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Sports PRESS&DAKOTAN SPORTS DEPARTMENT: Sports@yankton.net 9 Glenn, USD Nearing 'Finish Line' Of First Recruiting Class fort of our coaches They've really relief – for the Coyotes thus far was

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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

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 effort 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

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

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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

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

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.

"İt 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

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

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.'

BUCKS | PAGE 11



Parkston, which led 18-4 after

one quarter, was led by Erica

Malloy added 20 points for the

had 16 points and nine assists.

Pirates (6-6) with 12 points.

Herrold's 21 points. Senior Marie

Trojans (10-3) and Logan Wagner

Chesney Nagel led the Lady

GIRLS | PAGE 11

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.

Balance Powers Mustangs Past Huskies 73-70

COLTON — Tri-Valley had three players with over 15 points in Friday night's 73-70 boys' overtime win over Elk Point-Jefferson

Tri-Valley's Kenton Welbig led the effort with 19 points and nine rebounds. Brett Page netted 17 points while Trae Bergh scored 16

EPJ's Brock Zeller scored a game-high 27 points. Mike Wurtz added 14 points on the night.

Tri-Valley (7-5) travel to Hart-ford to face West Central Monday. EPJ (5-7) hosts Akron-Westfield

Wakefield 47, Laurel-Concord-Col. 46

LAUREL, Neb. — A fourthquarter comeback attempt by Laurel-Concord-Coleridge fell just short as Wakefield defeated the Bears 47-46 on Thursday night in

L-C-C outscored Wakefield 24-11 in the final period but it would not be quite enough as Wakefield improves to 5-13 on the season.

Evan Nicholson led Wakefield with 22 points. Jacob Lunz added

For the Bears, Daniel Hartnett had 14 points on six for seven shooting from the floor and Brady Papenhausen scored 13.

Laurel-Concord-Coleridge, 1-13, plays Randolph in Crofton today (Saturday) in the NENAC

Tripp-Delmont-Armour 52, South Central 43

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

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

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

Ethan 47, Dakota Chr. 39

CORSICÁ — 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..... DAKOTA CHRISTIAN.....

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.

BOYS | PAGE 10

Top-Ranked Red Raiders Down Scotland 48-29 lead on their way to defeating Avon 69-39 in girls' basketball ac-

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

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-Hud-(Saturday) in Freeman. Wagner next plays Andes Central.

The Řed Raiders won the JV

Breaking The Ice

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 Yank-

ton's first this season, and the first varsity goal in the history of the Yankton hockey

game 40-28 and the 'C' game 30-

JAMES D. CIMBUREK/P&D

son in the Cornbelt Classic today

SCOTLAND (10-4, 2-2)

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) .. TRI-VALLEY (13-3).....

Parkston **69, Avon 39**PARKSTON — The Parkston Trojans jumped out to an early

Former NFL Players Help Raise Concussion Awareness

CHICAGO (AP) — Efforts to raise awareness about concussion dangers are getting an boost from a collection of former National Football League players. The five-month old Chicago Concussion Coalition announced on Friday they've enlisted and trained 10 former players to talk to young

and recognition and avoiding traumatic brain 'Concussions are an incredibly neglected problem," said Chris Nowinski, coalition chairman and co-founder and CEO of the Sports Legacy Institute. "They've ruined a lot of lives. The list in Chicago is quite striking of athletes who have been diagnosed with degenerative brain diseases from too much head trauma that

athletes, coaches and parents about causes

hadn't been taken care of.' Among the players are former Bears Otis Wilson, Jerry Azumah, Major Hazelton, Brian Glascow and Charlie Brown.

Chicago is the center of Nowinski's efforts. which include a 90-minute program he developed in 2007 in Boston with partner Dr. Robert Cantu. Nowinski hosted two presentations on Friday at a South Side middle school.

The rapidly-growing coalition — now with 48 individuals, government officials, companies and medical concerns — partnered first with the Chicago Public School system and hopes to expand education efforts beyond the city lim-

"Ten years ago nobody cared about this," said Nowinski, a 33-year-old Arlington Heights, Ill. native. "Now Chicago is a model for the rest of the country. It's an honor to find organizations and hundreds of people really committed to this issue - to protect young athletes." Nowinski played high school football at

John Hersey High School in Arlington Heights, was an all-Ivy League defensive tackle at Harvard and then embarked on a short-lived run with World Wrestling Entertainment. A 2003 concussion ended his pro wrestling

tion on Friday.

career and led to a new calling as a spokesman for concussion issues. Nowinski's 2006 book 'Head Games: Football's Concussion Crisis,' chronicled his experiences and concerns about In 2007, he founded Boston-based SLI to ad-

vance brain study, treatment and prevention among athletes and military personnel. The February 2011 suicide of former

nificant brain damage possibly attributed to hits sustained during his football career. 'Dave Duersen's tragedy catapulted this to the forefront," said Reggie L. Smith, the Chicago chapter president of the NFL Retired Player's Association. "People (now) understand that from outside, someone looks OK, but inter-

Chicago Bears safety Dave Duersen spotlighted

brain trauma after an autopsy discovered sig-

Smith said he recently completed training and will soon begin making public appearances to promote concussion awareness.

nally there can be damage that was done years

In January 2011 the Chicago City Council passed an ordinance prohibiting public school athletes with concussions from returning to sports without medical permission.

The concussion coalition plans seven more training sessions through early August at the South Side Illinois Eye Institute. Nowinski, meanwhile, will return to Illinois in May to address a conference of state high school athletic directors in Peoria.



program. Final results were not available at presstime.

Mount Marty vs. Nebraksa Wesleyan

2:00 p.m. Women/4:00 p.m. Men • Jan. 28, 2011 • Laddie E. Cimpl Arena • 1105 W. 8th St. • Yankton