

Coyote Men Score First Win Under James

SAN MARCOS, Texas — South Dakota rallied from 11 points down with eight minutes to go to knock off Texas State, 57-56, Monday night at Strahan Coliseum.

It was the first head coaching victory for Joey James who got a double-double from junior guard Brandon Bos and three 3-pointers during a 15-0 run during the comeback from sophomore guard Casey Kasperbauer. The Coyotes moved to 1-3 while Texas State fell to 0-5.

Kasperbauer was the top three-point shooter in Summit League play a year ago, but made one of his first 13 long-range shots to start this season. Consider that long forgotten. Kasperbauer's first 3 trimmed the lead to 51-47. His second 3 gave USD its first lead of the second half, 52-51, with 3:45 to go. He hit a third on the next possession to complete the run.

Texas State got 19 points from Wes Davis and 16 points and 13 rebounds from Joel Wright. Davis answered Kasperbauer's third 3 with a trey of his own that cut the Coyotes' lead to 55-54 with 2:33 remaining.

Both teams had two possessions each before Bos scored a putback off a Trey Norris miss with 18 seconds to go. It was the 15th point and 10th rebound of the game for Bos. Wright scored in the lane as time expired after the Bobcats failed to get a look at a game-tying 3.

Texas State built its lead by scoring the final nine points of the first half and taking a 34-25 advantage into the break. Trevor Gruis brought the Coyotes within six points at 46-40 midway through the second half, but Phil Hawkins answered with two free throws, Davis made 1 of 2 foul shots and Hawkins got an easy bucket that made it 51-40 with 8:15 remaining.

South Dakota forced four turnovers and held the Bobcats to 2 of 10 shooting in the final eight minutes. Bos and Kasperbauer combined to score 15 of the Coyotes' final 17 points. USD also blocked eight shots, committed a season-low seven turnovers and had four steals. Gruis had six points, five rebounds and four blocks.

The win capped a four-game road trip for the Coyotes to begin the season. South Dakota will host Grace-land at 4:15 p.m. Saturday in its home opener. The game will follow a women's game between South Dakota and Wyoming.

S. DAKOTA 57, TEXAS ST. 56
S. DAKOTA (1-3)
Flack 3-5 2-3 8, Gruis 2-7 2-3 6, Norris 2-6 0-2 4, Bos 6-11 2-2 15, Thosby 3-10 0-0 6, Kasperbauer 3-9 0-0 9, Rowson 0-2 0-0 0, Pomlee 1-3 0-0 2, Robertson 0-2 2-3 2, Larson 2-4 0-0 5. Totals 22-59 8-13 57.
TEXAS ST. (0-5)
Kosmen 2-8 0-0 5, Gant 2-10 0-0 4, Wright 6-19 4-6 16, Hawkins 1-4 2-2 4, Davis 7-12 2-4 19, Gilder-Tilbury 1-3 1-2 3, Stern 1-1 1-2 3, Bermudez 0-1 0-0 0, Smith 0-1 0-0 0, Ball 1-2 0-0 2. Totals 21-61 10-16 56.
Halftime—Texas St. 34-25. 3-Point Goals—S. Dakota 5-17 (Kasperbauer 3-8, Bos 1-2, Larson 1-2, Norris 0-1, Pomlee 0-2, Thosby 0-2), Texas St. 4-15 (Davis 3-5, Kosmen 1-4, Hawkins 0-1, Smith 0-1, Gilder-Tilbury 0-1, Bermudez 0-1, Wright 0-2). Fouled Out—None. Rebounds—S. Dakota 36 (Bos 10), Texas St. 46 (Wright 13). Assists—S. Dakota 9 (Norris 5), Texas St. 11 (Wright 4). Total Fouls—S. Dakota 12, Texas St. 15. A—2,114.

MISSOURI 78, IUPUI 64: COLUMBIA, Mo. (AP) — Jabari Brown scored a career-high 24 points and Jordan Clarkson added 22 to help Missouri defeat IUPUI 78-64 on Monday.

The Tigers finished 5-0 under coach Tim Fuller, who filled in for Frank Haith as the head coach served an NCAA-mandated suspension. Haith will return to the bench for the team's Thanksgiving matchup against Northwestern in Las Vegas.

Missouri (5-0) scored 13 of the game's first 17 points and never trailed en route to winning its 22nd consecutive contest at home and its 77th in a row against non-conference opponents at Mizzou Arena.

Missouri's lone returning starter from a 23-11 season, Brown shot 7-of-12 from the field and 5-of-8 from behind the arc.

Ja'Rob McCallum scored 14 points and Ian Chiles added 12 for IUPUI (1-5), which shot 50 percent from the field in the first half but only 39.4 percent in the second.

OMAHA 83, SOUTH CAROLINA STATE 67: ORANGEBURG, S.C. (AP) — Mike Rostampour scored 19 points, shooting 7 of 11 from the field, and pulled down 9 rebounds to lead Omaha to an 83-67 win over South Carolina State Monday night.

CJ Carter had 17 points for Nebraska-Omaha (4-3). John Karhoff, who has now scored 1,008 points in his career, had 13 and 6 rebounds.

The teams were even throughout the first half with the Mavericks taking a 43-42 lead into the break. The score was tied seven times with five lead changes.

It was a different story in the second half as a Devin Patterson layup stretched the score to 45-42. A Jordan Smith 3-pointer moved South Carolina State (2-5) to within 2 at the 17:53 mark, but that was as close as the Bulldogs could come. The Mavericks then went on a 19-3 run to lead 68-50 midway through the period.

Darryl Palmer led the Bulldogs with 14 points.
NO. 8 SYRACUSE 75, MINNESOTA 67: LAHAINA, Hawaii (AP) — C.J. Fair scored 16 points and had 10 rebounds as No. 8 Syracuse held off Minnesota 75-67 on Monday in the first round of the Maui Invitational.

USD Women Get Early Commit

Chance Meeting With S.D. Coaching Legend Meyer Helps Kansas Prep Junior Bonar Decide On Coyotes

BY JEREMY HOECK
jeremy.hoeck@yankton.net

A chance meeting with a legendary South Dakota coaching figure ultimately landed the University of South Dakota women's basketball program a prized recruit for 2015.

Megan Bonar, a 6-foot-1 junior forward from De Soto, Kan., verbally committed to the Coyote coaching staff on a visit to Vermillion on Sunday following USD's win over Boise State.

According to Bonar's high school coach and father, Jim Bonar, the family ran into former Northern State men's

coach Don Meyer on the street in Estes Park, Colo. The coach's advice to Megan Bonar?

"He gave her the advice to block out all the other stuff and go where she felt at home," Jim Bonar told the Press & Dakotan. "That's good advice from a great coach, and she listened."

As a sophomore last season for De Soto High School, Bonar averaged 15.8 points, 7.8 rebounds, 2.8 assists, 2.1 steals and 3.75 blocks per game. Academically, she ranks first out of 188 students in her class.

Ultimately, her early college choice was based on

comfort, Jim Bonar said. "It came down to relationships," he said. "USD was a late entry into the recruiting process, but the coaches and team felt like family to her."

"There was a comfort level beyond what she had experienced on any other visit she has ever taken."

Bonar becomes USD's first known verbal commit for the 2015 class, and comes from a familiar area. De Soto is located between Lawrence and Kansas City, near the same area where current Coyote freshman Jaylah Jackson hails from — nearby Olathe, Kan.

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



SUBMITTED PHOTO

Megan Bonar, a 6-foot-1 junior forward from De Soto, Kan., verbally committed Sunday to the University of South Dakota women's basketball program while on visit to Vermillion. Bonar becomes the first commit for USD's 2015 recruiting class.

'Balanced' 9B All-State Team Released



JEREMY HOECK/P&D

Avon running back Brandon Kocmich, 2, is pursued by Hamlin's Dustin Quiram, 24, during the S.D. Class 9B Championship Game on Nov. 15. Both players were named to the Class 9B All-State Team, as were Avon's Devin Tolsma and Jacob Knodel, and three others from Hamlin.

Avon Places 3 On Elite List

SDFBCA: Hamlin Puts Four, Harding County Places Three On 9B Squad

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

The All-State football team is often a nod to the champion, or the teams playing in the championship game. This year's S.D. Class 9B All-State Team does that, but also recognizes talent from across the state.

Players from 12 programs were honored in the selection of the Class 9B All-State team, as selected by the South Dakota Football Coaches Association and announced on Tuesday. Four more programs had players on the honorable mention list.

"I think there were quite a few good football players in our class. In past years I have seen the state champion get four or five all-staters, but this year we only received 3," said Avon head coach Tom Culver. "Part of that is the number of good football players on teams around the state."

State runner-up Hamlin led the way with four selections to the all-state team, while state champions Avon and semifinal qualifier Harding County each had three selections. Burke-South Central, Wall and Hitchcock-Tulare had two selections each, with Kadoka, Dell Rapids St. Mary, Faulkton, Castlewood, Langford and Canistota each boasting one.

There were only 22 players honored, as no player was nominated at kicker.

Avon's Brandon Kocmich was one of the top rushers in the state, posting 1,895 yards and 28 touchdowns on the season. The senior averaged just under 12 carries a game, posting 13.3 yards per carry.

"If he'd have had the carries some of the other kids had, he might have rushed for 2,500 yards," Culver said. "There were some games where only played into the second quarter on offense."

One of the factors in Kocmich's

success was his speed.

"Once he got to the second level he was gone, even against some pretty good teams," Culver said. "There were times when a defender would have the angle on him, and he'd outrun that angle."

"You'd like to have at least one athlete like him every year."

Defensive end Jacob Knodel was a power on the Pirate defense, recording 27 solo and 26 assisted stops, including 9.5 tackles for loss and one sack. Knodel's presence on the line was something that could be noticed in the title game, according to Culver.

"Hamlin had run a lot behind (all-state tight end) Tristen Leiseth. So whatever side he would go to, we'd send Jacob to that side," Culver said. "After the first series or two, they started running away from him."

Knodel's domination up front also helped clear the way for linebacker Devin Tolsma, who was in on a whopping 102 solo and 101 assisted stops, including 19 tackles for loss.

"Jacob and our line were able to keep the blockers off of Devin, which allowed him to run free," Culver said. "Devin's not just quick, but he's also tough."

Tolsma was also a quick learner on the field, Culver said.

"If Devin saw something in a practice or in a game, he would mention it to us," he said. "On that extra point that won us the championship, he said that they'd been shading us to the outside, and if we ran up the middle we could score."

"As a coach, that's a great thing to have. The kids see things better, they have better angles."

Leiseth finished with just 11 catches for 202 yards and three touchdowns, but his value and the value of all-state center Alex Holzwarth were proven as a blockers for a running game that generated nearly 3,300 yards on the season.

"Those two were a big part of it," said Hamlin head coach Jeff Sheehan. "Tristen was good on the outside and, if we ran inside, it was typically behind Alex."

Holzwarth also executed his ball-handling abilities to perfection. "I don't remember a snap in shotgun (formation) that he missed," Sheehan said. "He was also one of the few centers that pulls. He gets there quick."

Linebacker Brody Grantham was a disruptive force in all phases of the game for Hamlin. Besides his 99 tackles — including 12 for loss and four sacks — he also picked off two fumbles and recovered five fumbles.

"He was the leader on our defense, on both sides of the ball, really," Sheehan said. "He had a good knack of getting to the ball. He was very physical."

Defensive back Dustin Quiram was also a disruptive force, picking off five passes and recovering two fumbles. He finished with 39 tackles on the season.

"He was a big reason why teams didn't throw well against us," Sheehan said. "He had three picks returned for touchdowns in the last three years. He was a very good cover corner."

Quiram also helped solidify the interior defense during the state championship game.

"We moved him up to linebacker," Sheehan said. "He filled holes for us as needed. He was a big playmaker for us."

Reece Jensen helped plow the way for a Harding County running game that averaged 215.5 yards per game. He was also a solid receiver, ranking second on the team with 12 catches for 177 yards and two scores.

Defensively for Harding County, linebacker Steven Koch posted a team-best 134 tackles (52 solo), three sacks and two fumble recoveries, while defensive back Harley Mollman had 57 tackles (28 solo) and five interceptions.

Wall's quarterback-receiver duo of

quarterback Lane Blasius and receiver Trevor Anderson were selected. Blasius passed for 1,859 yards and 23 touchdowns, including 63 for 1,123 yards and 17 touchdowns to Anderson.

Guard Sam Hazel helped clear the way for a Burke-South Central running game that averaged 7.2 yards per attempt and scored 39 touchdowns in 10 games. Punter Turner Serr averaged 40 yards per attempt, putting five of his 16 attempts inside the 20-yard line.

Guard Leon Maxwell helped clear the way for Dell Rapids St. Mary to rush for 3,310 yards on the season. He recorded 30 pancake blocks, as well as another 20 "de-cleaters" on plays where he was a pulling blocker.

Running back Chandler Sudbeck rushed for 1,782 yards and 22 touchdowns on the season, averaging 8.9 yards per carry. He also caught 18 passes for 466 yards and seven touchdowns, and was 3-8 passing for 4-7 yards. He finished his career with 5,460 all-purpose yards and 53 touchdowns.

Langford Area's Drew Planteen was an all-purpose offensive weapon at receiver for the Lions, finishing with 26 catches for 436 yards and five scores, and rushing for 673 yards and eight scores on the season.

Defensive tackle Eli Hofer and linebacker Cole Chaplin were key members of a Hitchcock-Tulare defense that allowed 17.8 points per game. Hofer posted 51 tackles, including two sacks. Chaplin had 63 tackles.

Faulkton defensive tackle Lane Meyer finished with a team-best 95 tackles (17 solo), including three sacks.

Castlewood defensive end Lucas Ching recorded 68 tackles, including nine sacks, and two interceptions.

Canistota's Nick Hofer averaged 17.9 yards per kickoff return and 24 yards per punt return on the season.

You can follow James D. Cimburek on Twitter at twitter.com/JCimburek. Discuss this story at www.yankton.net

Falls City Sacred Heart Wins Nebraska Class D2 With 63-14 Victory Over Stuart

Eds: APNewsNow. Falls City Sacred Heart 63, Stuart 14.

LINCOLN, Neb. (AP) — Charles Dunn passed for five touchdowns and ran for another, and top-ranked Falls City Sacred Heart won its first state football championship since 1994 and its seventh overall with its 63-14 vic-

tory over No. 9 Stuart in the Class D2 final Monday.

The Irish (13-0) scored 56 straight points after falling behind 8-0 early. Dunn threw touchdown passes of 14 yards to Colin Niemeyer and 23 yards to Sean Strasheim to give Sacred Heart the lead. After Austin Malone returned a punt 43 yards for a touch-

down, Dunn ran 11 yards for a TD and threw touchdowns of 12 yards to Sawyer Kean and 58 yards to Malone.

Dunn finished 11 of 16 for 234 yards, and Kean ran 17 times for 134 yards and two touchdowns. Malone caught three passes for 95 yards.

Alex Kunz passed for 161 yards and ran for 70 for the Broncos (11-2).

D1 — EXETER-MILLIGAN 20, HEMINGFORD 18: LINCOLN, Neb. (AP) — Kyle Jensen caught the go-ahead touchdown pass with 2:03 left and made his third interception at the goal line a little over a minute later to secure Exeter-Milligan's 20-18 come-from-behind victory over Hemingford in the Class D1 state championship football game Monday.

The top-ranked Timberwolves (13-0) won their first title after finishing as runners-up a year ago.

James Sluka rallied Exeter-Milligan from an 18-0 second-