



RICH REMMERS/WATERTOWN PUBLIC OPINION
Yankton's Mimi Garcia returns a shot during a No. 4 singles match at the Eastern South Dakota Conference girls' tennis tournament on Thursday in Watertown. Yankton finished fourth in the event.

YHS Earns Fourth In ESD Tennis

Knoff Wins Flight Five Singles Title For Gazelles

WATERTOWN — The Yankton Gazelles, led by flight five champion Anne Knoff, took home fourth place in the Eastern South Dakota Conference girls' tennis tournament, held Thursday in Watertown.

The event was delayed due to rain and was completed late Thursday evening.

Brandon Valley won the team title with 310 points, followed by Aberdeen Central (238), Watertown (216) and the Gazelles (160). Huron finished fifth at 160 points, followed by Mitchell (104), Pierre (34) and Brookings (12). Harrisburg does not have a tennis program.

"Yankton had to play extremely well to get fourth," said Yankton head coach Matt Termansen. "We beat Huron in two of three doubles matches and flight one doubles won over Huron for third place sealed the fourth place finish over Huron. We knew coming in we had a chance to get anywhere from third to sixth, depending on how well we played."

Knoff improved to 25-2 on the season, avenging both of her regular season setbacks in the process. She beat Brandon Valley's Logan Hawkins 8-4 in the semifinals, then downed Mitchell's Allison Buckley 8-6 in the championship.

"To win a ESD championship as a freshman is pretty special," Termansen

said. "She added a second place finish in third flight doubles with Mimi Garcia, so had a great day."

Also in singles play for the Gazelles, senior Kaitlyn Frank advanced to the finals at flight three before dropping an 8-3 decision to Brandon Valley's Hanna Mutschelknaus.

"I am extremely proud of senior Kaitlyn Frank. She played her best tennis of the year, all while being really sick," Termansen said. "She beat Allie VanderWeide from Watertown in the semifinals, who had only lost one match the entire year. She ended up getting second, and then added a third place finish in flight one doubles."

Senior Sarah Rockne placed fourth at flight one. Sophomores Mimi Garcia (flight four) and Anna Kokesh (flight six) each lost in the consolation finals of their respective flights. Senior Maddie Logue went 0-2 at flight two for the Gazelles.

Knoff and Garcia teamed up to finish second at flight three doubles, falling to Watertown's Abbey Rieber and Hailey Hauger 8-2 in the final. Rockne and Frank teamed up to finish third at flight one. Senior Kim Cap teamed with Kokesh to advance to the consolation final at flight two.

The Gazelles conclude the season at the state tournament, Oct. 9-11 in Rapid City.

Summit

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ing healthy extremely important."

Fogg, a 6-foot-4 post, came to USD from American University (Washington, D.C.), while Duffy, a 5-foot-11 guard from Rapid City, transferred from Colorado State — where she was the Mountain West Conference Sixth Player of the Year.

"It'll be good for us to have them in practice, they'll make us better," Williams said.

When it comes to replac-

ing Harrington (last season's Summit League tournament MVP), the Coyotes are likely to move McCloud into a starting role, Williams said.

McCloud, a 6-foot-2 Rapid City native, played 17 minutes a game last season and led the Summit League in field goal percentage (59.9).

"That's the good thing, Margaret has played significant minutes for two years," Williams said. "We'll ask her to step into a new role, so she'll have to have more sustainability with more minutes."

The Coyotes open the 2014-15 season Nov. 14 at Drake, and will play four road games before the Nov. 24 home opener with UC Irvine.

Tough Ending To Season Drives Huskers

BY ERIC OLSON
AP Sports Writer

LINCOLN, Neb. (AP) — The sour ending to last year chased Nebraska into the offseason. Despite a breakout performance for the men's basketball team, all the Cornhuskers can remember is March.

"As far as we look at it," Shavon Shields said, "we didn't really do anything last year."

This is the mindset for the Huskers heading into their first preseason practice on Sunday, and coach Tim Miles likes it.

"They want to win," he said, "and they have an appetite for work."

It would have been easy for his players to bask in the glow of their fourth-place finish in the Big Ten — following wins in eight of their last nine regular-season games — and the program's first NCAA tournament appearance since 1998.

They played to capacity crowds in their first year at Pinnacle Bank Arena and beat two top-10 opponents in Michigan State and Wisconsin.

But some of the joy was sucked out of the season when they blew an 18-

point lead against Ohio State in the Big Ten tournament opener, and then lost to Baylor by 14 in the NCAAs.

"We lost our momentum like that," Miles said, snapping his fingers, "so I think they remember that part more than they remember all the accolades that went with their great run to end the Big Ten season."

Nebraska is picked as high as second in the Big Ten and 11th nationally in preseason publications. The Huskers also are in line for their first preseason ranking, and second ever, since they were No. 25 to start 1992-93.

The hype is understandable. The Huskers return almost everybody from last season's 19-win team, including Big Ten scoring leader Terran Petteway. Senior center Moses Abraham, a transfer from Georgetown, is among an intriguing group of newcomers that also includes promising freshmen in point guard Tarin Smith and forward-center Jake Hammond.

Among the key concerns entering practice are strengthening the center spot and identifying a true point guard.

Walter Pitchford creates matchup problems at center because of his 3-point shooting ability, but the 6-foot-10,

237-pound junior doesn't play big in the post. The 6-9, 252-pound Abraham was a strong defensive presence in the middle for Georgetown but not much of an offensive threat. Hammond was a force in the middle at Comanche (Okla.) High, but how his game transfers to the Big Ten is unknown.

Defensive specialist Benny Parker played the most minutes at the point after Tai Webster began struggling last season. Webster returned to school with more confidence, Miles said, after he started all six games for New Zealand in the FIBA World Cup.

Parker and Webster will compete for minutes with Smith, who was a two-year starter at powerhouse St. Anthony High in Jersey City, N.J. Miles said Smith's minutes will depend on how quickly he picks up the defensive system. The coach, however, has no doubts about Smith's athleticism.

"The other day he went down the lane in one of our workouts and jumped off the wrong foot, the left foot, and dunked it left-handed over Moses or Walter," Miles said. "You're like, 'What just happened?'"

Bucks

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The Arrows found life in at the end of the first half, but missed a 36 yard field goal with four minutes left.

Offensively, Yankton tallied 248 yards to Watertown's 88 in the first half.

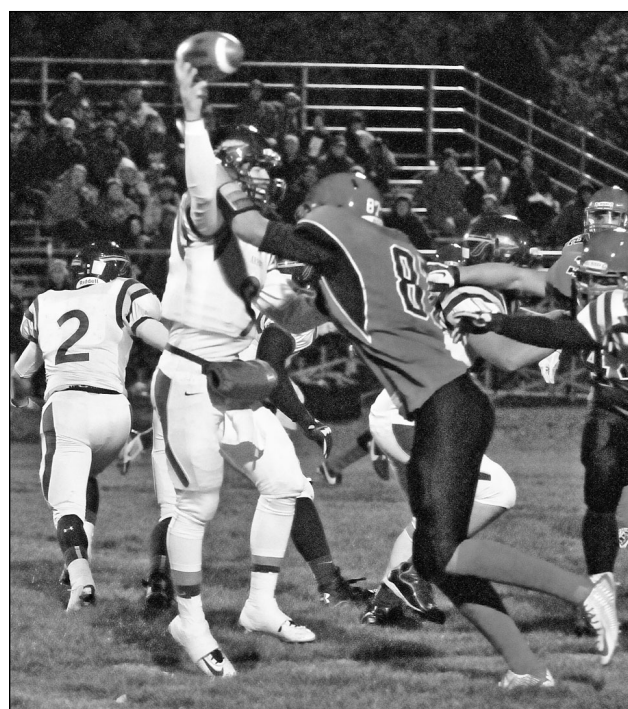
"We played very well and the defense came out with a new look and it really confused them," Lightner said. "We were able to get the job done. But, we need to keep eating and stay fast. If we continue to stay aggressive we should be ready to roll."

The Bucks held the ball for eight minutes in the third quarter, which set up a five yard touchdown rush from Lightner with 11:17 left in the fourth quarter.

"In the third quarter, we struggled a bit to start, but we were able to put together a great drive, which melted the clock," Likness said. "We couldn't have asked more from them on that."

With eight minutes remaining, Yankton put its second unit on offense, but after minus-18 yards, Likness put his first team back in.

"We had 11 guys rushing at us," Likness said. "It proved they weren't ready to play. There is room for im-



JAMES D. CIMBUREK/P&D
Yankton's Evan Greeneway hits Watertown quarterback Taylor Lindahl as Lindahl threw during their Eastern South Dakota Conference football game on Friday at Crane-Youngworth Field.

provement and that is something we will have to work on."

The Bucks were able to hold onto the 30-0 victory and earn its first shut-out in over 18 games.

"We accomplished our goals against Watertown," Lightner said. "The defense got the team a shutout, what

else can you ask for?"

Unofficially, Yankton tallied 334 total yards in the win. Kuchta led the Bucks with 157 all-purpose yards and a touchdown. Lightner added 44 rushing yards and three scores. Strahl threw for 148 yards on 12 completions.

"I played pretty good in the first half," Kuchta said. "I

had some good holes from my lineman, but after that I kind of got tired and didn't really hit the hole as hard as I would like to."

Likness knows his team needs to clean up the turnovers in order to continue their success.

"We played pretty well," he said. "We had two turnovers I wish we didn't have, other than that, it was solid. I killed the momentum by putting the second team in and they didn't do as well as I would have liked. Other than that, we were up to snuff."

The Bucks have little time to celebrate the win, as they travel to Aberdeen Central on Monday to finish its homecoming game. The game will start at 4 p.m. with a half to play, with the score 20-17 in favor of the Golden Eagles.

"It is going to be hard," Kuchta said. "We have a practice on Saturday and then have to be ready to leave and go at seven in the morning on Monday. After that, we are looking for Pierre. It will be a tough week, but I know we can get through it as a team."

You can follow Nick Robinson on Twitter at twitter.com/RobinsonNick2013. Discuss this story at www.yankton.net.

USD Men

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Tre Burnette (Williston State) and Zach Dickerson (Eastern Illinois).

Then there were two freshmen added to the roster, Logan Power (Lincoln, Neb.) and Dejon Davis (Bloomington, Minn.).

And so, Smith and his staff is faced with quite a challenge to blend those elements together, he said.

"It's a challenge, but it's exciting at the same time," Smith said. "It's one of the reasons you love to coach. You love the Xs and Os, you love going to practice every day."

Getting everyone on the same page is understandably a focus early in practices, he added.

"Every day is a chance to do that," Smith said. "You have to win the locker room. When the locker room's all in, it's amazing what can happen."

The Coyote men open the 2014-15 season Nov. 14 at Utah Valley.

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

Press & Dakotan

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2014 AL NEUHARTH AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE IN THE MEDIA HONORING PETER PRICHARD

Peter Prichard

Join us for an evening with Peter Prichard, a founding editor of USA TODAY, as he receives the 2014 Al Neuharth Award for Excellence in the Media.

Prichard worked under the late John Seigenthaler on USA TODAY's editorial pages and was the newspaper's top editor from 1988 until 1995. During his tenure, USA TODAY won several national journalism awards and its circulation increased from 1.4 million to 2.3 million, passing The Wall Street Journal to become the largest-circulation newspaper in the nation. Prichard served as the president of the Newseum and Freedom Forum until January 2009, and currently serves as chair of the Newseum Board of Trustees.

Al Neuharth

The award, recognizing lifetime achievement, is named for USA TODAY and Freedom Forum founder Al Neuharth, a South Dakota native and 1950 USD journalism graduate.

THURSDAY OCT. 9, 2014

5:30 p.m.
Doors open for general seating

6 to 7 p.m.
Award presentation and remarks by Peter Prichard

Al Neuharth Media Center
University of South Dakota
555 Dakota St.
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This event is free and open to the public, but to guarantee a seat, RSVP to (605) 677-5477

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