

Central's Kyle Grant inks with Dakota State

By Sisco Molina
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CHEYENNE—Kyle Grant started the transition to the next chapter of his life Wednesday by signing his national letter of intent to continue his baseball career at the collegiate level.



Grant

That chapter will be set in Madison, South Dakota, as the Cheyenne Central senior signed to join Dakota State University's baseball program under first-year coach Geoff Schwab.

"All their players were super nice, and their education programs were fantastic," Grant said of Dakota State University. "I just really liked the school in general. They really made me feel at home when I went there."

"I'm really excited just to go to college and get a new start and try something new."

Grant will be joining a program still in the building stages with Schwab at the helm, something Cheyenne Mustangs coach Rick Thompson, whom Grant pitches for, said the big right-hander is looking forward to.

"They are really trying to improve and build that program, and (Grant)

really wants to be part of that," Thompson said. "(Schwab) really expressed to Kyle how much he wanted him there, and that resonated with Kyle."

Grant came on late, developing into the Mustangs' top threat on the mound at the end of the 2016 season. He is now the go-to guy on the pitching staff, and the Mustangs are off to a 3-0 start for the 2017 season.

The growth Thompson has seen from Grant through the course of last season to now has the coach believing some of Grant's best years are still ahead of him.

"Kyle's a bulldog on the mound. He's very durable, can go deep into games and seems to recover quickly," Thompson said. "If he continues to work on his stuff, he'll be able to pitch deep into games because of that."

As far as what he brings to the mound, Grant feels his calm demeanor is what benefits him most.

"As a pitcher, I never really ever let anything get to me," Grant said.

"I'm always the same kind of pitcher, whether we're up 15 or down 15. I just pitch and continue to work."

Sisco Molina is a writer for WyoSports. He can be reached at 307-633-3123 or by email at smolina@wyosports.net. Follow him on Twitter at [@SiscoMolina_WTE](https://twitter.com/SiscoMolina_WTE).