

Prep sports scene is busier than ever

Written by Bob Brooks

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Talking with a couple of high school athletic administrators, I mentioned as we get close to school letting out for the summer that the athletic scene must be coming to a conclusion. I was quickly told, "not so."

In fact, it's busier than ever.

Track and field in this state has become more than just a passing item, a la Iowa's win at the Big Ten track championships and its qualification for the NCAA regional in Oregon and the NCAA championships coming to Drake in June.

But before that, we will have the staging of the state track meets on the Blue Oval at Drake. The Metro Sports Report is there to cover all of it, because Cedar Rapids and Marion will have some top individuals.

For instance, Alex Carr and Will Griffin from Cedar Rapids Washington in the sprints, the Stocker twins of Prairie in the distance races, Kyle Dunn of Linn-Mar in the hurdles, Sam Joens of Prairie in the discus, Brooke Foreman of Washington in the hurdles and some good relays.

I wish them well.

Just to keep the buzz going, the high school baseball season starts Monday with the Bob Vrbicek Metro Tournament, which will kick off the high school season in style. Cedar Rapids Kennedy should be the powerhouse of the group, but I urge all high school fans - even with school being out - let's get behind these excellent teams.

The first two rounds of the baseball tournament are at Kennedy and Xavier, with the final to be at the Veterans Memorial Stadium on Wednesday. That's going to start a busy summer for

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baseball and softball.

In golf, I would like to congratulate Dane Worley of Kennedy on finishing second at Whistling Straits in the College Futures Tournament in Wisconsin with rounds of 72 and 73. That will certainly add to his collegiate reputation and eventually to not only his academic success, but collegiate golf success at Drake. Congratulations to Worley on his Kennedy graduation.

There are many great stories coming up this summer, and I hope I can pinpoint a few of them. We do not end high school athletics when school lets out. It's only another beginning.