

GV Raiders Top Menno In Opener

GAYVILLE — Gayville-Volin topped Menno 53-40 on Tuesday night in South Dakota girls' high school basketball action.

Jenny Clark led the Lady Raiders (1-0) with 23 points. Laura Nelson posted eight points, while Kelia Barta added six points.

Abby Herrbolt and Christina Herrbolt led Menno (0-1) with 13 points. Madison Huber had eight points in the loss.

Gayville-Volin will host Baltic on Friday. Menno will host Tripp-Delmont-Armour on Friday.

GAYVILLE-VOLIN (1-0)	18	28	45	53
MENNO (0-1)	16	22	36	40

Beresford 67, Centerville 53

CENTERVILLE — Beresford defeated Centerville 67-53 behind 21 points, eight steals and seven rebounds of Hannah Hepper.

Hailey Sveggen added 11 points eight rebounds and five steals for Beresford (1-0).

Shannon O'Malley led Centerville (0-1) with 16 points, five rebounds, four assists and four rebounds. Kristine VanHeede added 10 points and four rebounds in the loss.

Beresford will host Madison on Friday. Centerville will participate in the Tea Classic this coming weekend.

BERESFORD (1-0)	17	29	38	67
CENTERVILLE (0-1)	13	29	42	53

Irene-Wakonda 47, Bridgewater-Emery 46

IRENE — Irene-Wakonda snuck 47-46 a victory away from Bridgewater-Emery in South Dakota high school girls' basketball action Tuesday evening.

Makayla Mohr led Irene-Wakonda (1-0) with 11 points and four rebounds. Andrea Sokolowski and Amy Morman added eight points a piece in the victory.

Tiana Kayser led Bridgewater-Emery (0-1) with 16 points and five rebounds. Justine Dye and Kadra Kayser added 12 points a piece in the loss.

Irene-Wakonda will travel to Viborg to take on Viborg-Hurely on Dec. 21. Bridgewater-Emery will host Hanson on Thursday.

IRENE-WAKONDA (1-0)	10	21	34	47
BRIDGEWATER-EMERY (1-2)	15	24	31	46

McCook Central-Montrose 41, Marion 22

MARION — McCook Central-Montrose defeated Marion 41-21 on Tuesday evening in Marion.

Rachel Laetsch led McCook Central-Montrose (1-0) with 12 points, three assists and two steals.

Kelsey Schoenwald led Marion (0-1) with seven points and five rebounds.

McCook Central-Montrose will travel to Parker on Saturday. Marion will host Canistota on Thursday.

MCCOOK CENTRAL-MONTROSE (1-0)	18	23	30	41
MARION (0-1)	7	13	17	22

Crofton 66, Boone Central-Newman Grove 24

CROFTON, Neb. — The Crofton Lady Warriors started off where they finished last year with a 66-24 dismantling of Boone Central-Newman Grove Tuesday evening in Crofton.

Kelsey Sanger led the Lady Warriors (3-0) with 12



JEREMY HOECK/P&D

Yankton native Ketty Paula, center, listens in during a South Dakota School of Mines timeout during a Dec. 7 game against the University of South Dakota at the Rushmore Plaza Civic Center in Rapid City.

Former Gazelle, Jackrabbit Adjusting To Life On The Bench

BY JEREMY HOECK

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RAPID CITY — If it looked as though Ketty Paula was chomping at the bit to take the court and defend her former rivals, it's because she was.

Those days are gone for the Yankton native and former basketball standout at South Dakota State.

Now an assistant women's basketball coach at South Dakota School of Mines under head coach Ryan Larsen, Paula — formerly Cornemann — is relegated to teaching players from the bench.

"If we could, we both would have jumped out on the court and defended them the way we wanted our girls to," Paula said after Saturday's 81-49 loss to the University of South Dakota at the Rushmore Plaza Civic Center in Rapid City.

Paula, who played at SDSU from 2006-10, was hired by Larsen — a former USD assistant — in August. The duo was faced with the prospect of playing the Coyotes in Rapid City, when the Division I school moved a home doubleheader.

As such, both coaches had their own personal connections to the game.

"I was actually really excited to see them on the schedule, because I knew it would be a neat opportunity for our girls," Paula said. "It's just exciting to see Coyotes on the other side. I love competing against them."

Added Larsen, when hearing Paula talk about the Coyotes, "She's never lost to USD, until tonight."

"Not in basketball, no," quipped a smiling Paula.

That's the kind of relationship the two coaches have, she said: Ultra competitive with a mutual enjoyment of spending so much time together.

"I owe coach Larsen a big compliment, because he took a risk on me, having no coaching experience," Paula said.

"And I really appreciate



JEREMY HOECK/P&D

Yankton native Ketty Paula, left, talks with South Dakota Mines head coach Ryan Larsen before their Dec. 7 game against the University of South Dakota in Rapid City. Paula, a former standout at South Dakota State, is in her first season as an assistant coach with the NCAA Division II Lady Hardrockers.

how much responsibility he gives me and how much he trusts my suggestions. I've learned a ton from him in a short couple months."

Still, there was a big difference between taking instruction and instructing, Paula added.

"I had hesitations, definitely, thinking I wasn't qualified enough," she said. "And Ryan quickly made sure I understood I was ready to coach in college."

"That I had a lot to offer these girls and this program."

Not only Paula helped the Jackrabbits reach the WNIT and NCAA tournaments during her college career, she previously served as a volun-

teer coach at Mines during the 2011-12 season.

And before taking the job at Mines, Paula was a teacher and assistant girls' basketball coach at Rapid City Stevens.

But when it came time to really get involved in day-to-day operations of a college program, Paula admitted that, yes, there were adjustments from what she was used to at the D-1 level at SDSU.

"Even just from an athletic program standpoint, we came from two very organized and developed programs," she said. "You had to get used to a whole new program and used to a brand new team."

"I think we've both adjusted pretty well."

On a personal level, Paula is nearing another major adjustment.

She and her husband, Jordan, are expecting a baby next March. Paula said she was hesitant in taking the Mines job because she would miss the final stretch of the season — she will not travel for the final three road trips.

Again, she complimented Larsen, saying, "He said we would make it work, which was a relief to hear, obviously."

Making it work on the court, though, has proven to be a study in patience for both coaches. The Lady Hardrockers are 3-7 after Saturday's loss to USD.

"Our problem right now is we kind of take a step forward and two steps back," Larsen said. "That's frustrating from a coaching standpoint, because you see them do things right and then you have a total breakdown."

That's where the whole 'patience is a virtue' thing comes into play, he added.

"We're getting better, just not nearly as fast as we'd like to see."

Such is life for a team that is rather young. Mines boasts seven freshmen, five sophomores, three juniors and one senior on its 2013-14 roster.

"We've said this a ton this season, but basically they're all freshmen because they're all new to our program," Paula said. "New to what Ryan and I are trying to develop."

In time, with development of the current players and recruiting, the Lady Hardrockers should turn a corner, Paula added.

"We just need more time. More practice, more individual stuff to mold them into what we want," she said. "They have potential; all of them, but we just need more time."

You can follow Jeremy Hoeck on Twitter at twitter.com/jhoeck. Discuss this story at www.yankton.net.

Nebraska Fans On Rematch With Georgia: Been There, Done That

BY ERIC OLSON

AP College Football Writer

The Gator Bowl appears to be a tough sell to Nebraska fans.

A season that fell short of expectations will end New Year's Day in Jacksonville, Fla., with a game against No. 23 Georgia, the same team that beat the Cornhuskers a year ago in the Capital One Bowl.

The matchup has elicited little more than a shrug.

"Everybody is looking forward to next year," said Steve Glenn, a walk-on offensive lineman for the Huskers in the 1970s who now runs a Lincoln travel agency. "I think people are ready to be done with this season."

Glenn is selling a Gator Bowl package that includes a 137-seat charter flight. As of Tuesday, he said, fewer than a dozen seats had been filled.

Folks in the travel business used to be inundated with calls in the 24 hours after the bowl matchup was announced. The annual Big Red migration has slowed considerably since the Huskers began slipping in the college football hierarchy.

Mike'l Severe, who co-hosts an afternoon sports radio show in Omaha, said the Gator Bowl didn't generate much discussion Monday, a day after the bowl lineup was rolled out. The listeners he heard from were unhappy the Huskers had to play the same opponent. They also had hoped to go to the Buffalo Wild Wings Bowl in Tempe, Ariz., where the Huskers would have played old Big 12 rival Kansas State.

The Buffalo Wild Wings Bowl picked ahead of the Gator Bowl and chose a Michigan team that lost to Nebraska and had one fewer win.

It's been a rocky year for the Huskers, who went 8-4 against what was supposed to be a favorable schedule. Injuries to quarterback Taylor Martinez and the offensive line took a toll, and coach Bo Pelini was dogged by speculation that his job was in jeopardy.

Georgia, like Nebraska, went 8-4 and struggled with injuries. Aaron Murray, who threw for more than 400 yards and five touchdowns in a 45-31 win over Nebraska last year, won't play because of a knee injury.

The Peach State's reaction to the matchup also was less than enthusiastic, said David Johnston, who hosts a morning sports radio show in Athens, Ga.

"It's good it's a New Year's Day bowl game," Johnston said, "but there was more of an interest in playing Nebraska last year."

Each school has a ticket allotment of 12,750, about the same as for the Capital One Bowl last year. Nebraska sold about 4,000 tickets for that game and Georgia more than 10,000.

The Nebraska Alumni Association is selling a Gator Bowl package that covers hotel, game ticket, ground transportation and activities. No air transportation will be provided for the first time since the 2007 Cotton Bowl because of the high cost, said



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