

Glenn, USD Nearing 'Finish Line' Of First Recruiting Class

BY JEREMY HOECK

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In the words of coach Joe Glenn, the University of South Dakota football program is approaching the "finish line" of its recruiting process.

With National Signing Day looming next Wednesday, it's crunch time for a program that was dealt an early setback in recruiting following a coaching change.

Since then, USD has picked up the slack. As of late this week, the program

has 21 verbal commitments for a 2012 class that will likely number between 20-25 recruits, according to Glenn.

"You just hope beyond hope that the commitments hold," said Glenn, who assumed head coaching duties on Dec. 5. "We're so proud of those kids we have so far, but seems like every year there are changes late in the game.

"I don't think the word 'decommit' is in the dictionary, but there can't be a worse word in the English language," he added with a chuckle.

Barring any of those late changes in

the process, USD could boast a recruiting class that includes multiple players ranked (stars) by various outlets.

Among the reported recruits, one is rated with three stars by ESPN, three others have two stars and one other is a 1-star ranked player.

Even with four new coaches on staff, the Coyotes have seemingly not missed a beat, Glenn said.

"This is the way a coach competes.

We can't play the game, but in recruiting, it's you against everyone else," he said. "I couldn't be happier with the ef-

fort of our coaches. They've really busted it; worked hard hours and left no stone unturned."

When it came to garner commitments from kids they were targeting, the staff wasn't able to "nab them all," Glenn said, but the satisfaction when they did was a "rush."

"We got our fair share, and that's important," he said. "When you have two or three schools going after the same kid, and you win out, it's awfully fun to get that win."

The biggest prize — and collective

relief — for the Coyotes thus far was landing a verbal from Chris Wiseman, a 3-star rated defensive end from Lee's Summit, Mo.

Wiseman initially committed to USD prior to the firing of Ed Meierkort in late November. Shortly after, Wiseman changed his mind.

"It was kind of confusing, and it made me compare other schools to South Dakota," Wiseman said after he ver-

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Howard Pulls Riders Past YHS

Basket In Final Seconds Lifts Roosevelt To 59-57 Victory

BY CODY BALL

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When nearly every shot from Roosevelt's Tyler Howard was right on target, it was his shot furthest off target that clinched the game for the Roosevelt Rough Riders.

With six seconds left the Roosevelt junior caught an in-bounds pass and made a quick move into a pull-up jumper straight ahead of the basket from just inside the three-point line. Howard's jumper went past its mark, but found the backboard which dropped the ball into the basket with two seconds left, clinching the win for the Rough Riders, 59-57.

Howard ended the night going 11-16 from the field, including 5-7 from the three, ending with 28 points.

In the beginning of the game the Yankton Bucks employed a two-three zone against the Riders. Roosevelt knocked down four three-pointers in the first quarter taking a 16-8 lead after one quarter.

But a tightly played second quarter kept the Bucks in the game. In the third quarter Yankton's Jackson Seitzinger exploded. Seitzinger had 13 points near the end of the third quarter before reeling off eight straight points, putting the Bucks ahead for the first time since they led 4-0. Yankton headed into the fourth quarter with a narrow 44-42 lead.

The Yankton faithful exchanged cheers with a rowdy Roosevelt crowd just as much as the teams traded baskets in the final quarter.

Yankton could not extend

their lead past four points in the fourth quarter. Both teams were hitting tough shots and making free throws, a weak statistic for the Bucks prior to this night.

With 2:45 left in the game Roosevelt's Lucas Wilber picked off a pass and converted a layup to tie the game at 53-53.

The final score by Yankton was a Connor Fitzsimmons put back with 40 seconds left which tied the game. On Roosevelt's possession Howard was fouled, and Yankton called a timeout. Following the timeout Howard missed the free throw, but got his own rebound. A Roosevelt timeout was called to set up the last play, which Howard banked in the game winner on.

"It wasn't even really designed to get me the ball," Howard said. "But I got it on the inbounds, and knew we didn't have much time so I made my move, pulled up and the ball went in. Obviously, I wasn't trying to bank it in, but it worked out."

Roosevelt head coach Lee Taylor also spoke about the final play.

"We wanted to get the ball to either Nate (Cole) or Ty (Howard) and see what they could give us," Taylor said. "We got it to the hot hand and Ty hit the shot."

Despite the tough loss Yankton head coach spoke about the toughness his team showed in the game.

"We played hard and gave our best effort to win," Gross said. "It is unfortunate that we lost because we played well enough to win."

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JEREMY HOECK/P&D

Yankton's Bryan Youngberg splits Sioux Falls Roosevelt defenders Tom Nugteren (left) and Tyler Howard for a layup during their boys' game Friday night at the Summit Center.

Top-Ranked Red Raiders Down Scotland 48-29

WAGNER — Devon Brecke scored 16 points to lead top-ranked Class A Wagner past Class B Scotland 48-29 in girls' basketball action on Friday night in Scotland.

Jessa Doom added 14 points, eight rebounds and three steals for the Red Raiders (15-0), while LaShawn Medicine Horn had 10 points and six rebounds.

Nicole Weber dished out assists for Wagner, which led 25-10 at halftime.

In the loss for the Lady Highlanders (10-4), Kennidy Asche had 10 points and six rebounds, Aisha Abbink scored nine points and Carley Skorepa chipped in with five points.

Scotland plays Alcester-Hudson in the Cornbelt Classic today (Saturday) in Freeman. Wagner next plays Andes Central.

The Red Raiders won the JV game 40-28 and the 'C' game 30-21.

WAGNER (15-0, 3-0).....12 25 41 48

SCOTLAND (10-4, 2-2)2 10 25 29

Tri-Valley 51, Elk Point-Jefferson 44

COLTON — Senior Nicole Fritz scored 15 points to lead Tri-Valley over Elk Point-Jefferson 51-44 on Friday night in Colton.

Sammy Kasowski added 12 points and seven rebounds for the Mustangs (13-3). Allison Cross had 10 points and seven rebounds.

For the Huskies, Keely Bertram scored 16 points and Haylee Erickson added 12 and had eight rebounds.

Tri-Valley hosts West Central in Colton on Tuesday. Elk Point-Jefferson, 3-11, travels to Lennox on Thursday.

ELK POINT-JEFFERSON (3-11).....15 23 32 44

TRI-VALLEY (15-3).....16 23 41 51

Parkston 69, Avon 39

PARKSTON — The Parkston Trojans jumped out to an early

lead on their way to defeating Avon 69-39 in girls' basketball action on Friday.

Parkston, which led 18-4 after one quarter, was led by Erica Herrold's 21 points. Senior Marie Malloy added 20 points for the Trojans (10-3) and Logan Wagner had 16 points and nine assists.

Chesney Nagel led the Lady Pirates (6-6) with 12 points.

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Tripp-Delmont-Armour 52, South Central 43

TRIPP — Thanks to 61 percent shooting from the field, Tripp-Delmont-Armour beat South Central 52-43 on Friday night in Tripp.

Adam Fink led the Nighthawks (11-3) with 21 points, on 4-of-9 three-pointers, to go along with five rebounds and five assists. Reece Weber added 13 points.

TDA was 17-of-28 from the field.

In the loss for South Central (5-7), Jordan Janousek scored 10 points, Tyler Frank added eight poms and Dakota Votaw dished out three assists.

Next Tuesday, South Central visits Corsica-Stickney and TDA visits Marty Indian on Feb. 3.

SOUTH CENTRAL (5-7).....8 18 30 43

TRIPP-DELMONT-ARMOUR (11-3).....14 23 40 52

Ethan 47, Dakota Chr. 39

CORSICA — Ethan's Kendall Lindeman posted a double-double, netting 13 points and grabbing 10 boards, in Friday nights 47-39 win over Dakota Christian.

Ethan's Blake Bartcher added 10 points and four assists.

DC's Michael Buitenbos and Darren Fallis each scored 11 points. Jake Spoelstra added six rebounds.

Ethan (9-5) hosts Scotland Thursday. Dakota Christian (5-8) hosts Andes Central Monday.

ETHAN.....8 16 31 47

DAKOTA CHRISTIAN5 13 21 39

Mt. Vernon 66, Corsica-Stickney 49

MT. VERNON — A balanced scoring attack of four players in double-figures powered Mt. Vernon past Corsica-Stickney 66-49 in Class B. District 10 battle on Friday night in Mt. Vernon.

The Mustangs, who shot 62 percent from the floor, were led by Jacob Sonne's 15 points. Dean Frey added a double-double with 14 points and 10 rebounds. Deric Denning and Jared Long each added 13 points.

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JAMES D. CIMBUREK/P&D

Yankton's Logan Van Winkle, left, celebrates after his first period goal during the Bucks' varsity boys' hockey match against Mitchell, Friday at Alcoa Arena. The goal was Yankton's first this season, and the first varsity goal in the history of the Yankton hockey program. Final results were not available at presstime.