

GLENN COMES ‘FULL CIRCLE’ At USD



NEWLY-NAMED UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH DAKOTA HEAD FOOTBALL COACH JOE GLENN, CENTER, LEADS A RENDITION OF THE SCHOOL'S FIGHT SONG DURING HIS INTRODUCTORY PRESS CONFERENCE MONDAY AFTERNOON IN VERMILLION. GLENN, A 1971 USD GRADUATE, HAS THREE NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS TO HIS 24-YEAR HEAD COACHING RESUME, WHICH INCLUDES STOPS AT DOANE (NEB.), NORTHERN COLORADO, MONTANA AND WYOMING. THE 62-YEAR-OLD GLENN TAKES OVER FOR FORMER USD COACH ED MEIERKORT, WHO WAS FIRED LAST MONTH.

Fans, Players Say Glenn Is The Right Fit For Coyotes

BY JEREMY HOECK  
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VERMILLION — The faces have changed, the competition level has increased and there's a new football stadium, but Joe Glenn is back home in Vermillion after nearly 40 years.

This time, however, the 62-year-old returns as the head coach at his alma mater University of South Dakota.

And for those who either remember Glenn from his previous stay at the University of South Dakota or are new to his style, they all say the same thing: "Cowboy Joe" — the nickname he's earned over the years for his straight-shooting, energetic style — is a magnetic personality.

"We spent a lot of time together, he and I, so I came to know and love the guy," said Vermillion High School football coach Gary Culver, who was a defensive back at USD in 1974 when Glenn was an assistant coach.

"And you know, he really hasn't changed at all."

Culver was a three-year letterman for the Coyotes, who won three straight North Central Conference titles in his career. Since taking over the Tanagers in 1976, right after graduation, he has guided the school to five state titles.

Saying he was "surprised" to see Glenn as the new Coyote coach, Culver pointed out that USD is getting a man who, despite his age, is the same youthful coach he was in the mid-70's.

"Throughout all these years, he's the same Joe Glenn I remember," Culver said.

For what he accomplished after his USD days, Glenn is far from the same.

In 24 years as a head coach over three different levels (NAIA, Division II and D-I), Glenn won three national championships — two at Northern Colorado and one I-AA crown at Montana.

He was hired by Wyoming in 2003, guided the Cowboys to a 2004 bowl victory over UCLA, but was fired after a 4-8 season in 2008.

It was that track record that fit the mold of USD's next coach, after Ed Meierkort was fired on Nov. 22, according to tight end Jay Burns.

"I wanted someone who was an established winner, someone who's proven themselves; not just an assistant somewhere," said Burns, who caught five passes for 32 yards as a junior this season. "On paper, he obviously knows how to win."

"He knows what it takes."

Alum Named USD Head Coach

BY JEREMY HOECK  
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VERMILLION — A week ago, Joe Glenn was a retired football coach, living in sunny Arizona, working on what he called a "struggling" golf game.

Five days later, he was standing at a podium in front of a curious crowd, actively leading a rendition of the school song.

So begins — or in this case, restarts — the Glenn era at the University of South Dakota, as the 62-year-old alum was announced as the new head football coach during a press conference Wednesday in Vermillion.

As he walked to the podium, the events of the past week seemed to suddenly leave the normally talkative coach speechless.

"Wow," he said, smiling and pausing to

look down at his notes. Looking back out at the large crowd, he added, "Somebody come up here and pinch me."

Thirty-seven years after leaving USD for a coaching career across three levels that would result in three national championships, Glenn — a 1971 graduate — is back to lead his alma mater.

Joking later that he said no to the job three times, Glenn said he felt a "calling" when athletic director David Saylor and associate A.D. David Herbst visited him in Phoenix, Ariz., last Wednesday.

"You can tell when your heart's beating and something feels right," he later told a small group of reporters. "They asked, 'Will you be our coach?' And I said, 'You're damn right.'"

"I was about ready to head-butt the lock-

ers."

Statements like that were par for the course during Glenn's first official day as the football coach, a job he said brings him "full circle."

Glenn, already in the USD Hall of Fame, played for the Coyotes from 1967-70 under coach Joe Salem, and later was a backfield coach in 1974. After a stop at Northern Arizona, Glenn served as head coach at Doane College (1976-79), Northern Colorado (1989-99), Montana (2000-02) and Wyoming (2003-08).

He won a pair of Division II national titles at Northern Colorado in 1996 and 1997, and won a Division I-AA, now FCS, championship at Montana in 2001.

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The Joe Glenn File

- ◆ BORN: March 7, 1949; Lincoln, Neb.
- ◆ COLLEGE: 1971 USD graduate
- ◆ RECORD: 188-100-1 (24 years)

◆ DOANE COLLEGE (1976-79)
Years   Record   Conference
4            21-18-1    9-10-1

◆ NO. COLORADO (1989-99)
Years   Record   Conference
11*        98-35        70-28

◆ MONTANA (2000-02)
Years   Record   Conference
3**        39-6         20-2

◆ WYOMING (2003-08)
Years   Record   Conference
6           30-41        15-31

\* Division II national titles (1996, 1997)  
\*\* Division I-AA national title (2001)

Luck, Griffin, Richardson Lead Heisman Trophy Finalists

NEW YORK (AP) — Stanford quarterback Andrew Luck entered the season as the overwhelming favorite to win the Heisman Trophy.

He will head to New York for the presentation of college football's most famous player of the year award having relinquished front-runner status to another quarterback — one known as RG3.

Luck, along with Robert Griffin III, Trent Richardson, Tyrann Mathieu and Montee Ball are the Heisman finalists. The group, announced Monday on ESPN, will be at the presentation Saturday night in Manhattan.

It's a return trip for Luck, the only repeat finalist this season, while Griffin is the first Baylor player to get an invite to the ceremony. The school has never had a player finish better than fourth in the Heisman voting, but now it seems to have the favorite.

"I'm sure it will be a really close vote," Griffin told reporters in Waco, Texas, after watching the announcement with teammates and coaches.

Richardson is the second Alabama running back to be a finalist in the past three years. Former teammate Mark Ingram won the Heisman in 2009.

Ball has scored 38 touchdowns for Wisconsin and needs one more to match Barry Sanders' NCAA record.

Mathieu, the LSU defensive back nicknamed "Honey Badger," has made numerous game-changing plays for the

Five vie for highest honor

The Heisman Trophy, voted on by members of the media and former winners, is the most prestigious award in college football.

2011 finalists

Andrew Luck	Montee Ball	Robert Griffin III	Trent Richardson	Tyrann Mathieu
<b>Stanford University</b> Quarterback, senior	<b>Wisconsin University</b> Running back, junior	<b>Baylor University</b> Quarterback, junior	<b>University of Alabama</b> Running back, junior	<b>Louisiana State University</b> Cornerback, sophomore
• Passed for 3,170 yards, 35 touchdowns this season	• Carried 275 times for 1,759 yards, 32 touchdowns, leading Wisconsin to the Big Ten championship	• Passed for 3,998 yards, 38 touchdowns this season, led Bears to 9-3 record and berth in Valero Alamo Bowl	• Carried 263 times for 1,583 yards, 20 touchdowns, leading Crimson Tide to BCS Championship Game	• Had 2 interceptions and 71 tackles for unbeaten Tigers
• Stanford's only loss was to Oregon on Nov. 12; they will face Oklahoma State in the Tostitos Fiesta Bowl on Jan. 2	• Ball also caught 20 passes, six for touchdowns	• As a sophomore in 2010, Griffin threw for 3,501 yards and 22 touchdowns	• Alabama's only loss was to LSU on Nov. 5	• Named SEC defensive player of the year
Source: MCT Photo Service, AP, ESPN, heisman.com				Graphic: Robert Dorrell

**Past winners, by position**

Running back	38
Quarterback	29
Fullback	3
End	2
Wide receiver	2
Cornerback	1

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top-ranked Tigers.

The field was deep this season and several deserving players didn't make the cut. Most notable, Boise State quarterback Kellen Moore, a finalist last season, Southern California quarterback Matt Barkley and Houston's record-breaking passer, Case Keenum, did not receive enough votes to be among the final five.

Ballots from the 926 voters, mostly

media members and former winners, were due Monday evening.

Luck was the Heisman runner-up to Auburn's Cam Newton last year and passed up a chance to be the No. 1 pick in the NFL draft to return to Stanford for his junior season. From the moment he made the decision to stay in school in January, he became the odds-on favorite to win the big bronze statue.

He had another stellar season, passing for 3,170 yards with 35 touchdowns while leading the Cardinal to an 11-1 record and a second straight BCS bid. But the competition has been fierce and numerous contenders emerged.

The prognosticators now have Griffin as the most likely winner.

Nebraska DC Carl Pelini Hired By Florida Atlantic

BY TIM REYNOLDS  
AP Sports Writer

Carl Pelini helped turn around Nebraska's defense. He's now taking on a significantly bigger challenge.

Pelini was hired Monday by Florida Atlantic, where he's now the second coach in program history and replacing the retired Howard Schnellenberger. Pelini and FAU agreed to terms on a deal late last week, and the university's trustees formally approved the hiring Monday morning.

"I'm ready to take on this task," Pelini said at an on-campus news conference Monday after-

noon in Boca Raton, Fla. "I'm ready to take this university and this football program to the next level. I'm excited about the support that we have around here. I'm excited about our opportunities and where we're headed as a football program. And I'm prepared that when I leave this press conference, I'm going to head back over to my office and I'm going to hit the ground running — and running hard."

FAU athletic director Craig Angelos first met with Pelini in Omaha, Neb., and spoke extensively with Nebraska AD Tom Osborne, who apparently gave Pelini rave reviews.

"At the end of the day, I felt that the guy I would trust with my career on the line also is Carl Pelini," Angelos said.

Said Pelini: "I don't intend on letting him down."

Pelini's deal is for five years, starting with a \$450,000 base salary in his first season and, with annual raises, would be worth a total of just under \$2.49 million at its completion. In any season where the Owls sell more than 12,000 season tickets, Pelini would get at least another \$100,000, and is eligible for other bonuses such as bowl appearances, conference titles and meeting certain academic standards.

FAU will likely make him earn that money.

The Owls finished this season 1-11, tied with Akron, Indiana and New Mexico for the worst record in major college football, and were one of only five clubs nationally not to win a single game within their own conference.

"It is a very big hire for this university because it is a very visible hire for this university," Angelos said.

Pelini is the brother of Nebraska coach Bo Pelini. The schools are scheduled to play in 2014, and Carl Pelini noted that allows him three years to get FAU's "house in order."

Wrestling: Parkston Wins Creighton Inv.

CREIGHTON, Neb. — Parkston had six wrestlers advance to the championship match at their weight class to win the team wrestling title at Saturday's Creighton Invite in Creighton, Neb.

Parkston rolled up a team score of 233.5, ahead of second-place Pender (218). Battle Creek (152), Plainview (146.5) and Winside (106) rounded out the top five.

Winning individual titles for Parkston were Blake Bietz (106), Wesley Dycrak (120) and Miles Bialas (232), while Miles Semmler (160), Brady Reiff (182) and Austin Bertram (220) finished second.

Crofton's Calan List won the 220-pound title.

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