

# Transfers Look To Make Impact For USD Women's Track

BY JEREMY HOECK  
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VERMILLION — Megan Glisar, Tess Johnson and Breanna Janovy have, in their own way, experienced every level of collegiate athletics in their careers. Now, the three are teammates and ready to make an impact at the Division I ranks for the University of South Dakota women's track and field team. "I've seen different programs; big Division I and small NAIA, but this is a great mix for me," Glisar said by phone this week before a practice in the DakotaDome. "This is really a good fit, so it's interesting to see what I can do." That's the thing about these transfers, though, they're not simply new names on a roster, they're immediate Summit League title contenders for the

Coyotes, who open their indoor season — along with the USD men — today (Friday) at the Jack Johnson Invitational in Minneapolis. Glisar transferred to USD from Morningside College, while Johnson arrived via University of Mary (N.D.) and Janovy comes to Vermillion after playing basketball at Black Hills State University. "They're very good, so that helps a lot," joked USD women's head coach Lucky Huber when asked what they bring to the table. Glisar, a junior from Sergeant Bluff, Iowa, was the 2012 NAIA indoor national champion in the high jump and also finished second at the NAIA outdoor meet in the same event. The All-American, who already jumped 5-feet-9 at USD's Red-White Meet last month, is making her return to the

## NEW TO THE PACK



Glisar

Megan Glisar, left, transferred to USD from Morningside College in Sioux City, Iowa, where she was the 2012 NAIA Indoor high jump champion. She previously attended the University of Iowa.



Janovy

Breanna Janovy, left, comes to USD after playing basketball at Black Hills State University.

Tess Johnson, right, spent one season at the University of Mary, an NCAA Division II school in N.D.



Johnson

Division I level after previously spending time at the University of Iowa out of high school — where she remains the only prep athlete to win four state high jump titles.

"NAIA programs are pretty limited, but here it's just amazing the quality they have," she said. "Comparing it to a bigger school, the quality here is a lot higher. People don't realize what they

have so close to home." In the case of Johnson, a sophomore and former Clark-Willow Lake standout, that's exactly what led her to transfer to USD. "I really missed South Dakota and all the ties I had with this state," Johnson said. She pointed to her sister recently having a baby as also part of her desire to want to be closer to home. Though she spent just one year at the University of Mary, a Division II school in the Northern Sun, Johnson saw significant success. The Newcomer of the Year in the NSIC last spring, she finished third in the outdoor heptathlon and the high jump, fifth in the triple jump and eighth in the long jump.

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# Coyotes Surge Past 'Dons

BY CHRIS RILEY  
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VERMILLION — In what Coyotes head coach Amy Williams called their best performance of the season, the University of South Dakota women snapped a two-game losing streak while picking up their eighth victory of the year with an 82-51 win over Fort Wayne (Ind.) on Thursday night at the DakotaDome. USD, playing for only the second time in 11 days, improved to 8-10 with the win, and now sit 3-2 in Summit League play. Nicole Seekamp scored in double digits for the 14th time in 18 games this season as the sophomore netted 18 points while adding seven assists and six rebounds in a win where South Dakota completely dominated multiple facets of the game. The Coyotes out-rebounded the Mastodons 43-22 while shooting 53 percent from the field (69 percent in the second half) compared to Fort Wayne's 29 percent. "Our hustle and intensity on the boards is one thing that we have really tried to focus on," senior point guard Alexis Yackley said. Coyote junior Polly Harrington also attributed USD's rebounding success to a high level of intensity. "Having that intensity to want to out-work the other team," she said of why the Coyotes average over seven more boards than their opponents per game. "It (that intensity) was just there tonight." The game remained a tight back and forth affair through the first seven minutes of action before USD went on a 14-0 run to lead 26-13 with eight minutes to play in the first period. But Fort Wayne was able to battle back to close to gap back to only three points at the break. USD opened the second half with a 10-0 run, and while Fort Wayne pulled within seven points



JILANNE DOOM/P&D

University of South Dakota freshman guard Tia Hemiller, right, drives past Amanda Hyde of Fort Wayne during their Summit League women's basketball game Thursday night at the DakotaDome in Vermillion.

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## Boys: Andes Central Hits Late Free Throws To Defeat Pirates

AVON — Gabe Cournoyer hit two free throws with 10.5 seconds left to give Andes Central a 54-52 victory over Avon in boys' basketball action Thursday night. Avon had scored five straight points in the final minute to tie the game at 52 with 20 seconds left. Darrin Hopkins led Andes Central (3-6) with 16 points and six rebounds. Neulan Dion had 14 points, six rebounds and five steals. Cournoyer added five assists in the win. For Avon (3-7), Brandon Kocmich led the way with 20 points and six rebounds. Logan Mudder netted 13 points, six rebounds and four assists. Avon hosts Marty Indian next Monday and Andes Central hosts Bon Homme next Thursday.

|                |             |
|----------------|-------------|
| ANDERSON (3-6) | 16 27 41 54 |
| AVON (3-7)     | 10 22 39 52 |

### Scotland 44, Marion 39

SCOTLAND — Garrett Kotalik recorded 16 points and 10 rebounds as Scotland defeated Marion 44-39 on Thursday night in Scotland. Anthony Walloch added 10 points for the Highlanders (2-8), while Jared Kloucek posted nine points and five rebounds. In the loss for the Bears (1-8), who led 26-25 after three quarters, Nick Gortmaker recorded 12 points and four steals. Jacob Wuertz added nine points and six rebounds. Marion hosts Beresford next Monday and Scotland hosts Wagner on Jan. 25.

|                |             |
|----------------|-------------|
| MARION (1-8)   | 2 11 26 39  |
| SCOTLAND (2-8) | 10 14 25 44 |

### Ewing 55, Bloomfield 52

BLOOMFIELD, Neb. — Tad Fry scored 13 points and Jake Walton added 11 as Ewing edged Bloomfield 55-52 in boys' action Thursday night in Bloomfield, Neb. The hometown Bees (6-8) led 39-36 after three quarters. For Bloomfield, Chet Beckmann scored 17 points and Kane Fiedler and Nick Nagegast each added 11 points. Ty Alexander and Callen Koester each chipped in with five points.

|            |             |
|------------|-------------|
| EWING      | 15 30 36 55 |
| BLOOMFIELD | 14 28 39 52 |

### Wagner 50, Winner 42

WAGNER — Wagner defeated Winner 50-42 in South Dakota 'A' boys basketball action Thursday night in Wagner. Dylan Brunings led the way for Wagner (4-5) with 16 points and three rebounds.

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## Girls: Mitchell Beats YHS 72-34

MITCHELL — Defending state champion Mitchell used a 27-11 edge after halftime to cruise past the Yankton Gazelles 72-34 in ESD girls' basketball action Thursday night at the Corn Palace. Mitchell led 25-23 at halftime but pulled ahead 53-29 after three quarters. The Kernels (8-2) out-rebounded the Gazelles 38-21. "It was a pretty encouraging first half for us," YHS coach Doug Pesicka said. "After that disappointing loss to Roosevelt (on Tuesday), our kids came out and competed well."

"In the second half, the game got away from us a little bit." Andi Sprakel scored nine points for the Gazelles (2-8), while Kelsey Fitzgerald and Morgan Tessier scored eight points apiece. Mikala Hora chipped in with five points.

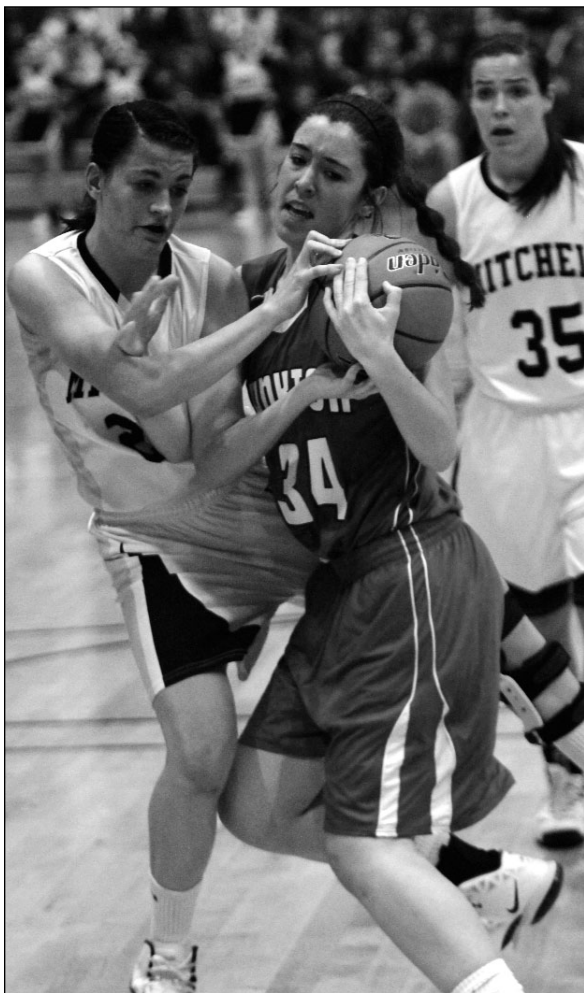
Yankton has a week off until its next game next Thursday at Sioux Falls O'Gorman. Plenty of time to get back to the practice grind, Pesicka said.

"We just have to try to correct some things, and continue to focus on the things we're not doing as well as we can," he said. "That's what we keep trying to press on our kids, it's all about improvement."

Mitchell won the JV game 50-15.

Yankton came out on top in

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LUKE HAGEN/MITCHELL DAILY REPUBLIC

Yankton's Kelsey Butler (34) battles for a rebound with Mitchell's Macy Miller during an ESD girls' high school game Thursday at Mitchell's Corn Palace.



JEREMY HOECK/P&D

Chelsey Hisek of Yankton-Bon Homme does a flip during her floor routine in Thursday night's gymnastics triangular with Vermillion and Chamberlain at the Summit Center.

## Gazelles Gymnasts Sweep Home Meet With Tanagers, Cubs

BY EMILY NIEBRUGGE  
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The work of building their team finally paid off for the Gazelle gymnasts.

The Gazelles put up five of the top seven all-around members Thursday night at the Summit Activities Center at the gymnastics triangular, led by Elsie Kotalik in first place with a score of 34.95 and Charlotte Taggart in second (34.85). Yankton-Bon Homme also claimed the all-around champion with a score of 138.6

Chamberlain came in second with a team score of 131.9, with Vermillion placing third (122.7).

Yankton-Bon Homme head coach Luke Youmans said this was the Gazelle's best effort in 10 years.

"We surpassed a big mountain tonight," he said. "We've been talking this meet up for a week and a half, and our girls were incredible. We had one of the best outings as a team."

For Taggart, the entire meet came together perfectly, and proved to be her best night.

"It couldn't have been more perfect," she said. "Everything fit together finally - we really needed this for our whole entire team."

"This is the best meet I have ever had out of my whole gymnastics career. I'm just excited to see what some of these girls bring to the table in the years to come."

Vermillion head coach Mark Upward said having two members score in the all-around was something new for his team this season.

"We were solid, but we weren't where we need to be yet. We still need to do a lot more improving - we're getting closer to the end of the season and we need to step it up a little bit," he said. "But, we had Rory Tucker and Morgan Hower in the all-around, and that's an exciting thing for us because that hasn't happened yet this year. I was pleased with the meet."

Yankton will now look to build off of the victory, and finish out the season strong.

The Gazelles are off until next Tuesday when they travel to Sioux Falls for a triangular with O'Gorman and Washington, starting at 6:30 p.m.

"This is a great example of where that building took us," Youmans said. "It took us a long stretch to get to the point where all of a sudden we emerged tonight. We're not just a team that's capable of getting on the podium; we're probably one of the teams capable of being on the top of the podium this year."

You can follow Emily Niebrugge on Twitter at [twitter.com/ENiebrugge](https://twitter.com/ENiebrugge)