STATE-U FOOTBALL | THE MEN IN CHARGE

Veteran Mentors Very Similar

Glenn, Stiegelmeier Each Came Home To Lead Alma Maters, Try To Build With Quality Student-Athletes

BY JAMES D. CIMBUREK
james.cimburek@yankton.net

One caught the coaching bug during part of a Hall of Fame career, the other caught the "disease" because of an opportunity to be a student assistant.

One came home to coach after making a name for himself elsewhere, the other made his name at home.

One bleeds "Coyote Red," the other does things "the Jackrabbit Way."

But look at how they build programs and what they try to instill in the young men within those programs, and University of South Dakota head coach Joe Glenn and South Dakota State University head coach John Stiegelmeier aren't that far apart.

Coaching Resumes

Joe Glenn

Doane	1976-79	21-18-1
N. Colorado*	1989-99	98-35
Montana**	2000-02	39-6
Wyoming	2003-08	30-41
South Dakota	2012	1-9
Career		**189-109-1**

* - NCAA Division II champions in 1996, 1997
** - NCAA Division I-AA champions in 2001

John Stiegelmeier

S.D. State	1997	100-75
Career		**100-75**

Two veteran coaches leading their alma maters will lead their teams onto the field when USD and SDSU renew their football rivalry at Coughlin-Alumni Stadium on Saturday. While their fortunes this season are drastically different — SDSU is 7-3 and fighting for a FCS playoff spot while USD is fighting for a victory at 1-9 — both hope to see their teams show the determination and high character that each has spent their careers trying to instill into those under their care.

"Giving Back"

Midway through his undergraduate years at USD, Joe Glenn was left with a decision. Majors in business and journalism hadn't suited him, and he had to decide what he wanted to do with his life.

"I realized after two years of college that what I really wanted to do with my life was give back to the game that had given me so much," he said. "I realized that I couldn't be a player in the game much longer, but I still wanted to be around it. It had helped me so much in my life, as a youth, as a guy in college."

The quarterback and receiver scrambled to complete his health, physical education and

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A Pair Of Sideline Veterans

ABOVE: University of South Dakota head coach Joe Glenn speaks to an ESPN3 sideline reporter at halftime of last Saturday's home game with Northern Iowa at the DakotaDome in Vermillion. Glenn, a 1971 USD alum and three-time national champion, was hired by his alma mater last fall.

RIGHT: South Dakota State head coach John Stiegelmeier sports a Hobo Day beard as he speaks to the media after an Oct. 13 home victory over Western Illinois. Stiegelmeier assumed the reins at SDSU in 1997.

JAMES D. CIMBUREK/P&D

State-U Rivalry Is Back, And We're Excited

BY JAMES D. CIMBUREK
james.cimburek@yankton.net

For the past several years I have shared stories of covering games between the Coyotes and Jackrabbits — commonly referred to as "State-U" games — to my University of South Dakota-heavy sports staff. Most of them had not experienced a State-U game, and had no way to understand how intense the rivalry was between the two schools. They'd only heard stories from seniors who heard them as freshmen.

Beginning Saturday they — and many more from the student bodies of USD and SDSU — will have their own stories to tell.

USD and SDSU renewed their basketball rivalries when USD joined the Summit League last year. Now the schools will renew that rivalry on the football field, too.

James D. **CIMBUREK**

Some of the most exciting non-championship moments of my reporting career have revolved around games involving USD and SDSU playing each other. The one that stands out in my memory the most would be the 1999 football game between the schools.

Going in, the game was billed as a matchup between two of the top running backs in the nation. SDSU had Josh Ranek, a Tyndall native that went on to have a great career in the Canadian Football League. USD had their own star back in Jamel White, who played in the NFL from 2000-2005 before a brief stint in the CFL.

Fans came prepared for the game, with each side sporting running yardage counters. Both sides came ready to cheer, as the 6,500 "thoroughly entertained fans" (according to our story from USD alum and Hall of Famer Hod Nielsen) made the Dome as loud as I heard it in the days before the permanent metal roof in 2001.

Both backs lived up to their billings. Ranek rushed for 248 yards and four touchdowns, adding one catch for eight yards. White had just 120 yards and a score on his 29 carries, but added six catches for 105 yards. SDSU, by the way, won the game 43-30.

(Of course, part of what made that day memorable was the other game Hod and I covered that day, the 1999 Class 11AA championship game between O'Gorman and Yankton, one of the great title showdowns in state football history. That twinbill — this time with the new 11AAA championship — will take place in 2013 when SDSU makes the return trip to Vermillion.)

Ever since SDSU began the transition to NCAA Division I — and USD followed four years later — the most-asked question on each side of the fence has been, "When are you playing USD/SDSU again?" We answered that question in men's basketball last year, renewing that rivalry with games at each site, first in Brookings. (Women's basketball had played a non-conference game in 2010.) I had the pleasure of covering the State-U women's game in Brookings and shooting the men's game in Vermillion, and I had forgotten how much energy there is in the building for those contests. We have tried to capture some of that energy in this section, though a rivalry this big can't be contained in 10 measly pages.

We hope to have whetted your appetite for the renewal of this great football rivalry, and we hope that you have your tickets. Other than some standing room tickets that may come available, this game has been a sellout for a long time.

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

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