

# South Dakota State Returns Home To Face Familiar Foe

## Football: Jackrabbits Host Former Great West Rival UC-Davis

FROM P&D STAFF REPORTS

**BROOKINGS** — In many ways, today's (Saturday) home opener for the South Dakota State University football team will have the feel of a conference game.

Officially, however, the Jackrabbits will host UC Davis in a non-conference game today at 2 p.m. in the 17th annual Cereal Bowl contest at Coughlin-Alumni Stadium in Brookings.

The matchup between former members of the Great West Conference is no longer a league showdown, but it still holds a special place, according to SDSU head coach John Stiegelmeier.

"It's a fun for game for us. We

jumped into this FCS deal in the Great West, and Davis was part of that, so they're a part of our history in FCS football," Stiegelmeier said this week during a media teleconference. "They do have a good football team, so we're just preparing for a hard-fought battle."

"But we're glad to be at home though."

The Jackrabbits (1-1), coming off a win at Southeastern Louisiana, lead the all-time series with UC Davis 4-2 and have won the past three meetings, the last of which was in 2007.

UC Davis was the first team SDSU faced at the Division I level, back in 2004 — a game the Ag-

gies won easily 52-0. Both coaches remain the same, with Bob Biggs at Davis, and Stiegelmeier made clear his feelings of respect for Biggs, who is coaching his 20th and final season with the Aggies.

"As a football coach and a human being, I feel it's our job to grow," Stiegelmeier said. "When we started competing against programs like Davis, I always made it a point to visit with the head coaches before the game and after the game just to accelerate our growth."

"Rather than throw darts, why try to reinvent stuff?"

UC Davis (1-1), in its first season as a football-only member of

the Big Sky Conference after eight seasons in the Great West, lost last week, 45-13, at FBS San Jose State. The Aggies' season opener was against Division II Azusa Pacific, a 41-3 rout, so it might be hard for the Jackrabbits to get a true barometer of UC Davis.

On the other side, for the Jackrabbits, they are preparing for a much more familiar opponent — compared to FBS Kansas and FCS Southeastern Louisiana, which has a much different style than Midwest programs.

"Whether it's the valley or what we're used to, when you prepare for it, it feels more natural," Stiegelmeier said of UC

Davis. "Those transitions are much easier."

One thing the Jackrabbits do not want to transition away from, however, is the run game.

Through two games, SDSU has rushed for 509 yards, including 204 in the opener against Kansas of the Big 12 Conference.

The biggest key for the Jacks has been Zach Zenner, a 6-foot, 215-pound sophomore from Eagan, Minn. Zenner has already rushed for 461 yards and two touchdowns this season, including a 99-yard scoring run at Kansas and a 278-yard effort a week ago.

"He's our kind of back; he runs tremendously hard,"

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## Nebraska's Shaky Defense Expects Test vs. Ark. St.

BY ERIC OLSON  
AP Sports Writer

LINCOLN, Neb. (AP) — Arkansas State isn't planning to take its \$1 million paycheck and going away quietly Saturday against a Nebraska team left shaken and vulnerable after an embarrassing loss at UCLA.

The Red Wolves (1-1) run a fast-paced offense similar to the UCLA spread that shredded Nebraska (1-1) for 653 yards. Their quarterback, Ryan Aplin, is likely the best player in the Sun Belt Conference and one of the most prolific run-pass threats in the nation.

Arkansas State's confidence is fueled as much by its come-from-behind win over Memphis as fellow Sun Belt member Louisiana-Monroe's upset of then-No. 8 Arkansas.

"Nobody's invincible," Aplin said. "It definitely gives you more motivation. You go out and give your 'A' game and bring everything you've got, anything can happen. That's something we need to look at and make sure we don't leave anything on the field when that last whistle blows at Nebraska."

The Huskers have been busy this week resetting their defense.

Coaches have said freshmen, if not in the starting lineup, will see significant playing time at linebacker and on the line.

The line's depth grew thinner with the mid-week departure of starting defensive tackle Chase Rome. He didn't play much in the second half against UCLA, and coach Bo Pelini said Rome quit because of a disagreement with coaches over his role.

Defensive coordinator John Papuchis said if the Huskers don't improve their tackling — they missed an estimated two dozen against the Bruins — "we'll have a repeat of what we saw Saturday night."

"As a staff, that's not even in the equation," Papuchis said. "The players want to be better, and we're going to be better."

Part of the Nebraska coaches' job in the aftermath of the UCLA game has been to get the players' minds right.

"I'm more worried about having a lack of confidence right now," defensive line coach Rick Kaczinski said. "We're up for a challenge. (Arkansas State) has a lot of speed. They're good up front, and it's another running quarterback. The one thing I don't worry about with this team is having too much confidence right now."

Pelini said running back Rex Burkhead is doubtful. He sprained a ligament in his left knee in the opener, and he didn't play against UCLA.

"I want to make sure he's absolutely 100 percent before we put him out there," Pelini said. "He's chomping at the bit to get out there."

Arkansas State's Aplin, who holds 17 school records, averages 367.5 yards in total offense to rank eighth nationally. David Oku is the featured back in a running game that generates 262 yards a game.

The Red Wolves' seventh-ranked offense amassed 619 yards on 97 plays in a 33-28 win over Memphis. The week before they piled up 530 yards on 81 plays in a 57-34 loss at Oregon. Arkansas State outscored the Ducks 24-7 in the second half.

Arkansas State coach Gus Malzahn said he hopes the experience of playing in front of 56,000 fans at Oregon prepared his players for the crowd of 85,000 in Lincoln.

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# Pioneer Day Pounding

## Yankton Stuffs Aberdeen 42-14

BY CHRIS RILEY  
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It was not always pretty, but the Yankton Bucks once again dominated an Eastern South Dakota Conference foe in a 42-14 drubbing of Aberdeen Central at Crane-Youngworth Field on Friday night in 11AA football action.

The Bucks, ranked fifth in the latest South Dakota Sportswriters Association 11AA poll, improve to 4-0 on the season with the victory. With the loss, Aberdeen Central falls to 1-3.

Coming into the game, sophomore Levi Davis knew that he would be carrying an extra load on his shoulders as he got the start at halfback in addition to his line-backer starting duties due to the injury that Evan Schroeder (ankle) suffered in the first quarter of last week's game.

Davis helped the Bucks recover from an early first quarter fumble, their first turnover of the season, as he took a pitch from quarterback Michael Rucker down the right sideline 32 yards for a score and early lead nine minutes into the first period.

"I knew that I had to be mentally and physically ready for this tonight, without any breaks," Davis said.

The sophomore who started both ways in the game always played with a heavy heart.

"My grandma had passed away three years ago today so I dedicated this game to her."

Davis added another strike in the second quarter when his 30-yard sprint off of a reverse pushed the Bucks lead to 20-0.

Even though they have scored in the first quarter in all four games this season and have yet to trail a contest, Yankton was a little sloppy in the early stages of the game - a factor that can be attributed to homecoming festivities.

"You can talk about it all you want to but in reality we weren't as ready as we needed to be," Bucks head coach Arlin Likeness said. "The good news is we got re-focused and they really got after it and made things happen."

Injuries struck the Bucks hard for the second week in a row, as Jordan Lightner, Logan VanWinkle and Tanner Termansen all left the game at various points.



JAMES D. CIMBUREK/P&D

A trio of Yankton defenders corral Aberdeen Central's Greyson Phillips just outside the endzone during their Eastern South Dakota Conference football game on Friday at Crane-Youngworth Field. Yankton jumped out to a 29-0 lead on the way to a 42-14 victory.

## Bucks Golfers Fourth At Mitchell Invitational

**MITCHELL** — In their first glimpse this season of the state tournament course, the Yankton Bucks shot a 311 and finished fourth at the Mitchell Boys' Golf Invitational on Friday at Lakeview Golf Course.

Sioux Falls O'Gorman had the top two golfers and won with a team score of 293, eight strokes ahead of Brandon Valley. Sioux Falls Lincoln finished third at 307, four shots in front of Yankton.

Lakeview Golf Course will host the 2012 State Class AA Tournament on Oct. 1-2. It was the final regular season action for the Bucks,

who host the Eastern South Dakota Conference Tournament on Sept. 22.

Max Donohue of O'Gorman was the individual champion with a round of 70, two shots ahead of teammate Ben Rogers. Lincoln's Tom Vining and Brandon Valley's Trevor Tobin tied for third at 73.

Yankton's Jace Guthmiller was one of five golfers to tie for fifth place at 74, while the Bucks' next best finisher was Lane Sawatzke at 78. Also for Yankton, Mitch Schlingman tied for 36th (81), Mason Sundleaf tied for 46th (83) and Brandon Frick tied for 57th

place (85) in the event.

TEAM SCORES: S.F. O'Gorman 293, Brandon Valley 301, S.F. Lincoln 307, Yankton 311, Aberdeen Central 318, S.F. Roosevelt 320, S.F. Washington 321, R.C. Stevens 321, Watertown 325, Pierre 329, Brookings 332, R.C. Central 332, Mitchell 338, Spearfish 342, Huron 343, Sturgis 357, Douglas 386

TOP 20: 1. Max Donohue, S.F. O'Gorman 70; 2. Ben Rogers, S.F. O'Gorman 72; 3. Tom Vining, S.F. Lincoln 73; 4. Trevor Tobin, Brandon Valley 73; 5. Greg Koehn, Brandon Valley 74; 15. Ian Rinken, S.F. Washington 74; 15. Jace Guthmiller, Yankton 74; 15. Jaron Welch, Mitchell 74; 15. Sam Musch, R.C. Stevens 74; 110. Cameron Huff, Aberdeen Central 75; 110. Colin Hammer, S.F. O'Gorman 75; 112. Chris Gaher, S.F. O'Gorman 76; 112. Colton Hanson, Watertown 76; 112. Parker Klitzke, S.F. Lincoln 76; 112. Riley Duncanson, Brandon Valley 76; 116. Nick Bruhn, S.F. O'Gorman 77; 116. Trevor Hieb, Aberdeen Central 77; 118. Justin Simon, S.F. O'Gorman 78; 118. Colton Koelma, S.F. Roosevelt 78; 118. Dillon Orth, Spearfish 78; 118. Jake Crumy, S.F. Washington 78; 118. Lane Sawatzke, Yankton 78; 118. Lee Radtke, S.F. Lincoln 78; 118. Logan Megard, Yankton 78; 118. Tanner Wehrkamp, Brandon Valley 78

OTHER YHS: 136. Mitch Schlingman 81; 146. Mason Sundleaf 83; 157. Brandon Frick 85



JEREMY HOECK/P&D

Wagner quarterback Dylan Brunasing, front, is dragged down by Beresford defender Austin Meesler during their football game Friday night in Wagner.

# Wagner Holds Off Beresford 28-24

**WAGNER** — At one point leading by 20 points in the fourth quarter, the Wagner Red Raiders had to hang on to edge Beresford 28-24 in an 11-man prep football thriller Friday night in Wagner.

David Kocer rushed for 190 yards and two touchdowns for Wagner (3-0), while quarterback Dylan Brunasing was 9-of-12 for 127 yards, with a rushing score.

Noah St. Pierre returned a first-quarter punt 70 yards for the Red Raiders, who led 28-8 after a Brunasing 5-yard touchdown run in the fourth quarter.

Beresford (1-2) responded with a Walker Willman 6-yard touchdown run and an 80-yard fumble recovery by Eli Orr.

Watchdogs' quarterback Oliver Doeden was 12-of-27 for 210 yards and a touchdown, while Orr had 87 yards receiving.

Next week, Wagner travels to Tyndall to play Bon Homme and Beresford has a bye until they host Elk Point-Jefferson on Sept. 21.

BERESFORD (1-2).....0 8 0 16 -24  
WAGNER (3-0).....6 16 0 -28

## Centerville 38, Menno 28

**MENNO** — The Centerville Tornados jumped out to a 32-8 half-time lead, but had to avoid a Menno rally to pick up a 38-28 prep football victory Friday night in

Menno.

Seamus O'Malley accounted for four touchdowns for Centerville (3-1). He passed for 178 yards and three scores, while also rushing for 71 yards and a touchdown.

Josh DeRaad caught four passes for 105 yards and a touchdown, while Ty Knutson hauled in four passes for 53 yards and two scores. Logan Hunter rushed for 70 yards and a touchdown.

In the loss for the Wolves (0-4), Chet Peterson rushed for 135 yards and three touchdowns, on runs of 4, 1 and 3 yards. Austin Herrboldt added 147 yards on the ground and one score. Herrboldt also passed for 30 yards.

Tyrell Bertsch led the Menno defense with nine tackles and three sacks.

Both teams return to action next Friday, with Centerville hosting Irene-Wakonda in a key 9-man showdown and Menno travels to Gayville.

CENTERVILLE (3-1).....16 16 6 0 -38  
MENNO (0-4).....0 8 2 8 -28

## Viborg-Hurley 54, Alcester-Hudson 2

**VIBORG** — Top-ranked Class 9B Viborg-Hurley rushed for 270 yards and surrendered only a safety in a 54-2 rout of Alcester-Hudson on Friday night in Viborg.

Tyler Gerdes ran for 95 yards and score, while Trevor Jacobsen rushed for 62 yards and a touchdown to go along with a receiving score. Tyler Novak ran for 35 yards and two touchdowns.

Quarterback Jack Huther added 37 yards on the ground and passed for two scores in the victory for the Cougars (4-0). Novak led the defense with nine tackles.

No stats were reported for the Cubs (1-2), who host Baltic next Friday.

Viborg-Hurley is off next week.

## Marion 24, Gayville-Volin 8

**GAYVILLE** — Andrew Grassi carried the ball 36 times for 160 yards as the Marion Bears beat Gayville-Volin 24-8 on the road Friday night.

Grassi had a touchdown run, while Nick Gortmaker rushed for 69 yards and two scores for the Bears (2-2). Gortmaker also completed 4-of-7 passes for 50 yards, and led the defense with 11 tackles.

In the loss for the Raiders (0-4), their only touchdown came from quarterback Alec Barta who finished 3-of-7 for 55 yards. Barta also rushed 18 times for 58 yards, while Zach Anderson added 52 yards on the ground.

Defensively for GV, John Guy

made nine tackles, Barta had eight stops and a sack, and Anderson added eight tackles.

Next Friday, Marion travels to Tripp-Delmont-Armour and Gayville-Volin hosts Menno.

MARION (2-2).....8 8 0 0 -24  
GAYVILLE-VOLIN (0-4).....0 0 0 0 -8

## Bon Homme 20, Garretson 0

**TYNDALL** — Bon Homme shut out Garretson Friday night 20-0 in Tyndal.

Russ Kortan rushed for 71 yards and one touchdown during the game, while Blase Zancecek had 28 carries and 27 yards for the game. Codi Larson put up nine carries and 36 yards. For defense, Scott Wiesler had 11 tackles and Alec Webber had nine.

No stats were reported for Garretson.

GARRETSON (2-2).....0 0 0 0 -0  
BON HOMME (2-2).....6 0 0 14 -20

## Bancroft-Rosalie 26, Wynot 20

**WYNOT**, Neb. — Carsten Tietz carried the ball 42 times for 224 yards and three touchdowns as Bancroft-Rosalie escaped Wynot with a 26-20 win Friday night.

Tietz also had 62 yards passing

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