

Yankton Tennis Team Sports Veteran Lineup, New Coach

YHS Alum Termansen Take Helm Of Gazelles, Who Open Season Today At Home

Gazelles Tennis

8/24	Vermillion/Stevens/ Watertown	9 a.m.
8/30	Aberdeen Central/Marshall/ at Brookings	1 p.m.
8/31	Brookings Jamboree	9 a.m.
9/6	Pierre/at Mitchell	2 p.m.
9/10	at S.F. O'Gorman	4 p.m.
9/12	Vermillion	4 p.m.
9/13	at Brandon Valley	4 p.m.
9/14	Roncalli/at Roosevelt	9 a.m.
9/17	Lincoln/at Mitchell	1 p.m.
9/19	at Vermillion	4 p.m.
9/21	Spearfish/at Mitchell	noon
9/23	Brandon Valley/at Madison	1 p.m.
9/26	S.F. Washington	2 p.m.
9/28	Milbank/at Brookings	10 a.m.
10/3	ESD (Pierre)	9 a.m.

State Tournament
Oct. 10-12 at Sioux Falls

BY JAMES D. CIMBUREK
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With the Yankton girls' tennis team returning five players from its six-person varsity lineup of a season ago, there won't be a lot of new faces for the Gazelles this fall.

But the coach is one of them, though he's not entirely new.

Matthew Termansen takes the helm of a Gazelles squad that returns five of six varsity

players from a team that went 10-14 in duals, placed sixth in the Eastern South Dakota Conference and 11th at state. The 1999 Yankton High School graduate said that the athletes have worked hard to get ready for this season, which begins today (Saturday) with a quadrangular with Rapid City Stevens, Watertown and Vermillion.

"It's been good," he said. "The girls have been hitting on Tuesdays and Thursdays

all summer, and we had two-a-days last week. It's amazing the difference I see from June to August, because of the work they put in."

After spending all summer working on technique, Termansen looks to help them put that to use.

"The girls can hit the ball and serve," he said. "Now we need to get more into strategy, learning how to win."

Junior Sarah Rockne finished fourth in the ESD and seventh at state in flight one

singles, and teamed with senior Taylor Rothenberger to finished fourth at flight one doubles in the ESD. Rockne is coming off a second straight summer of rehab after an ACL tear, but feels more confident about where she's at going into this season.

"I was cleared (to resume activity) a lot sooner this year," she said. "I knew what to expect, and I wasn't as scared to approach new

Tanagers Tennis

8/24	Stevens/Watertown/ at Yankton	9 a.m.
8/27	at Mitchell Triangular	12:30 p.m.
9/10	Madison	4 p.m.
9/12	at Yankton	4 p.m.
9/13	at Brandon Valley	9 a.m.
9/17	at Madison Triangular	noon
9/19	Yankton	4 p.m.
9/30	at Mitchell	4 p.m.
10/3	Roncalli/Lincoln/ at Washington	10 a.m.

State Tournament
Oct. 10-12 at Sioux Falls

VHS Returns Six For 2013 Season

BY JEREMY HOECK
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VERMILLION — A year after falling short in all their matches, the Vermillion Tanagers girls' tennis team will look to six returners to turn the tables in 2013.

By virtue of experience, the Tanagers return all six players — three high schoolers and three middle schoolers. Those back are Abby Weiss (Jr.), Audrey Miller (Jr.), Libby Sykes (Fr.), Alex Rosdail (8th), Brandi Styles (8th) and Kirsten Bohn (8th).

In all, the Tanagers could have as many as 16 girls out this season, 13 from the middle school, head coach Hughes said.

"They have a great attitude and love the game of tennis," said Hughes, whose team opens its season today (Saturday) at Yankton's quadrangular. Action starts at 9 a.m. at the YHS Tennis Courts.

"The girls work together in spite of their age differences and have a good way of joking about it."

Hughes said she was confident that despite their past performances, the Tanagers can overcome their obstacles.

"It's especially challenging right now because in addition to being a small school, we have a hole in our lineup," she said.

Also on the roster for the Tanagers are Ammara Khizar (8th), Bali Summers (8th), Shinae Whipple (8th), Coroline Horton (7th), Natalie Kaufman (7th) and Christina Stoker (7th).

Youth aside, Vermillion is ready for the season, Hughes said.

"My expectations are to learn, improve and enhance self-motivation and discipline due to increased enjoyment of the game," she said.

You can follow Jeremy Hoeck on Twitter at twitter.com/jhoeck

SDGA Men's Senior Here This Weekend

BY JAMES D. CIMBUREK
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For the second time in three weekends, a South Dakota Golf Association Championship is coming to Yankton.

The SDGA Men's Senior Championships begin today (Saturday) at Hillcrest Golf and Country Club, with the first group hitting the tee box at 7:30 a.m. Threesomes tee off all morning, with the last three of the 117 players beginning at 1:12 p.m.

This weekend's event is open to men's golfers age 55 and over. The SDGA also held its Women's Championships at Fox Run Golf Course, Aug. 9-11.

"It's a little unusual," Wade Merry, SDGA Executive Director, said of having two tournaments so close together in the same community. "But it shows the quality of the golf course in Yankton, and the popularity of events in Yankton."

Of the golfers entered, 15 call Hillcrest their home course, with three more hailing from Fox Run. There are also four golfers from The Bluffs in Vermillion, two from Dawson Creek Golf Course in Scotland, and one each from Valley View in Mitchell and Par-Mar in Parker.

"We always get good support for an event like this, the Senior, the Husband-Wife," Merry said. "Last year we had the Two-Man Championships at Hillcrest, and we got great support from Yankton."

"Yankton has traditionally been a great supporter of the SDGA. It's always fun to bring tournaments there."

Steve Dietrich of Sioux Falls, the reigning champion, is entered in the field. Other

USD, Loyola Play To Draw

BY JEREMY HOECK

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VERMILLION — What do double overtime losses feel like?

"It feels like a loss," USD soccer head coach Mandy Green said simply after her team played Loyola University (Chicago) to a 1-1 tie in Friday's season opener for both teams.

Especially to not come out on top, given how much soccer was played. The total? 110 minutes. The combined output? 30 shots, 7 on goal.

"That's a lot of running," sophomore midfielder Rebecca Sparkman said. "It definitely keeps you in shape."

It didn't however, result in a victory for the Coyotes (0-0-1), despite several chances.

USD got on the scoreboard in the 31st minute of the first half, when sophomore Teagen Eberle's corner kick found Sparkman who punched the ball in.

For the next 38 minutes, the Coyotes held on to that lead. But a sluggish stretch in the second period allowed Loyola to score on a Tricia Stonebraker shot in the 79th minute.

The first 10-minute overtime period was scoreless, as was the second 10-minute period. USD, did however, save a potential Loyola goal with 2:07 left in the second overtime, when junior Colleen



JAMES D. CIMBUREK/P&D

South Dakota forward Corey Strang, 3, heads the ball away from Loyola's Valerie Gonyo, 15, and another Ramblers defender during the first half of their women's soccer match on Friday at the USD Soccer Field. The teams played to a 1-1 tie. USD hosts Iowa State on Sunday.

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Rash Of Injuries Testing Coyotes' Depth

BY JEREMY HOECK

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VERMILLION — With injuries already piling up a full week before the season opener, the USD football team is relying even more on its depth.

Injuries have already taken their toll on the running backs, receivers and linebackers, and though the defensive line has been mostly spared, the Coyotes are moving on.

"You just can't dwell on it, you have to move forward and hope they deal with it," head coach Joe Glenn said after Friday's practice. "The only thing you can do is pray for them and trust the next guy coming in."

Or in the case of Adam Praska and Jon Maag, the

next guys switching sides.

Praska, a junior, and Maag, a true freshman, recently made the switch from offensive line to the defensive line, to help a unit that needs depth.

"When they asked me to move, I thought, 'I've been on the d-line since I got here, but hey, let's get over there and help out,'" Praska said Friday.

Maag's experience on both sides of the ball is more recent, but even that came at the high school level — far, he said, from the grind of an FCS fall camp.

"I was recruited as an offensive lineman, but I played both in high school. So I'm not brand new, at least," Maag said. "I'll play wherever they need me."

Depth-wise, the Coyotes needed some help.

USD returns four players with experience on the defensive line — Kenny Greer (Jr., 21 games, 4 starts), Emilious Davis (Sr. transfer, 11 games, 3 starts), Nick Jacobs (So., 11 games, 8 starts) and Drew Idings (So., 11 games, 3 starts).

Other than that, USD has three true freshmen and three redshirt freshmen on the defensive line.

"They brought me over to make plays, to blow things up," Praska said.

Praska, a 6-foot-4, 310-pound native of Elma, Iowa, played a total of 10 games at offensive line — including nine last season.

"Those are good moves for us," Glenn said. "Praska will definitely help us. He's 310 pounds and stronger than an ox; you can't knock him.

"He's already got a good push in there."

In the case of Maag, a 6-foot-4, 255-pound native of Scottsbluff, Neb., he was a two-way player in high school. USD is still deciding whether to play him as a true freshman, Glenn said.

"He had 100 tackles at defensive line in high school, and he started on offense too," Glenn said. "So that shows you what kind of motor he has."

Those motors have needed tweaking in the switch, Praska said. Namely, the stance — which is more stretched out on the defensive line.

"When you're on offense, you take a small step back to get more leverage and then get vertical," Praska said. "On defense, you're going straight

ahead with more aggression."

Such a change naturally takes some time, Maag said.

"My mind was completely on offense, so it was a slow adjustment," he said. "They've been teaching me the proper techniques; high school was different."

Friday marked the seventh practice since Praska was moved, and though USD has a week before the Aug. 31 season opener against UC Davis, the adjustment has progressed, he said.

"The first few days were pretty slow, because I didn't exactly know what I was doing," Praska said. "But I think I've caught on fast."

You can follow Jeremy Hoeck on Twitter at twitter.com/jhoeck

Official Warns Of Hitch On Vikes Stadium

MINNEAPOLIS (AP) — The public authority overseeing construction of a new Minnesota Vikings stadium warned Friday that the opening could be delayed if the team doesn't quickly resume negotiations on lease and development agreements.

Minnesota Sports Facilities Authority chairwoman Michele Kelm-Helgen said the team unexpectedly broke off negotiations a day earlier, saying it wanted to wait until a review was completed on its ability to finance its \$477 million share of the nearly billion-dollar stadium.

Kelm-Helgen said the agreements need to be in place by Sept. 15 to avoid delays. The project timeline calls for breaking ground on the taxpayer-subsidized stadium on Nov. 7 and completing it ahead of the 2016 football season.

Kelm-Helgen wouldn't identify the major issues separating the two sides on the agreements, calling them "substantial" but well within reach. At the authority's regular meeting Friday, she said it was a surprise when the Vikings broke off talks. Delay in those agreements would delay the team's financing and eventually a state bond sale.

"We felt like it was important we have an alert that our (con-

struction) schedule could be in jeopardy," Kelm-Helgen said. That could eventually mean cost overruns for taxpayers.

Vikings spokesman Lester Bagley said the team was confident the stadium would stay on schedule. But he said the due diligence review was having a negative effect on the talks, an allusion to the closer examination of owners Zygi and Mark Wilf's family finances after a New Jersey judge found they had defrauded a business partner in a past development deal. Gov. Mark Dayton has said his confidence in the Wilfs was shaken and said an audit was necessary before the public commits \$498 million of taxpayer money.

"We can't have partnership negotiations when we're not at the table as partners," Bagley said.

The New Jersey judge is expected to rule soon on the damages the Wilfs will have to pay. But Bagley said again Friday the lawsuit "will have absolutely no impact" on their ability to pay their share of the stadium.

Bagley said the team has provided detailed financial information for the authority and arranged meetings involving the NFL and several banks, including U.S. Bank.

USD Football To Honor Veterans, Military Service Personnel At Home Opener

VERMILLION — Veterans, active military personnel and their families will be honored with "Military Appreciation Day" when the University of South Dakota kicks off its 2013 football season vs. University of California-Davis on Saturday, Aug. 31.

Thanks to a special coupon that can be obtained locally and redeemed at the Coyote Ticket Office, veterans and military personnel will be admitted free to the football game while tickets for family members of veterans and military personnel will be discounted half the price of regular admission. Coupons are available at local military establishments. Military Appreciation Day also includes free admission to Coyote Tailgate Nation for all active military and veterans along with their families.

Military Appreciation Day activities will feature a special performance by soldiers of USD's Military Science Department, who will repel from the rafters of the DakotaDome down to the stadium floor with the game ball in hand prior to the Coyotes taking the football field. Led by Lt. Col. Ross Nelson, a U.S. Army Aviation Officer and USD Professor of Military Science, who has been deployed three times to the Middle East and once to the Balkans and USD ROTC Cadet Mathew Scharn, a senior majoring in criminal justice, the soldiers will pres-

ent the football to the game's honorary captain. Additional activities include the singing of "God Bless America" at halftime and the Sound of USD will honor service men and women with an "Armed Forces Salute" also during halftime.

Military Appreciation Day coupons are available for veterans, retired or active duty military members, National Guard and reserves from all branches at the following locations: the Muenster University Center Information Desk, USD ROTC Office (Burr House, corner of Cherry and University Streets), the Vermillion Eagles Club, Vermillion National Guard Armory, Yankton National Guard Armory, Sioux City Air National Guard Base and Army National Guard Armory, Sioux Falls National Guard Armory or online at www.GoYotes.com. The coupons must be redeemed for a game ticket at the Coyote Ticket Office, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, or the day of the game. The coupon is also available for download at www.usd.edu/press/news/images/releases/Voucher_2013_militaryappreciation.jpg.

For more information about Military Appreciation Day or to learn more about redeeming Military Appreciation Day coupons for tickets to the game, please go to www.GoYotes.com or call (605) 677-5959.