The marijuana activist running as a Democrat in Nebraska's sprawling 3rd Congressional District said he no longer wants to run as a Democrat. Instead, Mark Elworth Jr., 43, is working to form a new political party, the Legal Marijuana Now Party, and run as its candidate. State Democratic Party officials say they are eager to get Elworth’s name off the ballot and hope to recruit a replacement to challenge U.S. Rep. Adrian Smith, R-Neb., of Gering in Nebraska's most Republican Congressional District said he no longer wants to run as a Democrat. Instead, Mark Elworth Jr., 43, is working to form a new political party, the Legal Marijuana Now Party, and run as its candidate. State Democratic Party officials say they are eager to get Elworth’s name off the ballot and hope to recruit a replacement to challenge U.S. Rep. Adrian Smith, R-Neb., of Gering in Nebraska's most Republican-heavy district. “He emailed the party he was dropping out,” said Jane Kleeb, chairwoman of the Nebraska Democratic Party. “We look forward to him completing the paperwork.” On June 5, Elworth, a frequent political candidate who said he doesn’t view himself as a Democrat, emailed state Democratic Party leaders to say he wanted to quit the Democratic Party and start a new marijuana party. That process requires gathering signatures from nearly 7,000 registered Nebraska voters.
SPORTS

The 53rd Nebraska Match Play Championship kicks off tomorrow at Hillcrest Country Club in Lincoln, and the field is stacked with a deck full of great players. The championship begins with 36 holes of Stroke Play Qualifying on June 22 and 23, after which the field will be cut to 32 players and seeded into a match play bracket. Match play begins Wednesday, June 24, with the Rounds of 32 and 16, followed by the Quarterfinals and Semifinals on Thursday, and the 36-hole Championship Final on Friday. Cambridge’s Preston Carbaugh is one of the golfers in this year’s field.

Nebraska Sports Council (NSC) officials released a Cornhusker State Games (CSG) event update Friday, including 60 CSG sports on as scheduled. It was also announced that the Opening Ceremonies would be held virtually. “We are doing our best, with help and guidance from state and local health officials, to have as many events as safely and feasibly possible,” Executive Director Dave Mlnarik said. “This includes some difficult decisions like going virtual with the Opening Ceremonies, our largest-crowd event in normal years.” Mlnarik said the NSC staff is still working through facility and safety measures on nine sports listed as “possible”. He said two sports, Adventure Race and Triathlon, will be held virtually. Two sports, Ice Hockey and Wrestling, are postponed indefinitely and three sports, Figure Skating, Sport Skydiving and Taekwondo are canceled. Mlnarik encouraged athletes to check for updates regularly, be patient regarding changes and be respectful of health-related measures at the events.

FUTURES

The Nebraska Match Play Championship with the biggest field ever is ready to roll. The 53rd match play championship kicks off tomorrow at Hillcrest Country Club in Lincoln, and the field is stacked with a deck full of great players. The championship begins with 36 holes of Stroke Play Qualifying on June 22 and 23, after which the field will be cut to 32 players and seeded into a match play bracket. Match play begins Wednesday, June 24, with the Rounds of 32 and 16, followed by the Quarterfinals and Semifinals on Thursday, and the 36-hole Championship Final on Friday. Cambridge’s Preston Carbaugh is one of the golfers in this year’s field.

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