

Sanders Returns As Weapon

USD Back Rushes For 110 Yards; Missed 2013 With Injury

BY JEREMY HOECK
jeremy.hoeck@yankton.net

VERMILLION — Jasper Sanders has already made the most of his return to the University of South Dakota football lineup, albeit through only two games.

"It's good to be back, I missed it," Sanders said.

The Kansas City native played in all 11 games in 2012, then missed the entire 2013 season with a broken wrist, but has reclaimed his role as the team's fastest player this season.

Sanders rushed for 110 yards and a touchdown, with 165 all-purpose yards, in South Dakota's 41-16 victory over NAIA William Penn on Saturday afternoon at the DakotaDome.

It wasn't the best start for Sanders, however.

He fumbled on USD's second drive of the game, resulting in a William Penn touchdown — giving the visitors an early lead and momentum they wouldn't surrender until midway through the fourth quarter.

The victory, though, allowed his coach to later have some fun about Sanders' first-quarter turnover. What did head coach Joe Glenn think of Sanders returning to the lineup this season?

"After he fumbled, I didn't think much," Glenn joked. Sanders exacted some revenge on USD's next drive, scoring on a 3-yard touchdown



USD 41, WPU 16

ABOVE: South Dakota running back Trevor Bouma finds running room during the Coyotes' matchup with William Penn on Saturday at the DakotaDome in Vermillion.

LEFT: South Dakota's Will Armstead breaks up a pass intended for William Penn's Jatavius Stewart during their football game on Saturday at the DakotaDome.

JAMES D. CIMBUREK/P&D

State Stops Cal Poly

BROOKINGS (AP) — South Dakota State needed each of Zach Lujan TD passes and all of Zach Zenner's rushing yards Saturday to beat Cal Poly 44-18 and end a three-game losing streak to the Mustangs.

Lujan threw three touchdown passes for the Jackrabbits (1-1). Zenner ran for 193 yards and a touchdown.

Zenner became the all-time career rushing leader in the Missouri Valley Football Conference.

SDSU struck first when Lujan tossed a 36-yard TD pass to Trevor Wesley with 7:22 left in the first quarter and Justin Syrovatka tacked on the PAT. It was Lujan's first career touchdown pass.

Cal Poly answered late in the quarter on Chris Brown's 7-yard run. But Stephen Pyle's PAT failed, leaving the Jackrabbits holding a 7-6 lead.

Brown led the Mustangs (0-2) with 104 yards and two touchdowns on 20 carries, while completing 16 of 21 passes for 202 yards.

S. DAKOTA STATE 44, CAL POLY 18
CAL POLY 6 0 6 — 18
S. DAKOTA STATE 7 9 7 21 — 44

First Quarter
SDSI—Wesley 36 pass from Lujan (Syrovatka kick), 7:22.
CP—Brown 7 run (kick failed), 1:50.

Second Quarter
SDSI—FG Syrovatka 46, 7:14.
CP—Garcia 9 run (run failed), 4:29.
SDSI—Schneider 16 pass from Lujan (run failed), :39.

Third Quarter
SDSI—Wieneke 11 pass from Lujan (Syrovatka kick), 8:14.

Fourth Quarter
SDSI—Zenner 15 run (Syrovatka kick), 12:13.
CP—Brown 1 run (pass failed), 7:42.
SDSI—Gandy 1 run (Syrovatka kick), 3:08.
SDSI—Mengarelli 55 run (Syrovatka kick), :56.
A—12:219.

	CP	SDSI
First downs	20	25
Rushes-yards	51-226	39-318
Passing	202	184
Comp-Att-Int	16-21-0	12-20-1
Return Yards	0	13
Punts-Avg.	5-37.2	3-41.3
Fumbles-Lost	0-0	2-0
Penalties-Yards	7-56	5-35
Time of Possession	29:05	30:55

INDIVIDUAL STATISTICS
RUSHING—Cal Poly: Brown 20-87, Garcia 17-86, Nichols 5-28, Howe 6-19, Protheroe 1-8, Mitchell 1-0, Lewis 1-(minus 2), S. Dakota State, Zenner 30-193, Mengarelli 5-73, Wieneke 1-52, Fimes 1-3, Gandy 1-1, Lujan 1-(minus 4).

PASSING—Cal Poly: Brown 16-21-0-202, S. Dakota State, Lujan 12-20-1-184.

RECEIVING—Cal Poly: Howe 4-29, Nichols 3-29, Jackson Jr. 2-106, Mitchell 2-12, McMurtrey 2-11, Lewis 2-6, Hines 1-8, S. Dakota State, Wesley 3-67, Schneider 3-35, Wieneke 2-37, Raymond 2-30, Vejvoda 1-8, Mengarelli 1-7.

NO. 19 NEBRASKA 31, MCNEESE ST. 24: LINDCOLN, Neb. (AP) — Ameer Abdullah's jaw-dropping 58-yard touchdown after a short pass from Tommy Armstrong Jr. broke a tie with 20 seconds left and allowed No. 19 Nebraska to beat FCS McNeese State 31-24 on Saturday.

McNeese State erased a 10-point deficit to tie Nebraska (2-0) at 24-all with 4:21 to play. The

FOOTBALL | PAGE 11

Softball: Gazelles Pound Out 25 Runs In Sunday Sweep

VERMILLION — The Yankton Gazelles pounded out 25 runs to go 2-0 in girls' softball at Vermillion on Sunday.

Yankton beat Tea Area 12-4 and Vermillion 13-0.

The Gazelles host top-ranked Sioux Falls Roosevelt today (Monday) at Sertoma Park.

YANKTON 12, TEA AREA 4: Lexie McCorkell and Bailey Kortan each had three hits to lead Yankton past Tea Area.

McCorkell went 3-3 with a double and three RBI, and Kortan went 3-4 with four runs scored and a RBI to lead Yankton. Heather Hauer had two hits, three runs scored and a RBI. Andi Sprakel had a hit, three

RBI and two runs scored. Holly Mines had a hit and two RBI. Bailey Peterka had a double and two runs scored in the win.

For Tea Area, Shannon Daneler doubled and singled, driving in two. Savannah Penning and Lindsey Jibben each had a hit and two runs scored.

Jaclyn Arens picked up the win, striking out seven.

YANKTON 13, VERMILLION 0: Yankton's Holly Mines tossed a two-hit shutout, striking out nine, as Yankton beat Vermillion.

Bailey Kortan went 3-4 with a home run, a double, five RBI and three runs scored to lead Yankton. Andi Sprakel went 3-4 with a double, three RBI and two runs scored. Bailey Sejnoha had two hits and three RBI. Kelsey Hovorka added a hit and a run scored in the win.

Morgan Amundson doubled and Lexie Malimank

singled for Vermillion. Kiley Wood took the loss.

Junior Varsity

YANKTON 15, TEA AREA 0: Merlye Mason and Savannah Steffen each had three hits as Yankton rolled past Tea Area.

Britney Davis doubled and singled, and Danielle Schmidt had two hits and two RBI for Yankton. Mason also drove in two runs. Dani Dvorak doubled and Ciara Kulhavy had a hit and two RBI for the Gazelles. Bridget Nolz added a RBI in the win.

Bailey Sejnoha picked up the shutout victory, striking out two.

YANKTON 11, VERMILLION 3: Bridget Nolz tossed a complete game, striking out eight, as Yankton downed Vermillion.

Women's Soccer: Mount Mercy Edges Lancers 1-0



JEREMY HOECK/P&D

Mount Marty College goalkeeper Courtney True dives to make a save during Sunday afternoon's home opener against Mount Mercy (Iowa) at the NFAA Easton Fields.

BY JEREMY HOECK
jeremy.hoeck@yankton.net

Fifteen saves probably wasn't what Courtney True had in mind, but it comes with the job, she joked.

"I like being in the action, but that many, yeah that's a little much," the Yankton native said with a smile.

True, the goalkeeper for the Mount Marty College women's soccer team, stopped 15 of the 16 shots that came her way during Sunday afternoon's 1-0 loss to Mount Mercy at the NFAA Easton Fields.

The junior, in her second season with the Lancers (1-1), not only made more than a handful of acrobatic saves, but provided vocal leadership for a team missing four players because of injury.

It may not have been ideal to have the goalie see that much action, but MMC certainly needed True's defense on Sunday.

"She's there for a reason, I guess," senior Alex Rojas said with a smile.

Mount Mercy, an NAIA school from Iowa, out-shot the Lancers 23-5 but had two other goals called because of offsides calls — thanks, in small part, to defensive pressure.

"That's our strong point," Rojas said. "We're more experienced back there."

"Our midfield and offense will only get better, but right now, our defense can lead the way."

The Lancers boast a back line that includes Rojas, senior Paige Anderson and junior Amy Hisek, who have

spent their careers together on defense.

"We're really fortunate to have that kind of experience," True said. "The younger girls are more trusting, because they know we've been through it all."

On Sunday, the Lancers needed every bit of that defensive experience.

With 37:45 remaining, Mount Mercy put the ball in the back of the net, but the goal was nullified because of an offsides call.

The visitors broke through with 6:30 left, on a goal from Cheylee Octavio on a deflection from a corner kick.

"We didn't stay with our marks, and you have to on a corner kick," True said. "If you lose one girl, anything can happen."

Mount Mercy had another goal called back on offsides, but the 1-0 lead was enough.

As the Lancers move on from their first home game, they know what needs to improve, according to True.

"We came out and started both halves well, but we've got to learn to play that way the whole time," she said.

Mount Marty, coming off its first-ever appearance in the Great Plains Athletic Conference tournament, boasts a young team that features seven freshmen and four sophomores.

"We're still in a growing process," True said. "But compared to last year, we have so much talent."

"As long as we utilize our talent, I think we'll be fine."

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Soccer: Mount Mercy Men Blank Mount Marty 4-0

BY JEREMY HOECK
jeremy.hoeck@yankton.net

After he listened to a post-game message from his coach, James Elliott said he felt like he had just played a conference game.

It was only a non-conference matchup, though.

"This was a lot like the GPAC, actually," Elliott, a senior, said after his Mount Marty College men's soccer team dropped its home opener Sunday afternoon, 4-0, to Mount Mercy at the NFAA Easton Fields.

"It was physical and a really good test."

Exactly what the Lancers (1-1) wanted.

Coming off a season-opening victory last week, Mount Marty returned to Yankton to face a Mount Mercy (Cedar Rapids, Iowa) team that had already played four games.

The visiting Mustangs — with players from 12 different countries — scored one goal in the first half and put the game away with three goals after halftime.

Mount Marty wasn't exactly blown away, only getting out-shot 17-10, but the physical nature may prepare the Lancers for the GPAC season that begins in two weeks.

"You don't want to get in conference and be pushed around right away," Elliott said.

The hometown Lancers had their chances, finishing the game with six shots on goal — four from sophomore Genaro Bustillos. It might have been progress, but it still didn't result in a goal.

"Especially for a young team, you can't let those chances slip by," MMC head coach Nathan Epp said. "It gives the other team energy."

On both offense and defense, communication is an area that will have to be improved on before the GPAC season, both Elliott and Epp said.

"Especially when you're not communicating, those missed assignments can balloon on you," Epp said.

Still, though, the potential is there for the Lancers to

eventually break through, Elliott said. Mount Marty opened its season with three goals at York, resulting in junior Ludwin Arana being named the GPAC offensive player of the week.

"We got 11 good players on the field for the first time in a long time, at least since I've been here," Elliott said. "And now we're creating more chances than we have in the past."

Another big change for the Lancers has been the talent level, Elliott said.

"We had maybe five or six good guys before," he said, "but now we've got 15 guys competing to start."

Like the women's team, the Mount Marty men will travel to Kansas this weekend for games Friday and Saturday.

"It'll be a great test in Kansas," Epp said. "These guys want to prove themselves."

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



JEREMY HOECK/P&D

Mount Marty College forward Genaro Bustillos, right, chases the ball with Mount Marty's Jan Niklas Neul during their men's soccer game Sunday at the NFAA Easton Fields.