

# USD Rolls Into WBI Semifinals

BEAUMONT, Texas — The University of South Dakota women's basketball team extended its hot streak to seven wins in eight games with a 71-48 victory over Lamar in the quarterfinals of the Women's Basketball Invitational on Sunday at the Montague Center.

USD (19-15) will host McNeese State in the WBI semifinals on Thursday at the DakotaDome. Start time is 7 p.m.

USD put four players in double figures,

led by Polly Harrington's 15 points. Tempest Wilson netted 14 points. Nicole Seekamp scored 13 points, giving her 500 points on the season. Lisa Loeffler added 11 points.

Also for USD, Alexis Yackley was held scoreless, but led the Coyotes in both rebounding (8) and assists (9).

Carenn Baylor led Lamar (22-11) with 16 points and six rebounds.

A 13-4 run early in the game put USD

up by six, 13-7. After Lamar scored 13 of the next 15 points to take its largest lead, 20-15, the Coyotes surged to a 39-27 halftime advantage.

USD never led by less than 10 points the rest of the way.

USD held Lamar to 27 percent (17-63) shooting in the game, including 7-22 from three-point range. The Coyotes shot 62.5 percent (15-24) in the first half on the way to a 51.9 percent (27-52) shooting day.

**SOUTH DAKOTA (19-15)**  
Polly Harrington 7-8 1-2 15, Lisa Loeffler 5-8 0-0 11, Tempest Wilson 3-8 7-14, Alexis Yackley 0-1 0-0 0, Nicole Seekamp 6-9 0-0 13, Tia Hemiller 1-2 0-0 2, Sam Mehr 2-7 0-0 5, Pam January 2-3 0-0 5, Margaret McCloud 1-3 4-4 6, Heidi Hoff 0-3 0-0 0. TOTALS: 27-52 12-13 71.  
**LAMAR (22-11)**  
Alice Robinson 0-2 0-0 0, Dominique Edwards 2-14 1-1 5, Gia Ayers 3-9 0-0 7, Asia Booker 1-3 0-0 3, Carenn Baylor 6-13 1-2 16, Chantelle Brockett 2-5 1-4 5, Kails Loyd 0-5 2-2 2, Caroline Aedesulu 0-2 0-0 0, Jameisha Edwards 1-2 0-0 3, Francesa Bellatin 0-0 0-0 0, Shauna Long 1-5 0-0 3, Bobbi Taylor 1-3 2-4. TOTALS: 17-63 7-11 48.  
At the half: USD 39, LU 27. Three-Pointers: LU 7-22 (Baylor 3-6, Ayers 1-3, Booker 1-1, J. Edwards 1-2, Long 1-3, D. Edwards 0-7), USD 5-15 (January 1-1, Loeffler 1-2, Seekamp 1-2, Wilson 1-4, Mehr 1-5, Harrington 0-1). Rebounds: USD 41 (Yackley 8), LU 32 (Baylor 6). Personal Fouls: USD 15, LU 11. Fouled Out: None. Assists: USD 20 (Yackley 9), LU 13 (Ayers 3). Turnovers: USD 17, LU 13. Blocked Shots: LU 2, USD 0. Steals: LU 10 (Booker 4), USD 7 (Wilson 2, Yackley 2). Attendance: 408.

## SDSU Women Fall To South Carolina

BY ARNIE STAPLETON  
AP Sports Writer

BOULDER, Colo. (AP) — South Dakota State coach Aaron Johnston figures the one way the Jackrabbits could have won their NCAA tournament opener on Saturday was to get a better seed.

The 13th-seeded Jackrabbits were no match in a 74-52 loss to No. 4 seed South Carolina, which got 15 points and 11 rebounds from Ashley Bruner.

The Gamecocks (25-7), who won a school-record 11 Southeastern Conference games this season, used their superior athleticism and stout defense to make quick work of the Jackrabbits (25-8), the Summit League regular season and tournament champs.

The Jackrabbits hung tough for about 10 minutes, then the Gamecocks broke down their man-to-man defense and started getting easy looks at the basket and making plenty of trips to the foul line.

The Jackrabbits have been one-and-done in each of their past four trips to the NCAA tournament, seeded 14th, 15th, 13th and 13th.

Their only NCAA win came in 2009, when they were a No. 7 seed and beat TCU before losing to Baylor.

"Well, it's a challenge," Johnston said. "I remember our first year we were a 7 seed and that's a much better position to be in versus who you're going to be playing against. If we stay in that 13-14-15 seed, we're going to be playing people who are top-20 teams."

"We've played the kind of non-conference schedule that it takes to get a little better seed, and I thought we played pretty well this year. We just didn't have a couple of (more) wins that we needed."

So, while the Gamecocks advanced to the second round Monday, the Jackrabbits prepared to go home and work toward that elusive better seed.

"The difference between being a 13 seed and a 10 seed is probably two wins for us," Johnston said. "We're not talking about having to go back and reshape everything we do."

The Gamecocks are seeking their second straight trip to the round of 16 under coach Dawn Staley, who led Virginia to three Final Fours as a player.

Guard Ieasia Walker, the SEC defensive player of the year, finished with 15 points. She also helped hold South Dakota State to 33 percent shooting in the first half as the Gamecocks raced to a 44-26 halftime lead on the strength of 61 percent shooting and 10 forced turnovers.

South Carolina led by as many as 27 in the second half as the Jackrabbits, despite 15 points from Ashley Eide, didn't have a run in them.

Elem Ibiam added 13 points and eight rebounds while patrolling the paint for the Gamecocks.

Only four teams have reached the 60-point mark against South Carolina, and the Jackrabbits looked primed to make it five when they hung with the Gamecocks for the first 10 minutes of the game.

SDSU | PAGE 8

## Kokesh Third At NCAA Wrestling

DES MOINES, Iowa — Nebraska sophomore Robert Kokesh (174) avenged a pair of losses from earlier this season on Saturday to finish third at the NCAA Championships.

Nebraska finished 13th as a team, scoring 38 points. Penn State won its third consecutive NCAA title, beating Oklahoma State by four points.

Kokesh, the No. 4-seed, opened his morning against No. 3-seed Mike Evans of Iowa in a rematch of the Husker sophomore's 9-6 loss on Feb. 10. After a scoreless first period this time around, Kokesh and Evans traded escapes for a 1-1 tie in the third period. In the closing minute, Kokesh took down Evans for a 3-1 lead and held on for a 3-2 win over the Hawkeye.

In the third place match, Kokesh faced fellow South Dakota native and No. 6-seed Logan Storley of Minnesota. Kokesh earned an escape in the second period and Storley matched it in the third period after a scoreless first three minutes. They headed to sudden victory in a 1-1 tie, similar to their matchup on Nov. 16, which the Gopher won 3-1. But this time around, Kokesh earned the takedown and a 3-1 sudden victory to finish third at the NCAA Championships.

Kokesh achieved All-America honors for the first time in his career and finished the 2012-13 campaign with a 38-4 record. The 38 wins put him in a tie for seventh on Nebraska's top-20 season victories list with Brad Vering (1999-00), Bill Scherr (1982-83) and Tolly Thompson (1993-94). It also gives the Wagner native the second-most wins in a season by a sophomore behind Bryan Snyder's 43 victories in 1999-00.

## Tar Heel Women Escape Albany

NEWARK, Del. (AP) — Tierra Ruffin-Pratt scored a career-high 30 points, and North Carolina squeezed past Albany to stagger into the second round of the NCAA tournament.

North Carolina trailed 28-23 at halftime and 48-44 with just under 10 minutes left before rallying behind Ruffin-Pratt, who scored 17 of the Tar Heels' final 21 points — including two clinching free throws with 10.8 seconds left.

Waltiea Rolle had 14 points and 14 rebounds for North Carolina (29-6), which will next face sixth-seeded Delaware (31-3) on Tuesday night. Delaware advanced with a 66-53 win over West Virginia.

**No. 2 KENTUCKY 61, No. 15 NAVY 41:** DeNesha Stallworth scored 18 points and Jennifer O'Neill added nine of her 12 points in the second half to lead Kentucky over Navy.

The Wildcats (28-5) trailed by one at the half before O'Neill, who grew up in New York, took over. She hit a quick 3-pointer to start a 12-2 run. The sophomore guard had seven points, a steal and an assist during the burst.

Kentucky had been off for 14 days since losing in the SEC tournament title game and looked rusty early on. Two-time SEC player of the year Adia Mathies didn't have a field goal for the first time in her career.

Alix Membreno and Jade Geil scored nine each to lead Navy (21-12), which was trying to become the first 15 seed to win a game in NCAA tournament history.

**No. 6 DELAWARE 66, No. 11 WEST VIRGINIA 53:** NEVARRK, Del. (AP) — Elena Delie Donne scored 33 points and led a second-half surge that carried Delaware past West Virginia.

Playing on their home floor before a sellout crowd, the Blue Hens trailed 33-26 at halftime before bouncing back to extend their school-record winning streak to 26 games.

Delaware (31-3) had never won an NCAA tournament game before last year. The Blue Hens have yet to reach the round of 16, a milestone they will seek to accomplish Tuesday night against either North Carolina or Albany.

Delie Donne, a 6-foot-5 senior, scored 17 points after 13 at the foul line and had seven rebounds.

Ayana Dunning had 15 points and 10 rebounds for 11th-seeded West Virginia (17-14), which closed the season with a four-game losing streak.

**No. 7 DAYTON 96, No. 10 ST. JOHN'S 90, 2 OT:** Andrea Hoover scored a career-high 24 points and Dayton outlasted St. John's.

It was the first double overtime game in the tournament since 2000 when Vanderbilt beat Kansas.

Brittany Wilson hit a 3-pointer and Kelley Austria had a three-point play to make it 90-96 with 2:11 left in the second extra period. After St. John's failed to score, Olivia Applewhite added a basket with 47 seconds left to seal the win.

The Red Storm (18-13) trailed by 13 with 5:30 left in regulation before rallying. Nadirah McKenith hit a layup with one-tenth of a second left in regulation to force OT. Dayton's Amber Deane tied it with 15 seconds left in OT to force a second one.

McKenith led her team with 22 points, 10 assists and nine rebounds before fouling out.

## Norfolk

**No. 2 DUKE 67, No. 15 HAMPTON 51:** DURHAM, N.C. (AP) — Tricia Liston scored 13 of her 20 points in the second half and Duke pulled away to beat Hampton.

Elizabeth Williams added 18 points and Haley Peters finished with 12 points and 10 rebounds for the Blue Devils (31-2).

They watched Hampton trim their 19-point lead by two recovering with a 23-8 run that gave them the 20th straight NCAA tournament-opening victory.

Kaia Avant had 18 points to lead 15th-seeded Hampton (28-6), and her jumper with just over 10 minutes left capped a furious 27-14 rally that pulled the Pirates to 46-40.

But Duke locked down defensively — forcing Hampton to miss 12 of its next 15 shots — and scored on five straight trips to regain some separation and end the Pirates' 19-game winning streak.

**No. 7 OKLAHOMA STATE 73, No. 10 DEPAUL 66:** DURHAM, N.C. (AP) — Toni Young scored 20 of her 25 points in the first half to help Oklahoma State beat DePaul.

Liz Donohoe added 14 points for the seventh-seeded Cowbirds (22-10), who blew nearly all of a 16-point lead before taking back control with a 13-0 run. Young also grabbed 13 rebounds.

Oklahoma State shot 46 percent to earn its first tournament win.

## CHAMPIONS X 15



The 23rd annual Roger Haas youth basketball tournament crowned 15 champions on Saturday. Scores from all the games are in today's Scoreboard, Page 8. Nearly 3,000 photos from the tournament are online at spotted.yankton.net

ABOVE: The Bulldogs are coached during a timeout during their Saturday Roger Haas game against the Cougars at the Summit Center. (Emily Niebrugge/P&D)

RIGHT: Gayville-Volin's Rachel Nickels shoots over the top of a defender during an eighth grade girls' game on Saturday at the Summit Center. (James D. Cimburek/P&D)

LEFT: Hills-Beaver Creek's Garrett Raymon tries to get a shot off against a pair of Yankton Wolves defenders during their sixth grade boys' game on Saturday at Yankton Middle School. (Cimburek)



## Florida Gulf Coast Becomes First 15-Seed To Advance To Sweet 16

PHILADELPHIA (AP) — Not even many basketball fans knew about Florida Gulf Coast just a couple of weeks ago. They do now — the Eagles are the first No. 15 seed to make the Sweet 16.

Bernard Thompson scored 23 points and Sherwood Robinson added 17 to lead FGCU to its second NCAA tournament win in as many tries, an 81-71 victory over San Diego State on Sunday night.

FGCU (26-10), which shocked the world in the second round with a 78-68 victory over second-seeded Georgetown, was just as entertaining and impressive in the third round, again using a big second-half run to take control of the game.

Now, the Eagles will face an opponent that should know a lot more about them. Third-seeded Florida will play FGCU on Friday night in the semifinals of the South Regional in Dallas.

The upstart state school against the main campus. Seems right up FGCU's alley.

Jamal Franklin had 20 points for the seventh-seeded Aztecs (23-11), who were trying to reach the regional semifinals for the second time in three years.

**FLORIDA 78, MINNESOTA 64:** AUSTIN, Texas (AP) — Mike Rosario scored 25 points and Florida used an overpowering first half to roll past Minnesota and into the NCAA tournament round of 16 for third consecutive year with a 78-64 win Sunday in the South Regional.

The No. 3 seed Gators (28-7) shot a blistering 65 percent in the first half and led by 21 by halftime. The win earns Florida a return trip to the Lone Star State to play their next game at Cowboys Stadium in Arlington.

Andre Hollins scored 25 points to lead the No. 11-seed Gophers (21-13). Hollins' 3-point shooting sparked a second-half rally that pulled Minnesota within seven points, but Rosario's sixth 3-pointer with 3 minutes left pushed the Gators' lead back to 16 and effectively locked up the win.

## East

**INDIANA 58, TEMPLE 52:** DAYTON, Ohio (AP) — On the verge of being the second No. 1 knocked out of the NCAA tournament, Indiana finally stopped Temple's No. 1.

Victor Oladipo hit a key 3-pointer with 13 seconds remaining and the top-seeded Hoosiers, their season moments from ending in disappointment, shut down Ohio's star Khalif Wyatt in the final three minutes to hold off the Owls.

The Hoosiers (29-6) trailed by four with 2:56 left, but closed with a 10-0 run and advanced to the round of 16 for the second straight year.



ROBERT WILLET/TALEIGH NEWS & OBSERVER/MCT  
North Carolina coach Roy Williams offers a hand to P.J. Hairston (15) as he comes out of the game during the final minute of play against Kansas in the third round of the NCAA Tournament at the Sprint Center in Kansas City, Mo., Sunday. Kansas beat UNC, 70-58.

Indiana will play No. 4 seed Syracuse in the regional semifinals on Thursday in Washington, a rematch of the classic 1987 title game won by the Hoosiers.

Wyatt scored 31 points to lead the Owls (24-10), who gave one of the Big Ten's big boys all they could handle before collapsing when it mattered most.

Oladipo, who spent the afternoon doing all he could to slow down Wyatt, scored 16 and Cody Zeller added 15 for the Hoosiers.

**KANSAS 70, NORTH CAROLINA 58:** KANSAS CITY, Mo. (AP) — Kansas got the best of ol Roy and his Tar Heels once again.

Behind the impassioned play of Travis Releford and Jeff Withey, the top-seeded Jayhawks shook themselves out of a first-half slumber and blitzed No. 8 seed North Carolina down the stretch.

Wyatt had 16 points and 16 rebounds, and Releford finished with 22 points for the Jayhawks (31-5), who also knocked former coach Roy

Williams' team out of the NCAA tournament during their 2008 title run and again last season, when Kansas marched all the way to the Final Four.

It'll keep marching this year — at least to the Sweet 16 — thanks to a superb second half.

P.J. Hairston scored 15 points and James Michael McAdoo finished with 11 for the Tar Heels (25-11).

## West

**OHIO STATE 78, IOWA STATE 75:** DAYTON, Ohio (AP) — Aaron Craft made a last-second, tie-breaking 3 and Ohio State remained the lone high seed left in the NCAA tournament's most-busted bracket.

Ohio State (28-7) needed Craft's only 3-pointer of the game — an arching shot over 6-foot-7 defender Georges Niang from the top of the key — to avoid yet another upset in the oh-so-wild West Regional. Four of the top five seeds fell fast and hard in the first weekend.

Craft left the Buckeyes in position to fritter away a late lead with some missed free throws, then saved them in the final second.

Craft also drew a charge on Iowa State's Will Clyburn near the basket with 1:41 on a play that could have put the Cyclones up by three. It was a close call. Replays showed Craft's right heel was at the semicircle restricting the area where players can take a charge.

Ohio State's 10th straight win sent the Buckeyes into the round of 16 for the fourth straight year, a school record. They'll play sixth-seeded Arizona on Thursday in Los Angeles.

Tenth-seeded Iowa State (23-12) overcame a late 13-point deficit by hitting 3s — the Cyclones' specialty.

Deshaun Thomas led Ohio State with 22 points, and Craft had 18. LaQuinton Ross scored 10 straight for the Buckeyes as they built that second-half lead.

Kate Licious led Iowa State with 19 points.

**LA SALLE 78, MISSISSIPPI 74:** KANSAS CITY, Mo. (AP) — The last time La Salle advanced this far in the NCAA tournament there was no round of 16. The field was only 24 teams.

Tyrone Garland banked home a scoping layup with 2 seconds left and 13th-seeded La Salle beat Mississippi 76-74 on Sunday, vaulting the Explorers to their deepest run in the NCAA tournament since they played for the championship in 1955.

Ramon Galloway had 24 points for the upstarts from the Atlantic 10. The Explorers (24-9) played their third game in five days but showed no sign of fatigue.

## Saturday

## West

**WICHITA STATE 76, GONZAGA 70:** SALT LAKE CITY (AP) — Gonzaga's gone.

Cleanthony Early and Ron Baker scored 16 points apiece and Wichita State hit 14 3-pointers, including five straight late, to knock the top-ranked and No. 1 seeded Bulldogs out of the NCAA tournament.

The Shockers (28-8) advanced to the round of 16 for the first time since 2006, while Gonzaga becomes the first top seed to be eliminated.

Gonzaga survived a scare in its first game against Southern but couldn't hold up against a fellow mid-major from Kansas with the motto "play angry."

The Shockers face the winner of Sunday's game between La Salle and Ole Miss.

Wichita State had the Zags down 13 early. Though Gonzaga (32-3) fought back, the barrage of 3s was too much for the small school from Spokane, Wash.

Kelly Olynyk scored 26 points to lead Gonzaga, and Kevin Pangos had 19.

While Gonzaga held the top spot in the AP Top 25 over the final weeks of the season, skepticism thought of the Bulldogs as a soft No. 1 seed that benefited from a relatively easy schedule in the West Coast Conference while other top contenders were getting banged around in the power conferences.

**ARIZONA 74, HARVARD 51:** Arizona put an emphatic end to Harvard's March Madness success story.

Mark Lyons matched his career high with 27 points to lead the sixth-seeded Wildcats (27-7). Arizona sprinted to a 30-9 lead, as the Crimson

NCAA | PAGE 8