

Iowa Women Knock Huskers Out Of Big Ten Tourney

HOFFMAN ESTATES, Ill. (AP) — Ally Disterhoft led a balanced attack with 16 points and No. 14 Iowa, the second-seed, turned back seventh-seeded Nebraska 74-65 in the quarterfinals of the Big Ten tournament on Friday.

Samantha Logic and Bethany Doolittle added 15 points and Kali Peschel had 13 off the bench for the Hawkeyes (24-6), who face the winner of Minnesota-Ohio State in Saturday's semifinals.

Iowa led 36-33 at halftime and scored the first five points of the second half before Peschel scored the last five points in a 9-0 run for a 53-38 lead with 14:05 to play. Nebraska (21-10) got within seven at the 7:30 mark and cut it to six and five in

the final minute before Disterhoft and Melissa Dixon combined for four free throws to close it out.

Tear'a Laudermill led the Cornhuskers with 16 points, Emily Cady added 15 and Natalie Romeo and Brandi Jeffery had 14 each.

No. 11 Northern Iowa 71, Bradley 46

ST. LOUIS (AP) — Nate Buss scored a season-high 23 points and No. 11 Northern Iowa overwhelmed Bradley in the second half for a 71-46 rout in the Missouri Valley Conference tournament quarterfinals on Friday night.

The second-seeded Panthers (28-3) advanced without much from Valley player of the year Seth Tuttle, who made his first basket with 13:47 to

go and finished with 10 points on 3 for 9 shooting.

Deon Mitchell added 14 points, five assists and two steals for the winners, who led 34-32 early in the second half before taking control with an 11-0 run. Northern Iowa has won 17 of 18 and faces either Indiana State or Loyola on Sunday in the semifinals.

Reserve Omari Grier had 16 points and Josh Cunningham added 14 points and six rebounds for Bradley (8-24), the 10th seed.

The Braves lost seven of eight to end the season, including a 56-39 blowout at Northern Iowa on Feb. 21.

Buss, who averages 6.6 points, fell just short of his career best of 26 points against Missouri State on Jan. 18, 2014. He was scoreless in 12

minutes in a 74-60 loss at No. 8 Wichita State for the Valley title in the regular-season finale on Feb. 28.

Northern Iowa entered the game fifth in the nation in points allowed per game at 54.6. The Panthers scored 44 points in the second half.

Tuttle had four points, including his first basket on a drive with 13:47 to go, in an 11-0 run that put Northern Iowa in control at 45-32. Bradley went nearly five minutes between points during the drought.

Northern Iowa led comfortably most of the first half, up by as many as 13 points. Bradley surprised with a 10-0 run in the final 2:15, eight points coming from Grier, to cut the gap to 27-25.



JAMES D. CIMBUREK/P&D
Yankton's Austin Johnson shoots from outside as Brandon Valley's Austin Trevino tries to get a hand in his face during the third place game of the District 2AA Boys' Basketball Tournament on Friday at the Summit Center.

Bucks

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phasizing getting inside the post to get good shots, and everyone stepped up."

Three consecutive threes from Sorenson and Tanner Frick set the Bucks up for an early lead by the end of the first quarter 11-5.

A strong offensive and defensive effort sent the Bucks into the locker room ahead 20-7 at the half, with Keenan LaCroix scoring six points and Evan Greenway scoring four points in the second quarter alone.

LaCroix had a total of seven points and seven rebounds at the end of the half. Yankton doubled Brandon Valley's rebounds by the end of the first half, with Yankton putting up 18 and the Lynx with nine.

Brandon Valley's only two players to score in the first half were Austin Trevino with nine points and Tyler Erck with two points.

The Lynx did manage to come within six points of the Bucks multiple times in the fourth quarter, and 40-34 with just over two minutes left in the game, but a quick response from the Bucks gave them the 47-34 win.

LaCroix ended the night with 11 points and eight rebounds, while Sorenson and Frick each added nine points. Greenway also added seven

points and seven rebounds.

Brandon Valley's Trevino scored 18 points, with Alex Waltnr adding another five points.

"It was our best night inside and outside," Haynes said. "But I have to give credit to the Brandon Valley seniors and their team, whose careers and season were on the line tonight. They showed a lot of heart with their fourth quarter comeback."

The Bucks host Watertown Tuesday, giving them a shot to the state championship games.

"We're ecstatic. This is the one thing we've been going for," Sorenson said. "We'll take a night to celebrate, but then we'll turn around and come back to work toward that game."

You can follow Emily Niebrugge on Twitter at twitter.com/ENiebrugge. Discuss this story at [yankton.net](http://www.yankton.net)

YANKTON (14-8)
Keenan LaCroix 4-6 2-3 11, Bradey Sorenson 2-6 3-4 9, Evan Greenway 3-4 1-1 7, Austin Johnson 1-5 2-2 5, Tanner Frick 3-10 2-3 9, Nate Stephenson 0-1 0-0 0, Matthew Fitzgerald 3-5 0-0 6. TOTALS: 16-37 10-17

BRANDON VALLEY (10-12)
Alex Waltnr 2-5 1-2 5, Austin Trevino 6-14 4-4 18, Alex Wilde 0-1 0-0 0, Tyler Erck 1-2 0-0 2, Jackson Choudek 2-8 0-0 4, Rilet Bennett 0-0 0-0 0, Jackson Dziezic 0-0 0-0 0, Spencer Grage 1-5 0-0 2, Carler Klatt 0-0 0-0 0, Ryan Larson 0-2 0-0 2, Wilson Kolbeck 1-2-0 2. TOTALS: 13-39 5-6 34

BRANDON VALLEY 5 11 22 34
YANKTON 11 22 34 47

Three-Pointers: Y 5-14 (LaCroix 1-1, Sorenson 2-5, Johnson 1-5, Frick 1-2, Stephenson 0-1), BV 3-14 (Waltnr 0-2, Trevino 2-7, Wilde 0-1, Choudek 0-1, Grage 1-3). Rebounds: Y 28 (LaCroix 8), BV 21 (Choudek 6). Personal Fouls: BV 14, Y 7. Fouled Out: None. Assists: Y 12 (Frick 5), BV 3 (Waltnr 2). Turnovers: BV 9, Y 8. Blocked Shots: Y 2 (Greenway 2). Steals: BV 5 (Waltnr 1, Trevino 1, Erck 1, Choudek 1, Kolbeck 1), Y 3 (LaCroix 1, Greenway 1, Fitzgerald 1).

City Volleyball Champs



Dakota Drywall won the Yankton Parks & Rec coed volleyball competitive league tournament. Team members include (front) Morgan Zavadii, Sara Livingston, Amy Westrum, (back) Eric Baily, Chad Guenther and Jeremiah Dibley.



Verdesian Life Sciences won the Yankton Parks & Rec men's volleyball league tournament. Team members include Joe Potts, Chad Guenther, Bill Guenther, Tony Guenther, Tony Arens and Matt Kathol.



Dam Fireworks Hot Shots won the Yankton Parks & Rec coed volleyball just for fun league tournament. Team members include (front) Ashley Hovorka, Stephanie Ulmer, Carrie Smith, (back) Lucas Johnson, Sean Beringer and Jason Humpal. Not pictured are Amanda Sparks, Brittany Ulmer, Jenny Johnson and Bryan Brodner.



Don't Bump To Strangers won the Yankton Parks & Rec women's competitive league tournament. Team members include (front) Vanessa Carlson, Rachel Guthmiller, Kari Schoenfish, Cassie Widerga, (back) Stephanie Hein, Marie Menlhaf, Shanna Chytka and Katelyn Warmke.



Inside Outers won the Yankton Parks & Rec women's recreational league tournament. Team members include (front) Becky Koupal, Erica Haas, Ashley Hovorka, (back) Brittany Ulmer, Stephanie Ulmer and Kim Schmidt. Not pictured are Amanda Sparks, Jenny Johnson and Rhonda Karolevitz.



Wing It won the Yankton Parks & Rec women's power league tournament. Team members include (front) Jena Peters, Caitlin Illg, Tara Portillo, (back) Laura Groseth, Kelsey Odens and Tierney Mueller.

USD Men

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sure where exactly we're at in there."

Where are the Coyotes (16-15)?

They enter the Summit League Tournament as the No. 5 seed, where they will face Fort Wayne on Sunday night at 6 p.m. in Sioux Falls, in a field many see as wide open.

Not that the Coyotes are altogether concerned about their projection.

"We were poked to finish eighth, so we don't really care about seeding or any of that," senior Tyler Larson said. "We're going to try to get to the championship game."

Doing that as a No. 5 seed will understandably be a challenge, but the Coyotes have been quick to point out they've beaten every other tournament team this season — splitting with six and sweeping Western Illinois.

"We know we're capable of beating everybody if we play a certain way, with a chip on our shoulder and an unselfishness," Smith said. "When we do those kinds of things, with a defensive mindset, we can hang with anybody."

And the Coyotes have. South Dakota State, the top seed, is coming off a sluggish performance at USD, while No. 2 North Dakota State needed overtime to win both games over Denver, its opponent in the first round.

The Coyotes also won at Oral Roberts, the No. 3 seed, in a performance ORU coach Scott Sutton publicly called

his program's "worst loss" in 14 years. South Dakota then later lost at home by 18 points to Denver, the No. 7 seed.

A 16-point home win Saturday over SDSU has no doubt provided USD — winners in five of six — with some extra juice this week.

"We're playing all these teams in the tournament, and we could beat any one of them," Coyote senior center James Hunter said. "To come in here and do that, is a big thing for our confidence."

"It's just a stepping stone, we're not going to live on this or anything."

Not when the attention quickly turned to preparing for Fort Wayne, the pre-season favorite, but No. 4 seed in the tournament.

The biggest problem for USD in the two games against the Mastodons has been Steve Forbes, a 6-foot-9, 295-pound forward. In those two games, Forbes is 19-of-23 from the field for a combined 45 points.

Working in USD's favor, though, is that five players are averaging 9.2 points in conference games: Tyler Larson (13.1), Brandon Bos (11.1), Casey Kasperbauer (10.0) and Tre Burnette (9.2).

One of the many lines Smith took from his former protégé, Tim Miles, is that you never get beat twice by the same team — which hasn't happened to USD in league play.

"That says something about your team," Smith said. "It's all about steps when you're new."

You can follow Jeremy Hoeck on Twitter at twitter.com/jhoeck. Discuss this story at www.yankton.net

Coyotes

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which begins today (Saturday) in Sioux Falls with USD facing No. 8 Fort Wayne at noon.

"Every time we huddle out, it's 'one team one dream,'" USD head coach Amy Williams said, "and that dream is for us to be back in the NCAA Tournament, and there's one way to make that happen."

A year after winning the Summit League tournament as the fourth seed, the Coyotes have maintained all season that the conference is balanced. They've experienced full well what can happen they have a bad night — USD's three league losses were by 16 at Oral Roberts, by 25 at IUPUI and by 10 at

South Dakota State.

In short: They're not exactly resting on their No. 1 seed.

"We're still going to take one game at a time," sophomore Bridget Arens said. "Anyone in the Summit could have an on day and you could have an off day."

South Dakota State enters the tournament as the No. 2 seed, while Oral Roberts (3), Western Illinois (4) and IUPUI (5) have all proven tough for the Coyotes this season.

"I think it's very evident the parity in our league this year," Williams said. "It's a very tough field, but we're going to be confident heading into it."

The experience of playing in two straight league tournaments — reaching the finals both times — will no doubt aid the Coyotes.

"It helps because we know what to expect, how crazy the crowd is, and how the

outside pressure can affect us," senior Lisa Loeffler said. "I think having that experience, we'll be able to shut it out even more."

The Coyotes have not only relied on their experience this season, they've been able to rely on one of the nation's top offensive units.

South Dakota averages 79.2 points a game, led by senior Raeshel Contreras (15.8), senior Nicole Seekamp (14.5), junior Margaret McCleod (9.5), junior Tia Hemiller (9.1) and Loeffler (6.9).

Perhaps the biggest strength of USD, though, is its depth. It boasts reserves junior Kelly Stewart (6.9), Arens (6.4), freshman Kate Liveringhouse (6.1), junior Heidi Hoff (3.1) and sophomore Jaylah Jackson (2.8).

A season ago, the Coyotes were nearly sent home in the first round. Contreras,

though, hit a game-winning three-pointer just ahead of the buzzer, and that shot propelled USD to the title.

"I knew we had a special team last year, and once we came together, I knew we'd be even better," Contreras said.

Even as the top seed, the Coyotes aren't exactly guaranteed anything. Since the tournament moved to Sioux Falls, the No. 1 seed on the women's side has won the title three times out of six years.

"To me the only difference is that if we're fortunate enough to get a first round win, we'd get the benefit of getting a day off," Williams said.

"We're going to have take care of business."

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