

Pelini Ripped Nebraska's AD In Last Talk With Players

BY ERIC OLSON

AP College Football Writer

OMAHA, Neb. (AP) — On the day he was introduced as Youngstown State's new head coach, the ugly nature of Bo Pelini's departure from Nebraska was revealed.

Pelini, who was fired on Nov. 30, lambasted Nebraska athletic director Shawn Eichorst in a profanity-filled talk during his final meeting with his players. The Omaha World-Herald on Wednesday reported that it had a writer listen to an audiotape of Pelini's address to the players on Dec. 2 at a Lincoln high school.

The university said in a statement that if the audiotape is authentic, "it only reaffirms the decision that he should no longer be a leader of young men at Nebraska."

"His habitual use of inappropriate language, and his personal and professional attacks on administrators, are antithetical to the values of our university," the statement said. "His behavior is consistent with a pattern of unprofessional, disrespectful behavior directed by Mr. Pelini toward the passionate fans of Nebraska, employees of the university and, most concerning, our student-athletes. This behavior is not tolerated at the University of Nebraska and, among many other concerns, played a role in his dismissal."

The newspaper didn't say who audiotaped Pelini's talk. The Associated Press left messages for Pelini and Youngstown athletic director Ron Strollo. Pelini was fired after going 9-3 this season and 66-27 over seven years. He also won a bowl game as interim head coach in 2003. Eichorst hired Mike Riley away from Oregon State to replace Pelini.

Pelini, 47, was under contract until February 2019, and the university must pay him a settlement of as much as \$7.9 million. That amount will be reduced by an amount dependent on his salary at Youngstown State.

According to a transcript of the audio, Pelini told the players he wasn't surprised to be fired. "I didn't really have any relationship with the AD. The guy..." Pelini said before using two vulgarities for female genitalia to describe Eichorst.

"And since I've been here — he's been here for about two years — I've probably had a conversation with the guy a couple times. You saw him. He's never been in the locker room. "At the end of the day, he was never going to support us... The scrutiny, the taking shots at you,

and everything else — when you aren't getting support from your boss, it can be stressful," Pelini said. "It was stressful on me, it was stressful on my family."

The university, in response to Pelini's contention that he wasn't supported, said, "Any assertions that the campus or athletics administration was not supportive of our student-athletes and our football program are flat-out false and are contradicted by the facts."

"We are grateful that the new leadership in our football program is aligned with our values and will establish that you can be successful at Nebraska and that you can do it with integrity and class," the university said in its statement.

Pelini touched on administrative support early in his introductory news conference in Youngstown, Ohio, on Wednesday. Former Ohio State coach Jim Tressel is the uni-

versity president. "I believe I have a great situation here," Pelini said. "Have a tremendous athletic director, a president who understands football, who's going to support me, something I don't know if I've ever had."

At Nebraska, Pelini drew detractors for his volatile temper. He was reprimanded by chancellor Harvey Perlman for sideline meltdowns during a loss at Texas A&M in 2010. Last year, Pelini found himself in a storm after the website Deadspin released audio of Pelini's profanity-laced tirade against what he called fair-weather fans and two newspaper writers.

Asked by reporters in Youngstown if accounts of his explosive sideline demeanor at Nebraska were blown out of proportion, Pelini said, "Did it ever get blown out of proportion? Yeah, a little bit."

EWU's Adams, SDSU's Zenner Lead FCS All-Americans

Vernon Adams only needed to play 10 games for Eastern Washington to become an All-American. Adams was chosen the first-team quarterback for The Associated Press FCS All-America team released Wednesday after a remarkable — yet abbreviated — season. The junior broke his foot against Idaho State on Oct. 4 and missed four games. Because he missed so much time, Adams doesn't qualify to rank among the NCAA leaders in per game averages. If he did, he'd be leading FCS in total offense (376.8), yards passing (348.3) and points responsible for (24.8). He is second in touchdown passes with 35 and would be second in passer efficiency rating (169.2).

Adams was rolling toward the Walter Payton Award as the nation's best FCS player when he got hurt. He ended up finishing as the runner-up for the second straight season. Villanova quarterback John Robertson was the Payton award and is a second-team All-American. Adams and Eastern Washington were eliminated 59-46 in the FCS quarterfinals by Illinois State last week. Adams threw for 425 yards and accounted for four touchdowns. Here are a few more things to know about the FCS All-America team:

THREE OF A KIND

Three-time defending national champion North Dakota State and Eastern Washington each had three players on the first team, the most of any school.

The Bison are represented by defensive end Kyle Emanuel, the Buck Buchanan Award winner as the top defensive player in FCS, along with offensive lineman Joe Haeg and defensive back Colten Heagle.

Adams is joined on the first team by his favorite receiver, Cooper Kupp, and offensive lineman Jake Rodgers.

STANDING OUT

Stetson defensive back Donald Payne is the first player from his school to be selected All-American. He has been a one-man wrecking crew for the Hatters (5-7). The sophomore has 174 tackles this season, most of any player at any level in the NCAA. He also tied an NCAA all-division record with 30 tackles in Stetson's 28-22 victory against Campbell.

BIG AGAINST THE BIG BOYS

South Dakota State running back Zach Zenner is an All-American for the second straight season. The senior has 2,019 yards and 22 touchdowns and he hasn't just piled up yards against the easy spots on the Jackrabbits schedule.

Zenner started the season with 107 yards rushing and two touchdowns on 17 carries against SEC East champion Missouri and finished his season with 133 yards and two touchdowns in a playoff loss to North Dakota State. In 2013, Zenner had 202 yards against Nebraska. In 2012, he went for 183, including a 99-yard touchdown, against Kansas.

Zenner also became the first FCS back to have three 2,000 yard seasons. He was a second-team All-American as a sophomore.

TWO-TIMERS

Four other players joined Zenner as two-time All-Americans: Southern Illinois tight end MyCole Pruitt; Chattanooga defensive lineman Davis Tull; Missouri State defensive back Caleb Schaffitzel; and Portland State punter Kyle Loomis.

Holiday Splash



Several swimmers competed in the Yankton Splash In-vite meet on Saturday at the Summit Center pool. Results are in the Scoreboard, Pages 8 and 13.

ABOVE: Yankton's Joseph Kelly competes in the 100-yard butterfly. LOWER LEFT: Yankton's Emma Schott competes in the 50-yard breaststroke. LOWER RIGHT: Vermillion's Gabe Telleria competes in the 50-yard backstroke.

JAMES D. CIMBUREK/P&D



Wynot Sweeps Past Homer In L&C Action

WYNOT, Neb. — A year ago, the Homer Knights were one of the few teams to slow down Wynot, holding the Lady Blue Devils to a season-low 31 points in the Lewis & Clark Conference Tournament championship game.

On Tuesday, it was a different story.

Wynot used a 17-4 edge in the second quarter to run away with a 56-33 victory over the Knights in L&C action.

Jenna Heine had 16 points and five steals to lead Wynot, the four-time defending Class D2 champions. Danielle Wieseler finished with 12 points. Courtney Arkfeld added 10 points, six rebounds and four steals in the win.

For Homer, Kylie Murphy and Cheyenne Overgaard each had 10 points, with Murphy also recording four steals. Jessica Norgelmeier had eight rebounds.

Wynot, 5-0, travels to Wausa on Friday. Homer, 1-4, travels to Bancroft-Rosalie on Friday.

HOMER (1-4).....12 16 26 33
WYNOT (5-0).....14 31 44 56

Scotland 49, Menno 32

SCOTLAND — Carley Skorepa had a big night as the Scotland Lady Highlanders beat Menno 49-32 on Tuesday in Scotland.

Skorepa recorded 18 points, seven rebounds, six assists and two steals, while Hannah Mogck added eight points and eight rebounds. Jessica Thum chipped in with eight points.

Scotland, now 1-1, broke from an 18-18 halftime tie.

For the Wolves (0-3), Abby Herrboldt scored 11 points, while Kaylee Kessler and Tara Spencer both added six points. Paige Heckenlaible grabbed four rebounds.

Both teams are in action Thursday, with Scotland at Bon Homme in Tyndall and Menno at Hanson in Alexandria.

MENNO (0-3).....10 18 22 32
SCOTLAND (1-1).....14 18 30 49

Centerville 64, Dell Rapids St. Mary 43

CENTERVILLE — Shannon O'Malley scored a game-high 22 points to lead Centerville past Dell Rapids St. Mary 64-43 in girls' basketball action on Tuesday.

Emily Snyder added 16 points for the Tornados in the victory.

For St. Mary, Ally Mullaney led the way with 19 points.

Centerville, 2-1, hosts Baltic on Friday. St. Mary, 0-3, hosts DeSmet on Thursday.

Beresford 54, Dakota Valley 53

NORTH SIOUX CITY — Beresford survived a fourth quarter surge to hold off Dakota Valley 54-53 in Dakota XII Conference girls' basketball action on Tuesday.

No statistics were reported for Beresford, 2-1, which travels to Sioux City, Iowa, to face North on Friday.

For Dakota Valley, Abby Faldmo scored 13 points, and Claire Johnson and Haley Hoffman had 11 points each to lead the way. Hoffman also had seven rebounds. Sara Bohan recorded four steals.

Dakota Valley, 1-2, travels to Canton on Friday.

BERESFORD (2-1).....13 28 43 54
DAKOTA VALLEY (1-2).....8 25 38 53

Boys

Ponca 65, Laurel-Concord-Coleridge 55

PONCA, Neb. — The Ponca Indians outscored Laurel-Concord-Coleridge 37-26 in the second half to pull away from the Bears 65-55 in Lewis & Clark Conference boys' basketball action on Tuesday.

No statistics were reported for Ponca, 3-2, which hosts Emerson-Hubbard on Friday.

For LCC, Dillan Wolfgram had 21 points and Jordan Jansen scored 12 points to lead the way. Jayden Reifernath recorded 12 rebounds and five blocked shots.

The Bears, 2-3, travel to Plainview on Friday.

LAUREL-CONCORD-COLERIDGE (2-3).....11 29 40 55
PONCA (3-2).....20 28 44 65

Wynot 56, Homer 33

WYNOT, Neb. — Jalen Wieseler scored 21 points to lead Wynot to a 56-33 victory over Homer in Lewis & Clark Conference boys' basketball action on Tuesday.

Cody Stratman scored 14 points, had four assists and four steals for Wynot. Wieseler also had four steals in the win.

No statistics were reported for Homer (3-2), which travels to Bancroft-Rosalie on Friday.

Wynot, 4-0, travels to Wausa on Friday.

HOMER (3-2).....13 18 26 31
WYNOT (4-0).....12 25 37 51

Corsica-Stickney 66, Avon 43

AVON — Clayton Menning and Eli Van Roekel each scored 19 points to lead Corsica-Stickney past Avon 66-43 in boys' basketball action on Tuesday.

Austin Tilton added 10 points for Corsica-Stickney. Menning grabbed 10 boards and Van Roekel had five assists in the win.

For Avon, Logan Mudder and Devin Tolisma each had 16 points. Muder also had eight rebounds.

Corsica-Stickney, 1-1, faces Mount Vernon-Plankinton on Thursday in Corsica. Avon, 0-1, travels to Hanson on Saturday.

Hartington-Newcastle 46, Allen 22

HARTINGTON, Neb. — Hartington-Newcastle pulled away after the opening quarter to claim a 46-22 victory over Allen in Lewis & Clark Conference boys' basketball action on Tuesday.

Ethan Morten scored 14 points and Kolby Jueden had nine points, seven rebounds and four assists to lead Hartington-Newcastle. Jared Fuelberth had five steals.

For Allen, Coleman Kneiff led the way with eight points.

Hartington-Newcastle travels to Wakefield on Saturday. Allen hosts Lyons-Decatur Northeast on Saturday.

ALLEN (1-4).....8 11 15 22
HARTINGTON-NEWCASTLE (1-3).....8 25 36 46

Lancer Women Roll Past DSU

MADISON — The Mount Marty College women's basketball team warmed up for its Las Vegas trip with a high-rolling victory.

The Lancers hit a season-best 16 three-pointers on the way to an 89-68 victory over Dakota State on Wednesday at the DSU Fieldhouse.

The 16 three-pointers was the most hit by a Lancer team since hitting 16 against Clarke, almost exactly one year ago to the day (Dec. 18, 2013). Six different players hit from outside, including five triples from Alex Kneeland and four from Raquel Sutura. The Lancers, who rank third in NAIA Division II in three-pointers made per game, made double-digit three-pointers for the seventh time in 14 games this season.

Kneeland finished with 22 points and Sutura had 20 points for MMC. April Winne scored 12 points and had four assists. Holly Hegge finished with 10 points. Cheyenne Lambley had eight points and eight rebounds, and Cassidy

Gebhart had five assists in the win.

For Dakota State, Sheree Galbraith led the way with 18 points. BreeAna Olson and Erin Rabenberg had 11 points each. Madison Walford added 10 points.

MMC left for Las Vegas this morning (Thursday) and will play Northwest (Ohio) on Saturday at 6 p.m. The Lancers play Hanover at 4 p.m. CT on Sunday.

MOUNT MARTY (8-6)

Alex Kneeland 8-17 1-1 22, Cassidy Gebhart 1-2 0-2 3, Erica Dreckman 0-0 0-0 0, Brittini Bormann 0-2 0-0 0, Denise Veldkamp 2-5 0-0 2, April Winne 2-6 6-8 12, Cheyenne Lambley 3-4 2-4 8, Holly Hegge 4-6 2-3 10, Kellie Winckler 1-1 0-0 2, Raquel Sutura 7-10 2-2 20, Kelsey Schmidt 0-4 0-0 0, Kieran O'Malley 2-3 0-0 6, Ashley Green 0-0 0-0 0, Samantha Blake 0-0 0-0 0. TOTALS: 30-60 13-20 89.

DAKOTA STATE (6-5)

Courtney Hulstein 3-5 0-0 7, Kendra Lindblad 2-4 0-0 5, BreeAna Olson 5-11 1-3 11, Kennedy Wagner 0-0 2-2 2, Jayda Swenson 1-3 2-3 4, Madison Walford 4-9 2-5 10, Jordan Hansen 0-2 0-0 0, Erin Rabenberg 4-10 2-2 11, Summer Bailey 0-0 0-0 0, Sheree Galbraith 6-9 6-6 18. TOTALS: 25-53 15-21 68.

At the hall: MMC 54, DSU 53. Three-Pointers: MMC 16-41 (Kneeland 5-13, Sutura 4-8, O'Malley 2-3, Veldkamp 2-5, Winne 2-5, Gebhart 1-2, Bormann 0-2, Hegge 0-1, Schmidt 0-4), DSU 3-15 (Hulstein 1-3, Lindblad 1-3, Rabenberg 1-4, Olson 0-1, Swenson 0-1, Hansen 0-2, Galbraith 0-1, Rebounds: MMC 41 (Lambley 8), DSU 26 (Galbraith 6). Personal Fouls: MMC 22, DSU 20. Fouled Out: None. Assists: MMC 24 (Gebhart 5), DSU 17 (four with 3). Turnovers: DSU 15, MMC 15. Blocked Shots: MMC 2, DSU 1. Steals: DSU 8 (Olson 5), MMC 5 (Hegge 2).

VHS Second At Roosevelt

SIOUX FALLS — In what was a tight team race, the Sioux Falls Roosevelt Rough Riders beat Vermillion and West Central at a gymnastics triangular Tuesday in Sioux Falls.

Roosevelt was first with a team score of 131.75, followed by Vermillion at 120.1 and West Central at 117.5.

Alyssa Anderson of West Central was the All-Around champion with a score of 34.2, but Roosevelt had three in the top five. Carter Williams of Vermillion was fourth in the All-Around at 32.2.