

Herbster's Calendar Quickly Filling Up

Abbott: Herbster Will Be Interim AD At Least Through June

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VERMILLION — As if it wasn't planning to be anyway, the calendar in David Herbster's phone for the winter and spring months is quickly filling up.

Herbster's trial run as interim athletic director at the University of South Dakota will last at least through June 2013, president Jim Abbott said in an interview this week with the *Press & Dakotan*.

Any decision on the future of that position — and more accurately, Herbster's future — will not be made until after that six-month period following last week's sudden resignation of athletic director David Saylor, Abbott said.

"I'm not going to think much beyond what I told Herbster," he said Monday. "He is interim for a max of six months. Then at some point he and I will sit down together and talk about how things are going, and I'll make a decision about how to move forward."

Moving forward is the only thing USD can do at this point, following Saylor's departure for the same position at Miami University in Ohio. There's enough on the immediate horizon to keep the focus to the future, Herbster said.

"That's the thing, there's no choice," he said this week. "Things like this occur in athletics, you have to keep going. It's a lot like a football game. If you lose your quarterback, you put the next guy in and run your plays."

"You pick up the slack and you go."

Of course, in Saylor's case, it wasn't an injury but family concerns that ultimately led to his exit for Ohio.

Saying that was not "entirely surprised" by the move because of Saylor's family issues (mother-in-law recently died), Abbott did say the sudden resignation caught him off guard.

"There are family reasons that were important to him, and I understand that; family reasons ought to trump other things," Abbott said. "It doesn't make it

any less disappointing to us here at USD, but the good thing is, we have in David Herbster a very capable individual."

In his sixth year at USD, Herbster — previously the senior associate A.D. for external relations — said that while, yes, he would be interested in staying on a permanent capacity, he has to be most concerned with day-to-day operations.

"I just know that we'll need to address some things," Herbster said. "We'll play a man down here for a while, but six months, we can make it work."

The biggest issue on Herbster's plate, of course, is the ongoing fundraising for the \$48 million volleyball/basketball arena and an outdoor track/soccer complex project — to be funded solely through gifts.

There remains approximately \$10 million "in the pipeline that we have to go finalize," said Herbster, who also said one of the top goals is to keep the momentum for the projects moving forward.

Referencing himself, Saylor, Herbster

and USD Foundation president Steve Brown as the top fundraisers, Abbott said, "There were four of us, now there are three."

"We'll just have to work even harder to make the arena a reality," the president added. "I have confidence that we'll be able to do that."

To help compensate for the loss of Saylor, the USD athletic department will redistribute assignments and shift staff were needed, Herbster said, specifically to ensure that the interim A.D. is "out on the road a lot more."

"The good thing is, we have a great list of potential donors to work from," Herbster said. "You can't throw that list away."

As Abbott pointed out, it's not always just as simple as meeting with donors and getting their signature on a piece of paper.

"We've had people who have committed but have not signed on the dotted line, and some who have signed," said Abbott, who referenced the 'fiscal cliff' as a possible concern for interested donors.

"In the end, we'll have a new arena."

There are also issues Herbster will have to deal with in the next six months, as well. The DakotaDome will host the Summit League Indoor Track Championships Feb. 24-25, and USD will compete for the first time in the Summit League Basketball Championships, March 9-12, in Sioux Falls.

"There's going to be no grass growing under these feet," Herbster said.

Coyote coaches, athletes and other athletic department staff members have, since last Thursday's announcement that Saylor was leaving, expressed their support of Herbster.

"President Abbott's assurance means a lot, but when you get it from the coaches and the students, that's when it feels the best," Herbster said. "They are the ones you work with on a daily basis; the ones you spend most of your time with."

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USD Powers Past Morehead State

Myles Scores Career-High 32 Points As Coyotes Win 85-75

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VERMILLION — Running down the court was clearly a painful task for Juevol Myles.

Standing at the free throw line, with limited motion, on the other hand, was not much of a problem. Nor has it been, injury or otherwise, this season for the University of South Dakota senior point guard.

A game-time decision because of a bruised tailbone, Myles not only played but scored 32 points as the Coyote men set a new school record for made free throws in an 85-75 victory Wednesday night over Morehead State at the DakotaDome.

"Coach preaches that free throws can win games," said Myles, who was 15-of-16 at the foul line for the second straight game.

"It doesn't matter, from the 12th man to the first man, we go to the line, clear our minds and knock down free throws."

There were plenty of those attempts for the Coyotes (5-7) against the nation's leader in fouls committed, USD, which ranks ninth nationally in that category, was 43-of-50 at the charity stripe, eclipsing the previous record of 41 makes in 1996.

Myles, who injured his tailbone after landing on it awkwardly against Ball State last Saturday, led an aggressive USD offense that continually got to the rim early and took advantage of 32 Morehead State fouls.

"He's a tough kid, he played on a lot of mental toughness tonight, in pain," USD coach Dave Boots said. "I'm very impressed that he had that much toughness to play at that high level."

Facing an aggressive defense with four starting guards, the Coyotes struggled early against that pressure but led for the final 30 minutes.

"We watched film on them, they like to play 10 to 12 guys and run around," Myles said. "We imitated that in practice. We came out and handled that pressure well."

As expected, fouls were an early concern for Morehead State — whistled for 17, in fact — and a boon for the Coyotes.

Though it made just eight baskets, USD was 22-of-26 at the free throw line in a first half that took

55 minutes.

A 17-3 spurt from an eight-point deficit to up 25-19 at the 7:14 mark helped spur the Coyotes to a 40-31 halftime lead.

USD led for the entire second half, by as many as 10 points (the latest with 8:32 to play), despite the visiting Eagles draining nine 3's after halftime. Then, of course, came the pressure.

"They press and play a lot of guys. Fouls are not really a factor for them," Boots said. "It wasn't anything we weren't ready for."

Morehead State — of the Ohio Valley Conference — got as close as 73-67 with 3:45 remaining, but every time it hit a shot, the Coyotes had an answer.

Fittingly, Myles, an 89-percent free throw shooter, was responsible for breaking the school record. His foul shot with 45 seconds left proved to be the mark.

The key to such success at the foul line?

"In practice, we just hack each other all day and get to the free throw line," said junior Karim Rowson, who added 17 points on an 11-of-14 effort at the stripe.

"We beat each other up; every day we're always at the line."

Brandon Bos added 12 points and six rebounds, and Steve Tecker chipped in with 11 points and six rebounds off the bench for the Coyotes, who next play at Green Bay on Saturday.

Green Bay (4-7), of the Horizon League, beat Big East Conference member Marquette 49-47 on Wednesday night. The Phoenix are led by 7-foot-1 center Alec Brown, whom Boots called an NBA prospect.

"Our schedule's been incredibly good," Boots said. "Ball State is from a very good league. We just haven't had any easy ones. And that's not going to change."

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JILANNE DOOM/P&D

South Dakota's Trevor Gruis, 50, attacks the basket against a Morehead State defender during the Coyotes' home matchup with the Eagles on Wednesday at the DakotaDome. USD set a school record with 43 made free throws in an 85-75 victory.

Noack Powers Belmont Past South Dakota State

NASHVILLE, Tenn. (AP) — Trevor Noack scored a career-high 24 points and Blake Jenkins turned in his first double-double of the year as Belmont topped South Dakota State 76-49 Wednesday night in a nonconference game.

The Bruins (8-3) led 26-22 at halftime but dominated the second half, hitting 68 percent (17 of 25) from the floor, 7 of 11 from 3-point range and 9 of 9 from the foul line. The Jackrabbits (9-4), by comparison, hit just 28.1 percent (9 of 32) from the field and were just 1 of 12 from beyond the arc.

South Dakota State's Tony Fiegen tied it at 37 with 12:18 to play, but then Reece Chamberlain hit a 3 to spark an 18-0 run that included four 3-pointers and left Belmont up 55-37.

Noack was 9 of 13 from the field while Jenkins finished with 10 points and 10 rebounds. Ian Clark added 15 for Belmont.

BELMONT 76, S. DAKOTA ST. 49

S. DAKOTA ST. (8-4)

Fiegen 1-9 2-2 4, Dykstra 2-6 0-0 4, Wolters 4-11 5-9 13, Carlson 4-15 2-12, C. White 0-4 1-2 1, Bittle 1-6 0-0 2, Prince 1-3 1-2 4, Jacobsen 0-0 0-0 0, Horstman 1-3 0-0 2, Heemstra 3-6 1-7 7, Totals 17-63 12-18 49.

BELMONT (8-3)

Jenkins 4-6 1-1 10, Mann 1-4 0-0 2, Noack 9-13 4-4 24, Johnson 5-7 2-2 13, Clark 7-13 0-0 15, Laidig 0-0 2-2 2, Mobley 0-0 0-0, Turner 0-0 0-0 0, Chamberlain 1-1 0-0 3, Bradshaw 1-1 0-0 3, Barnes 0-1 2-2 2, Baker 1-4 0-0 2, Lang 0-2 0-0 0, Totals 29-52 11-11 76.

Halftime—Belmont 26-22, 3-Point Goals—S. Dakota St. 3-21 (Carlson 2-9, Prince 1-1, Wolters 0-1, Dykstra 0-1, Horstman 0-1, C. White 0-3, Bittle 0-5), Belmont 7-15 (Noack 2-3, Johnson 1-1, Chamberlain 1-1, Bradshaw 1-1, Jenkins 1-1, Clark 1-4, Baker 0-1, Mann 0-3), Fouled Out—None. Rebounds—S. Dakota St. 30 (Wolters 8), Belmont 43 (Jenkins 10), Assists—S. Dakota St. 8 (Wolters 3), Belmont 16 (Johnson 6), Total

Fouls—S. Dakota St. 12, Belmont 15. A—2, 162.

NO. 17 CREIGHTON 71, TULSA 54: OMAHA, Neb. (AP) — Avery Dingman had 14 of his career-high 21 points in the second half, and Doug McDermott overcame a slow start to score 16 in No. 17 Creighton's 71-54 victory over Tulsa on Wednesday night.

Gregory Echenique added 15 points and eight rebounds for the Bluejays (11-1), who won their fifth straight.

James Woodard had 15 points and 10 rebounds to lead Tulsa (6-5), which shot 38 percent and committed a season-high 25 turnovers.

Dingman was good on his first seven shots and made a career-high five 3-pointers, getting friendly bounces off the rim and backboard on his third and fourth tries. Dingman also had three steals to go with three rebounds.

McDermott, averaging 23.7 points and coming off games of 30 and 34 points, was just 4 of 9 from the field but made 7 of 8 free throws.

IOWA STATE 76, UMKC 61: KANSAS CITY, Mo. (AP) — Tyrus McGee hit six 3-pointers and finished with 20 points, and Iowa State rallied behind a big second-half run to beat Missouri-Kansas City 76-61 on Wednesday night.

Chris Babb added 12 points and Korie Lucious and Anthony Booker had 11 each for the Cyclones (9-3), who got everything they could handle from the Kangaroos (4-7) in the rare case of a Big 12 heavyweight visiting a school from the Summit League.

Estan Tyler matched a career-high with 17 points for the Roos, including a basket with just over 16 minutes left that gave them a 39-35 lead over the stunned Cyclones.

That's when Iowa State finally started to get some transition baskets going, and the result was a 14-0 run that spanned the next 5 minutes and allowed the Cyclones to seize control.

DRAKE 72, NC CENTRAL 69: DES MOINES, Iowa (AP) — Seth VanDeest scored 19 points, including two straight baskets in the closing minutes, to lead Drake to a 72-69 victory over North Carolina Central on Wednesday night.

VanDeest's layup with 1:36 remaining gave the Bulldogs (5-5) a 68-66 lead, and he added another basket with 47 seconds left to make it a four-point game.

A 3-pointer by Stanton Kidd brought NC Central within 70-69 with 31 seconds left, but after Richard Carter hit two free throws for Drake with 11 seconds left, two 3-point attempts from the Eagles (5-6) in the final 3 seconds were off the mark.

Ben Simons added 16 points for Drake, which hit 10 of 21 3-point attempts. Carter had 13 points and five assists.

Kidd and Jeremy Ingram each had 23 points for NC Central, which was playing for the first time in 15 days.

Women's

CUMBERLANDS 56, DOANE 50: HONOLULU, Hawaii — NAIA Division I University of the Cumberlands survived an upset bid by Doane, beating the Tigers 56-50 at the Hoop 'N Surf Classic on Wednesday.

Cumberlands (9-3), ranked 16th in NAIA Division I, got 13 points each from Ashley Mullins and Dace Bicans. Mullins pulled down 10 rebounds, with Bicans grabbing nine.

Hannah Dostal led Doane (5-10) with 13 points and seven rebounds. Shelby Bittinger added 10 points and seven rebounds.

Doane will play again on Friday when they face NAIA Division II No. 1 and GPAC-foe Concordia University in a conference meeting. The game will be the Bulldogs' home game as the two teams worked out the schedule to have the game played in Hawaii due to academic commitments for both teams on the originally scheduled date.

NO. 2 CONNECTICUT 97, OAKLAND 25: HARTFORD, Conn. (AP) — Briar Hartley and Breanna Stewart each scored 21 points and Brianna Banks had 18 to lead the No. 2 Connecticut in a 97-25 rout of Oakland on Wednesday night.

Kaleena Mosqueda-Lewis had 14 points and

nine rebounds for UConn (9-0). Stewart had 13 rebounds, eight on the offensive end, and the Huskies had a 56-26 edge on the boards.

Hartley scored 19 points in the first half when UConn shot 66 percent and led 61-12. The Huskies shot 51 percent for the game and Oakland 15 percent (7 for 47).

Elizabeth Hamlet led Oakland (5-6) with 14 points.

Girls

Wynot 63, Ponca 47

PONCA — Maggie Schulte led Wynot to a 63-47 victory over Ponca on Tuesday night in Nebraska girls' basketball action.

Schulte scored 15 points and added seven rebounds in the win, which moved Wynot to 6-1 on the season. Kelsie Higgins and Ashley Heine added 11 points apiece.

Ponca, 0-6, got 10 points from Alexis Markworth.

Wynot plays at Randolph on Friday while Ponca travels to North Sioux City to battle Dakota Valley on Thursday.

WYNOT (6-1).....19 31 48 63
PONCA (0-6).....16 25 33 47

Boys

Vermillion 42, Tri Valley 38

COLTON — Vermillion defeated Tri Valley 42-38 in boys' basketball action Tuesday night in Colton.

Austin Krier led Vermillion (3-0) with 14 points, while J.T. Sorensen added 14 points and 16 rebounds.

Brett Page led Tri Valley (2-2) 15 points and five rebounds. Brendon Boomsma added 12 points and four rebounds.

Vermillion will travel to Tea to take on Tea Area on Dec. 28. Tri Valley will compete in the Big Sioux Tournament Jan. 3-5.

VERMILLION (3-0).....12 21 25 42
TRI VALLEY (2-2).....6 20 28 38

UT-Pan American Accepts Invitation To Join WAC

EDINBURG, Texas (AP) — The University of Texas-Pan American has accepted an invitation to join the Western Athletic Conference starting in July 2013.

The university announced the decision Wednesday. All 14 of the school's sports programs will compete in the conference, including men's and women's basketball and baseball.

In addition to UTPA, WAC membership for 2013-2014 is scheduled to include Cal State-Bakersfield, Chicago State, Idaho, New Mexico State, Seattle and Utah Valley.

UTPA athletic teams, with the exception of men's tennis and golf, have been competing in the Great West Conference. The Broncos were previously

members of the Sun Belt Conference.

The UTPA baseball program has competed in the NCAA tournament 13 times and produced 32 players drafted by major league clubs.

REPORT: OREGON NCAA CASE LIKELY HEADING TO HEARING: (AP) — Yahoo Sports reported Wednesday that Oregon is likely headed toward a hearing with the NCAA committee on infractions after it couldn't resolve an investigation of the football coaching staff's use of a scouting service.

Yahoo cited two unidentified sources in a report Wednesday.

The NCAA investigated Oregon after questions arose over a 2010 payment of \$25,000 to Willie Lyles and his Houston-based recruiting service. Lyles had a relationship with a player from Texas who committed to Oregon.

In July 2011, Lyles told Yahoo Sports the money was for influencing recruits to attend Oregon.

Earlier this year, Oregon requested a summary disposition in the case. The school presented a report to the infractions committee outlining violations the school believed occurred and appropriate sanctions. But that request was apparently turned down.

"The integrity of the process and our continued full cooperation with the NCAA prohibits us from publicly discussing the specifics of this matter," Oregon said in a statement Wednesday night.

The NCAA does not comment on investigations.