

# USD Teams Prep For Trek West

BY JEREMY HOECK  
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It's one thing to move a football or a women's basketball game to Sioux Falls, an hour from Vermillion.

A six-hour trek to Rapid City?

Talk about a whole different challenge for the athletic department staff at the University of South Dakota.

"It's literally A to Z and then some," said James Bandy, USD's senior associate athletic director for Internal Operations.

The trip to Rapid City for Saturday's basketball double-

header — women vs. S.D. School of Mines and men vs. Wyoming — at the Rushmore Plaza Civic Center has involved six months of planning and already one visit by USD staff.

Much of that planning this week has centered on game-day items, from things as complicated as production staff to as minute as towels and basketballs.

"We're playing in what is primarily a hockey rink, so they're not likely to have basketballs," said Bandy, who estimated his personal checklist of things to look into numbered into the 50s.

A group of USD administrative staff traveled to Rapid City in October to finalize logistics, Bandy said, particularly with on-site details such as team locker rooms, officials and scorer's table staff.

The idea of taking basketball West River was originally proposed by former athletic director David Saylor, according to Bandy.

"One way to do that is, 'Why not playing a double-header in Rapid City?'" Bandy said.

"One of the recurring themes by the folks out there was, 'We want to know more about USD athletics,

about Coyote football, about basketball.' They're so far removed geographically that they can't make more than a couple trips to Vermillion every year, if that."

And if a handful of those Rapid City fans eventually join the USD Howling Pack or want to make more frequent trips to Vermillion, the trip would have been worth the effort, Bandy said.

"Hopefully they find something they like or can reattach themselves to," he said.

When it comes to actual basketball, certainly the most competitive game of Saturday's doubleheader will be

the men's affair between the Coyotes and Wyoming — their second meeting of the season.

It's the women's game, though, that boasts the most intriguing story line.

For Ryan Larsen, he knows all about that story-line. He called his next week a "strange situation."

Larsen, the head women's coach at School of Mines, was hired this past summer after spending five seasons as an assistant at USD.

He was the one who actually scheduled Saturday's

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## Oral Roberts To Return To Summit League In 2014

ELMHURST, Ill. — Oral Roberts is returning to the Summit.

The Summit League announced the addition of Oral Roberts University as its ninth full-time member Thursday. ORU's membership officially begins July 1, 2014, and all 16 Golden Eagle athletics programs will compete in The Summit League starting with the 2014-15 academic year.

"We are excited to have Oral Roberts University join The Summit League for the 2014-15 season," said Summit League Commissioner Tom Douple. "ORU brings very strong and well-rounded athletic and academic programs to our league."

ORU was a member of The Summit League from 1997-2012 and has continued to compete as an affiliate member in men's soccer each of the past two years.

"The Presidents Council unanimously supported Oral Roberts University's return to The Summit League," said Dr. Dean L. Bresciani, North Dakota State University President and Chair of The Summit League's Presidents Council. "It is an indication of the enthusiasm the council has for the opportunity to enhance our membership."

During its 15 years in the league, the Golden Eagles won nine Commissioner Cups, awarded to the league's top overall athletics program, 91 league championships and 49 regular season crowns.

"ORU is excited about returning to The Summit League and its distinguished member institutions," said Oral Roberts University Director of Athletics Mike Carter. "We look forward to renewing the rivalries we developed during our 15 years in the conference and to continuing the proud tradition of The Summit League."

The ORU men's basketball program captured three consecutive Summit League Tournament titles from 2006-08 and won or shared six regular season championships. The Golden Eagles won 15 consecutive Summit League women's golf championships and 15 straight baseball tournament championships, the top two team streaks in league history.

A pair of ORU athletes combined to win three individual NCAA Track and Field Championships for The Summit League over the past decade. In 2008, Andreotti Bain won both the Indoor and Outdoor 400-meter Championships. Four years later, Jack Whitt won the NCAA Outdoor Pole Vault Championship.

Founded in 1963, Oral Roberts University has an enrollment of 3,403 and offers more than 60 undergraduate majors, as well as 13 master's-level programs and two doctoral degrees. Based in Tulsa, Okla., ORU becomes the fourth Summit League institution located in top 60 U.S. metro populations.

# Coyotes Power Past Utah State

BY JEREMY HOECK  
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VERMILLION — On a night where the home team was pushing the pace against an aggressive defense, Margaret McCloud consistently found herself in the right spot.

And the sophomore from Rapid City delivered.

Keyed by McCloud's double-double of 18 points and 10 rebounds, the University of South Dakota women surged past Utah State 81-71 in Thursday night's foul-filled affair at the DakotaDome.

"We worked a lot on quick movements, trying to include everyone in the offense, getting the ball moving as fast as we can," said McCloud, who was on the court for 18 minutes.

"We had those good shots and knocked them down."

Especially after halftime.

Playing their third consecutive home against a Mountain West Conference foe, the Coyotes (4-5) practically lived at the foul line in the second half and helped themselves by shooting 50 percent. USD finished 27-of-44 at the charity stripe.

A big part of drawing fouls was fighting through Utah State's trap — the so-called 'buzz' defense.

"Their defense is very aggressive, always trapping, scrap and claw, but if you attack, you can get to the foul line, and we did a great job," Coyote head coach Amy Williams said.

The Coyotes were also effective down low, getting a combined 34 points from posts McCloud and Polly Harrington (16).

"She always gets in the right gaps," said junior Nicole Seekamp, who finished with 20 points, nine assists and seven rebounds. "I feel like I can throw the ball pretty much wherever and she'll go it."

"Tonight she got in the open spots, and with that defense, we picked them apart through it."

From a 50-50 tie midway through the second half, the Coyotes took control — at one point going on an 11-1 run.

USD's largest lead was 14, with about the only point of criticism for the victors were 17 missed free throws.

"That's one of our strengths, we're a driving team," Seekamp said. "If we can get to the line that many times, obviously we should be making a bit more than that, but to get to the line 44 times is a great feat."

Utah State point guard Jennifer Schlott scored 18 of her game-high 25 points to help Aggies lead 39-35 at halftime — despite trailing by seven midway through.

The native of Mesa, Ariz., though, scored her points on a 10-of-30 effort from the field, which was a small victory for the Coyotes, Williams said.

"It may sound a little unusual to say we had a great defensive effort on a kid that got 27 points," Williams said, "but I really felt like we did a better job in the second half of defending her without fouling."

Tia Hemiller, Heidi Hoff and Bridget Arens all added six points for USD, which recorded 19 assists on 25 field goals.

Up next for the Coyotes is the trip to Rapid City for Saturday's showdown with former assistant coach Ryan Larsen, now at South Dakota School of Mines.

The opportunity to expand the USD brand is also rather important, Seekamp said.

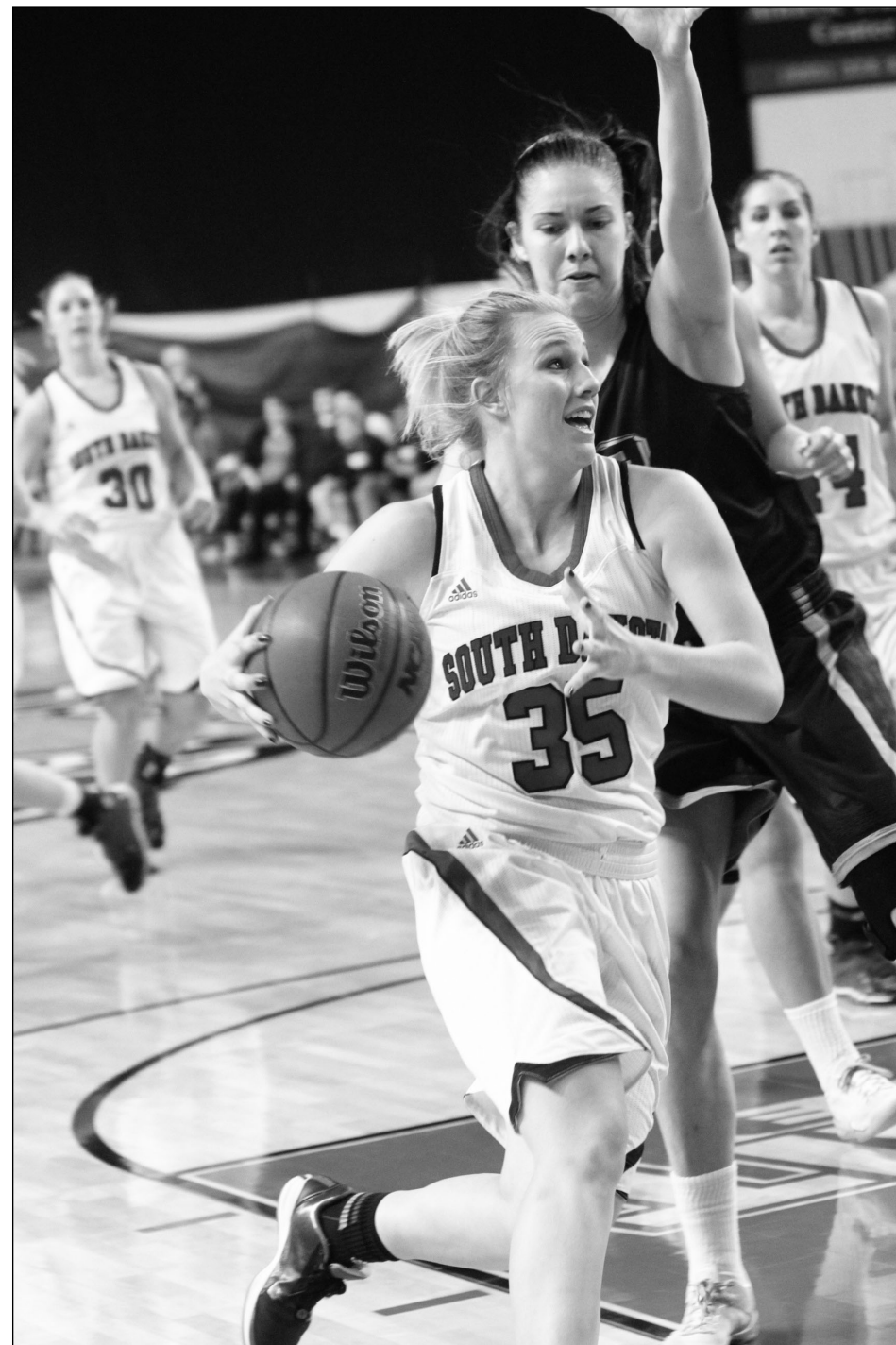
"I think it's probably a good thing for the fans, to broaden the fan base in South Dakota," she said. "Obviously, South Dakota State has always been the main team here, so it's going to be a good thing for that."

You can follow Jeremy Hoeck on Twitter at [twitter.com/jhoeck](https://twitter.com/jhoeck). Discuss this story at [www.yankton.net](http://www.yankton.net).

UTAH STATE (6-2)  
Makenzie Williams 6-17 2-2 16; Franny Vaalu 6-11 4-4 16; Elise Nelson 0-3 1-2 1; Jennifer Schlott 10-30 6-27; Ingrida Strikas 1-5 0-0 3; Stephanie Bairstone 1-3 0-0 2; Shelby Cloninger 0-2 0-0 0; Mariah Miles 0-0 0-0 0; Jasmine Porter 0-1 2-2 2; Lynette Johnson 2-5 0-4; Cristal Turner 0-4 0-0 0. TOTALS 26-81 15-17 71.

SOUTH DAKOTA (4-5)  
Polly Harrington 5-8 6-8 16; Lisa Loefler 0-6 3-4 3; Tia Hemiller 2-3 1-7 6; Nicole Seekamp 3-11 13-17 20; Heidi Hoff 2-6 2-4 6; Taylor Moore 0-4 0-0 0; Bridget Arens 3-3 0-0 6; Raeshel Contreras 1-6 0-0 3; Jayish Jackson 1-2 0-0 3; Margaret McCloud 8-9 2-4 18. TOTALS 25-58 27-44 81.

Halftime: USD 39-35. Three-Pointers: USD 4-18 (Hemiller 1-2, Jackson 1-2, Contreras 1-3, Seekamp 1-4, Harrington 0-1, Loefler 0-1, Hoff 0-2, Moore 0-3), USD 4-19 (Williams 2-4, Strikas 1-3, Schlott 1-5, Vaalu 0-1, Cloninger 0-1, Porter 0-1, Johnson 0-1, Turner 0-3). Total Rebounds: USD 48 (Williams 11), USD 43 (McCloud 10). Assists: USD 19 (Seekamp 9), USD 8 (Schlott 4). Turnovers: USD 15, USD 13. Personal Fouls: USD 31, USD 17. Fouled Out: Strikas, Johnson. Technical Fouls: USD coach. Attendance: 1113.



South Dakota's Nicole Seekamp (35) drives the lane during Thursday's 81-71 victory over Utah State in the DakotaDome. Seekamp led the Coyote offense with 20 points. She also contributed seven rebounds and nine assists.

DAVID LIAS/VERMILLION PLAIN TALK

## Bon Homme-Scotland Takes Opener

WAGNER — Bon Homme-Scotland jumped out to a 27-0 lead and cruised to a 54-21 victory over Wagner in wrestling action on Thursday.

Bon Homme and Scotland were competing as a co-op for the first time.

Stas Sutura (103), Alex Caba (120), Kade Hellmann (145), Josh Vaith (160) and Dan Stibral (285) won by pin

for BHS. The victors also picked up 18 points by forfeit.

Brady Soulek (170), David Kocer (182) and Trevor Lensing (195) won by pin for Wagner.

106 — Stas Sutura BHS pin. Colton Frei 2:45, 113 — Duncan Stoelner BHS by forfeit. 120 — Blake Kornstanz BHS dec. Ben Soukup 9-3, 126 — Alex Caba BHS pin. Dawson Petrik 3:03, 132 — Sam Caba BHS by forfeit. 138 — Logan Kafka W dec. Moises Lazano 7-2, 145 — Kade Hellmann BHS pin. Evan Heath 2:52, 152 — Austin Kaul BHS by forfeit. 160 — Josh Vaith

BHS pin. Cole Soulek 2:24, 170 — Brady Soulek W pin. Lucas Crowmover 3:16, 182 — David Kocer W pin. Tanner Iwan 1:17, 195 — Trevor Lensing W pin. Allan Halaaja 1:02, 220 — Kreg Keplinger BHS dec. Andrew Soukup 5-2, 285 — Dan Stibral BHS pin. Truman Ashes 1:51

## Huron 55, Harrisburg 18

HURON — The Huron Tigers used six pins to pound Harrisburg 55-18 in Eastern South Dakota Conference wrestling action on Thursday.

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## Girls' Basketball: Wynot, Crofton Claim Opening Wins

BLOOMFIELD, Neb. — Wynot took a 25-7 lead in the first quarter against Bloomfield Thursday night in Bloomfield, and kept the lead to finish 60-25.

Kenna Fiedler scored eight points and two rebounds for Bloomfield, with Amanda Goeden adding six points.

No stats were reported for Wynot.

Bloomfield travels to face Hartington Tuesday, while Wynot hosts Winside today (Friday).

WYNOT (1-0).....25 41 56 60  
BLOOMFIELD (0-1).....7 12 16 25

## Crofton 73, Hartington Cedar Catholic 23

CROFTON, Neb. — The

Crofton Warriors beat the Hartington Cedar Catholic Trojans 73-23 in women's basketball Thursday.

In the win for the Warriors, Monica Arens scored 14 points and had five rebounds and Allison Arens scored 16 points.

Also in the win, Alex Allen had six assists and two steals, Katie Petersen had five rebounds and made two blocks, and Quinn Wragge made five steals.

For the Trojans, Ali Walter scored 10 points and Monica Arens scored five points.

Crofton travels to Laurel-Concord-Coleridge today (Friday). HCC travels to Boone Central-Newman Grove today.

HART. CEDAR CATHOLIC (0-1).....8 10 14 23  
CROFTON (1-0).....26 49 65 73

## Iowa Women Outgun Syracuse

IOWA CITY, Iowa (AP) — Melissa Dixon scored seven of her game-high 27 points in the final 1:22 as No. 25 Iowa came back to defeat 22nd-ranked and previously unbeaten Syracuse 97-91 in the Big Ten/ACC challenge Thursday night.

Dixon hit all 27 points — on 7 of 11 3-pointers — after halftime as Iowa (9-1) clawed back from a 47-37 gap.

Bethany Doolittle scored a career-high 25 for the Hawkeyes. Samantha Logic added 14 and Kali Peschel 10 with eight rebounds.

The Hawkeyes hadn't led since 12:06 of the first half when a Dixon 3 brought them to 71-69, and then Peschel grabbed a defensive rebound and scored for a 72-71 lead.

# Pats Put Nine On 11AAA All-State Squad

## Football: Runner-Up Roosevelt Claims Eight Spots On Elite List

BY STU WHITNEY  
Sioux Falls Argus Leader

Caden Quintanilla grabbed most of the headlines after a stellar season in which he rushed for 1,893 yards and 29 touchdowns, leading the Lincoln Patriots to an undefeated season and a Class 11AAA championship.

But the big boys up front paved the way for Lincoln's historic season, which explains why four offensive linemen landed on this year's all-state squad, chosen by the South Dakota Football Coaches Association. In all, the Patriots placed nine players on the all-state team.

"Games are won and lost in the trenches," said coach Aaron Beavers, whose team defeated Roosevelt 47-24 in the state finals Nov. 16. "There were a number of years where we had good skill guys but we weren't able to be as physical as we needed to be up front. This group worked extremely hard to get there."

Senior center Levi Rozeboom set the tone for the Patriots (11-0), anchoring the offensive unit as team captain and leading a unit that averaged 275 rushing yards a game.

"He's one of the best I've ever

coached," said Beavers. "Levi is a very smart player who handled a lot of our line checks and was very good at it."

Rozeboom is joined on the all-state team by senior offensive tackle Mike VanVeldhuizen and junior guard Drew Peters, while senior Caleb Rector made the squad as a long snapper.

They helped clear the path for Quintanilla, who ran for 244 yards and four touchdowns in the state finals and was named Argus Leader Elite 45 captain as well as Gatorade Player of the Year for South Dakota.

"He's the best running back and the hardest worker I've ever coached," said Beavers of Quintanilla, who finished with 3,733 rushing yards for his career.

Representing Lincoln on defense are end Reid West (45 tackles, 5.5 sacks), linebacker Matt Wagner (team-high 66 tackles, 12 for loss) and defensive backs Trevor Naasz (36 tackles, two interceptions) and Levi Foss (35 tackles, five INTs).

Wagner, also a key blocking back on offense, was the heart and soul of the Patriots for much of their rise to prominence.

"He was one of only two two-way players for us (Naasz was the other), and he hardly ever left the field," said Beavers of Wagner. "He's a complete football player who knew what every-one needed to be doing on the field."

The all-state quarterback is junior Taryn Christian of Roosevelt, who passed for 2,549 yards and 24 touch-

downs to lead the Rough Riders (9-2) to the state championship game.

For his career, Christian has thrown for 3,880 yards, rushed for 1,601 and accounted for 64 touchdowns while emerging as one of the most dynamic offensive players in the state.

"Taryn is a great playmaker and one of the best athletes at quarterback ever at Roosevelt," said Riders coach Kim Nelson.

One of Christian's favorite targets was all-state tight end Tanner Hennings, who caught 27 passes for 477 yards (17.7 yards per catch) and five touchdowns.

Also representing Roosevelt are guard Justin Haffield, defensive end Kory Lindquist (43 tackles, 11 sacks), defensive tackle Skylar Newberg, linebacker Kirby Hora (63 tackles), defensive back Austin Atwood and kicker Chase Vinatieri.

Sioux Falls teams claimed 18 of the available 28 spots on the all-state squad. Brandon Valley, which earned a share of the ESD title, is represented by wide receiver A.J. Garrow, offensive tackle Erik Ode, punter Devan West and special teams player Cam Holmes.

Washington is represented by senior linebacker Dan Marlette, a two-time all-state selection who racked up 70 tackles for the Warriors in 2013. For O'Gorman, fullback Matt White made the team after rushing for 832 yards for the Knights, who lost to Lincoln in the state semifinals.