

# Young Bucks Look To Make Waves In Class 11AA

BY JAMES D. CIMBUREK  
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The Yankton Bucks boast a ton of size, speed and athletic ability as they prepare for the season. What they can't boast of is experience.

With just four starters back on each side of the ball, the Bucks will be looking to learn quickly as they begin the 2010 season Saturday against Rapid City Central.

Yankton returns a pair of two-way starters in seniors Cole Drotzmann (6-3, 170; SE/DB, 5-117 receiving, 26 tackles, 3 INT) and Jordan Johnson (6-0, 256; T/DT), Juniors Ty Soulek (6-2, 266; TE) and Brady Knodel (5-11, 235; FB, 119-



635 rushing, 3-34 receiving, 10 total TD) return as offensive starters. Seniors Powers Schurrer (5-10, 205; MLB, 67 tackles, 3 FR) and Cody Ulmer (6-3, 175; DB, 36 tackles, 3 INT) return with starting experience on defense. "We return some decent size," said Yankton head coach Arlin Likness. "We have some guys that lifted hard this off-season, like Powers Schurrer, Austin Anderson (Sr., 6-1, 195), Wilson Tieszen (Jr., 5-10, 205), Alex McKee (Jr., 6-0, 175) and Kory Bromley (Sr., 5-10, 180)." Knodel was a top offensive

weapon a year ago, and will likely be a focal point for opposing defenses in 2010. That is what Likness is hoping for.

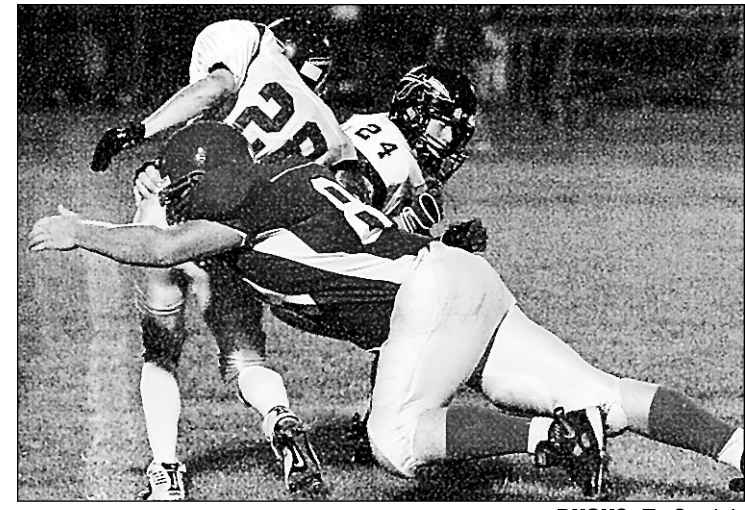
"We have some quickness to go along side Knodel," he said. "Connor Fitzsimmons (Jr., 5-8, 160) had a really good sophomore year. Michael Wilcox is healthy after missing last season. Perry Shafer is back. Neil Hohenthaler (Sr., 5-11, 180) is a fullback-halfback with good size and speed. Evan Schroeder is a sophomore that had a great freshman year."

Soulek will move to either center or guard, joining Johnson and Dylan Halverson (Sr., 6-1, 290) on a solid offensive line. Several others are battling for line positions, including Paul Foss (Sr., 6-3, 300),

Nick DeJong (Sr., 6-2, 275) and Zach Johnson (Sr., 6-1, 240), with Terry Huber (Jr., 6-3, 215), Troy Hunhoff (Jr.) and Anderson (Sr., 6-1, 195) potentially filling roles at tight end.

Anderson is also in a crowded mix at quarterback. Six players worked at quarterback during the team's opening week of practice, with several of those players getting shuffled to other positions if they don't start behind center. Ulmer made one start at quarterback last season.

"Cody Ulmer and Jackson Pasco (Jr., 6-3, 170) are in there, as is Michael Rucker, who's only a sophomore," Likness noted. "There's also John Vollmer, who's worked



BUCKS: Ty Soulek

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## Dannenbring: 'We Only Have To Win One Race'

Cross Country Team Looks To Build Toward Title Defense

BY JAMES D. CIMBUREK  
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Yankton cross country coach Dave Dannenbring has one thing to say to those who would write off the graduation-depleted Bucks and Gazelles as being unable to defend their state titles.



"You only have to win one race to win a championship."

The Yankton boys' program comes into 2010 having won five consecutive state titles, but graduated all five state meet scorers. Four will be running for NCAA Division I University of South Dakota this fall, while one will run at NAIA power Black Hills State.

"It will be hard to replace all the boys we lost from last year's team," Dannenbring said. "But we've got a great nucleus of returning runners that will continue the YHS cross country tradition."

Senior Josh Lundgren and sophomore Kipp Kinsley return off Yankton's 2009 state tournament team.

"Kipp and Josh will be a force," Dannenbring said. "They're looking good right now. They put in the time, and put themselves in position to be successful."

Senior Ryan Lammers and junior Logan Smith, both of which ran JV last year as a way to get in shape for wrestling, have developed into quality runners that will compete for varsity positions.

"Logan Smith is the perfect



GAZELLES: Ciara Andrus



BUCKS: Logan Smith

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## Young Golf Team Look To Continue Yankton Tradition

BY JEREMY HOECK  
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EDITOR'S NOTE: This article originally ran in the Aug. 16 edition of the Press & Dakotan.

A team that has made a living as one of the state's best will have a new look this fall.



Not just new, however, but inexperienced.

The Yankton Bucks golf team, owners of three straight runner-up finishes in Class AA, graduated five of its six golfers from last fall's state tournament squad.

And of the 28 golfers out this fall, only two have prior varsity experience.

"We won't have the experience we've had had the last handful of years, so we're looking for somebody to step up and be a leader for this group," said head coach Brett Sime, whose team began its season with a fifth-place finish at the Brandon Valley Invitational on Aug. 16.

"It'll be a little different team for us."

Of the 28 golfers on the roster, there are 10 seniors, two juniors, five sophomores and five freshmen, as well as four eighth-graders and two seventh-graders.

Leading the way this fall will be Ryan Shindler (Sr.) and Jace Guthmiller (8th), while a group of six other golfers are vying to be in the varsity mix, according to Sime. During a two-week span in July, Guthmiller won an age division title at the South Dakota Golf Association (SDGA) Junior Championship and also competed in the US Kids Teen World Championship in Pinehurst, N.C.

"Playing-wise, Jace is one of the best in the area," Sime said. "He's played in some tough events this summer and has had success. We'll look to him for some big things."

Shindler was on Yankton's Eastern South Dakota Conference (ESD) squad that claimed its fifth straight league title last fall.

Other golfers seeking to crack the varsity roster are Canner Barry (Sr.), Chase Bremmer (Jr.), Tristan Barry (So.), Ben Jensen (Fr.), Mitch Schlingman (8th) and Mason Sundleaf (7th).

With the number of first-year golfers and inexperienced golfers Yankton will field this fall, it may naturally take a while for the athletes to adjust to the variables, according to Sime.

"With a really young team like this, it might take us a while to get

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## Larsen Takes Over Experienced Gazelles Tennis Program



GAZELLES: Vanessa Rockne

BY JAMES D. CIMBUREK  
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EDITOR'S NOTE: This article originally ran in the Aug. 21 edition of the Press & Dakotan.

After a quarter-century, Tim Mulhair turned over the reins of the Yankton girls' tennis program. Mulhair didn't leave the cupboard bare for the Gazelles new head coach Ginger Larsen.



Larsen, a longtime YHS coach and teach whose wide range of experiences include being the first coach in Yankton volleyball history, takes over a program that returns five players with varsity experience and seven players with playing experience as the 2010 season begins.

"We've got some good experience coming back," Larsen said. "They've been great to work with.

They know what they need to get done.

"I don't have to start from zero."

While the Gazelles have just one senior, Britta True, they have four juniors with varsity experience: Vanessa Rockne, Lexie Klimisch, Leslie Henderson and Dani Gill.

Sarah Santos, who saw action at both the JV and varsity level last season, leads a group of sophomores that includes Jessica Roth, Erin Rasmussen and Bre Schmidt. Also on the roster are freshmen Taylor Rothenberger and Shayna Gusso, and eighth graders Sarah Rockne, Alexa Bryan, Kaitlyn Frank and Kim Cap.

Rothenberger and Sarah Rockne also saw varsity action last season.

Several of the veterans played summer league tennis this year including one, Klimisch, who played for a traveling team out of Sioux Falls. That team has qualified for a section tournament in late October, after the high school season has been completed.

Niobrara/Verdigre Football				
9/3/10	Bloomfield	A	10/11/10 West Boyd	H
9/9/10	Newcastle	A	10/8/10 Clearwater/Orchard	H
9/17/10	Wausa	H	10/15/10 Elgin Public/P.John	A
9/24/10	North Central	A	10/21/10 Burwell	H

Niobrara/Verdigre Volleyball					
9/2/10	Osmond Triangular - Osmond	A	09/23/10	Evening	H
9/2/10	Osmond Triangular - Crofton	A	09/28-29/28	West Boyl 4-team tournament	A
9/7/10	Niobrara/Verdigre Double Triangular	A	09/30/10	Niobrara/Verdigre Triangular	A
9/7/10	Niobrara/Verdigre Double Triangular	A	09/30/10	Wausa	A
9/10/10	Elgin Public/Pope John	A	10/20/10	Niobrara/Verdigre Triangular	A
9/14/10	Niobrara/Verdigre Triangular	A	10/27/10	Clearwater/Orchard	A
9/14/10	Niobrara/Verdigre Triangular	A	10/27/10	North Central Double Triangular	A
9/14/10	Niobrara/Verdigre Triangular	A	10/27/10	St. Mary's	A
9/17/10	Wausa	A	10/12/10	North Central Double Triangular	A
9/21/10	St. Mary's	A	10/12/10	North Central	A
9/21/10	Wheeler Central/Chambers O&L Tri.	A	10/12/10	Stuart Triangular - Stuart	A
9/21/10	Stuart	A	10/12/10	Stuart Triangular - Clearwater/Orchard	A
9/21/10	Wheeler Central/Chambers O&L Tri.	A	10/15/10	Elgin Public/Pope John	A
9/21/10	Wheeler Central/Chambers O&L Tri.	A	10/18-19/19	Knox County Tournament	Crofton
9/21/10	Wheeler Central/Chambers O&L Tri.	A	10/25-10/29	Niobrara Valley Conference Tournament	Niobrara

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9/3/10	Hartington	A	10/1/10 Chambers	A
9/10/10	Stuart	H	10/8/10 St. Mary's	H
9/17/10	Humphrey St. Francis	H	10/15/10 Newcastle	A
9/24/10	Wausa	A	10/22/10 Bloomfield	H

Wynot Lady Blue Devil Volleyball				
9/2/10	Wynot Tri.-Hartington	H	10/5/10 Newcastle	A
9/2/10	Wynot Tri.-Newcastle	H	10/7/10 Winside	H
9/7/10	Allen	H	10/8/10 St. Mary's	H
9/9/10	Hurley, SD	H	10/14/10 Wausa	A
9/14/10	Hartington	A	10/16/10 Hartington Inv	A
9/16/10	Lynch	H	10/19/10 Osmond	H
9/20/10	Bloomfield	A	10/25-29 L&C Conference	TBA
9/23/10	West Boyl	A	11/1-5 Subdiv./Districts	TBA
9/28/10	Bloomfield	H	11/11-14 State	Lincoln, NE

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