

USD COYOTES GAME DAY 2-3 (0-2 MVFC)



VS



4-1 (2-0 MVFC)

2:30 p.m., FargoDome (18,700) Fargo, N.D.

Radio: KVHT (106.3 FM) TV: Midco Sports Network



UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH DAKOTA COYOTES

SCHEDULE

Table with columns: Date, Opponent, USD, Opp. Includes games from Sept. 5 to Nov. 21.

STAT LEADERS

RUSHING table with columns: Player, Att, Yds, Avg, Long, TD.

PASSING table with columns: Player, Com, Att, Yds, Int, TD.

RECEIVING table with columns: Player, No, Yds, Avg, Long, TD.

PLACE KICKING table with columns: Player, EPm, EPa, FGm, FGA, Long.

PUNTING table with columns: Player, No, Avg., Long, Int20.

DEFENSIVE LEADERS

Table with columns: Player, Tack, TFL, Sack, INT, FR.

PROBABLE STARTERS

OFFENSE table with columns: Pos, No, Name, Ht, Wt, Yr.

DEFENSE table with columns: Pos, No, Name, Ht, Wt, Yr.



JAMES D. CIMBUREK/P&D

USD's Michael Fredrick (14) finds running room after making a catch during the Coyotes' matchup with Youngstown State on Oct. 10 at the DakotaDome. He will be looking for running room against the North Dakota State defense today (Saturday).

MVFC STANDINGS

Table with columns: Team, Conf, All. Lists standings for North Dakota State, Illinois State, etc.

CONDITIONS

Indoors. AstroTurf. If this were an outdoor game, we'd say it was 'football weather,' but it's still great tailgating weather...

ONLINE

The Press & Dakotan's Jeremy Hoeck posts updates to his Twitter page during every South Dakota home game.

PREDICTION

The fact that USD needed three games in this series to finally score (last year) tells you all you need to know.

BISON 41, COYOTES 7

MATCHUPS

USD ON OFFENSE

After struggling in the conference opener, the Coyote offense got going a bit last week, rolling up 345 yards. Quarterback Ryan Saeger, however, struggled, completing just 17-of-29 passes.

USD ON DEFENSE

North Dakota State quarterback Carson Wentz, a likely NFL Draft pick, has accounted for 1,466 yards and 18 TD this season.

SPECIAL TEAMS

This is an area NDSU has controlled throughout its title run over the last four years. The Bison have a quality punter in Ben LeCompte, a solid kicker in Cam Pedersen and a host of return weapons.

INTANGIBLES

North Dakota State just does not lose at home. It has won 26 straight games at the FargoDome, the longest streak in all of Division I football.

JACKRABBITS GAME DAY 4-1 vs 3-2 YOUNGSTOWN STATE

3 p.m., Stambaugh Stadium (15,000), Youngstown, Ohio • Radio: 570 AM • TV: ESPN3.com

Quick Hitters

Youngstown State snapped the Jackrabbits' six-game win streak in the series with a close victory in 2014. YSU quarterback Hunter Wells has set a school record with a TD pass in 12th straight games.

just 19 games. He already ranks fifth on the Jacks' career receiving yards chart, 180 yards behind JaRon Harris (2005-08).

YSU allowed a season-high 145 passing yards in a 31-29 loss to Illinois State last week. In contrast, SDSU passes for 313.6 yards per game. This is just SDSU's second trip away from Coughlin-Alumni Stadium this season.

Key Matchup SDSU Defensive Front vs. Youngstown State run game.

yards, 4 TDs and Martin Ruiz (395 yards, 3 TDs) have torched opponents this season.

North Dakota State is just too experienced, too potent, too dominating right now for the Coyotes to be able to contend.

From The Coach

'If you're going to play at the championship level, yards have to be tough. No team is going to win the championship without a great defense, and we're getting there.'

HUSKERS GAME DAY 2-4 vs 4-2 MINNESOTA

2:30 p.m., TCF Bank Stadium (52,525), Minneapolis • Radio: 93.1 FM • TV: ESPN2

Quick Hitters

Minnesota is the only team in the country scheduled to face both current No. 1 Ohio State and No. 2 TCU. Nebraska QB Tommy Armstrong, Jr., is tied for 4th on the Huskers' all-time TD pass chart with Tommie Frazier (43 TDs).

Shannon Brooks has a team-best 3 rushing TDs for Minnesota, which has rushed for 1,032 yards as a team this season.

Key Matchup

Huskers vs. The Clock. All four of Nebraska's losses this season are on their opponents' last offensive play or in overtime, including Wisconsin's game-winner with four seconds left last week.

From The Coach

'You know, you play Nebraska, and you'd better be ready to play. It's going to be a physical game. But every game from here on out is going to be the same.'

to be the same. You'd better play each week, don't worry about the next week. Try to get better each week. Minnesota head coach Jerry Kill on playing Nebraska.

B1G Standings

Table with columns: Division, Team, Conf, All. Lists standings for West Division, Northwestern, Illinois, etc.

Coyotes

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Lage said. 'Obviously, we can't deny the fact that NDSU is a powerhouse and they're a great team, but we have that David factor going for us.'

Does that mean USD is embracing the underdog role? 'It's automatically given to us, so we might as well embrace it,' Lage said. 'You can't fight something that's already given to you.'

Considering what has happened the last two weeks, the Coyotes are looking for small signs of progress out of a game where there isn't likely many good things to happen.

Having entered conference play with back-to-back wins, USD has since lost games by 28 and 19 points in its first two league games.

Despite that, spirits have remained high in Vermillion, according to senior receiver Eric Shufford.

'We've got to continue to remain hungry and keep fighting. As long as you keep working, it'll eventually pay off.'

USD RECEIVER ERIC SHUFFORD

a program," he said. "We can't allow a couple losses to derail our season."

In order to see results on the field, Glenn said, the Coyotes need to put together a game where all three areas — offense, defense, special teams — click at the same time.

Could that be a turning point if it all comes together? "If we make some big plays, make the plays we make in practice; the sky's the limit, I think," Glenn said.

Doing that against the Bison has proven nearly impossible for the Coyotes since they joined the Missouri Valley.

And this year, the Bison lead the nation in average time of possession and third

down defense — two key areas that have been staples of their title run.

What the Coyotes aren't going to do, however, is suddenly want to play harder this week, Shufford said.

"We're not going to say, because it's NDSU, we have to come out and play well," he said. "The only thing that matters is what you do and how you prepare."

And even if that means USD loses another conference game, the Coyotes have to keep battling, he added.

"We've got to continue to remain hungry and keep fighting," Shufford said. "As long as you keep working, it'll eventually pay off."

Asked about USD this week, NDSU head coach Chris Klieman said he's well aware of what a Glenn-coached team can bring to the table.

"I've got a tremendous amount of respect for coach Glenn, and he'll have them ready to play a clean football game."

Follow @jhoeck on Twitter

Bucks

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with a 79-yard drive that was capped off by a Nate Stephenson 2-yard touchdown sneak on fourth down.

Yankton then scored a pair of touchdowns in the second quarter, the first on a Frick 7-yard run and later on a Frick 44-yard catch from Stephenson to lead 21-6 at halftime.

Caskey's 10-yard touchdown run was the only scoring in the third quarter, and Frick caught a 24-yard touchdown pass from Stephenson in the fourth quarter.

"The offense and defense were really solid," Linness

said. "In the second half, I thought we really executed out of some different formations."

Douglas' offense was held scoreless until Branson Taylor found Torren Rogers for a 34-yard touchdown pass with 2:42 left in the game.

The Patriots, however, saw senior quarterback Tucker Severson complete 1-of-12 passes for negative three yards. He was also held to negative three yards rushing on four carries.

One issue for Yankton came on special teams. The Bucks allowed that kickoff for a touchdown, and then fumbled four times — three on punt returns.

"Those turnovers were big, but we were able to overcome them," Frick said.

Now the attention turns to next Thursday's regular season finale at Harrisburg and Yankton's bid for a home game in the playoffs.

"This was a big confidence booster for us with one game left before playoffs," Frick said.

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Cross

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blistering pace of 4:52. Senior Isaac Allen finished as the Coyotes' second runner in 73rd place with a time of 25:12.3.

Both freshman Nathan

Wendt and sophomore Brice Cowman dropped nearly two minutes off their season bests, finishing in 117th and 122nd, respectively.

Wendt clocked 25:39.2 and Cowman finished in 25:42.4.

Sophomore Matthew Schilmoeller rounded out the Coyote scorers in 178th place with a time of 26:26.9.

In the open race, South

Dakota State senior Austin Hamm (Bloomfield, Nebraska) finished 27th in 26:30.5, while junior Kipp Kinsley (Yankton) finished 29th in 26:43.8.

South Dakota toes the line for the Summit League Championship in Brookings on Oct. 31. SDSU will run at the Mount Marty Invitational Oct. 24 in Yankton.