paul.

“Lexi has a motor like I have never seen in a player,” said coach Willie Taylor, who has logged 521 wins at three schools. “She just wants to go, go, go, go, and she never gets tired. And she is as competitive a player as I have ever had. If I was not coaching her, I would want to go watch her as a fan.”

Karlen, 6-foot-2, is averaging 16.5 points and 9.8 rebounds. Signed by Marquette, she a force on the blocks who’s also made 26 three’s.

“Liza has good hands, and good coordination and balance, and she can play inside and outside,” Taylor said. “On top of that, she is very competitive, too. She and Alexis really go at it in practice. We have to keep them apart sometimes.”

The No. 8 ranked Ponies (23-5) are averaging 76 points. Amber Scalia adds 15 ppg and Grace Cote 9.5.

Asked if he thinks Pratt is a D-I prospect despite her size, Taylor, who’s sent several girls to D-I, answered in the affirmative.

“If they ask me, if I am a college coach, I want her on my team. We try to press her in practice, and there is no way. She will either go right to the boards and score, or get the ball to somebody else.”

Opponents have been gearing up for Pratt especially, Taylor said.

“The good teams try a 2-3 zone. Their main aim is to stop Lexi, stop her from driving in and kicking out. When Liza moves outside, they have to respect her 3-point shot. Grace and Amber are good 3-point shooters, too. Lexi is hot and cold on three’s.”

Both 2,000-pointers transferred from St. Paul schools. Pratt’s 2,170 points includes 663 in seventh and eighth grade at North St. Paul. Karlen’s 2,062 points include 1,214 in ninth and 10th grade at St. Paul Central, where she averaged 25.8 and 21 points.

Taylor posted a nice milestone this season also, his 500th career victory, when the Ponies beat River Falls 73-27 in Wisconsin in the second game of the season. Taylor has a 522-190 record, including 96-72 at Stillwater, 335-84 at St. Paul Central and 91-34 at Mounds View.

There’s been three instances of a pair of 2,000-pointers on the same girls team in the large-school division — and Taylor has been coach for two of those. He also had Angel Robinson and Ebony Black on the state champ St. Paul Central team in 2007. (The other duo was Kelly and Coco Miller with Rochester Mayo in 1997.)

“I’ve been lucky enough to coach to some of the best players in state,” acknowledged Taylor.
Eden Prairie has a couple firsts in career scoring

Add one more distinction to the Eden Prairie boys team — two players with 2,000 career points. Austin Andrews, 6-6 senior forward, reached the milestone while scoring 14 points in the regular-season finale, a 77-64 win over Minnetonka. One game later, Drake Dobbs, 6-1 senior guard, joined him in the 2,000 club by scoring 19 points in a win over Chanhassen 94-61 in the Section 2AAAA opener Wednesday. The Eagles (27-0), with two other 1,000-plus scorers in John Henry and Connor Christensen, are the only boys team in state history with four classmates over 1,000. They are only Class 4A boys team (among three) to have had a pair of 2,000-pointers. The other two were Minnesota Transitions with Kevin and Kyle Noreen, and Mountain Iron-Buhl with Archie Winans and Jaylon Holmes. Andrews got his first 376 points in eighth grade with Maranatha Christian.
Milestones include C-I’s Abraham reaching 3,000

Henry Abraham of Cambridge-Isanti became the 12th boy to reach 3,000 points when he scored 37 in a 90-37 win over Becker on Feb. 28 in the regular-season finale. “He needed 37,” coach Mike McDonald said. “He scored 24 in the first half and scored 13 in the first two and a half minutes in the second half.” Abraham has been a varsity starter for five years and is currently averaging 33.5 points.

Lily Wilson of Pine City reached the 2,000th point milestone while scoring 21 in a 70-36 win over Rush City in the section opener Thursday, Feb. 27. The 5-9 senior guard is averaged 13.5 points for the Dragons, who finished 16-3.

Daniel Savageau of Osakis notched his 2,000th point while scoring 26 in a 72-39 win over Long Prairie-Grey Eagle on Thursday evening. The 6-0 senior guard, is averaging 21.8 points for the Silverstreaks (25-2).

Jarrell Jacobs of Cass Lake-Bena went over 2,000 points while pumping in 31 to lead a 92-52 win over Walker-Hackensack-Akeley on Monday, Feb. 24. Jacobs, a 6-1 senior guard, is averaging 29.3 points for the Panthers (19-7).

The Fleisher brothers of Frazee both recently passed 1,000 points. Cole, senior guard, got there while scoring 14 points in a 72-64 loss to Wadena-Deer Creek on Jan. 24. Broden, junior guard, reached the milestone while scoring 16 in an 86-68 win over Battle Lake on Feb. 21. Cole is averaged 17 points and Broden 10.9 points for the Hornets, who finished 10-15.

Note: Minnesota Basketball News will list all active 1,000-point scorers in the state, in an edition following the completion of the season, as we do every year.

Klingsporn gets 600th at Tartan; has 70% wins

Mark Klingsporn, whose string of 22 consecutive 20-win seasons at Tartan is the second-longest in state history, logged his 600th victory on Feb. 28.

The Tartans defeated Mahtomedi 62-46 in their regular season finale at home for their coach’s latest milestone.

Klingsporn has a 600-255 record in 32 seasons, 28 of them at Tartan, his alma mater, where he’s had nine state tournament teams, most recently 2014, and one state title, in 2000. He coached North St. Paul for four years.

The only longer streak of 20-win seasons in state history 28 and counting by Hopkins.

The Tartans are 24-3 this season. “They play real hard and they are good kids,” Klingsporn said. Scoring leaders are senior Langston Burns (15.2 ppg), senior Joseph Kearney (12.7) and junior Dorian Singer (10.7), all guards.

Klingsporn, a 1976 Tartan graduate (his coach was Fred Schmeising), taught physical education there until retiring in 2018.

Asked the elements in his program that’s won 70 percent of its games over four decades, Klingsporn listed:

“Always making every level important. Consistency in the staff. Support from Tartan administration. Tartan is a great academic school. Work harder than others.”

Klingsporn is the 13th state boys coach with at least 600 wins, and the fourth to get there in the last month, joining Steve Philion of Red Lake Country, Dave Cresap of Perham and John Oxton of Lakeville North.
Pacesetter Sports will conduct its 28th annual Minnesota Youth Basketball Championships for teams in grades 4-9, starting with region playoffs from February through April.

This one-class, statewide competition involving 600 to 800 teams will start with eight regional qualifiers.

The regionals are as follows. Region 1 in Rochester and Stewartville, Region 2 in Mankato, Region 3 in Redwood Falls, Region 4 in Mora and Willow River, Region 5 in Paynesville, Region 6 in Alexandria, Region 7 in Grand Rapids and Mountain Iron-Buhl, and Region 8 in Bemidji.

The region champions are invited to the Minnesota Youth Basketball State Championships in Maple Grove in June. The champion and runner-up at the state tournament are invited to the Pacesetter Great Five-State Championships in Minneapolis along with top teams from Wisconsin, Iowa, North Dakota and South Dakota.

All teams in that tournament will have at least one game on the main Target Center floor.

Teams may register online now by visiting our website at www.pacesettersports.net.

Officials needed

Officials interested in working Pacesetter basketball tournaments from March through July should write to jeff@pacesetternet.com. See www.pacesettersports.net for more information.
# State Boys Top 20 Rankings (Final)

## Class 4A

1. Eden Prairie (2) 26-0  
2. Eastview (3) 22-4  
3. Cretin-Derham Hall (4) 22-4  
4. Shakopee (2) 21-5  
5. Hopkins (6) 21-5  
6. Chaska (2) 23-3  
7. Maple Grove (8) 21-5  
8. Park Center (5) 21-5  
9. Spring Lake Park (8) 21-5  
10. East Ridge (4) 21-5  
11. Prior Lake (2) 18-7  
12. Robbinsdale Armstrong (6) 19-7  
13. North St. Paul (4) 18-8  
14. Tartan (4) 23-3  
15. Robbinsdale Cooper (6) 17-5  
16. Lakeville South (1) 19-7  
17. Champlin Park (5) 17-9  
18. Cambridge-Isanti (7) 22-4  
19. Rochester Mayo (1) 20-6  
20. Lakeville North (3) 15-11

## Class 3A

1. Minnehaha Academy (4) 22-3  
2. Mankato East (2) 25-1  
3. DeLaSalle (6) 21-5  
4. Totino-Grace (4) 18-8  
5. Marshall (2) 25-2  
6. Waconia (6) 22-4  
7. Delano (5) 22-4  
8. Richfield (3) 20-6  
9. Princeton (7) 22-4  
10. Austin (1) 21-5  
11. Hermantown (7) 19-7  
12. Bemidji (8) 18-6  
13. St. Peter (2) 18-8  
14. Holy Angels (3) 17-9  
15. Mound Westonka (6) 20-6  
16. Hibbing (7) 19-7  
17. South St. Paul (3) 17-9  
18. St. Cloud Apollo (8) 18-8  
19. Sartell-St. Stephen (8) 16-9  
20. Alexandria (8) 18-8

## Class 2A

1. Caledonia (1) 24-1  
2. Waseca (2) 22-5  
3. St. Croix Prep (4) 25-0  
4. Lake City (1) 23-3  
5. Minneapolis North (5) 19-8  
6. Perham (8) 25-0  
7. Minnesota Valley Lutheran (2) 24-2  
8. East Grand Forks (8) 24-2  
9. Osakis (6) 24-2  
10. Eden Valley-Watkins (6) 25-1  
11. Fergus Falls (8) 22-4  
12. Stewartville (1) 22-5  
13. Pine City (6) 24-2  
14. Rockford (5) 20-6  
15. Esko (7) 19-7  
16. Moose Lake-Willow River (7) 22-4  
17. Lewiston-Altura (1) 22-4  
18. Minnewaska Area (3) 18-6  
19. Annandale (6) 19-7  
20. LaCrescent-Hokah (1) 18-7

## Class 1A

1. BOLD (2) 25-1  
2. Henning (6) 25-1  
3. Ada-Borup (8) 24-1  
4. Southwest MN Christian (3) 25-0  
5. Waterville-Elysian-Morristown (2) 24-2  
6. New Ulm Cathedral (2) 23-3  
7. Springfield (2) 23-3  
8. West Central Area (6) 24-2  
9. Mountain Lake-Comfrey (2) 22-4  
10. Blooming Prairie (1) 21-3  
11. Fertile-Beltrami (8) 23-4  
12. Hayfield (1) 21-5  
13. Nevis (5) 21-4  
14. Cass Lake-Bena 19-7  
15. Nashwauk-Keewatin (7) 22-4  
16. Cromwell-Wright (5) 19-4  
17. Central MN Christian (3) 21-4  
18. Nicollet (2) 20-5  
19. Parkers Prairie (6) 20-6  
20. North Woods (7) 20-6
BOYS & GIRLS ENTERING GRADES 6-10

Willmar Community Christian School

Tuesday-Thursday
June 9-11

Tues: 10am-8pm • Wed: 8:30am-8pm • Thurs: 8:30am-4pm

Player Fee: $250 - 28 hours, includes 5 meals & 7 snacks

REGISTER ONLINE: www.pacesettersports.net

REGISTER EARLY! Minimum of 20 players needed by JUNE 1 to hold this camp.
Questions? Call Pacesetter at 320-243-7460 or email info@pacesetternet.com

FEATURING:
JOHN CARLSON

• Former Litchfield Boys Head Coach
• MN Coach of the Year 2000
• Record 469 - 307
• MN BB Coaches Assoc. Hall of Fame

“Open to All Area Players”

Examples of skills taught at Pacesetter camps: Shooting form • Jump shooting (age appropriate) • shooting off dribble and pass • ball handling against pressure • crossovers between legs, behind back, reverse pivot, hesitation move • penetrating lane • sharp passing • passing to post • passing on fastbreak • filling lanes • reading defenses in half court & full court • footwork cutting to basket w/o ball, reverse pivoting, setting screen-roll or go • boxing out • offensive rebounding • breaking to wing • backdoor cut • one-on-one facing moves: touch & go, touch & cross, touch & shoot, dribble & pop, ball fake & go • post moves: 9 options • denying wing break • denying lane cuts • denying post positions • ball pressure in full court • embracing hard work and 100% effort • embracing good sportsmanship • being a team player • 1-on-1 • 2-on-2 • 3-on-3 • 5-on-5