



COYOTES: Christine Broders

# USD Looks To Turn Indoor Prowess Into Outdoor Success

BY JEREMY HOECK  
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VERMILLION — Coming off the success from the indoor season, the University of South Dakota track teams are looking to translate that outdoors.

For the Coyote men, especially, the indoor slate was memorable, as they upended powerhouse North Dakota State for the Summit League team championship. The USD women, meanwhile, finished third.

As the schedule has turned to the outdoor season, the Coyote men and women were both picked to finish second in the pre-season poll — behind the Bison.

“We have a lot of respect for North Dakota State, but we’re never satisfied being second,” women’s head coach Lucky Huber said. “We always have a couple of goals each year. First, we want to compete for a conference title. The other one now is to get 12 kids to the outdoor national meet.”

“We’re not going to be shy; we talk about it with our kids.”



Date	Event
March 22-23	Arizona State Inv. (Tempe, Ariz.)
March 27-30	Texas Relays (Austin, Texas)
March 30	Razorback Spring Inv. (Fayetteville, Ark.)
April 6	Dakota Duals (Brookings)
April 12-13	Sioux City Relays
April 18-20	Kansas Relays (Lawrence, Kan.)
	Long Beach State Inv. (Mt. Sac Relays (Walnut, Calif.)
April 23	Mount Marty Twilight
April 25-27	Drake Relays
May 3-4	Howard Wood Relays (Sioux Falls)
May 9-11	Summit League Championships (Muncie, Ind.)
May 23-25	NCAA Preliminary (Austin, Texas)
June 5-8	NCAA Champ. (Eugene, Ore.)
June 19-23	USA Championships (Des Moines)

A year ago, the USD women qualified eight athletes for the West Preliminary Round of the NCAA Outdoor Championships, while the Coyote men sent five athletes.

Before that point, though, there are 11 meets this spring be-

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## USD SOFTBALL (21-11)

Date	Event	Time/Score
Feb. 8	vs. Ulah Valley*	L 3-4 (8)
	vs. Ulah*	L 4-8
Feb. 9	vs. Tennessee*	L 0-5
Feb. 10	vs. Idaho State*	W 5-4
Feb. 15	vs. SE Louisiana**	L 6-7 (8)
	vs. Texas Southern**	W 5-3
Feb. 16	vs. UMBC**	W 9-4
	vs. LSU-Alexandria**	W 8-0
Feb. 17	vs. UTEP***	W 6-1 (8)
Feb. 23	vs. New Mexico State***	L 0-1
	vs. UTEP***	L 2-3
Feb. 24	vs. New Mexico State***	L 3-4
	vs. UTEP***	W 5-3
March 2	vs. Detroit Mercy^	W 5-4
	vs. LaSalle^	W 12-3 (5)
March 3	vs. Holy Cross^	W 14-2 (5)
	vs. Sacred Heart^	L 5-12
March 5	vs. LaSalle^	W 10-1
	vs. Penn^	W 9-1 (5)
March 6	vs. St. Francis, Pa.^	W 3-1
	vs. Grambling St.^	W 7-0
March 8	vs. Tenn.-Martin^	W 5-3
	vs. Penn^	L 1-7
March 9	vs. Akron^	L 1-5
	vs. Sacred Heart^	W 12-0
March 15	at Western Illinois	W 6-5
	at Western Illinois	W 4-1
March 16	at Western Illinois	W 6-2
March 20	vs. Creighton	DH (ppd)
March 22	at IUPUI	W 4-0
	at IUPUI	L 4-5
March 23	at IUPUI	W 2-0
April 2	vs. North Dakota	DH, 2 p.m.
April 5	vs. South Dakota State	DH, 2 p.m.
April 6	vs. South Dakota State	noon
April 12	vs. Fort Wayne	DH, 1 p.m.
April 13	vs. Fort Wayne	DH, noon
April 16	vs. Omaha	DH, 2 p.m.
April 17	vs. Omaha	2 p.m.
April 19	at Oakland	DH, 1 p.m.
April 20	at Oakland	11 a.m.
April 23	at North Dakota	DH, 2 p.m.
April 27	vs. Kansas City	DH, 1 p.m.
April 28	vs. Kansas City	noon
May 3	at North Dakota State	DH, 3 p.m.
May 4	at North Dakota State	noon

Home Games at USD Softball Complex

\* - Red Desert Classic, St. George, Utah  
\*\* - Southeastern Louisiana Tour, Hammond, La.  
\*\*\* - Texas-El Paso Tour, El Paso, Texas  
^ - Rebel Spring Games, Kismet, Fla.

# USD Rolling In Second Summit League Season

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VERMILLION — Two wins in its first 20 games.

That was the hole the University of South Dakota softball team dug itself to start last year, ultimately finishing with a 16-39 record and sixth in the Summit League.

Fast forward a full calendar year, and the Coyotes sit 21-11 (through March 26) and first place in the conference at 5-1. “We all knew where we stood, it was just time for us to prove it,” senior pitcher Erica Denney said. “And so far we’ve been able to do that.”

The combination of extra attention to off-season training, confidence and depth have vaulted the Coyotes into the early discussion for a Summit League tournament appearance — the top four teams make the field, set for early May in Fargo, N.D.

First things first, and that was reversing another early skid.

“Our Florida trip last year (USD went 1-9) really motivated them, I think, because they knew we could’ve done better,” head coach Amy Klyse said. “They came out pretty prepared and we’ve seen the results.”

“Confidence is a big difference, too.”

Part of that strings from having a lineup that is significantly more balanced this year, according to sophomore catcher Allie Daly.

Last year, the Coyotes didn’t have anybody with a batting average of .300 or better, while this year the team boasts three. And a year ago, USD combined to hit 21 home runs. This year? 27 with still half a season remaining.

“We’re hitting the ball consistently when we have runners on base, up and down the lineup,” said Daly, who leads the league in runs batted in (34), third in home runs (8) and third in slugging percentage (.673).

“It doesn’t matter where, we’re getting the job done.”

Freshman Yvon Minogue leads the team in batting average at .414, followed by Daly (.327), junior Lindsey Boyd (.309), freshman Katie Cochran (.289) and sophomore Morgan Hancock (.286). Yankton native and junior Christine Broders ranks second on the team in home runs with six and tied for second in runs batted in with 22.

Not bad for a team whose leading hitter last year batted .284, while this year’s lowest number among the regulars is .266.

“They know they don’t have to be the one,” Klyse said. “If one person doesn’t produce, someone else will. That takes a lot of the pressure off.”

In the pitching circle, Denney sports a 12-4 record with a 2.17 earned run average, with 72 strikeouts in 116 1/3 innings. She is joined by freshman Madison Frain (5-6, 3.23 ERA) and senior Missy Blackburn (3-1, 3.28 ERA).

“All three of us can come out and pitch a great game,” Denney said. “It’s been really cool to see Madison do this well. She’ll only get better, which is kind of a scary thought.”

The production of the team’s three freshmen — Minogue, Frain and Sydney Hancock — has added to what was already a rather deep team, Daly said.

“They’ve really stepped up when we needed to get it done,” Daly said. “We’re a young team right now, but it’s really interesting to see how well we’ve been able to do.”

The Coyotes will begin an 11-game home stand on April 2, and they will also make up a home doubleheader with Creighton at some point.

With still so many conference games to play, it’s hard to evalu-

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COYOTES: Kyle McKelvey

## SD Girls

From Page 11

Derrek Sattler, Jill Christensen  
VITALS: Class B, Region 4B, Big East Conference

LAST YEAR: The Pheasants placed ninth at the state meet. They lost four letterwinners from that squad.

RETURNING LETTERWINNERS: Katelynn Getts (Sr.), Sam Van de Rostyne (Sr.), Tessa Weeldreyer (Sr., 800 relay champion), Shanya Burt (Sr., 2-time state medal earner), Morgan Hay (Sr., 800 relay champion), Haley Holzwarth (Sr.), Olivia Melber (Sr.), Alex Herding (So.), Brittany Olson (So., 800 relay champion), Jenny Smith (So.), Raven Engelbrecht (Fr.), Hannah Herlyn (Fr.), Liz Buckridge (8th), Makenzie Dean (8th), Lauren Hunstad (8th), Lexi Olson (8th)

TOP PROSPECTS: Lindsey Meiers (Sr.), Danielle Rang (Sr.), Lindsey Jones (So.)

### Platte-Geddes

COACH: Regan Holleman (3rd year)

ASSISTANTS: Christa Peterson, Chris Long

VITALS: Class A, Region 5A, Southeast South Dakota Conference

LAST YEAR: The Black Panthers scored 10 points at the state meet.

RETURNING LETTERWINNERS: Shelby Rabenberg (Sr.), Denise Dertien (Sr.), Madi Whalen (Sr.), Brianna Erickson (Sr.), Reganne Engebretson (Fr.), Aubrey Rabenberg (Fr.), Jada Nelson (8th.)

### Scotland

COACH: Gary Pepper (35th year)

ASSISTANTS: Mary Ellen Luikens, Ryan Bruns

VITALS: Class B, Region 6, Great Plains Conference, Little Missouri Valley Conference, Southeast South Dakota Conference

LAST YEAR: The Lady Highlanders won the Region 6B meet, but lost four letterwinners from that squad to graduation.

RETURNING LETTERWINNERS: Kennedy Asche (Sr., state qualifier in 4x200 relay), Sam Geiman (Sr.), Christian Moggck (Sr., state qualifier in 100 and 4x200 relay), Amber Alvey (Sr.),

Katie Cosman (Sr.), Morgan Frey (Sr., state qualifier in 200 meter dash), Kala Fischer (So., state qualifier in long jump), Hannah Moggck (So.), Peyton Rueb (So.), Carley Skorepa (So., state qualifier in shot put), Jessica Thum (So., state qualifier in 100 meter hurdles), Sydney Gall (Fr.), Kayla Rokusek (Fr.)

TOP PROSPECTS: Stephanie Kotalik (Sr.), Lindsey Frey (Sr.), Sasha Roth (Sr.), Jaycie Geiman, Alex Conrad (Fr.), Alexis DeBoer (Fr.), Abbey Hagge (Fr.), Cheyanne Roth (Fr.)

### Tripp-Delmont-Armour

COACH: Ron Weber

ASSISTANT: Barb Dozark

VITALS: Class B, Little Missouri Valley Conference, Great Plains Conference

LAST YEAR: Hannah Just ran in three events at the state meet as a freshman.

RETURNING LETTERWINNERS: Morgan Polreis (Sr.),

Allyson Ledebuer (Sr.), Hannah Just (So., state qualifier in 3 events), Jessica Sandau (So.), MAci Harrington (So.), Morgan Ziegler (So.)

TOP PROSPECTS: Mariah Plecity (So.), Patricia Fischer (So.), Kara Kaufman (Fr.), Jeana Nuss (Fr.), Kelsey Buchmann (Fr.), Ali Hanson (Fr.), Laura Brown (Fr.)

### Viborg-Hurley

COACH: Bill Hansen (3rd year)

ASSISTANTS: Erik Sommer-vold, Emily Sanford, Brett Mellem

VITALS: Class B, Region 4B, Tri-Valley Conference

LAST YEAR: Lost two letterwinners from a very young 2012 squad.

RETURNING LETTERWINNER: Katelyn Graber (Sr.), Kayle Anderson (Sr.), Hannah Jorgensen (So.), Angie Lee (So.), Sam Boomgarden (So.), Miranda Anderson (Fr.), Abby Hora (Fr.),

Annie Wirth (Fr.), Jacque Verdoorn (Fr.), Emily Bjerkaas (8th), Jacia Christiansen (8th), Alley Osterloo (8th), Kirsten Paetow (8th), Alyssa Petersen (8th)

### Wagner

COACH: John Tyler (11th year)

ASSISTANTS: Matt Slaba, Jason Knebel, Joe Kafka

VITALS: Class A, Region 5A, Southeast South Dakota Conference

TOP PROSPECTS: Sydney Breen (Sr.), Clarissa Medicine Horn (Sr.), Brooke Woods (Sr.), Alex Dvorak (Sr.), Megan Kocer (Sr.), Kim Koupal (Sr.), Alexis Medicine Horn (So.), Emily Brun-sing (Fr.), Rachel Dion (Fr.),

Krista Dvorak (Fr.), Sadie Eitemiller (Fr.), Paula Honomichl (Fr.), Tayleigh Kaup (Fr.), Promise Mace (Fr.), Grace Waters (Fr.), Adrian Weber (Fr.), Kelsey Barnett (8th), Abby Beeson (8th), Aya Drapeau (8th), Aisha Gasim (8th), Tyra Honomichl (8th), Chloe Noteboom (8th), Bethany Sully (8th), Kaitlin Woods (8th), Carolyn Blaha (7th), Josi Bouza (7th), Anpetu Diver (7th), Taylor Eitemiller (7th), Abby Frier (7th), Alease Johannsen (7th), Schylar Juffer (7th), Sierra Juffer (7th), Telsey Kaup (7th), Breanna Kotab (7th), Lacey Leadercharge (7th), Angel Medicine Bear (7th), Janae Patterson (7th), Stevie Peters (7th), Chantal Zephier (7th), Halley Zephier (7th)

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