

# Repeat Performance For USD

## Coyote Men Upend Jackrabbits In Dome For Second Straight Season

BY JEREMY HOECK

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VERMILLION — Less than 48 hours earlier, “embarrassment” was the term frequently used.

Saturday afternoon, “energy” and “bounce-back” were the appropriate buzz words for the University of South Dakota men’s basketball team.

In what played out as an almost exact replica of last season’s meeting in the DakotaDome, the Coyotes got hot early and held on for a 74-71 win over rival South Dakota State in front of 5,045 fans.

Talk about a complete 180.

“That was one of our focuses, and we tried to keep that throughout the whole game,” USD point guard Juevol Myles said of the energy displayed by the Coyotes (7-10, 3-2), no doubt spurred on by a loud and involved student crowd.

“That helped us in a tough situation and we pulled the game out.”

Such spirited play wasn’t only a welcomed surprised for the Coyotes, it proved to be necessary down the stretch. Despite leading by as many as 20 points, USD had to fend off a furious charge from the visitors.

Chad White drained a three-pointer with 1:13 to play as SDSU trimmed the deficit to 68-66. Jordan Dykstra then missed a wide open three with 23 seconds left, and the Jacks were forced to foul.

In the end, a 6-of-6 effort at the free throw line over the final 19 seconds was enough for the Coyotes to edge the Jackrabbits (11-6, 2-2) — who had two weeks earlier upset nationally-ranked New Mexico.

“Certainly a good win for us against a great team with a great coach,” said USD coach Dave Boots, who picked up his 500th win with the Coyotes.

“To compete with them is challenging all the way through.”

Especially when you take into account experience.

The Jackrabbits started two seniors and three juniors with plenty of time spent together, while the Coyotes started two transfers, two freshmen and a junior.

That’s what made the first half all the more surprising. USD shot 55 percent and used a 27-6 run to build a 42-25 halftime cushion.

“Its frustrating, we should’ve never put ourselves in that type of position,” SDSU senior guard Nate Walters said. “We should’ve learned from last year.”

Instead, it was more of the same for the visitors in blue and yellow. The Jacks shot 25 percent in the first half, not helped by a 1-of-8 effort from Walters and a combined zero field goals from starters Tony Fiegen and Dykstra.

“Why we would be flat, I don’t know. There aren’t any explanations, that’s just the way it is,” SDSU coach Scott Nagy said. “You can ask me why and I can’t tell you.”

Aided by 23 second-half points from Walters, the Jacks picked up the intensity. The first in a day marked by milestones came with 9:47 to play when Walters swished a jumper to break the SDSU all-time scoring record, passing Mark Tetzlaff (1981-85).

Of course, as his is nature, Walters wasn’t much in the mood to celebrate.

“It’s definitely an honor,” he said. “Obviously it’ll feel differently over a couple days when I think about it, but this loss definitely hurts.”



JILANNE DOOM/P&D

South Dakota’s Brandon Bos puts up a shot against the defense of South Dakota State’s Marcus Heemstra, 32, during their Summit League men’s basketball game on Saturday at the DakotaDome. USD upended the favored Jackrabbits in the Dome for a second straight year, claiming a 74-71 decision.

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TROY MARONEY/BROOKINGS REGISTER

USD’s Tempestt Wilson drives to the basket against the defense of SDSU’s Ashley Eide during the first half of the Coyotes’ 72-60 Summit League loss to the Jackrabbits on Sunday at Frost Arena in Brookings.

## SDSU Women Power Past Coyotes 72-60

BY CHRIS RILEY

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BROOKINGS — In the end, the University of South Dakota’s first-half shooting woes were too much to overcome as the Coyotes fell to the Jackrabbits, 72-60, at the Frost Arena on Sunday afternoon in this season’s first installment of the women’s basketball in-state rivalry.

Shooting just 35 percent in the first period, USD used their intense defensive play to stay in the game after trailing 36-25 at the half and even managed to close the gap to eight points with just over two minutes to play. But Jackrabbit standout Ashley Eide made two pairs of free throws down the stretch to ensure that the outcome was never truly in doubt.

“We just dug a hole in the first half and they were out-working us,” Coyote senior Tempestt Wilson said of USD’s 11-for-31 first-half shooting performance from the field.

With the victory, their fifth in a row, SDSU (11-5, 3-0 Summit) becomes the lone unbeaten squad left in the Summit League early in conference play. Jackrabbit head coach Aaron Johnston also earned victory number 301 of his coaching career, tying predecessor and mentor Nancy Neiber for the most in school history.

SDSU shot 48 percent from the field for the game compared to USD’s 43 percent. The Coy-

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# Lancers Split With Hastings In GPAC Hoops Doubleheader

## Defense Powers MMC Women Past Broncos

BY EMILY NIEBRUGGE

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The Mount Marty Lancers’ emphasis on defense paid off Saturday afternoon against the Hastings Broncos.

The Lancers faced the Broncos in Great Plains Athletic Conference basketball action at the Laddie E. Cimpr Arena, claiming an 80-67 victory.

“We weren’t very happy with our defense our last time out, so the last couple of days we’ve spent a lot of time on defense,” head coach Tom Schlingman said. “Our big emphasis was to keep the ball out of the lane. Overall we were pretty solid.”

The Lancers battled to get ahead for the first six minutes of the game, and were able to take a 12-11 lead with 14:50 left to play in the first half. Although the Lancers kept the lead for the rest of the

half, putting themselves ahead 28-16 with 6:13 left to play, Hastings was able to close the gap. MMC finished with a four-point lead to end the first half 33-29 over the Broncos.

April Winne led the Lancers with seven points and one rebound at the half, while Alyssa Whetham, Taylor Forsch and Britany Little each scored six points. Little also had a total of three rebounds.

For the Broncos, Laurel Zwienner had a total of nine points and one rebound and Cami Bruckman scored five points.

Schlingman said the Lancers were stagnant offensively in the first half, but were able to come out strong in the second half.

“That was what we talked most about in the locker room at half time — we stood around too much during the first few minutes in the first half,” he said. “We had a 12

point lead at one point and we went into the locker room with a four-point lead. We told ourselves we had to be better offensively or we’re going to be in a lot of trouble.”

Mount Marty was able to jump ahead 56-37 against Hastings with 12:27 left in the game, and kept their lead to finish 80-67 over the Broncos.

Winne scored a total of 24 points and had four assists, while Forsch contributed 19 points and two rebounds. Little also had 14 points and 11 rebounds, with Allison De Kam adding 10 rebounds.

Bruckman scored 20 points and had five rebounds for the Broncos, with Zwienner recording 11 points and one rebound. Halley Samuelson also added five points and seven rebounds.

Winne said she knew her team

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## Hastings Men Surge Past Mount Marty

BY JAMES D. CIMBUREK

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For 32 minutes, the Mount Marty College men’s basketball team went toe to toe with a Hastings team that is receiving votes in the NAIA Division II national poll.

But for the other eight minutes, the Broncos used a 15-0 run in the first half and a 12-0 run in the second half to put away the Lancers 87-62 in Great Plains Athletic Conference men’s basketball action on Saturday at Laddie E. Cimpr Arena.

Hastings, which passed its season victory total from a year ago earlier this season, improved to 14-5 on the season, 5-4 in the GPAC.

“Hastings had a good recruiting class three years ago. They have a lot of kids in their second year of starting,” MMC head coach Jim Thorson said. “They’re working in some of the younger kids, but they

have experience. They have great teamwork and know where each other is on the court.”

Hastings used an early 8-1 run to take a 14-7 lead, but the Lancers fought back to tie the game at 18. Five different Lancers scored in the 11-4 surge.

Leading 23-22, the Broncos got on a roll. Brady Lollman’s second three-pointer of the half, and three-point plays from Jake Hamburger and Dane Bacon helped Hastings score 15 points straight to take a 38-22 lead.

Mount Marty closed the gap to 12 at the half, then narrowed it to single digits with Chris Richardson’s three-pointer, 57-48. Hastings answered with 12 straight points, as five different players find the bottom of the net to make the score 69-48.

While Hastings made big runs on the Lancers, the squad had its chances, Thorson said.

“In those runs we had our shots,” he said. “That could have kept us in the game. The other major problem was rebounding — they had 15 offensive rebounds, and they probably scored points on all of them.”

Hastings had a 42-18 edge in the boards, led by seven from Brett Wells. Offensively, Dylan Flinn scored a game-high 21 points, with Lollman scoring 16. Bacon and Hamburger each scored 12 points in the win.

Saladin Smith scored 16 points, just off his season high, to lead MMC. Austin Harms netted 13 points. Jeff Larsen had 11 points and five rebounds off the bench.

Hastings remains on the road, heading to Concordia on Wednesday. MMC, 6-11 and 2-7, also hits the road, traveling to Morningside (8-11, 3-6 GPAC) on Wednesday.

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# Boys’ Basketball: Brookings Defense Stifles Bucks 47-29

BY VANCE JANAK

P&D Correspondent

An inability to make shots kept the Yankton Bucks from earning their first home win of the season Saturday night against Brookings.

One night after upsetting third-ranked Huron for its first victory of the season, Yankton’s return to the Summit Center resulted in a 47-29 setback to the Bobcats after Brookings used a 2-3 zone to befuddle the Bucks, who never made more than five shots from the field in any quarter while scoring six points or less in each of the first three periods, resulting in their lowest scoring output of the season.

“That (offensive) end of the floor was definitely frustrating,” first-year Yankton coach Chris Haynes said after his team made only 10-of-48 shots (20.8 percent) from the field. “I’ll have to look at the film, but I thought we got good looks in our offense. Their press bothered us a little bit, slowed us down a little. We just didn’t make very many shots.”

Shooting percentage was the difference in the game. The Bobcats sank 18-of-42 shots (42.9 percent) from the field after both teams made 6-of-10 free throws.

Brookings (6-1) also finished with a 31-28 rebounding advantage despite committing one more turnover (18) than the Bucks.

“We got open shots, so as a coach, I felt like my hands were tied. I didn’t know what to do,” Haynes said. “Our guys got shots that we think they can make and we’re confident they can make them the next time out.”

Yankton sophomore Brady Hale’s 3 with 4:06 left in the first quarter gave the Bucks (1-5) their lone lead at 6-5. Brookings senior Braxton Carlson then made two of his three first-quarter 3-pointers during the Bobcats’ 9-0 run to end the opening period up 14-6.

“He’s one of those guys where he got going early,” Brookings coach Travis Engbretson said after Carlson scored a game-high 21 points. “He’s a good shooter when he’s set and going straight up and down. He really got us started early and did a nice job.”

Yankton junior Brandon Breen ended a scoring drought of 4 minutes, 24 seconds with a jumper, and senior Zach Benjamin’s layup pulled the Bucks within 14-10 with 6:51 to play in the first half. Brookings ended the half on a 11-2 run, including scoring the final seven points, to push its lead to 25-12.

Junior JJ Hejna, who scored three points on 1-of-9 shooting after pouring in 18 points against Huron, ended Yankton’s stretch of 8 minutes, 40 seconds without a field with a layup to make it 30-15 with 6:10 left in the third. Brookings, playing for the first time in 16 days, then scored the next 10 points to go up 40-15 with 7:31 to play in the game.

“Our defense was really good,” Engbretson said. “We were very active. Typically we don’t play a lot of zone. We like to mix up our man and zone. Our zone was very active and we did a really nice job of rotating and making sure that we closed out.”

Benjamin’s 3 with 7:14 remaining snapped a scoreless streak of 8 minutes, 40 seconds. The Bucks ended the game by outscoring the Bobcats 14-9 in the final period. Hale hit a pair of shots in the fourth to finish with a team-high eight points.

“I thought they played hard and continued to compete and battle,” Haynes said of his team. “That’s tough to do when the ball isn’t going through the net. I liked the effort our kids had.”

Yankton travels to Watertown on Tuesday.

Yankton’s JV squad improved

to 4-2 with a 56-48 victory over Brookings. Reid Sawatzke scored a team-high 19 points for Yankton. Lane Sawatzke and Mitch Gullikson each had eight points in the win.

Matt Fitzgerald hit the game-winner at the buzzer to lift the Yankton sophomores to a 48-47 victory. Luke Rockne scored 10 points and Fitzgerald added nine points in the win.

Yankton took the freshmen ‘A’ game 56-41 behind 16 points from Bradey Sorenson. Tanner Frick netted 14 points and Keenan LaCroix added 12 rebounds in the win.

Brookings took the freshmen ‘B’ game 53-46. Gabe Dannenbring scored nine points and Nathan List had eight points for Yankton. BROOKINGS (6-1)

Zach Kress 1-2 0-0 2, Braxton Carlson 8-15 1-2 21, Tyler Nagy 2-5 0-0 4, Kaleb Vig 4-10 4-13, Zach Page 1-2 0-0 2, Konnor Beste 1-4 1-2 3, Mikay Daniel 0-2 0-0 0, Seth Moret 1-2 0-0 2, Trevor Hornig 0-0 0-0 0, Austin May 0-0 0-0 0, Bruce McMacken 0-0 0-0 0. Totals 18-42 6-10 47.

YANKTON (1-5) Michael Rucker 1-10 1-13, Andrew Hummel 0-3 0-0 0, Landon Breen 1-4 0-0 2, JJ Hejna 1-9 1-2 3, Brady Hale 3-10 1-2 8, Ryan Olson 0-4 0-0 0, Sam Wendle 1-2 0-0 2, Zach Benjamin 2-4 1-3 6, Reid Sawatzke 1-2 0-0 3, Lane Sawatzke 0-2 2-2 2, Chipper Granfilaten 0-0 0-0 0. Totals 10-48 6-10 29.

BROOKINGS 14 25 38 47  
YANKTON 6 12 15 29  
Three-pointers: B 5-15 (Carlson 4-8, Nagy 0-2, Vig 1-1, Beste 0-3), Y 3-20 (Rucker 0-4, Hummel 0-1, Breen 0-2, Hejna 0-1, Hale 1-4, Olson 0-3, Benjamin 1-3, R. Sawatzke 1-2). Rebounds: B 31 (Carlson 7), Y 28 (Hejna 8). Turnovers: B 18, Y 17. Fouls: B 16, Y 14. Foul out: None. Technical fouls: None.



JILANNE DOOM/P&D

Yankton’s J.J. Hejna, right, drives to the basket against a Brookings defender during their Eastern South Dakota Conference boys’ basketball game on Saturday at the Summit Center.