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Coyotes To Face 'Unique' Defense In MVFC Opener A Look At The

Illinois St. Redbirds RECORD/RANKING: 4-0, No. 12 FCS coaches poll, No. 13 The Sports Network LAST WEEK: Illinois State out-gained

Western Illinois 373-137 in total yardage on the way to a 23-3 conference win. ISU allowed only 82 yards rushing on 38 carries. KEY OFFENSIVE PLAYERS: Darrelynn Dunn (RB, 422 yards, 7 TD), Matt Brown (QB, 1,030 yards, 10 TD, 2 INT), Tyrone Walker (WR, 26 catches, 335 yards, 1

TD) KEY DEFENSIVE PLAYERS: Mike Zimmer (LB, 36 tackles, 3 sacks, 1 INT), Colton Underwood (DL, 30 tackles, 6 for loss, 4.5 sacks), Ben Ericksen (S, 3 INT)

NOTE: Illinois State has started the season 4-0 for the first time since 1967. ISU is the second unbeaten team remaining in the

MVFC.

BY JEREMY HOECK jeremy.hoeck@yankton.net

Joe Glenn uses words like "mobile" and "chaotic." Brock Spack calls it "resilient."

Any way the two coaches slice it, the defense Illinois State will bring to Vermillion on Saturday figures to provide the University of South Dakota with a significant challenge in its Missouri Valley Football Conference debut.

Illinois State (4-0, 1-0), which moved up to No. 12 in the FCS coaches poll and No. 13 in The Sports Network poll, boasts one of the league's stingiest defenses - ranking first in takeaways (plus 8) and second in sacks (13).

"This is probably a unique defense that we'll see," USD coach Glenn said during

Tuesday's media teleconference. "You don't see many other teams who will stunt over 60 percent of the time, but that's the way they do it

"They can make a lot of confusion; very chaotic if you let it get to you," he added. "You have to find a way to burn it. You have to go after them with the same mentality."

The Redbirds, with 17 big-school transfers, have found ways to harass opposing offenses

With a resume that includes a win over FBS Eastern Michigan three weeks ago, Illinois State started six FBS transfers on defense last week against Western Illinois — a 23-3 victory. Four of those transfers came on the line, helping the Redbirds rank second in total defense.

"We led the league in total defense last year, but I think we're a little better than we were a year ago in certain spots," coach Spack said Tuesday. "We're improving, but obviously not where we need to be yet. We've been resilient and been able to adjust to what people do to us, and find a way to win."

The two teams met last season in Normal, Ill., with the Redbirds coming out on top 28-3. USD, of course, has a new head coach and has transformed from a 4-3 defensive system to a 3-4 under new coordinator Jason Petrino.

Spack pointed to USD's offense to be a lot like the 2011 version under coordinator Wes Beschorner, though the team has a new quarterback in sophomore Josh Vander Maten.

'They have the same offensive coordinator, so from that standpoint, they're similar,' Spack said. "They lost a quarterback to graduation, but the new guy is a very good athlete.

"One side is similar with the coordinator, but the other side is quite a bit different." Illinois State, however, has many of the

same faces the Coyotes saw last fall.

The Redbirds average 41 points a game, thanks to 257.5 yards through the air and rank second in the MVFC in total offense (446.8 yards). Each of their skill positions are handled by seniors, with running back Darrelynn Dunn (422 yards, 7 TD) and receiver Tyrone Walker (26 catches, 335 yards, 1 TD).

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YHS Sweeps Brookings Lancers Sweep DWU MTCHELL – Mount Marty Col-lege heat rival Dakota Weelevan 30 Versity put two players over 15 kills in a four set win over the Unit

BY VANCE JANAK P&D Correspondent

Yankton volleyball coach Leasa Woodward smiled after congratulating her team Tuesday night.

The Gazelles put together one of their better performances of the season in beating ESD foe Brookings 25-23, 25-20, 25-20 at the Summit Center.

"We played a lot more aggressively tonight than we have in our last couple outings," Woodward said. "That's a big win over a good team, especially in three. We had a terrible practice yesterday. I went home so frustrated. Obviously they knew what they needed to fix. A lot of it is attitude and energy and they played with that tonight." Yankton (3-4) used a scrappy de-

fense that dug up many Brookings (7-3) attacks, which led to offensive opportunities for the Gazelles. Yankton senior hitters Mikala Hora and Kelsey Fitzgerald powered the offense - combining for 34 kills while Fitzgerald added a team-leading 13 digs and Hora had 12.

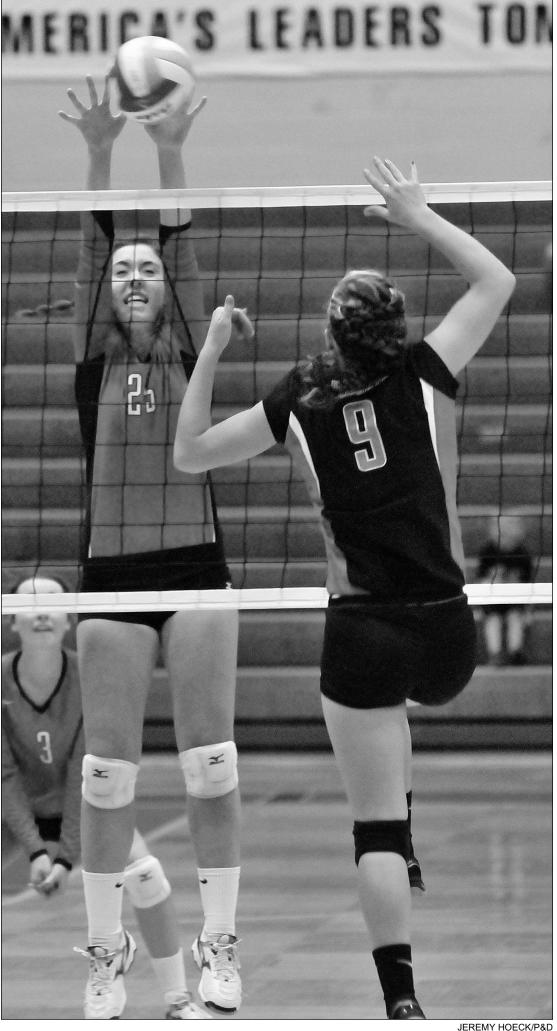
"We've struggled the last couple matches," Hora said, who paced the Gazelles with 19 kills. "But for us to come out tonight and play the way we did, there's not much more you can ask for."

Woodward didn't know what to expect out of her team, which was coming off of loses to Aberdeen Central and Brandon Valley. Monday's practice left her with more concern.

Hora said the team didn't talk about what it needed to do to fix the problems.

We all knew that we didn't have a good practice. I think that's why we came out and were focused tonight," Hora said. "Talking is a big issue on our court. Tonight, we talked a lot and we've got to keep doing that because it contributed so much to the way we played."

Things started out shaky for Yankton. Brookings built an 18-11 first-set lead. Eleven of those points came off Gazelle errors. Following a Yankton timeout, the Gazelles scored six straight points. Fitzgerald contributed three kills and a block during the spurt. Trailing 22-19, the Gazelles three kills from Hora and a Bobcat error to go up 23-22. After Brookings tied the set 23-all, Hora put Yankton ahead with a kill before a Brookings error closed it out. 'Yankton came out and played a fantastic match," Brookings coach Jodi Melius said. "We knew Hora and Fitzgerald were going to be great hitters. We knew they would rely on them. We just weren't able to step up on defense. They really took it to us and we just weren't able to step up and get stops.' Tied 19-all in the second set, Yankton scored five points off Bobcat errors before Hora's sixth kill of the set gave the Gazelles a 2-0 advantage



lege beat rival Dakota Wesleyan 3-0 to pick up its first Great Plains Athletic Conference volleyball win Tuesday night at the Corn Palace.

The Lancers, now 1-4 in GPAC play, won by set scores of 25-19, 25-, 25-20.

Amanda Dirksen led MMC with 10 kills, while Kate Lingscheit and Lexie Branson each had six kills. Caitlyn Illg had 25 set assists and 10 digs.

Danielle Byrd led DWU (3-13, 0-3) with 19 kills on 30 swings, while Briana Jung posted 30 set assists. The Tigers were hurt by 27 attack errors and 10 service errors.

Mount Marty, 3-12 overall, hosts Buena Vista on Friday night at Cimpl Arena.

Creighton 3, USD 0 OMAHA, Neb. - Creighton Unikills in a four-set win over the University of South Dakota in college volleyball action Tuesday night in Omaĥa.

Creighton won by set scores of 25-18, 25-18, 21-25, 25-21.

The hometown Bluejays (12-2), off to their best start in school history, got 20 kills from Leah McNary and 18 kills from Kelli Browning. The Coyotes (7-9) were ham-

pered by 28 attack errors and a 110 attack percentage. Kendall Kritenbrink led with 17 kills, while Kim Bulaga added 13 kills and 10 digs. Tori Kroll posted 39 set assists and Riley Haug had a teamhigh 16 digs.

USD returns to Summit League action Saturday night for a 7 p.m. match against Kansas City at the DakotaDome.

Top-Ranked Wagner Stops Vermillion 3-0

VERMILLION — Top-ranked Wagner came into Vermillion and swept the Tanagers in volleyball action on Tuesday night. Kayla Deurmier was the leader for Red Raiders, picking up 25 assists and 10 digs.

Nicole Weber added nine kills, four digs and two aces in the win. Gina Soukup and Alex Dvorak each had seven kills a piece. Sydney Breen posted 17 digs for the Red Raiders.

For Vermillion, Mariah Larson had 14 assists. Sarah Hughes-Berheim recorded 10 digs in the loss. Paige Olson recorded three kills and six digs.

Wagner moves to 14-1 on the season and will host Winner on Thursdav.

Vermillion is now 3-8 after a loss and hosts West Central on Thursday in Vermillion. WAGNER (14-1).

VERMILLIÓN (3-8)

..25 25 25 seven set assists. .17 20 14

COLOME (0-13)..... ANDES CENTRAL (13-1).

quadrangular next Tuesday.

Platte-Geddes 3,

blocks and three digs.

and two blocks.

host Marty Indian.

PLATTE-GEDDES (6-4) DAKOTA CHRISTIAN (5-7) .

Dakota Christian 0

recorded 13 assists, 11 digs, three kills and two aces. Laura Weiss had 12 kills, seven blocks,

five digs, and two aces on the night. For TDA, Kelli Batterman han Laura Fuerst each had 13 digs. Hannah Just recorded 14 digs in the contest. Jessica Sandau had 12 digs and an ace

Parkston will move to 7-8 (1-2 in conference play) and will travel to Scotland on Thursday to take on the Highlanders.

TDA moves to 5-8 (0-4 in conference play) and also is on the road, going to Corsica to take on Corsica-Stickney on Thursday. PARKSTON (7-8)..... TRIPP-DELMONT-AMOUR (5-8)30 25 2528 19 13

Andes Central 3, Colome 0

LAKE ANDES — Krista Winckler had 10 kills and sister Kellie Winckler added nine kills as Andes Central swept winless Colome 25-16, 28-26, 25-11 on Tuesday night in Lake Andes.

Dennisha Johanneson added six kills and five ace serves for the Eagles (13-1), while Sierra Svatos posted 21 set assists and seven digs

For Colome (0-13), Becca Moorhead had five kills and eight digs, and Tracy Routh posted

Thursday and Colome will play in a Stuart (Neb.)

CORSICA — The Platte-Geddes Black Pan-thers swept the Dakota Christian Cadets 25-15,

Kelli Sprik recorded 29 assists, eight digs,

two kills and two aces for the night, and Shelby

Rabenberg had nine digs, eight kills and two

aces. Josie DeGroot contributed 17 kills, five

six digs, six kills and two blocks, while Brooklyn VanderPol made five kills. four digs, three aces

Lyman on Thursday, while Dakota Christian will

For the Cadets, Amber Baan Hoffman had

Platte-Geddes travels to Presho to face

25-22, 25-10 Tuesday night in Corsica.

16 26 11

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"Both Mikala and Kelsey have

Yankton senior Kelsey Butler, left, goes up for a block against Brookings outside hitter Kara Robbins during GAZELLES | PAGE 9 their ESD volleyball match Tuesday night at the Summit Center.

Lutheran High Northeast 3, Crofton 0

NORFOLK, Neb. - Lutheran High Northeast defeated Crofton Tuesday night 25-16, 25-16, 25-21 in Norfolk

For Crofton, Allison Arens had 10 assists, six kills, six digs and one block. MaKenzie Johnson made 13 assists, three digs and two aces for the night, and Bridget Arens had five blocks, four digs and three kills

No stats were reported for LHNE.

Crofton travels to Atkinson on Thursday to face West Holt and Lutheran High will travel to Clarkson to participate in the Clarkson/Leigh Triangular.

Parkston 3, **Tripp-Delmont-Armour 0**

TRIPP — Parkston won game one in late fashion by the score of 30-28 and went on to sweep Tripp-Delmont-Armour 3-0 on Tuesday night. The Lady Trojans won the two next two games to complete the sweep by the scores of Ž5-19. 25-13.

Kristina Radke had 12 assists, 10 digs and four kills, leading Parkston. Whitney Weber

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Dakota Wesleyan Escapes Lancers 3-2 In Double-Overtime



JAMES D. CIMBUREK/P&D

Mount Marty's Jose Marquez scores a penalty kick for the Lancers during the second half of their Great Plains Athletic Conference men's soccer match with Dakota Wesleyan on Tuesday at Easton Field. DWU won 3-2 in double-overtime.

BY JAMES D. CIMBUREK

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Down a man and with a backup goalkeeper minding the net, the Mount Marty College men's soccer team found the team unity and toughness they'd been looking for so far this season. Unfortunately for the Lancers, the team ran out of gas before it could capitalize

Dakota Wesleyan's Eric Moller scored off a direct free kick in the 107th minute as the Tigers outlasted MMC 3-2 in Great Plains Athletic Conference overtime men's soccer action on Tuesday at Easton Field.

"We've talked a lot about being positive and playing aggressively, said Mount Marty head coach Nathan Epp. "Today was the first time we've done that. The guys really rallied. They were just gassed at the end.'

Dakota Wesleyan took the lead midway through the first half, when Hugo Gonzalez put back a rebound off his penalty kick attempt.

After having just four shots in the first half, the Lancers came out aggressively in the second half. MMC forced an early foul in its offensive zone. Tyler Neu sent the free kick toward the goal then, after James Elliott redirected the

ball, Josh Koch found a gap between Dakota Wesleyan goalkeeper Alex Nelson and another defender to tie the match.

Nearly 10 minutes later, Moller scored off a direct free kick to give DWU back the lead. The Lancers tied it 10 minutes later, when Levi Gomez was taken down in the box and Jose Marquez sent the ball home on a penalty kick.

Less than five minutes later, MMC goalkeeper Oscar Martinez-Mojica took down a Dakota Wesleyan player on a breakaway, drawing a red card and the ejection that came with it.

'Our goalie took one for the team," Koch said. "If he hadn't, the guy would have scored.'

Despite playing a man short, the Lancers maintained the draw through the rest of regulation and the first overtime. In the second overtime, Moller again found the back of the net on a direct free kick, ending the game and giving the Tigers their second victory of

"We feel lucky we got the win," said DWU head coach Jeremy Tosaya. "They (MMC) played a great game. They played to win." DWU held a 30-14 edge in shots,

MMC MEN | PAGE 9

DWU Women Blank MMC 5-0 **BY JAMES D. CIMBUREK** james.cimburek@yankton.net

The Mount Marty College women's soccer team looked drained in its third match in four days, dropping a 5-0 decision to previously-winless Dakota Wesleyan in Great Plains Athletic Conference action on Tuesday at Easton Field.

Lancer head coach Nathan Epp, though, wouldn't use fatigue as an excuse.

"We never put it together. We were flat the whole game," he said. "We just lacked intensity.

DWU got on the board in the 15th minute, when Linsey Peterson's high shot went off the hands of backup goalkeeper Danielle Gill, a freshman who started in place of Jennifer Nelson. Thara Ali Said and Megan Johnson scored goals under two minutes apart midway