Press&Dakotan DAILY DOSE

Daily opinions from the P&D Sports Staff on local and national high school, college and professional sports.



BY JEREMY HOECK

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Our state is embarking on new territory when it comes to Division I athletics. I'm not talking about conferences or opponents or tournaments. No, I mean that for the first time since both South Dakota State and the University of South Dakota joined the D-I ranks, one of the schools is in the market for a head coach in one of the two money sports (basketball or football)

Over the next few weeks, USD will begin screening candidates for a head football coach — after Ed Meierkort was fired last week. Yet, as USD will find out, the state's Board of Regents policy of offering only 1-year contracts for educators

(thus, coaches) will be a kind of handcuff on the search. The school will not be able to guarantee a candidate a long-term contract, which might conceivably be seen as a red flag by an applicant

Until the state changes the policy, at least for athletic coaches — that would cause fairness complaints, though — USD and SDSU will be hamstrung by only being able to promise a coach a 1-year contract. And in the case of USD, such contracts don't exactly come with a lucrative salary. Meierkort's annual salary was \$95,366, according to the latest state information, while his counterpart John Stiegelmeier at SDSU earns

Still, you've got to think the allure of a Division I coaching position at a school that beings playoff eligible in 2012, not to mention upcoming improvements to the DakotaDome, might be enticing enough.

Either way, USD — and its counteparts to the north — is about to find out.

Syracuse Fires Assistant Hoops Coach

SYRACUSE, N.Y. (AP) — Syracuse University fired associate head basketball coach Bernie Fine on Sunday in the wake of an investigation of child molestation allegations against him.

"At the direction of Chancellor Cantor, Bernie Fine's employment with Syracuse University has been terminated, effective immediately," Kevin Quinn, the school's senior vice president for public affairs, said in a statement.

The 65-year-old Fine was in his 36th season at his alma mater. He had the longest active streak of consecutive seasons at one school among assistant coaches in Division I.

Fine's firing comes in the wake of new revelations Sunday, including a third accuser. Syracuse

had placed Fine on paid administrative leave when accusations first surfaced

Two former Syracuse ball boys were the first to accuse Fine, who has called the allegations "patently false."

Zach Tomaselli, 23, of Lewiston, Maine, said Sunday that he told police that Fine molested him in 2002 in a Pittsburgh hotel room. He said Fine touched him "multiple" times in that one incident.

Tomaselli, who faces sexual assault charges in Maine involving a 14-year-old boy, said during a telephone interview with The Associated Press that he signed an affidavit accusing Fine following a meeting with Syracuse police last week in Albany.

Aberdeen Girls Interstate **Hoops Tourney Dec. 2-3**

ABERDEEN — The Aberdeen Family YMCA will host the 31st annual Girls Interstate Basketball Tournament on Dec. 2-3.

The tournanment is open to girls in grades 3-8 and will include teams from the tri-state area. Teams are quaranteed three games unless scheduling dictates otherwise, and individual awards will be given out for first, second and third

Registration deadline is Tuesday, Nov. 15. Entry fee information can be found online at aberdeenymca.org under Events, YMCA Tourna-

For more information, email Dan Grewe at dgrewe@aderdeenymca.org.

Elks Hoop Shoot Finals Dec. 31

The finals of the 40th annual Elks Hoop Shoot competition will be held Saturday, Dec. 31, at 10 a.m. at the Summit Activities Center in Yankton.

Boys and girls winners from local schools will advance to the finals in the following age categories: 8-9, 10-11, 12-13. A players' age on April

1, 2012 determines their category. Winners from those age groups will advance to the state level, which will be held in Pierre on

USD's Search For New Football Coach Comes With A Wrinkle

Saturday, Jan. 14, 2012. For more information, contact Ray Kooistra at

Rosenblatt's Bleachers Go To Iowa School

OMAHA, Neb. (AP) — The outfield bleachers at Omaha's Rosenblatt Stadium have been taken down and are on their way to a new home

The Omaha World-Herald reports 150 volunteers helped dismantle the bleachers Saturday. The bleachers will be installed at Al Leber Field at St. Albert Catholic Schools in Council Bluffs lowa. The College World Series was played at

Rosenblatt from 1950 to 2010. The games then moved to a new stadium in downtown Omaha. The Omaha Zoo Foundation bought the Rosenblatt property and plans to demolish the stadium to make way for zoo expansion.

Last month, about 90 stadium seats were taken down and moved to Wahoo's Sam Craw-

Kansas Fires Coach Gill After 2 Years

KANSAS CITY, Mo. (AP) -Turner Gill arrived at Kansas after taking a perennially downtrodden program at Buffalo to unimaginable heights. He's leaving after a two-year stretch in which the Jayhawks slipped back to their familiar place in the Big 12 cellar.

Gill was fired Sunday after a meeting with Athletic Director Sheahon Zenger, one day after the Javhawks lost 24-10 to rival Missouri and finished the season 2-10.

"After a thorough evaluation of our football program, I have concluded that new leadership is necessary to place us on the path toward competing for championships in the Big 12 Conference,' Zenger said in a statement. "I come to this conclusion reluctantly, because I have the utmost respect for Turner Gill as a quality individual who wants only the best for the young men he coaches.'

Gill was hired by Zenger's predecessor, Lew Perkins, and given a five-year, \$10 million contract that was befitting of a high-profile coach. But he never lived up to the expectations that came with it, losing the first game he coached at Kansas to lower-division North Dakota State.

The high-water mark came in Gill's second game, when the Jayhawks stunned then-No. 15 Georgia Tech last season. But that was the only victory over a ranked team, and Kansas would lose 17 of the next 21 with Gill on the sideline, the lone conference win coming against a Colorado program that fired its coach immediately after the defeat.

SCOREBOARD

BOWLING

YANKTON BOWL INDUSTRIAL LEAGUE HIGH TEAM GAME: H&K Oil 954 HIGH TEAM SERIES: H&K Oil 2491 HIGH INDIVIDUAL GAME: Mike Diede 268. John Palu 268, Mike Kellen 264, Ryan Wever-stad 258, Don Casey 253 HIGH INDIVIDUAL SERIES: Mike Diede

741, JJ Peterson 703, Don Casey 680, John Palu 675, Ryan Weverstad 665 STANDINGS: Yankton Redi-Mix 69 Dakota Trailer 60, H&K Oii 55.5, Wholesale Supply 41.5, Yankton Redi-Mix #2 38, H&K Oii #2 32, Smidt Captain & Crew 29, KPI-JCI 27, Don's Auto 27, Steiner's Locker 26

CLASSIC LEAGUE HIGH TEAM GAME: Fastenal 936 HIGH TEAM SERIES: Spectacle Shop

2557 HIGH INDIVIDUAL GAME: Jerry Peterson 300 (perfect game), Casey Weverstad 265, Tom Huether 254, Pat King 246, Todd Moody 245 HIGH INDIVIDUAL SERIES: Jerry Peteson 773, Todd Kautz 682, Casey Weverstad 682,

Tom Huether 682, Tyler Novak 676 STANDINGS: Barta Electric 59.5, Eisenbraun & Associates 56, Coca-Cola Classic 55, Fastenal 47, Spectacle Shop 41.5, Rotten Apples 28.5, Plath Chiropractic 27.5, Yankton Motor 9

SPARETIME LADIES
HIGH TEAM GAME: Huether Seamless HIGH TEAM SERIES: Huether Seamless

Gutters 2510 HIGH INDIVIDUAL GAME: Mindy Huether 299, Candy Olson 248 (errorless), Stacy Barta 246, Judy Barta 233 HIGH INDIVIDUAL SERIES: Mindy Huether

687, Candy Olson 654, Stacy Barta 646, Judy STANDINGS: Huether Seamless Gutters

13-3, The Glass Cutters 11-5, Vogt Cleaners 9-7, Marshmellows 9-7, First National SC 9-7, Truck Trailer 8-8, EASW 8-8, Jansen's Upholstery 7-9, Sealand Marine 5-11, First Dakota 1-15 HIGHLIGHTS: Betty Adam 5-7; Barb Olson

3-10, 5-10; Jody Masterson 3-5-7; Elaine List 2-5-7; Sharon Scissons 6-7-10

FOOTBALL

NCAA FCS PLAYOFFS First Round, Saturday, Nov. 26 James Madison 20, Eastern Kentucky 17

Old Dominion 35, Norfolk State 18
Stony Brook 31, Albany (N.Y.) 28
Central Arkansas 34, Tennessee Tech 14 Second Round, Saturday, Dec. 3 Old Dominion (10-2) at Georgia Southern Central Arkansas (9-3) at Montana (9-2), 1

Maine (8-3) at Appalachian State (8-3), 1 Stony Brook (9-3) at Sam Houston State New Hampshire (8-3) at Montana State (9-

Lehigh (10-1) at Towson (9-2) 2:30 n m James Madison (8-4) at North Dakota State (10-1), 3 p.m. Wofford (8-3) at Northern Iowa (9-2), 4 p.m.

NCAA DIVISION II PLAYOFFS

Coyotes

Taylor Moore are not afraid of

any stage and they showed that

"We do have a lot of freshman

a lot of really good freshmen,"

Wilson said. "It was good to see a

lot of them stepping up and play-

Hegge led the Coyotes with 17

North Greenville 58, at Mars Hill 32 Northwest Missouri State 38. Midwestern

Winston-Salem 35, California (Pa.) 28 Delta State 42 North Alahama 14 Pittsburg State 31, Washburn 22 Minnesota-Duluth 24, Colorado State-

Quarterfinals, Saturday, Dec. 3 North Greenville (11-2) at Delta State (10-

est Missouri State (11-2) at Pittsburg New Haven (11-1) at Winston-Salem (12-0),

Wayne State (Mich.) (12-1) at Minnesota-

Quarterfinals, Saturday, Nov. 26 Marian (Ind.) 49, St. Francis (III.) 7 Georgetown (Ky.) 26, St. Francis (Ind.) 14 St. Xavier (III.) 22, MidAmerica Nazarene

Carroll (Mont.) (11-1) 17, Azusa Pacific Semifinals, Saturday, Dec. 3 Parings TBA

THE AP TOP 25

The Top 25 teams in The Associated Press college football poll, with first-place votes in parentheses, records through Nov. 26, total points based on 25 points for a first-place vote through one point for a 56th place vote. through one point for a 25th-place vote, and pre-Record Pts Pv 12-0 1 500 1

| 1. LSU (60) | 12-0 | 1,500 | - 1 | | | | | |
|--|------|-------|-----|--|--|--|--|--|
| 2. Alabama | 11-1 | 1,440 | 2 | | | | | |
| Oklahoma St. | 10-1 | 1,286 | 2 | | | | | |
| Stanford | 11-1 | 1,281 | | | | | | |
| Virginia Tech | 11-1 | 1,196 | 6 | | | | | |
| 6. Arkansas | 10-2 | 1,060 | 3 | | | | | |
| Houston | 12-0 | 1,055 | 8 | | | | | |
| 8. Oregon | 10-2 | 1,054 | 5 | | | | | |
| Boise St. | 10-1 | 1,053 | | | | | | |
| Southern Cal | 10-2 | 1,053 | 10 | | | | | |
| Michigan St. | 10-2 | 866 | 11 | | | | | |
| 12. Georgia | 10-2 | 825 | 13 | | | | | |
| 13. Oklahoma | 9-2 | 808 | 12 | | | | | |
| South Carolina | 10-2 | 796 | 14 | | | | | |
| 15. Wisconsin | 10-2 | 749 | 15 | | | | | |
| Kansas St. | 9-2 | | 16 | | | | | |
| 17. Michigan | 10-2 | 570 | 17 | | | | | |
| 18. TCU | 9-2 | 488 | 19 | | | | | |
| Baylor | 8-3 | 468 | 2 | | | | | |
| 20. Nebraska | 9-3 | 352 | 22 | | | | | |
| 21. Clemson | 9-3 | 258 | 18 | | | | | |
| West Virginia | 8-3 | 196 | NF | | | | | |
| 23. Penn St. | 9-3 | 151 | 20 | | | | | |
| Southern Miss. | 10-2 | 78 | NF | | | | | |
| Florida St. | 8-4 | 58 | NF | | | | | |
| Others receiving | | | | | | | | |
| Texas 45, Cincinnati 2: | | | | | | | | |
| gia Tech 16, BYU 13, Missouri 13, Virginia 9 | | | | | | | | |
| Tulsa 7, Louisville 3, N. Illinois 1. | | | | | | | | |

NATIONAL FOOTBALL LEAGUE

| AMERICAN CONFERENCE | | | | | | | | | |
|---------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------------|---|---|---|--|--|--|--|
| East | | | | | | | | | |
| W | Ļ | Ţ | Pct | PF | PA | | | | |
| | - | 0 | ./2/ | | 223 | | | | |
| 6 | 5 | 0 | .545 | 256 | 241 | | | | |
| 5 | 6 | 0 | .455 | 261 | 281 | | | | |
| 3 | 8 | 0 | .273 | 212 | 206 | | | | |
| South | | | | | | | | | |
| W 8 | L 3 | T 0 | Pct .727 | PF 293 | PA 179 | | | | |
| | 8 6 5 3 W | W L 8 3 6 5 5 6 3 8 Sou W L | W L T 8 3 0 6 5 0 5 6 0 3 8 0 South W L T | W L T Pct 8 3 0 .727 6 5 0 .545 5 6 0 .455 3 8 0 .273 South W L T Pct | W L T Pct PF 8 3 0 .727 331 6 5 0 .545 256 5 6 0 .455 261 3 8 0 .273 212 South W L T Pct PF | W L T Pct PF PA 8 3 0 .727 331 225 241 5 6 5 0 .545 256 241 281 3 8 0 .273 212 206 South W L T Pct PF PA | | | |

AREA CALENDAR

Tennessee

Monday, November 28 BASKETBALL, MEN'S Tabor at USD (7:30 p.m., KYBB-FM, KKYA-FM) BASKETBALL, WOMEN'S Tabor at USD (5 p.m., KYBB-FM, KKYA-FM) GYMNASTICS, PREP YHS/S.F. Washington at Mitchell (6:30 p.m.) Tuesday, November 29

GYMNASTICS. PREP Vermillion at

.545 226 212

.273 138 200 .000 150 327

WRESTLING, PREP S.F. Washington at YHS (7:30 p.m.); Vermillion at Lennox WRESTLING, JV S.F. Washington at

N.Y. Jets at Washington, noon

Indianapolis at New England, noon Baltimore at Cleveland, 3:05 p.m.

St. Louis at San Francisco, 3:15 p.m.

Dallas at Arizona, 3:15 p.m. Green Bay at N.Y. Giants, 3:15 p.m. Detroit at New Orleans, 7:20 p.m.

Oakland at Miami, noon Tennessee at Buffalo, noon

BASKETBALL, MEN'S MMC at Northwestern (8 p.m., KVHT-FM) BASKETBALL, WOMEN'S MMC at Northwestern (6 p.m., KVHT-FM)

| North | | | | | | | | | |
|---------------------|---------------|---------------|----------|------|---------------|---------------|--|--|--|
| Baltimore | W 8 | L 3 | T | .727 | PF 272 | PA 182 | | | |
| Pittsburgh | 7 | 3 | 0 | .700 | 220 | 179 | | | |
| Cincinnati | 7 | 4 | 0 | .636 | 259 | 215 | | | |
| Cleveland | 4 | 7 | 0 | .364 | 165 | 216 | | | |
| West | | | | | | | | | |
| | W | L | Т | Pct | PF | PA | | | |
| Oakland | 7 | 4 | 0 | .636 | 260 | 274 | | | |
| Denver | 5 | 5 | 0 | .500 | 205 | 247 | | | |
| San Diego | 4 | 6 | 0 | .400 | 236 | 259 | | | |
| Kansas City | 4 | 6 | 0 | .400 | 144 | 252 | | | |
| NATIONAL CONFERENCE | | | | | | | | | |

 Pct
 PF
 PA

 .636
 270
 225

 .600
 228
 228

 .364
 257
 251
 Philadelphia

| | vvasiliigtori | _ | - 1 | U | .007 | 100 | 222 | |
|-------|---------------|----|-----|-----|-------|-----|-----|----|
| South | | | | | | | | M |
| | | W | L | Τ | Pct | PF | PA | |
| | New Orleans | 7 | 3 | 0 | .700 | 313 | 228 | |
| | Atlanta | 7 | 4 | 0 | .636 | 259 | 227 | E |
| | Tampa Bay | 4 | 7 | 0 | .364 | 199 | 291 | Fi |
| | Carolina | 3 | 8 | 0 | .273 | 252 | 305 | |
| | | | No | rth | | | | |
| | | W | L | Т | Pct | PF | PA | N |
| | Green Bay | 11 | 0 | 0 | 1.000 | 382 | 227 | |
| | Chicago | 7 | 4 | 0 | .636 | 288 | 232 | |
| | Detroit | 7 | 4 | 0 | .636 | 316 | 246 | P |
| | Minnesota | 2 | 9 | 0 | .182 | 214 | 295 | |
| West | | | | | | | | |
| | | W | L | Т | Pct | PF | PA | |
| | San Francisco | 9 | 2 | 0 | .818 | 262 | 161 | |
| | Seattle | 4 | 7 | 0 | .364 | 185 | 232 | |
| | Arizona | 4 | 7 | 0 | .364 | 213 | 256 | |
| | St. Louis | 2 | 9 | 0 | .182 | 140 | 27 | hi |
| | Thursday's Go | mo | | | | | | |

Green Bay 27, Detroit 15 Dallas 20, Miami 19 Baltimore 16, San Francisco 6 Sunday's Games Arizona 23, St. Louis 20

Tennessee 23, Tampa Bay 17 Cincinnati 23, Cleveland 20 N.Y. Jets 28, Buffalo 24 Houston 20, Jacksonville 13 Carolina 27, Indianapolis 19 Atlanta 24 Minnesota 14 Oakland 25, Chicago 20 Washington 23, Seattle 17 New England 38, Philadelphia 20 iego, 4:15 p.

Monday's Game N.Y. Giants at New Orleans, 8:30 p.m

Thursday, Dec. 1 Philadelphia at Seattle, 8:20 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 4
Kansas City at Chicago, noon
Atlanta at Houston, noon
Denver at Minnesota, noon
Carolina at Tampa Bay, noon Cincinnati at Pittsburgh, noon

nday, Dec. 5 San Diego at Jacksonville, 7:30 p.m. **TRANSACTIONS** HOCKEY National Hockey League
DETROIT RED WINGS—Reassigned F
Fabian Brunnstrom to Grand Rapids (AHL).
OTTAWA SENATORS—Recalled F Nikita
Filatov from Binghamton (AHL). Reassigned F

Stephane Da Costa to Binghamton. PHOENIX COYOTES—Reassigned Maxim Goncharov to Portland (AHL). American Hockey League AHL—Suspended Grand Rapids D Garnet xelby one game for a spearing incident during

riday's game against Oklahoma City. COLLEGE

ILLINOIS—Fired football coach Ron Zook.
lamed Vic Koenning interim football coach.

KANSAS—Fired football coach Turner Gill. MEMPHIS-Fired football coach Larry

SYRACUSE—Fired men's assistant basket all coach Bernie Fine. SATURDAY'S TRANSACTIONS

American League
OAKLAND ATHLETICS—Named Chili Davis itting coach.
TORONTO BLUE JAYS—Acquired 2B Luis

FOOTBALL National Football League INDIANAPOLIS COLTS—Waived LB Adrian NEW YORK GIANTS—Placed WR Michael

Clayton on injured reserve. Signed DE Justin Trattou from the practice squad. Signed QB Ryan Perrilloux to the practice squad. HOCKEY National Hockey League
BUFFALO SABRES—Recalled F Paul

Szczechura and D Brayden McNabb from Rochester (AHL). Brunnstrom from Grand Rapids (AHL).

ECHL
ELMIRA JACKALS—Announced D Matt
Campanale was returned to the team by Binghamton (AHL) and F Louie Caporusso and F Jack Downing were recalled by Binghamton.
Central Hockey League
BLOOMINGTON BLAZE—Placed D Aaron Dawson on league suspension for one game Signed F Vladimir Nikiforov.

2-6 Tabor College Bluejays today

VITERBO (1-5)
Laquita Becker 0-2 2-2 2, Dani Templin 0-4 4-4 4, Paige
Babiash 1-6 0-0 2, Brooke Anderson 2-9 0-0 4, Jess Pavlinec 1-

3 1-2 3, Jenna Engh 2-6 0-0 4, Ally Ostrander 1-4 0-0 2, Haylea Halvorson 2-2 0-0 6, Jocelin Finn 0-2 0-0 0, Jenna Brandt 2-6 0-

SOUTH DAKOTA (3-0)
Tempestt Wilson 4-5 0-0 12, Alexis Yackley 3-7 0-0 6, Annie

remipestr wilson 4-5 U-U 12, Alexis Yackley 3-7 0-0 6, Annie Roche 2-3 1-2 5, Amber Hegge 7-11 3-4 17, Jodie Boss 3-4 0-0 6, Ashley Olson 2-3 0-0 4, Sam Mehr 2-6 0-0 6, Pam January 0-4 0-0 0, Kelly Stewart 6-7 3-3 15, Taylor Moore 3-9 0-0 9, McK-ayla Knudson 1-3 02 2, Lisa Loeffler 0-6 0-0 0. TOTALS: 33-68 7-11 82.

At the Half: SD 38 VIJ 12: 3-point Goals: SD 9-22 (Wilson

4-4, Yackley 0-1, Hegge 0-1, Olson 0-1, Mehr 2-5, January 0-1, Moore 3-9), VU 3-16 (Babiash 0-2, Anderson 0-4, Engh 0-4, Ostrander 0-2, Halverson 2-2, Enn 0-1, Straub 1-1); Rebounds: SD 41 (Hegge 6), VU 31 (Pavlinec 6); Personal Fouls: VU 11, SD 10;

Fouled Out: None; Assists: SD 20 (Yackley 8), VU 7; Turnovers. VU 27, SD 10; Blocked Shots: SD 7, VU 1; Steals: SD 20 (Yack-

0 4, Jada Straub 1-2 0-0 3. TOTALS: 12-46 7-8 34.

(Monday) at 5 p.m.

NBA Owners, Players Reach Tentative Deal

NEW YORK (AP) — After nearly two years of bickering, NBA players and owners are back on the same side.

'We want to play basketball,' Commissioner David Stern said. Come Christmas Day, they

The sides reached a tentative agreement early Saturday to end the 149-day lockout and hope to begin the delayed season with a marquee tripleheader Dec. 25. Most of a season that seemed in jeopardy of being lost entirely will be salvaged if both sides approve the handshake deal.

Barring a change in scheduling, the 2011-12 season will open with the Boston Celtics at New York Knicks, followed by Miami at Dallas in an NBA finals rematch before MVP Derrick Rose and Chicago visiting Kobe Bryant and the Lakers. Neither side provided many

specifics about the deal, and there are still legal hurdles that must be cleared before gymnasiums are open again. 'We thought it was in both of

our interest to try to reach a resolution and save the game," union executive director Billy Hunter said. After a secret meeting earlier

process back on track, the sides met for more than 15 hours Friday, working to save the season. Stern said the agreement was "subject to a variety of approvals and very complex machinations, but we're optimistic that will all come to pass and that the NBA season will begin Dec. 25." The league plans a 66-game sea-

this week that got the broken

son and aims to open training camps Dec. 9, with free agency opening at the same time. Stern has said it would take about 30 days from an agreement to playing the first game.

Tanagers

From Page 8

girls back who are ready to contribute to the team score on a regular basis.

The Tanagers lost crucial members from last year's state meet squad. These athletes include Amber Walker and Elly Melby. The Tanagers will remain strong thanks to a core of upperclassmen. Returning this year and look-

ing for success is junior Morgan

Hower. Hower will be competitive in the all-around honors for Vermillion. Hower competed last year in the vault at the State Gymnastics Meet in Watertown. Senior Cassie Donahoe and

junior Rory Tucker will be strong on beam. Tucker will be looked at for strong performances on floor exercises as well; she competed in floor exercises during last year's state meet. Junior Alexis Reich, and fresmen Jamie Moos will help Tucker and look to be competitive on floor exercises.

The bars will be taken by Hower, junior Grace Olson, Moos, and Donahoe.

Moos, and Reich will bring ex-

perience on the vault for the Tan-

Also on the Vermillion roster are Jade Fostvedt (Jr.), Teddi Settles (Fr.), Cheyenne Mallort (8th), and Maddie Mockler (8th).

Vermillion faces stiff region competition this year with opponents such as Wagner, West Central, and Madison all ready to get the season rolling. Other programs in the state will be tough as well. The Tanagers will use their ex-

perience to make a run for a high showing at the State Gymnastics Meet held Feb. 17-18 2012 at the Swiftel Center in Brookings.

Gazelles

From Page 8

Youmans said. "It's fun to see them coming in as youngsters and watching their growth and development. As the team's eldest member,

Taggart will assume the leadership role for the Gazelles this season. The junior will be counted on to share her experience and lead by example, Youmans said. She really isn't a lead-by-

words person, but she has the ability to lead by action," he said. She's a really hard-worker, and it's contagious when you're around her. Whether you like or not, sometimes you inherit that position of being that go-to per-

"Ready or not, she's that girl for us, and she knows the responsibility is on her shoulders."

From top to bottom, this year's roster features girls who have grown up around the sport and have watched previous competitive-level members perform against some of the best talent in e state.

Now, because of their experience in gymnastics and in other activities, they are ready for the big stage, Youmans said.

"The key to success in this sport is year-round involvement," he said. "We've created opportunities, and a lot of the girls have taken advantage of those. There's plenty of nervousness about whether or not they're ready for the varsity level, but it's time to see where we stand with some of these girls."

Yankton will also looking to see if it can improve in the Eastern South Dakota Conference (ESD) after last season's sixthplace finish. "Last year was that turning-

the-corner year, where we did some things we haven't done in a long time," Youmans said. "Certainly my expectations are even higher this year, with this group we have and where we could be

state will once again focus on

toppling three-time defending state champion Watertown. The Arrows bring back their top five all-around athletes from last year's team, highlighted by allaround champion Jalyn Carrico The development process in

Watertown that has resulted in

state titles is the kind of progres-

sion Yankton is trying to emulate, Youmans said. "They are to the place where we want to be at in three years," he said. "They've got that group they have developed from third grade to seventh grade, and then

level. "And we're finally to that point now, where we've got some seasoned girls working their way up," he added. "We're not there yet, but that's what we're working toward."

carry that over into competitive

ing really well.'

against Creighton.

Like his coach, McCray is happy that Nebraska has a stronger offense so far this sea-

"It's a lot easier to outscore a team than to sit there and try to defend them all the time," he

Nate Wolters had 19 points, hitting 13 of 14 free throws for South Dakota State. Prince had 11 for the Jackrabbits. Brandon Ubel, Dylan Talley and McCray each had 12 points for Nebraska. The Jackrabbits close the sea-

son-long eight game road trip, and open Summit League play, next weekend with games at IUPUI on Thursday and at Western Illinois on Saturday. Both games begin at 7 p.m. local time. SOUTH DAKOTA ST. (4-3) White 0-4 0-0 0, Callahan 9-13 0-0 25, Fiegen 1-8 0-0 2,

Willie 0-4 0-0 0, Callaham 5-13 0-0 25, Fregeri 1-6 0-0 2, Wolters 3-14 13-14 19, Carlson 0-2 0-0 0, Prince 5-12 1-2 11, Monaghan 1-3 0-0 3, Horstman 1-5 0-2 2, Heemstra 1-1 0-0 2. Totals 21-62 14-18 64. NEBRASKA (4-1)
Ubel 5-7 1-2 12, Diaz 4-9 0-0 8, Richardson 1-3 4-5 6,

Spencer 7-14 4-4 18, Walker 0-3 0-0 0, McCray 5-9 0-0 12, Rivers 3-5 1-1 8, Niemann 0-0 0-0 0, Talley 3-7 5-6 12, Fox 0-0 0-0 0. Totals 28-57 15-18 76. Halftime—Nebraska 35-28. 3-Point Goals—S. Dakota St. Bergin (Callahan 7-11, Monaghan 1-3, White 0-1, Prince 0-2, Carl-son 0-2, Horstman 0-3, Wolters 0-4), Nebraska 5-14 (McCray 2-2, Ubel 1-2, Rivers 1-2, Talley 1-3, Spencer 0-1, Walker 0-2, Richardson 0-2), Fouled Out—None. Rebounds—S. Dakota St. 33 (Callahan 7), Nebraska 41 (Ubel 8), Assists-S, Dakota St. 10 (Wolters 8), Nebraska 13 (Spencer 8). Total Fouls—S. Dakota St. 16 Nebraska 20. A—9.107.

points and six rebounds in 16

minutes as Wilson played six

minutes in the second half but

did not shoot to finish with 12

Williams, had a fine game with

eight assists, five steals, six

points and just one turnover.

Milford, Neb., added with nine

(1-5) with six points. Pavlinec

pulled down six rebounds.

Yackley, much to the liking of

Moore, a 5-10 freshman from

Havlea Halvorson led Viterbo

The Coyotes, 3-0, will host the

REGIS 77, SIOUX FALLS 69, OT: DENVER The University of Sioux Falls overcame a 10 point deficit in the first half to tie the game up at 32 at the end of regulation and force overtime, but was outscored in extra minutes Saturday night in Denver Colo. where they fell to Regis University 77-69

second consecutive night with a career high 21 points and nine rebounds David Maxwell went 2-2 from the line to chip in 11 points and four rebounds for the Cougars DORDT 86. BLACK HILLS STATE 74: RAPID CITY —Cliff Warner scored 19 points to lead No. 16 Dordt past Black Hills State 86-74 at

After a big first half, James Rader finished 9-

16 from the field to lead USF in scoring for the

City on Saturday. Austin Katje added 17 points while Jordan Vogel had a double-double with 12 points 10 re-

the U.S. Bank Thanksgiving Classic in Rapid

WESTERN ILLINOIS 65, NORTH DAKOTA 62: GRAND FORKS, N.D. (AP) — Terell Parks

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had 17 points and 11 rebounds and Western Illinois held on to beat North Dakota 65-62 on Sat-Ceola Clark contributed 10 points and nine

assists for the Leathernecks (2-2), who led down the stretch and made five free throws in the final 25 seconds — three by Tommie Tyler and two by Parks. Jamal Webb had a game-high 22 points for North Dakota (3-2). Webb also had nine re-

Patrick Mitchell scored 12 for the Sioux. IOWA 82, IPFW 72: IOWA CITY, Iowa (AP) Matt Gatens scored 22 points to help the lowa Hawkeyes snap a two-game skid with an 82-72 victory over IPFW on Saturday. Zach Mc-Cabe and Bryce Cartwright each scored 12 points for the Hawkeyes (4-2), who held off a

bounds. Josh Schuler added 14 points and

late surge from the Mastodons. Frank Gaines scored a game-high 25 points on 10-of-14 shooting to lead IPFW (2-2), which trailed by only four with 2 minutes left. Gaines. who hit three 3-pointers, played only 29 minutes because of foul trouble.

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