

Glenn: USD 'Needs A Win'

BY JEREMY HOECK
jeremy.hoeck@yankton.net

VERMILLION — Nobody around the University of South Dakota football team is hiding the implications of today's (Saturday) game at Missouri State.

Simply put, the Coyotes can't afford another loss and an 0-3 start in the Missouri Valley Football Conference.

"This is a must-win for us," said head coach Joe Glenn, whose team sits 1-4 overall prior to today's 1 p.m. matchup with the winless Bears (0-6, 0-3). "You talk about two teams fighting it out to get a victory, we both need a win as bad as anybody in college football right now."

"We need a win; something to validate what you're doing," he added, following a long pause. "We need a win for our school, for Vermillion and for our state."

Though hampered by mistakes through its first two league games, USD hasn't exactly been out of reach in either contest. The Coyotes lost by three to Illinois State and by a touchdown last week to Western Illinois — both at the DakotaDome.

Not much of a consolation, however, said junior linebacker Tyler Starr.

"A loss is a loss; it's not a win," said Starr, fourth on the team in tackles with 34. "You could say we competed with those teams, but we know we're better than that. We're clearly not getting mistakes fixed, so it's on us as players to step up and make the right decision."

Now, USD steps away from Vermillion and stares an 11-game road losing streak in the face. The Coyotes haven't won a road game since the 2010 upset of Minnesota — a span that includes three FBS games.

"One of our goals is to try to end this road streak," Starr said. "It'd be huge for us to get that done, get a win and start rolling."

Aside from dropped passes, fumbles and penalties, the Coyotes have been bitten by the big play over the last two weeks. First was a 79-yard go-ahead touchdown against Illinois State, then came a 66-yard go-ahead touchdown last week.

Asked if there have been any surprises so far in the MVFC, red-shirt freshman Ryan Hillier pointed to the big-play potential on any given snap.

"You knew it was a really good conference, probably the best in the country," Hillier said. "We were just one play away. Coming in for films on Sunday and Monday, we could see that we were playing good, but that one play got us."

Today's opponent, Missouri State, may not boast the end result of many touchdowns (just seven total), but its offense has been able to move the ball. The Bears rank last in the league in scoring (11.5), but are third in passing offense with 236.5 yards per game.

Missouri State uses much the same offensive scheme that Montana and Colgate used against the Coyotes, and with great success. Hillier said he expects to see the zone read, veer, spread-you-out style again today.

"Both of those other teams exposed us, so we think we need some redemption," Hillier said. "We need to prove that we can stop an offense like this when we see one."

Taking away FBS losses to Kansas State and Louisville, Missouri State has a minus-seven turnover margin (15 turnovers to eight takeaways) in its four FCS games. Junior quarterback Ashton Glaser has thrown 12 interceptions, but was replaced in the second half last week by sophomore back-up Kierra Harris.

"There's no question, they're a good team," Glenn said. "They're a little bit like us. They've been snake-bitten with turnovers, but their defense is playing well."

In the case of the USD defense, it will see a shakeup in the secondary.

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IUPUI Clips Coyotes 3-1

BY JEREMY HOECK
jeremy.hoeck@yankton.net

VERMILLION — In the 30 minutes between walking off the court and emerging from the makeshift locker room, the University of South Dakota volleyball team held an intense, wide-ranging impromptu meeting.

Some things needed to get squared away following a seventh loss in eight matches.

The second place-team in the Summit League, IUPUI, continued the frustration for the Coyotes by winning 25-12, 20-25, 25-17, 25-21 on Friday at the DakotaDome.

In all, there were 25 attack errors, eight service errors and many other sources of concern for USD (8-12, 2-6).

"At this level in college athlet-

ics, you absolutely need to play tough and motivated every single time," head coach Matt Houk said after the extended post-match chat.

"That's what we talked about, that we're repeating things that create failure, not success."

Dropping to 0-4 at their new "Den" on the second level of the dome, the Coyotes had their sixth straight match with a sub-.200 attack percentage (at .126). The first set Friday was even worse, at negative-.027, allowing the Jaguars to roll.

The Coyotes — mirroring their season to this point — responded by a strong second set, hitting .366 and taking the Jaguars out of system.

If only USD could duplicate that effort every time, according to senior setter Bailey Lupardus, who

was thrust into the setting role and recorded 32 assists.

"I definitely feel we'll be a better team next time," Lupardus said. "We'll change what we need to change, and get better."

IUPUI (14-7, 7-2) went back to their balanced offensive ways in the third set, recording 22 kills and just four errors in a 25-17 victory.

The Jaguars continued that momentum into set four, jumping in front 21-12. The Coyotes, however, made a furious comeback and got within 21-23. Following a timeout, a USD serve went long and the match was soon over.

"In black and white stats, we had way too many errors in games one and four," Houk said. "But it comes down to so much more than that."

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DAVID LIAS/VERMILLION PLAIN TALK
USD's Kendall Kritenbrink (12) goes on the attack, moving the ball past two IUPUI defenders during Friday's volleyball action in the DakotaDome Friday. IUPUI beat the Coyotes 3-1.

YANKTON CONTINUES DOMINANCE OF MITCHELL



JAMES D. CIMBUREK/P&D
Yankton's Kellen Soulek, 79, nearly picks off a pass from Mitchell's Matt Larson, 10, during the first half of their Eastern South Dakota Conference football game on Friday at Crane-Youngworth Field. The Bucks won 40-0, continuing a string of victories over the Kernels dating back to the 1987 post-season.

Bucks Blank Kernels 40-0



JAMES D. CIMBUREK/P&D
Yankton's Evan Schroeder, 30, leaps to try to gain more yards on a punt return during the Bucks' 40-0 victory over Mitchell on Friday at Crane-Youngworth Field.

BY CHRIS RILEY
sports@yankton.net

After a rash of injuries and consecutive losses derailed their undefeated season, Yankton went into Friday's game against Mitchell needing to find some rhythm and confidence, and most importantly, staying injury free. Mission accomplished.

A swarming defense led the Bucks (6-2, 6-0 ESD) to a 40-0 Eastern South Dakota Conference victory over the winless Kernels at Crane-Youngworth Field in a solid if unspectacular performance.

"There are still a lot of things we want to work on and need to improve at but after the last two weeks the best thing is we stayed healthy tonight," Bucks head coach

Arlin Likness said.

Yankton's defense held Mitchell (0-8) to only 170 yards. If you take away a first-quarter 53-yard run by Kernel quarterback Matt Larson, Mitchell averaged only 2.5 yards per offensive play.

The Bucks defensive front completely shut down the Kernel running game, allowing only 94 yards on 36 carries with that 53-yard gain included while the Bucks rushed for 209 yards themselves on the same number of touches.

Along with stopping the Kernel rushing attack, Yankton's secondary only allowed Larson to pass for 76 yards on 5 for 12 passing while intercepting the Mitchell sophomore two times, one of those resulting in a 55-yard touchdown return by J.J. Hejna.

"When you get turnovers it gets everyone pumped up," the junior said of his third-quarter interception and score.

The Bucks had a plus-14 turnover ratio during the 5-0 start, but they had lost that battle in each of the past two defeats.

"We talked about changing the turnover ratio," Likness said. "J.J. has played very well and that was nice to see him get a pick and take it to the house."

Yankton got off to a quick start, another constant during the run of success this season, when sophomore Jordan Lightner found the endzone on a 6-yard dive less than four minutes

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Soccer: Bucks Stuff Lincoln For Title Berth



JAY HUMMEL/SUBMITTED PHOTO
Yankton's Osmar Pacheco corrals the ball during the Bucks' 2-0 victory over Lincoln on Friday in Rapid City. Yankton advanced to the Class AA boys' finals with the win.

RAPID CITY — The Yankton Bucks advanced to the championship game of the South Dakota State Soccer Tournament after a 2-0 victory Friday over Sioux Falls Lincoln in the semifinals at Rapid City.

Osmar Pacheco scored off a penalty shot 30 minutes into the first half, while Andrew Hummel headed in a corner kick from John Dannenbring in the 48th minute.

Derek Brenner highlighted a strong defensive effort for the Bucks.

Yankton will play Spearfish in the title game today (Saturday) at 5:30 p.m. Central.

Girls: Rapid City Central 3, Yankton 0

RAPID CITY — Rapid City Central blanked Yankton 3-0 in the Class AA girls' consolation semifinals on Friday in Rapid City.

Katie Greenway stopped 10 shots in goal for Yankton. Sophomore Raquel Cole added two saves.

Yankton will look to finish its season on a positive note as it takes on Sioux Falls Washington today (Saturday) in the seventh place match. Start time is 12:30 p.m. Central.

A Boys: Vermillion 6, Sturgis 2

RAPID CITY — The Vermillion Tanagers earned their first-ever state soccer championship match berth with a 6-2 victory over Sturgis in the Class A boys' semifinals on Friday.

Vermillion will face Harrisburg in the final. The Tigers advanced with a 1-0 victory over Huron.

College Women: Fort Wayne 3, USD 0

VERMILLION — Fort Wayne's Arienne Mason came off the bench to score two second-half goals and lead the Mastodons to a 3-0 victory over South Dakota. The goals were the second and third of the year for Mason.

The Coyotes had several opportunities to score early but failed to capitalize. Three minutes into the game Erin Bello struck a header off of a Teagan Eberle corner kick that Fort Wayne goalkeeper Sam Pavlika was able to corral for a save.

Just over ten minutes later South Dakota and Bello had a similar opportunity to put some points on the board but again Pavlika came up with the save. Pavlika's successive punt soared over the heads of the USD defenders to a streaking Rachel Good who took advantage of the one-on-one match up with Coyote keeper Jen Staefler to put the Mastodons up 1-0.

The USD midfield did a nice job of possessing the ball and stringing together passes, but they were never able to connect on a through-ball and get a clear look at the IPFW goal.

South Dakota will be back at it again Sunday at the USD Soccer Complex. They face the Oakland Golden Grizzlies Sunday at noon.

Cross Country: Harrisburg Sweeps 3A Titles

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

BERESFORD — The Harrisburg Tigers came into the Region 3A cross country meet knowing their girls had a very good chance of winning the title. Their boys had a chance too, but needed a strong effort to overcome a tightly-packed field.

The Tigers swept team honors at the meet, the qualifier for next week's South Dakota State Cross Country Championships, Oct. 20 at Broadland Creek Golf Course in Huron.

"We knew our girls were favorites coming in. We've run against these teams all year," said Harrisburg head coach Kevin Kroger. "But the boys, we were just hoping to get them to state in the top three. They really preformed well today."

"To get both team championships, we've never done that

before. It's very exciting."

Harrisburg's boys got a strong effort from sophomore Greyson Zamora, who pulled away down the stretch to win the title. He clocked a 17:16.85 to finish just over 10 seconds ahead of Dakota Valley's Graham Bacon.

"He's been steadily improving all year," Kroger said of Zamora. "The last three weeks he's started to slowly show that he's capable of that. But this is, by far, his best run of the year."

Bacon spent much of the race letting Vermillion senior Nathan Ford lead the pack. Ford wore down in the wind and finished fifth, but Bacon finished two seconds and three places ahead of him.

"I was just going to follow the guy in first, draft him and



JAMES D. CIMBUREK/P&D
Dakota Valley's Graham Bacon finishes second in the boys' race at the Region 3A cross country meet on Friday in Beresford. Vermillion's Nathan Ford, left, finished fifth.

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