



JAMES D. CIMBUREK/P&D

Yankton junior Megan Mingo watches her approach shot during Monday's round. Mingo shot a season-best 74 to tie for the tournament lead after the opening round.

AA Golf

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grets hamper their final rounds, Sime noted.

"Megan and Hannah have been around a long time. I know they will be ready to go tomorrow," he said. "If those two play well and we have to others play well, we should be in good shape."

Eighth grader Becky Frick and junior Whitney Specht rounded out Yankton's scoring on the first day, each shooting 91. Also for the Gazelles, sophomore Amber Livingston shot 97 and senior Gabby Horton shot 111.

"Becky and Whitney were looking to get down in the 80s. If they get in the 80s, we're right there with Pierre," Sime said. "But we're still in contention, only four behind Pierre. O'Gorman, even with what happened, is only four behind us."

O'Gorman had a golfer disqualified for signing an incorrect scorecard.

The Gazelles, who finished second in 2010 and lost a tiebreaker for second to finish third last season, will try to get over the top today (Tuesday). For Withrow, a senior who is playing in her fourth state tournament and has been the only individual state champion in Gazelles history, a strong team finish would make her prep career especially sweet.

"Our finish as a team is the overall goal, and I'd like to see us finish first," she said. "For me, I'd like to finish strong on the last day, maybe shoot front and back in the 30s rather than have to scramble."

The tournament concludes today at Elmwood, with play beginning at 9 a.m. The leaders will tee off around 10:28 a.m.

You can follow James D. Cimburek on Twitter at twitter.com/aceman904

Williams

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summer without a head coach.

"It was a fast timeline, and kind of an awkward one because of how far after the season it is and where that leaves us with what we have to do next," Saylor said.

Ryan Larsen, who has spent all four seasons with Williams as an assistant, will serve as interim coach in the meantime. Larsen said he was far from surprised that Williams — whom he called "the most complete coach I've been around" — left for bigger things.

"I always knew this wouldn't be his last stop," Larsen said. "He deserves it. He's built an outstanding program, with really good players. And when you're hot, you've got to take advantage."

Echoing those thoughts, Williams was quick to praise the USD community.

"Success comes because you are surrounded by great people and the people, players, coaches and leadership at USD have been truly amazing," he said in a statement. Williams wasn't available for comment Monday.

A native of Gillette, Wyo., and with family still in Wyoming, Williams was naturally drawn to a nearby opening, Saylor said.

"It's one of those things where you know where all your coaches grew up, so when jobs pop open near their home, you wonder," he said. "I knew Colorado State and Wyoming would be jobs he'd be interested in."

While Williams takes over a Rams program that hasn't had a winning season since 2004-05, the Coyotes will look for a coach to take charge of a program that will become eligible for the Summit League and NCAA tournaments next season.

"We just have to find the right person as fast as we can, but that doesn't mean we'll rush it and miss something," Saylor said.

"We need to allow them to work with the kids in the summer, as much as they can under NCAA rules. The sooner the better."

Whether that means USD will look to Division II head coaches, D-I assistants or other avenues, Saylor said he and president Jim Abbott will look down every road.

"We'll uncover every rock and see what's underneath," Saylor said. "It'll be one of the widest nets you'll ever see. I'm going to look at every single angle."

Larsen's first order of business upon learning of Williams' departure was to contact the team's six incoming recruits and ensure that they were still on board.

"I had to let them know what my role is going to be, that I'll be holding the day-to-day stuff gets done," said Larsen, who mentioned that the 2012-13 schedule is still yet to be completed and that the program will still host camps in June.

"I'm really happy to say every single one of them are still com-



COLORADO STATE MEDIA RELATIONS

Ryun Williams address a gathering during his announcement as head women's basketball coach at Colorado State University. Williams' replacement at the University of South Dakota will inherit a Coyote squad that returns two starters and several other contributors. USD also will have Nicole Seekamp, an Australia native, and two transfers become eligible next season.

ing; there wasn't a single sense of hesitation."

Williams was earning \$96,000 annually at USD, but like every other state employee, was on a year-to-year contract.

Will that play a role in the search for a new coach?

"It's another layer we have to work through, but I don't think it's one that will scare everyone away," Saylor said. "There are enough people out there who want to be a head coach at this level."

The Coyotes finished with an RPI of 87 last season, helped by wins over seven teams that competed in a post-season tournament. That kind of success means contract issues shouldn't be an issue, Saylor said.

"Through the transition, we've proven this can work," he said. "There are enough people

that will want to take that challenge."

As confirmed Sunday by graduate assistant Maggie Youngberg, Williams is taking former USD coach Chad Lavin with him to Colorado State. Larsen also confirmed that assistant Mandy Koupal, a Wagner native, is joining them as director of basketball operations.

Brooke Atkinson, who joined the staff as a full-time assistant prior to last season, remains on staff with Larsen.

Whichever candidate gets the job at USD would not only take over a "hot" program, but one that will eventually move into a new basketball arena, Larsen said.

"Whoever gets this job is really falling into a great situation; it's a gold mine," he said. "You don't get jobs that just finished a

23-8 season and a WNIT berth very often. This team coming back is really dangerous."

The next coach inherits a roster that returns two starters for 2012-13, Alexis Yackley and Tempestt Wilson. USD will also have Nicole Seekamp, an Australia native, become eligible, as well as the incoming recruits — two transfers.

Also set to return for the Coyotes are guards Sam Mehr, Pam January, Kelly Stewart and Taylor Moore, and forwards McKayla Knudson and Lisa Loeffler.

"Were they upset? Yeah, but they got over it pretty quick," Larsen said. "They know what kind of team we have coming back, and they're excited to get their chance next year."

You can follow Jeremy Hoeck on Twitter at twitter.com/jhoeck

Indy Car

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since Indianapolis Motor Speedway opened its gates May 10 to begin preparations for Sunday's race. Almost every day since has had some sort of controversy — many bordering on comical — and rumors have run rampant about everything from an alleged owner-led charge to oust CEO Randy Bernard and IndyCar supposedly blocking two teams from fielding cars on Sunday's bump-less Bump Day.

Then came the long list of penalties announced Sunday night, about 30 minutes after practice had concluded for a four-day off period.

IndyCar found 18 different infractions among 13 teams in pre-racing inspection, and track historian Donald Davidson believes the numbers were a one-day record for the series, though fines have never been consistently announced.

Few teams were immune and the entire front row was docked a total of \$70,000 for five penalties split between pole-sitter Ryan Briscoe of Penske Racing, and Andretti Autosport teammates James Hinchcliff and Ryan Hunter-Reay.

Briscoe, in Charlotte on Monday to promote the Indy 500, wasn't sure his Penske team had actually violated the brake rule that brought a \$15,000 fine. Penske team president Tim Cindric confirmed on Twitter that Will Power's car indeed had brake pads that were pushed back from the rotors to eliminate friction, but claimed the team never would have sent Briscoe out with the same pads once Power's had been flagged.

Either way, Briscoe believed IndyCar — behind new race director Beaux Barfield and vice president of technology Will Phillips — had taken a huge step in levying so many fines.

"It's surprising because we haven't seen much of that in the past," Briscoe said. "But I think we are seeing a new guy in charge of the rules now, and maybe in the past, some things have been let past, and I think it's good that teams are being penalized for not abiding by the rules 100 percent. Rules are there to be followed, and rules are made to be enforced and they should be."

That strong stance from the sanctioning body likely came as a shock to team owners — and it came during yet another stretch of off-track drama.

First, Dragon Racing owner Jay

Penske filed a \$4.6 million lawsuit against engine manufacturer Lotus, a legal maneuver that cost his drivers several days of track time as Penske fought to reach a settlement that would permit him to move to Chevrolet.

It left only two Lotus-powered cars in the field, and they've been so far off the pace that many are openly wondering if they should even be allowed in the race. It didn't help that 47-year-old former Formula One driver Jean Alesi, who has never before raced an oval, said he felt "unsafe" in the car and was "concerned" for his fellow competitors because it is so slow.

Rubens Barrichello, who spent 19 years in F1 before moving to IndyCar this season, believes Alesi is handicapped by his Lotus engine.

"It's been very unfortunate that the Lotus power is not up to the speed," Barrichello said. "If we do end up racing with that 10- or 15-mile (speed) difference, it could be a problem for both of the (Lotus drivers). I hope just that he has a safe race."

IndyCar needs Alesi and Simona de Silvestro in the race to avoid not having a full 33-car field for the first time since 1947, but it's possible that the two cars will be black-flagged for failing to maintain a reasonable speed.

There was disappointment Sunday when no team owner threw together a last-minute entry to try to bump one of the Lotus cars out of the field. Both Jay Howard and Pippa Mann indicated they were close to putting together deals, but couldn't get Chevrolet or Honda to give them an engine. That led to rumors it was IndyCar who halted the engines to protect Lotus — an allegation series officials vehemently denied.

Let's not forget the TurboGate saga, either, with Chevrolet losing two appeals trying to prevent Honda from using a new compressor cover on its turbocharger. The defeat has supposedly left powerhouse owner Roger Penske so infuriated he's refusing to speak to Bernard, but yet it's Penske who has a driver on the pole and two more starting on the second row.

Penske, who at least publicly has preached a message of unity and support of IndyCar leaders, goes into the 500 perfect on the season with five poles and four victories. Honda, meanwhile, had only one driver qualify inside the top 10.

So from the outside, it sure looks like a mess for IndyCar. But Bernard is fond of claiming "if press is good press," and if drama gets fans to tune into Sunday's race, then maybe IndyCar knows exactly what it is doing.

State Golf

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Class B Boys

RAPID CITY — Freeman's Arron Lickteig is in a familiar position at the South Dakota State Class B Boys' Golf Tournament, second place.

Lickteig, whose resume includes a pair of runner-up finishes, sits two strokes behind Howard's Cal Wiess after the opening day of the South Dakota State Class B Boys' Golf Tournament on Monday at Hart Ranch Golf Course.

Wiess shot a 76, leading Lickteig (78) and Webster's Spencer Lux (79).

Joining Lickteig in the top 25 is Platte-Geddes' Tate Van Zee, who is tied for 14th at 85.

Webster shot a 252 to lead the team standings, seven strokes ahead of White River. Garretson (260) and Kimball (262) were also in contention.

Platte-Geddes shot a 274 on the opening day, ranking in a tie for eighth.

Class S Girls

RAPID CITY — South Central holds an 11-stroke lead over Clark-Willow Lake entering the final round of the Class B girls' tournament at The Elks Country Club in Rapid City.

The Cougars shot 268, besting CWL's 279. Irene-Wakonda ranks fifth at 290, with Platte-Geddes (310) in seventh and Scotland (314) in ninth in the 12-team field.

South Central's Kristen Shanahan shot an 81 to hold a one-stroke lead over James Valley Christian's Tara Nihart. CWL's Chynna Stevens is two strokes off the pace.

Andes Central junior Kellie Winckler is the top area golfer, shooting a round of 88 to rank ninth in the field. Freeman's Shelby Bauer, Irene-Wakonda's Melissa Hessman and Scotland's Maggie Fiscel are in a tie at 92, ranking 13th.

Also in the top 25 are Irene-Wakonda's Sydney Nielson (94), Platte-Geddes' Joslin Nelson (96) and Andes Central's Krista Winckler (96).

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