

Jackrabbits In Search Of First FBS Win

Football: SDSU Plays At Kansas On Saturday

BY JEREMY HOECK
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Is South Dakota State due for an upset of a Football Bowl Subdivision (FBS) opponent?

While the Jackrabbits have come close in guarantee – “paycheck” – games, they have yet to join their conference brethren in picking up a victory over a big-time college team.

Perhaps their best chance may be Saturday when the Jacks travel to Lawrence, Kansas, to play the University of Kansas, which has struggled in recent years and has a brand-new coaching staff.

Would such a win be a feather in SDSU's cap?

“Without a doubt,” head coach John Stiegelmeier said in a Tuesday

teleconference.

Despite having reached the FCS playoffs in three consecutive years, the Jackrabbits have come up short in every guarantee game since becoming post-season eligible in 2008.

There have been plenty of close calls, however. There has been a 3-point loss at Minnesota (2009), a 14-point loss at Nebraska (2010), a 14-point loss at Kansas (2012) and a 20-point loss at Missouri (2014).

Certainly picking up a win against a Big Ten or a Big 12 opponent would generate some added buzz for a program like SDSU, but its coach was quick to also point out that it's not the main goal for a season.

“It will happen, and it'll be a feather in the program's hat, and an exciting time,” Stiegelmeier said. “But

it'll also be a time to draw a line and move on to the next goal.”

Of the 10 Missouri Valley Football Conference members, just under half have picked up an FBS win in recent years: North Dakota State (2010, 2011, 2012, 2013, 2014), Indiana State (2011, 2014), Northern Iowa (2013), Youngstown State (2012) and Illinois State (2012).

The University of South Dakota beat Minnesota in 2010 when the Coyotes were members of the Great West Conference – the closest USD has come in FBS games since? Seventeen points.

One aspect that has changed for SDSU, in particular, as the years have gone on has been the approach to games like those, according to Stiegelmeier. He referenced the 2008 game at Iowa State, where the

Cyclones rolled past the Jacks 44-17 in what was SDSU's first foray into big-boy football.

“I'm not saying we should have beat Iowa State, but we just played poorly,” Stiegelmeier said. “I think our guys thought they were going through a different world to play a different game.”

That's not the case anymore.

The Jacks have progressed to the point where they expect to compete in FBS games, their coach said.

“Our measure is how well we play; not being in awe of the stadium or a program,” Stiegelmeier said. “It's been more business-like and less trying to infuse some Superman into our players.”

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K-State Picks Ertz To Start At Quarterback

BY DAVE SKRETTA
AP Sports Writer

MANHATTAN, Kan. (AP)

— The last time Jesse Ertz threw a pass in a game that mattered, the lanky quarterback with the buzz cut was leading tiny Mediapolis High School through the Iowa state playoffs.

Now, he's the starter for Kansas State.

The sophomore was given the job about a week ago, but coach Bill Snyder announced it to the masses on Tuesday. Ertz survived a four-way competition to replace Jake Waters primarily because he was most consistent in practice, starting in the spring and running right through fall.

“We want a balanced quarterback, that's our ideal thing. A guy that can run it, throw it, make good decisions,” Snyder said. “He covers all spectrums.”

But in a testament to just how close the race became, junior Joe Hubener and freshman Alex Delton were listed as co-backups on the initial depth chart, and Snyder said it is likely both of them will get on the field when the Wildcats open against South Dakota on Saturday.

Junior college transfer Jonathan Banks was also in the mix but has chosen to redshirt.

“Any one of them, we would have had a great person back there commanding,” wide receiver Dominique Heath said. “We had a lot of quarterbacks in this race and it was real close.”

Ertz certainly has quite the prep resume to back him up.

Sure, he came from a small high school in a state that traditionally produces a handful of Division I recruits. But he also shattered the Iowa prep record for career touchdown passes with 98, and finished fifth in state history with 7,317 yards passing. All told, he compiled more than 9,000 yards and 130 touchdowns while racking up awards by the armful.

Just about the only thing that went wrong in high school occurred in his final game, the state semifinals in 2012. Ertz hurt his knee and his school wound up losing the game.

Ertz redshirted two years ago and was the third-string quarterback behind Waters and Hubener a year ago. He never threw a pass but appeared in four games, running seven times for 46 yards.

“There's of course a little bit of nerves since it's been so long since I played a real game,” he said, “but more than anything, I'm just excited about the opportunity to make plays in front of people. That's what I'm excited about.”

Snyder had hoped to whittle his quarterback list to a starter earlier, but nobody played particularly well in

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YHS Earns First Victory

BY MICHAEL HAMMOND
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The Yankton Gazelles defeated the Sioux Falls Lincoln Patriots, 25-13, 18-15, 25-22, 25-23, to earn their first win of the season in Yankton on Tuesday night at the Summit Center.

“They just stuck with the game plan,” Yankton coach Tiffany Beste said.

Yankton was able to cruise in the first set winning by 12 points thanks to three aces from Danielle Salvatori and three kills from Sophie Drotzmann. In the second set the Patriots were able to get a lead early and not look back. Michaela Beck and Anezka Szabo each added three kills in the set, while Sydney Siegel had back-to-back aces.

In the third set scoring was neck and neck, but the Gazelles never trailed to take the set by three points, surviving a three-point comeback run that brought the score to 23-22. A Becky Frick ace brought the third set to a close. Frick and Hannah Bockholt each scored five kills in the set.

The final set started much like the third set as the teams traded points until the Gazelles went on a seven-point run to put the score at 17-12. Lincoln rallied to tie the game at 22 before giving Yankton two points and then serving a ball into the net to end the game.

Frick who added five more kills in the final set finished with 12 kills, 10 digs, and three aces.

“She's good, she's very solid offensively,” Beste said. “She has worked on her jump serve and that has really helped us



JEREMY HOECK/P&D

Yankton's Sophie Drotzmann, right, goes up for the ball against a pair of Sioux Falls Lincoln blockers during Tuesday night's match at the Summit Center.

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Mitchell Takes Buck-Kernel Challenge Cup

MITCHELL – In a tight battle, Mitchell scored a 12.5-11.5 victory over the Yankton Bucks in the second annual Buck-Kernel Challenge Boys' Golf Cup, held Tuesday in Mitchell.

The dual was played in a Davis Cup format, in memory of Yankton High School graduate and former Mitchell High School golf coach Rob Marchand, who passed away last year. A traveling trophy will be awarded to the winner of the annual event (Yankton won last year).

Mitchell edged Yankton 3.5 to 2.5 in both four-ball (best ball) and scramble formats. In the individual competition (the final six holes), Yankton had a 6.5 to 5.5 edge.

Next up for Yankton is a dual in Lennox on Thursday.

BEST BALL (Holes 1-6): Mason Sundleaf-Mat Jensen Y vs. Cade Carpenter-Ryan Solberg M, all square; A.J. Fernandez-Chris Eilers Y vs. Sam Mook-Ethan Huber M, all square; Kyle Biggestaff-Taylor Uithoven M def. Micah Frick-Jimmie Cunningham, 2 & 1; Dalton Maibaum-Owen Feser Y def. Micah Moen-Nick Bennett, 2 & 1; Chase Erickson-Austin Frick Y vs. Dillon Adams-Tate Krill M, all square; Sam Helleloid-Max Dailey M def. Jacob Rodriguez-Kyle Withrow, 3 & 2.
SCRAMBLE (Holes 7-12): Cade Carpenter-Ryan Solberg M def. Mason Sundleaf-Mat Jensen, 1 up; Sam Mook-Ethan Huber M def. A.J. Fernandez-Chris Eilers, 3 & 2; Michael Frick-Jimmie Cunningham Y vs. Kyle Biggestaff-Taylor Uithoven M, all square; Dalton Maibaum-Owen Feser Y def. Micah Moen-Nick Bennett, 2 & 1; Chase Erickson Y def. Dillon Adams, 2 up; Tate Krill M def. Austin Frick, 2 & 1; Sam Helleloid M def. Jacob Rodriguez 4 & 2; Max Dailey M def. Kyle Withrow 2 &

Madison Inv.

MADISON – Host Madison needed to go to the team's fifth golfer to break a tie with Parkston and win its home boys' golf invitational on Tuesday at Madison Country Club.

Both Madison and Parkston finished at 340. The score of the fifth golfer – the first not involved in the team score – was the first tiebreaker, and Madison

Soccer: Bucks Blank Harrisburg

HARRISBURG – Cole Lewno scored two goals as the Yankton Bucks kept their winning streak alive, blanking Harrisburg 4-0 on Tuesday night in Harrisburg.

Chase O'Grady and Chase Huber both added a goal, while Trevor Rafferty saved five shots for the shutout.

Yankton (4-2) plays at Sioux Falls Roosevelt on Thursday.

In the junior varsity game Tuesday, Yankton defeated Harrisburg 3-0 behind goals from Alex Cutler, Price Jensen and O'Grady.

Girls

Harrisburg 5, Yankton 2

HARRISBURG – The Harrisburg Tigers outshot Yankton 14-8 on the way to a 5-2 victory over the Gazelles in Eastern South Dakota Conference girls' soccer action on Tuesday.

“The ladies struggled adapting to the speed of the field turf,” Yankton head coach Tyler Schuring said. “We didn't connect well enough through the midfield and couldn't maintain enough possession, putting us on our heels most of the match.”

Amanda Gravholt scored Yankton's first goal, converting a free kick from 25

yards out. Allyson Hento added a score off a volley shot from six yards out.

Defensively, Haley Schild had eight saves.

Harrisburg concludes a four-match home stand with Sioux Falls O'Gorman on Sept. 8. Yankton, 1-4-1, travels to Sioux Falls to face Roosevelt on Thursday. The match, scheduled to be played at Howard Wood Field, will begin at 6 p.m.

In the JV game, Yankton beat Harrisburg 9-1 behind four goals from Jaiden Boomsma. Megan Cap, Payton Wolfram, Maggie Donner and Miranda Winterringer all added a goal for the Gazelles. Chloe Perakslis saved three shots and Sadie Fedders saved two shots.

Bon Homme Silences Thunder To Remain Unbeaten

TYNDALL – Bon Homme advanced to 3-0 on the season with a 25-14, 25-21, 25-9 victory over Andes Central/Dakota Christian on Tuesday night in Tyndall.

For Bon Homme, Morgan Rothschild led the attack with eight kills. Morgan McAllister finished with 16 digs, while Sierra Mesman had 11 digs. Alie Adams totaled a match-high 26 assists and also had two ace serves.

Kennedy Muckey led Andes/Central with eight kills and 5 digs, while Lydia Hansum had nine assists. Andes Central/Dakota Christian won the junior varsity match 18-25, 27-17, 15-8. AC/DC also won the “C” team match 25-16, 25-8.

Bon Homme will travel to Vermillion next Tuesday night, while Andes Central/Dakota Christian will host Avon on Thursday.

BON HOMME (3-0).....25 25 25
ANDES CENTRAL/DAKOTA CHR. (2-2)....14 21 9

Lennox 3, Vermillion 2

LENNOX – Callie Luke had 10 kills and 17 digs as the Lennox Orioles opened the season with a thrilling five-set (25-17, 23-24, 24-26, 25-23, 15-13) rally over Vermillion at home Tuesday night.

Keely Anderson had eight kills for Lennox (1-0), while Courtney Weeldreyer had seven kills and Taylor Weeldreyer had 20 digs.

Drake Sweeps Jackrabbits

BROOKINGS – Sophomore Ashley Beaner led the South Dakota State volleyball team (0-4) despite dropping a 25-17, 25-21 and 25-18 match to Drake (5-0) in the home opener at Frost Arena.

Beaner had eight kills while senior Kacey Herrmann added seven kills and three blocks. Junior Brooke Leatham had 27 set assists, 11 digs and two blocks. Senior Lizzie Palmer had a

match-high 17 digs. Yankton native Mikala Hora finished with five kills and six digs for the Jackrabbits.

Shelby Daum led Drake with 11 kills and a .435 hitting percentage. Michelle Tommi and Rebecca Brown combine for 22 digs for the Bulldogs.

The Jackrabbits return action this weekend when they play in the Stephen F. Austin Invitational Friday vs. Columbia at 2:30 p.m.

Parkston 3, Avon 2

AVON – A big night for Halli Heisinger helped Parkston record its first win of the season, by edging Avon 20-25, 25-22, 25-15, 22-25, 15-10 on Tuesday night in Avon.

Heisinger recorded nine kills, 21 digs and six ace serves for the Trojans (1-4), while Nicky Weber had six kills, 20 digs and seven ace serves. For good measure, Sydney Weber posted 20 set assists, 10 digs and three ace serves.

In the loss for Avon (0-2), Kacie Mudder had nine kills, three blocks, six digs and four ace serves, while Cheyenne Nagel posted six kills and 12 digs. Lexi Olson had a team-high nine ace serves and Lea Wormsbecher had six ace serves.

Parkston hosts Hanson on Thursday and Avon hosts Andes Central-Dakota

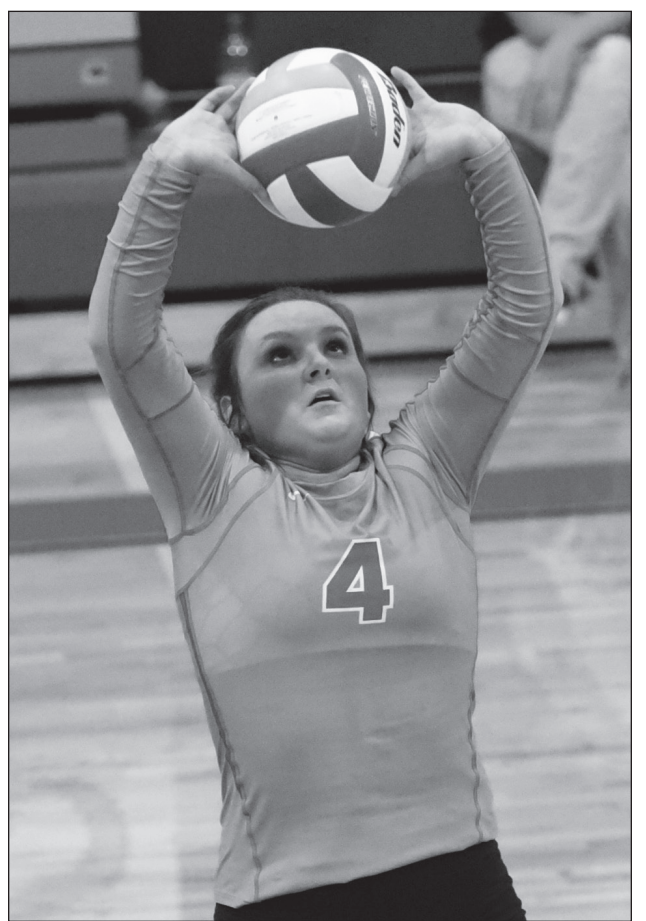
Dakota Valley 3, Tri-Val. 2

NORTH SIOUX CITY – Meredith Lammers had 12 kills and two teammates added 11 each as Dakota Valley edged Tri-Valley 25-14, 18-25, 16-25, 25-16, 16-14 on Tuesday night in North Sioux City.

Elizabeth Lammers and Shayla Johnson both had 11 kills for Dakota Valley (3-0), while Allyssa Johnson recorded 39 digs.

No stats were reported for Tri-Valley (2-2).

TRIVALLEY (2-2).....14 25 25 16 14
DAKOTA VALLEY (3-0).....25 18 16 25 16



JAMES D. CIMBUREK/P&D

Bon Homme setter Alie Adams gets the ball to a hitter during the Cavaliers' volleyball match with Andes Central-Dakota Christian on Tuesday in Tyndall.

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