

Freshman Goalie Impressing Early For USD

Soccer: Coyotes Fall To Iowa State 3-0

BY JEREMY HOECK
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VERMILLION – Parker Rytz wanted a change of scenery.

Safe to say, she's found exactly that.

From her home town of Encinitas, California — a coastal town north of San Diego — Rytz found her way to the University of South Dakota, a far cry from the hustle and bustle of a major metropolis. But that's just what Rytz, a freshman goalkeeper for the Coyotes, was looking for.

"I wanted to go to the Midwest and experience something new," she said after Sunday afternoon's 3-0 loss to Iowa State in Vermillion.

The daughter of two parents who had attended Grand Valley State University in Michigan, Rytz very nearly went that same route. Ultimately, though, she chose USD, and as the Coyotes (0-2) have already seen through two games, she's making an immediate impact.

Rytz, who at 5-foot-11 is a tall stopper in front of the net, played all 90 minutes in Friday's 1-0 loss at Creighton,

and Sunday allowed one goal – with five saves – in 71 minutes of action.

"You never know with a freshman coming in, how they'll be," head coach Mandy Green said. "There were some distribution things she cleaned up (Sunday) that gave me a heart attack against Creighton.

"But she just makes saves."

Such a high-stress position — where you're literally the last line of defense for your team – can understandably be a lot for a freshman to take in, but Rytz insists that she enjoys the responsibility.

"It's been really exciting," she said. "Nerve-wracking of course, but I've loved every minute I've been out on the field."

And like many of her freshman teammates, Rytz figures to see a lot of action in her first season.

The Coyotes also have sophomore Sydney Hardin at goalkeeper, as well as freshman Coral Suarez (another California native), but it's been Rytz who has emerged early – one exhibition games and two regular season games.

"She's learning different things,"

Green said. "The team has a lot of confidence in her. She's earning more and more playing time every day."

It's the same situation for a number of other Coyote freshmen.

Seven of the team's 12 freshmen saw the field on Sunday, and although the result was the same as Friday's opener, the Coyotes — picked to finish seventh in the Summit League — are seeing small signs of progress, their coach said.

"Even this, (Sunday), there were moments we saw that were better than when we played Creighton," Green said. "We're getting better with things."

"I don't like that we gave up three soft goals, but we're getting better as a team."

Many of those areas of progression are things such as speed of play (Iowa State was a step faster most of the day) and off-the-ball movements, Green said.

Thirteen corner kicks by the Cy-clones (2-0), of course, was an area of concern, according to Green.

But a game like Sunday was exactly why USD scheduled tougher in the non-conference. Facing teams like Nebraska



JAMES D. CIMBUREK/P&D
South Dakota goalkeeper Parker Rytz sends the ball up the field during the Coyotes' home-opening soccer match with Iowa State on Sunday at the USD Soccer Field.

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Savey Learned From Best

A Season After Watching From Sidelines, Senior Looks To Add His Name To List Of Yankton's Top Receivers

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Blake Savey is well aware of the shoes he'll be asked to fill.

Offensive weapon.

Savey, who missed all but one game last season because of a knee injury, has had a front-row seat for two of the best wide receivers in Yankton High School football history: J.J. Hejna and Brady Hale.

"Two of our best receivers," Savey said after a practice last week, before adding, "Ever."

Hejna holds school records in receptions (92) and receiving yards (1659), while Hale recorded 52 catches for 561 yards in his career.

And on top of that, Savey also watched Evan Greeneway and Matt Fitzgerald put up gaudy numbers as seniors during last year's run to a Class 11AA state championship – both, along with Hale, now play Division I football at South Dakota State.

"I got to watch a lot of what they do," Savey said. "I'm not the same as them,

but at the same time, I learned a lot of stuff from them that I'll try to use."

How does he differ from those two?

"They're a lot bigger than I am, so I'll try to use my speed more," said the 6-foot-2, 160-pound Savey. "They just went after the ball and knew how to get open. That's something I'll definitely have to take from them."

Savey certainly won't be asked to shoulder that much of the load in the passing game, but he'll undoubtedly be a popular target for Bucks quarterbacks. Savey had two catches for 27 yards in his only game last season, but the injury to his right ACL then sent him to the sideline.

"I was just getting into the swing of things last year when I got hurt, so that was tough watching from the sidelines," he said.

"It's just exciting to be back out here and be a big contributor."

And not just a contributor on the stat sheet.

"He makes good decisions on and off the field," head



P&D FILE PHOTO
Yankton's Blake Savey, center, goes up for a pass during a practice earlier this season. Savey, who played one game last season due to injury, has spent the past two seasons learning from some of the best receivers in YHS history. Now the senior is hoping to add his name to that list.

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Soccer: Freeman Academy Boys Blank Vermillion

VERMILLION – Freeman Academy blanked Vermillion 1-0 in boys' soccer action on Saturday.

Dalton Bodewitz scored the lone goal, converting a pass from Ryan Haggerty.

Freeman Academy, 2-1, travels to Sioux Falls Christian on Tuesday. Vermillion, 0-1, begins a four-game home stand Aug. 29 against Groton.

Women: SDSU 2, Green Bay 1

BROOKINGS — The South Dakota State soccer team scored two first-half goals and held on to defeat the Green Bay Phoenix, 2-1, Sunday at Fishback Soccer Park.

The win brings the Jackrabbits to a 1-1-0 record and Green Bay to 0-2-0.

The Phoenix put pressure on SDSU's defense towards the end of the second half. In the final eight minutes of the game, junior Nicole Inskip made three impressive saves to hold the score 2-1. Inskip made five saves in Sunday's game.

With 25-30 mph winds creating a challenge for players, the Jackrabbits fought harder to get the ball to the back of the net. Junior Madison Yueill scored early in the game off a penalty kick, making her first goal of the season.

Sophomore Nicole Hatcher also made her first goal scoring 20 minutes into the first half.

The Jacks took advantage of attacking the net whenever possible, taking 12 shots in the game to Green Bay's 10. Leading SDSU in shots against the Phoenix were seniors Diana Pottersveld with three and Alyssa Brazil with two. Sophomores Tori Poole and Nicole Hatcher also took two shots.

Senior Dani Patterson played an aggressive game on the backline and narrowly missed her first goal of the season in the second half. Patterson took a free kick given to the Jacks from about 40 yards out. Kicking the ball against the crosswind, Patterson's shot barely missed the net hitting the crossbar and bouncing out.

South Dakota State also took advantage of 10 corner kicks while only allowing Green Bay to take one.

The Jackrabbits return to action Friday when they travel to play Iowa at Iowa City, Iowa. They then travel to Des Moines to play Drake Sunday.

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MMC RBD 5K Champs



JAMES D. CIMBUREK/P&D
Whitney Lucas (left) of Pickstown and Brant Haase (right) of Lemmon won the women's and men's overall titles at the Mount Marty College Riverboat Days 5K, held Saturday morning in Yankton. Results from the event are in today's Scoreboard, Page 8.

Gazelles Swept In Opener

The Yankton Gazelles opened the 2015 girls' tennis season with a pair of 9-0 setbacks against Watertown and Rapid City Stevens on Saturday at the YHS-SAC Tennis Courts.

Against Watertown, the closest match was at flight one singles, where Yankton's Anne Knoff dropped a 10-6 decision to the Arrows' Rachel Kjetland.

Against Stevens, the closest decision was at flight two doubles, where Stevens' Allyson Riddle and Halie Vanderwerff claimed a 10-3 decision over Mimi Garcia and Josie Krajewski.

Yankton travels to Brookings next weekend for a pair of events. The Gazelles face Aberdeen Central, Brookings and Harrisburg on Friday, then play in the Brookings Jamboree on Saturday.

WATERTOWN 9, YANKTON 0
SINGLES: Rachel Kjetland W def. Anne Knoff 10-6; Ali Cummings W def. Mimi Garcia 10-1; Allie VanDerWiede W def. Sophie Kouri 10-1; Audrey Moran W def. Josie Krajewski 10-2; Halley Hauger W def. Adrienne Kusek 10-1; Abbi Cummings W def. Olivia Tennant 10-1
DOUBLES: Kjetland-VanDerWiede W def. Knoff-Kouri 10-3; Ali Cummings-Hauger W def. Garcia-Krajewski 10-2; Moran-Abbi Cummings W def. Brenna Becker-Tennant 10-0

STEVENS 9, YANKTON 0
SINGLES: Tianna Duda S def. Anne Knoff 10-1; Alisha Wiedmeier S def. Mimi Garcia 10-2; Allyson Riddle S def. Sophie Kouri 10-0; Ingrid Anderson S def. Josie Krajewski 10-0; Halie Vanderwerff S def. Adrienne Kusek 10-0; Jaden Elliott S def. Olivia Tennant 10-0
DOUBLES: Duda-Wiedmeier S def. Knoff-Kouri 10-1; Riddle-Vanderwerff S def. Garcia-Krajewski 10-3; Anderson-Elliott S def. Brenna Becker-Tennant 10-2



JAMES D. CIMBUREK/P&D
Yankton's Anne Knoff serves the ball during flight one doubles action against Watertown, part of a home girls' tennis quadrangular on Saturday at the YHS/SAC Tennis Courts.