

# MMC Golf Team Expects Major Improvement In Second Year Of Program

BY JUSTIN RUST  
justin.rust@yankton.net

Last year, both the men's and women's golf programs at Mount Marty College shared the fact it was both team's first year.

This year, both teams will have a completely different look.

The men's team has all five golfers returning, but the women's team finished last year with just one golfer, Kendra Schomer, who graduated.

For the women, the second year will be sort of a reboot with six golfers on the roster, while the men's base has been set and the team will double its roster this year.

Even though it was the men's first year, the Lancers were able to finish 12th in the Great Plains Athletic Conference (GPAC) ahead of Midland Lutheran.

Head coach Tom Schlingens said the team, which consisted of four freshmen and a senior, was able to pick up some good experience.

"We had some signs of what you



would expect from some young players," he said. "We weren't consistent, but there were signs of playing well. We got our feet wet, and a lot of it was getting experience."

"I feel like we have a good base set up, and I think in our second year, I feel like we are going to make a good jump," Schlingens said.

The team's lone upperclassman will once again be Brett Bosn.

Bosn came back to finish up a double major and after playing baseball and golf last year, he will have his athletic focus just on golf this year.

"It's nice to have him back since he is older, and it was nice that he wanted to come back," Schlingens said. "He is excited for it, and he will have more time now."

The four sophomores are Brett Springman, Jacob Dawson, Chandler Edwards, a Scotland

native, and Weston Swanson. Schlingens said the biggest thing the four sophomores learned from last year was how much better the competition is going from high school to college.

"They realized it was a lot tougher, and they just had a hard time going back-to-back on good performances," Schlingens said. "I think at times they were disappointed in their play. I talked to them over the summer and they said they have been working on their game, and we will find out shortly."

The team also adds five freshmen to this year's team, led by Yankton native Chris Hoffman.

"We know Chris is an excellent player and comes in a great program," Schlingens said. "He was a real consistent golfer who averaged 77.6 in meets last year. That could go up a bit, but we are expecting good things from him."

Another freshman on the team will be a little bit more mature than a regular freshman. Josh Henry will have four years of eligibility, but he is 21 and joined the team after

spending time in the military. "Just from my visits with him, he is very mature and very competitive," Schlingens said. "He comes in with a nice handicap and I am expecting pretty good things from him."

Teammates Alex Warnke and Jordan Carlson join the team from Ida Grove, Iowa, along with Seth Rockafellow of Tea.

"Alex qualified for the state meet in Iowa, and it's not like South Dakota were you qualify 40 percent of the golfers. He is very capable of putting up some good scores," Schlingens said. "Jordan just missed qualifying for the state meet, and Seth has qualified for a couple state meets. I think both are solid additions."

Schlingens added having 10 golfers will also push them to compete better.

"I said last year that we are going to bring in some players, and they are competitive and aware of that," he said. "It will keep them on the edge, and they will all have the chance to prove themselves."

The team has enough golfers to

fill out both a varsity and junior varsity roster this year. Schlingens said the ultimate goal is to improve on last year's 12th place finish.

"The biggest thing is that we want to move up, and I think we can," he said. "We knew it wasn't going to be easy, but we got the ball rolling, and if we keep these kids, then the future is bright."

The women's team will basically be starting over this year with no returning players from last year.

"We thought we had five golfers to start last year, and then three girls informed us they weren't coming," Schlingens said. "Then one girl left at semester, and Kendra Schomer graduated."

Schlingens is bringing in six golfers in this year.

"Knock on wood, but we expect them all here," Schlingens said.

Kayla Karst will be the oldest of the group as she will be a junior. "We are talking about a 21-year old that was a good high school golfer, and I think it will go pretty good," Schlingens said.

Julia Brown of Alcester will join

the team after transferring from South Dakota State University, but she didn't golf there.

"We tried to get Julia last year, and she informed me at semester time she was coming," Schlingens said. "She's excited about coming to Mount Marty, and I think she has potential."

Abby Bollinger is another golfer Schlingens pursued, and ended up getting.

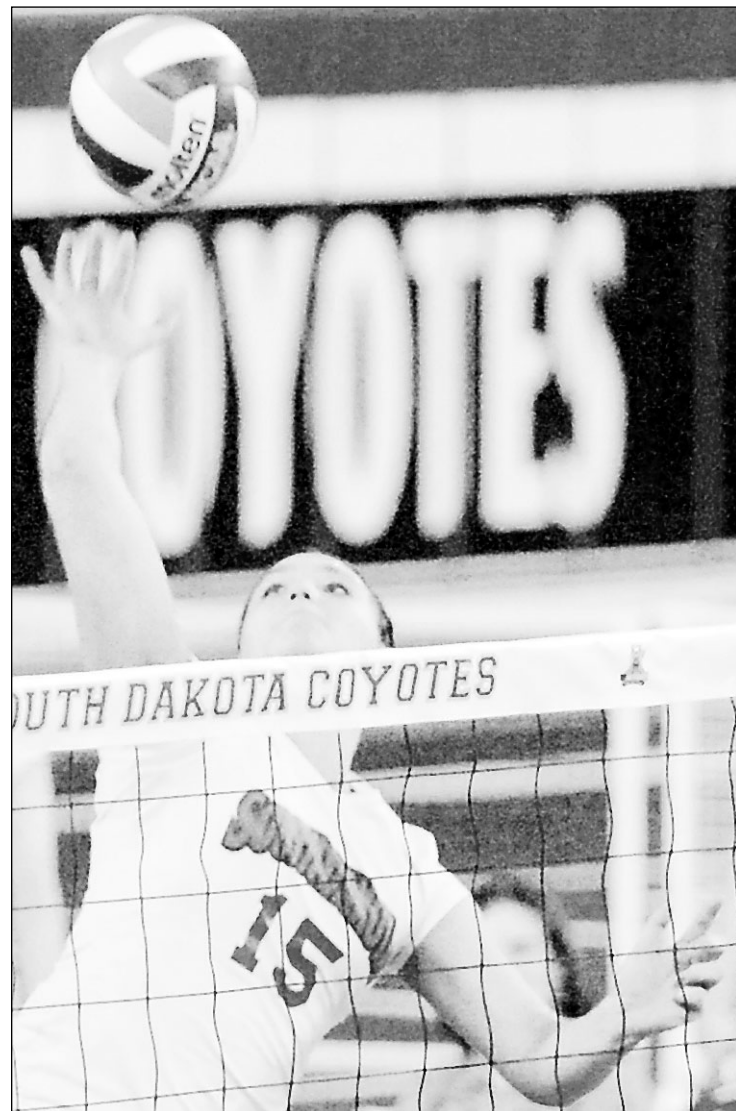
"We chased Abby around, and she is a nice player with a nice short game," he said.

Tripp native Caitlyn Roth also will be a member of the team along with Jennifer Nelson and Emily Jo Bronemann.

Schlingens said he hopes this group of girls resembles the group the men put together last year.

"We are hoping to have a good base now and then try and take off with it," he said. "We know we aren't going to be conference champions, but we are going to go out there and try to beat some teams this year."

# Coyotes Younger But More Experienced Than A Year Ago



COYOTES: Kristin Krittenbrink

BY JUSTIN RUST  
justin.rust@yankton.net

VERMILLION — A year after having just two seniors on the roster, the USD volleyball team may have only gotten younger.

Third-year head coach Matt Houk will only have one senior, Kristin Krittenbrink, and one junior, Tahnee Reed, returning from last year.

But Houk said the lack of upperclassmen on the roster is a bit deceiving.

"I think overall, we are a bit younger, but we have a ton of returners who played a lot last year," he said. "It's actually a unique situation because we might have some of the most returning talent in the (Great West) Conference."

"I think my staff has done a great job recruiting," Houk added. "I don't think the team will miss a beat."

USD is coming off a 13-17 season with a 6-6 Great West conference record. The Coyotes also made it to the GWC championship game, but lost to the University of North Dakota.

Middle blocker Jenna Hatfield and setter Gina Baldwin both graduated from last year's team.

Freshman Bailey Reshel, who was the team's second leading hitter, transferred to the University of Wisconsin, and freshman Mallory Mork left the program.

Krittenbrink does return a year after leading the team with 375 kills. She has seen steady playing time since she came to USD as a freshman, and coming into her senior year, she ranks sixth in career



attack attempts (2,956), tied for sixth for kills per set (3.03) and she is 35 kills away from being the seventh Coyote to reach 1,000 kills.

Krittenbrink wasn't totally sold on being the lone senior on a young roster at first, but changed her mind after the first few practices.

"It was iffy at first, but all the girls are relentless, and they want to prove that they belong on the court," she said. "Honestly, age doesn't affect us at all."

Houk will have to fill a void at setter with the graduation of Baldwin, who finished second all-time in assists with 3,655.

The task will fall on 6-0 Germantown, Wis., freshman Victoria Krull, who is the only setter on the roster. Last year, Krull finished with 949 set assists, 257 digs, 156 kills, 66 aces and 25 blocks to go along with being the conference player of the year.

"Victoria comes from one of the best club teams in Wisconsin," Houk said. "She is tall and will help increase our blocks. She has played all across the county, and knows how to run our offense."

The team will also have to deal with the departure of Hatfield, who Houk said is irreplaceable.

"You can't replace what Jenna brought to the team," he said. "She had great instincts."

Reed will continue to see a good amount of playing time in the middle after finishing third on the team in kills last year with 184. Taylor

Russell played in 24 games last year and the 6-2 sophomore will see more time this year.

Freshman Natalie Walseth, who also stands at 6'2, from Inver Grove Heights, Minn. is making a push for the back-up middleblocker position.

"Natalie has been tremendous so far, and she is making a push for that third middle spot," Houk said. "The three middles have really been competing well."

Walseth was named to the Minnesota Volleyball Coaches' Association Class 3A All-State team last year after having 454 kills and 86 blocks.

The competition for the other outside hitter position opposite of Krittenbrink is still up for grabs.

"I don't know who it will be yet, because we have five girls competing for it," Houk said. "Four of them can play the right or left side, so I might not know the line-up until the day before."

Sophomores Kim Bulaga and Ashley Dorale were on the team last year and are competing for the

job along with freshmen Emily Olsen and Amber Aschoff.

Hutchinson Community College (Kan.) transfer Carol Logato will also get a shot at outside hitter, but she can also play libero.

Sophomore Jill Fields has the inside shot at the libero position after playing in 96 games last year and recording 275 digs.

Fields split time with Mork last year at libero, and Houk said she has worked hard during the spring and summer.

Mallory's (Mork) departure isn't that bad because Jill rededicated herself," Houk said. "She has really made some improvement from last year."

Fields has also taken on the task of showing the freshmen around and what to expect this season.

"I'm helping them keep a positive attitude because I learned last year, you don't realize how much work it is until you do it," Fields said.

"Practice has been going well,

■ USD VB, Page 17 please

## SOCCER

From Page 15

defense — which allowed 61 goals last year.

"That's something we really need to focus on first, the way we play defense," she said. "When we don't get in people's faces and get organized early, we're just chasing the ball around. And from there,

we'll work on how to attack out of our formation."

The Coyotes will also look to utilize its group of underclassmen, including Sara Dehmer (So., DF/MF), Rachel Greene (So., MF) and eight freshmen.

One of the newcomers for USD is Yankton native Laura Ekeren, a first-team all-state selection in 2009 while at Yankton High School.

According to Green, Ekeren is expected to see time this season as a mid-fielder.

"We're seeing great things from

her in training, but it's a big step in competition from what she's used to," Green said. "She's taking baby steps every day. We just need to get her game confidence and get her used to the speed of the game."

Though all four of their wins last season came against Great West Conference rival North Dakota, the Coyotes have their eyes set higher in the league battle.

"Our goal, from day one, is to win conference," Quinones said. "It'll take a lot of work, but it's something we think we're capable

of. We saw all the teams last year.

"They're all talented, but I don't think there's a single team I would say we're scared of."

The Great West Conference is once again split into two divisions, an East and West. USD, North Dakota, Houston Baptist and Utah Valley comprise the West division, while Delaware State, Howard, New Jersey Tech and South Carolina State comprise the East.

The 2010 Great West Championships will be held Nov. 5-8 in Houston, Texas.

## USD GOLF

From Page 15

and Ben Heller (So.). Others returning to team this season are Mike Diemand (Sr.), John Flaten (Sr.), Tanner Hetland (Sr.) and John Vining (Jr.).

So far at this time there is one newcomer to the team and that is Sioux Falls native Trevor Mathison, a transfer from St. Cloud State.

On the women's side some of the players that will be returning

from the Dakota Cup team are Katie Benedict (Jr.), Abby Doom (Sr.), Nicole Funck (So.), Tara Ravellette (So.) and Stephanie Zavilla (Sr.).

The Coyotes are also welcoming back Kymberlee Harrington (Jr.) and Yankton native Courtney Knodel (So.).

"The main thing that I want to do right now with the team is to

get them excited about the upcoming season," Howden said. "And get them used to a coach that is going to be around putting in a lot of hard work trying to make them better golfers and better students."

"I need to make sure that all of the golfers get better individually, but that the team succeeds this season."

**Gramps**  
4th & Burleigh, Yankton  
668-9500

**COX AUTO SUPPLY**  
**NAPA**  
1007 Broadway  
Yankton, SD  
605-665-4494

**Autumn Winds**  
ASSISTED LIVING  
When You're Here You're Home.  
2903 Douglas • 2905 Douglas  
Yankton, SD • 605-665-7255

**Edward Jones**  
MAKING SENSE OF INVESTING  
www.edwardjones.com

**Wayne Ibarolle**  
Financial Advisor  
220 West 5rd  
Yankton, SD 57078  
665-4567

**Calvin D. Riesgaard**  
Financial Advisor  
508 W. 23rd #1  
Yankton, SD 57078  
665-7912

**TO WIN, ONE MUST STAY HUNGRY. WHEN HUNGRY, ONE MUST DINE!**

A fabulous dining experience featuring:

- Steak, Seafood and Pasta, plus Fresh Salads
- Great Certified Angus Beef Burgers
- Full Service Bar with Over 20 Wines
- 6 TVs and 10 Beers on Tap in the Bar

**Minervas GRILL & BAR**  
I'm Hungry! Let's go to Minervas.  
1607 E Hwy 50 | Yankton, SD | 605.664.2244 | minervas.net

## Good Luck Bucks & Gazelles

Avera Sacred Heart Hospital is proud to provide professional athletic training services for Yankton High School Athletics.

Trevor Woods, Certified Athletic Trainer, has been covering YHS athletics since the Fall of 2001.

Here's wishing our student athletes winning seasons, and healthy seasons.



**Avera**  
Sacred Heart Hospital