

USD Defense Looks For Repeat Performance

BY JEREMY HOECK
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VERMILLION – How do the Coyotes follow up one of their best overall performances in years?

By doing it again, University of South Dakota players and coaches said this week.

That will be the goal today (Saturday) against Drake: Continue the momentum USD developed at UC Davis a week ago, particularly in the three key areas of the game – offense, defense and special teams.

“It seems like in the last however many games, we’ve had one of those units make a couple mistakes down the stretch,” said USD junior running back Trevor Bouma, who ran for a career-high 186 yards in

also

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get all three areas – offense, defense and special teams – clicking at the same time. And while special teams certainly played a role in USD’s victory, it may have been the defense that took the biggest step forward.

Against UC Davis, the Coyotes – with its new four-man front – recorded six tackles for loss (four sacks), three interceptions and a

fumble recovery. The contributions of defensive ends Colin Mertlik and Andrew Van Ginkel – both new to the line – have made big impacts through two games, Warner said. The other two starters on the line are Drew Iddings and Nick Jacobs.

“They’ve been doing a great job with their speed,” Warner said. “It seems like there’s almost always a lineman in the backfield. That’s definitely a lot better.”

What the Coyotes did at UC Davis, in particular, wasn’t a massive change: It was a basic look.

“On defense, that’s as good as we’ve looked, and we didn’t have to do it with smoke and mirrors,” head coach Joe Glenn said. “We came with the four-man rush, and played

our base defense. “The best teams I’ve ever gone against play their base defense almost exclusively.”

And that base defense produced the kind of rush the Coyotes never really saw last year. It also limited UC Davis to 60 yards on the ground – certainly a sign of improvement for USD.

“I think so far we’ve done a good job of stopping the run,” junior safety Jacob Warner said. “And if we keep doing that, we’re going to be one of the best defenses in the Valley, in my opinion.”

First, however, the Coyotes would like to see a second such performance; to prove last week wasn’t an anomaly. Drake (1-1), a non-scholarship

program in the Pioneer Football League, had its own defensive success last week at North Dakota. The Bulldogs held UND to 25 rushing yards on 36 carries, and also recovered three fumbles, had three sacks and forced a safety.

It was the way Drake limited UND – which had run all over FBS Wyoming the week before – that really caught USD’s attention this week.

“Slowing a team like UND down to twenty-five yards rushing is something to make a point of,” Bouma said. “We have to come in and take this like every other week; focus in and get better every day.”

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Pioneer Day Party



Yankton’s Alex Withrow, 52, tries to pull down Aberdeen Central quarterback Gabe Swanson from behind during their Eastern South Dakota Conference football game on Friday at Crane-Youngworth Field. Also pursuing for the Bucks on the play is Kobe Bowker (58) and Sheldon Gant (34).

Big Play ‘D’ Leads YHS Past Eagles

Bucks Win 36-25, Take 3-1 Mark To Pierre Next Week

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When it absolutely needed to make a stop, the Yankton defense rose to the occasion.

Sure, the Bucks nearly let their lead slip away and surrendered nearly 300 yards to a receiver, but they did just enough to hold off Aberdeen Central 36-25 in Friday night’s homecoming game at Crane-Youngworth Field.

Put another way, win No. 3 on the season didn’t come easy.

“We just believe in each other,” said senior Tanner Frick, who had an interception return for a touchdown.

Having given up plenty of big plays through the air to the Golden Eagles, the Bucks forced a pair of turnovers on downs within the final three minutes.

“We gave up some big plays again, but we did just enough to win,” Yankton head coach Arlin Likness said. “We’ve certainly got a lot of things to work on.”

“But you know what, I’ll

take a ‘W’ any way we can get one.”

Not only did the Bucks (3-1) rebound from last week’s performance, they picked up an all-important win in the tough 4-game stretch — up next are Pierre and Sioux Falls O’Gorman.

Yankton also did just enough to overcome a huge game from the Aberdeen Central (2-2) passing attack.

Senior wide receiver Layne Tieszen unofficially caught 10 passes for 283 yards with four touchdowns.

“At first, he was able to get open more on us,” Frick said. “He’s just really fast and pretty strong, and it’s tall.”

Aberdeen Central head coach Mike Flakus credited junior Cannon Hannigan with running crisp routes over the middle of the field which enabled Tieszen to get behind the Yankton defense.

“There’s nobody on our team who cares about yardage or touchdowns less than him,” Flakus said in a post-game radio interview. “He’s scored enough

touchdowns in his career. He just loves playing the game and playing with his teammates.”

In a game that saw 61 points, perhaps the biggest play came on a third-down completion that didn’t result in points.

With its lead down to 28-25 with just under three minutes left, Yankton converted a third down play for 35 yards.

Two plays later, the Bucks were in the end zone (on a Rayden Terca 2-yard run) and had padded their lead.

And as it turned out, that was more than enough. The Bucks stiffened up and stopped the Golden Eagles on fourth down on the next two drives.

Despite giving up all those yards from quarterback Gabe Swanson, Yankton was able to record five sacks and three interceptions — thanks to its pressure.

That kind of performance was a sign of progression from last week’s loss at Sioux Falls Washington, according to Likness.

“We definitely saw some improvements,” he said. “We hung on to the ball a little bit better this time.”

“But we had some turnovers that could’ve been really costly.”

In the first half, Yankton’s best offense was its defense.

Included in the opening half was an interception return for a touchdown, an interception that set up a touchdown (on a 17-yard field), and a long drive that resulted in a short touchdown run.

The only scoring in the first quarter was on Frick’s interception return for a touchdown — on a deflected pass down field.

Aberdeen Central finally got its explosive pass game going on its first drive of the second quarter. Swanson hit Tieszen for a 38-yard touchdown at the 10:07 mark, but the extra point hit the upright.

Yankton’s second touchdown came directly off an-



Yankton’s Tanner Frick hauls in a pass tipped by teammate Chris Kinsley for an interception during the Bucks’ Pioneer Day matchup with Aberdeen Central on Friday at Crane-Youngworth Field. Frick returned the interception for the game’s first touchdown in a 36-25 victory over the Golden Eagles.

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Cross Country: Yankton’s Woods Takes Title In Norfolk

NORFOLK, Neb. – Yankton senior Savannah Woods earned medalist honors in the varsity girls’ race of the Lyle Moeller Norfolk Invitational cross country meet, held on Friday at Skyview Lake near Norfolk, Nebraska.

Woods finished in 19:06.20, 13 seconds ahead of Anna Milton of Papillion-La Vista South. Millard West won the team title, 64-68 over Papillion-La Vista South.

Also for YHS, which placed eighth, Lauren Eidsness (21:13.27) finished 29th, Tessa Folkers (21:14.18) placed 30th, Carly Vavra (23:53.08) finished 53rd and Lauren Rezac (24:07.35) finished 55th.

The Yankton boys finished seventh, led by Nathan Zimmerman’s 24th place finish in 17:36.06. Gabe Dannenbring (17:39.16) placed 28th, Andrew Peitz (17:45.05) placed 36th, Sam Gussio (17:51.88) placed 37th and Brady Jaquith (18:12.95) placed 42nd for the Bucks’ scoring.

Millard West won the boys’ title, led by the 1-2 finish of Seth Hirsch (15:39.17) and John Quigley (16:09.59).

Yankton hosts its annual invitational on Thursday.

In the JV boys’ race, Yankton was led by Noah Anderson’s 37th place finish in 19:31.39. Kristen Rezac led the Gazelles in the JV girls’ race, placing 39th in 23:42.71.

VARSITY GIRLS
TEAM SCORES: Millard West 64, Papillion-La Vista South 68,

Omaha Central 93, Norfolk 106, Omaha Burk 141, Lincoln North Star 145, Columbus 158, Yankton 168, Bellevue West 241, Grand Island 272

TOP 10: 1, Savannah Woods, Yankton 19:06.20; 2, Anna Milton, Papillion-La Vista South 19:19.91; 3, Allison Goos, Columbus 19:24.84; 4, Kaitlynn Johnson, Millard West 19:31.59; 5, Diana Lado, Lincoln North Star 19:37.24; 6, Megan Means, Norfolk 19:40.02; 7, Tasneem Ali, Lincoln North Star 20:03.26; 8, Breanna Harthorn, Norfolk 20:06.55; 9, Gabby McGinn, Millard West 20:11.34; 10, Brianni Jones, Omaha Central 20:26.60

OTHER YHS: 29, Lauren Eidsness 21:13.27; 30, Tessa Folkers 21:14.18; 53, Carly Vavra 23:53.08; 55, Lauren Rezac 24:07.35

VARSITY BOYS

TEAM SCORES: Millard West 32, Papillion-La Vista South 68, Omaha Burk 108, Lincoln North Star 120, Norfolk 132, Bellevue West 153, Yankton 167, Omaha Central 177, Grand Island 242, Columbus 246

TOP 10: 1, Seth Hirsch, Millard West 15:39.17; 2, John Quigley, Millard West 16:09.59; 3, Andrew Vasquez, Omaha Burk 16:13.13; 4, Joshua Klein, Millard West 16:14.16; 5, Alex Tollinger, Omaha Central 16:19.62; 6, Tajar Clausen, Norfolk 16:22.13; 7, Andrew Dubas, Millard West 16:27.50; 8, Jake Ralston, Papillion-La Vista South 16:32.80; 9, Nathan Pierce, Lincoln North Star 16:34.64; 10, Logan Clark, Papillion-La Vista South 16:47.34

YHS: 24, Nathan Zimmerman 17:36.06; 28, Gabe Dannenbring 17:39.16; 36, Andrew Peitz 17:45.05; 37, Sam Gussio 17:51.88; 42, Brady Jaquith 18:12.95; 59, Lincoln Megard 19:20.14; 63, Jordan Lucht 19:27.10

JV BOYS

TEAM SCORES: Millard West 21, Papillion-La Vista South 37, Lincoln North Star 128, Omaha Central 136, Omaha Burk 138, Norfolk 139, Columbus 184, Grand Island 233, Yankton 254, Bellevue West 286

TOP 5: 1, Daniel Zavadi, Millard West 17:36.42; 2, Ryan Emmel, Millard West 17:49.51; 3, Franklin Stue, Millard West 17:53.87; 4, Nate Koeppe, Papillion-La Vista South 17:57.76; 5, Kyle Caverzage, Papillion-La Vista South 17:59.69

YHS: 37, Noah Anderson 19:31.39; 65, Jackson Husman 20:30.98; 73, Josh Carr 20:45.72; 76, Jakob Harell 20:48.88; 80, Mason Welker 20:56.22; 91, Javier Florez 21:15.02; 92, Ethan Brauser 21:15.51; 105, Johnny Neu 21:45.39; 120, Jacob Paulson 22:30.03; 126, Ty Schultz 22:39.71; 127, Jesse Ridding 22:52.12; 136, Anton Humley 23:21.62; 147, Dylan Kortan 24:44.75; 155, John Sawyer 27:58.78

JV GIRLS

TEAM SCORES: Papillion-La Vista South 39, Omaha Burk 58, Millard West 63, Omaha Central 84, Norfolk 136, Lincoln North Star 184, Columbus 206, Yankton 231, Bellevue West 280, Grand Island 298

TOP 5: 1, Molly Simpson, Papillion-La Vista South 21:11.17; 2, Asia Wilson, Omaha Central 21:34.24; 3, Angella Bull, Omaha Burk 21:42.93; 4, Hannah Storm, Papillion-La Vista South 21:45.98; 5, Andrea Ziska, Omaha Burk 21:53.62

YHS: 39, Kristen Rezac 23:42.71; 67, Rylie Andrus 25:06.59; 79, Amy Pierce 26:15.59; 88, Kasey Erickson 26:38.55; 97, Lauryn Park 27:16.68

Bucks 8th At Mitchell

MITCHELL – The Yankton Bucks placed eighth in the 18-team Mitchell Invitational boys’ golf tournament, held on Friday at Lakeview Golf Course.

Sioux Falls O’Gorman shot a 298 for an 11-stroke victory over Aberdeen Central. Parkston finished third at 314.

Aberdeen Central’s Connor Preston earned medalist honors with a 67, four strokes better than Parkston’s Jacob Lee. O’Gorman’s Justin Kolb and Rapid City Stevens’ Lane Jensen each shot 72.

Yankton finished at 323, led by Mat Jensen’s 79.

Yankton travels to Brookings for the Eastern South Dakota Conference Championships on Sept. 26. The tournament is the Bucks’ final event before state, Oct. 5-6 at Rapid City.

Parkston travels to Pierre for Pre-Regions on Monday.

TEAM SCORES: SF O’Gorman 298, Aberdeen Central 309, Parkston 314, SF Lincoln 315, RC Stevens 317, Brandon Valley 320, Huron 322, Yankton 323, SF Roosevelt 324, Pierre 325, SF Washington 325, Harrisburg 330, Mitchell 339, Watertown 341, Brookings 342, Spearfish 344, Sturgis 347, RC Central 368

TOP 20: Connor Preston, Aberdeen Central 67; Jacob Lee, Parkston 71; Justin Kolb, SF O’Gorman 72; Lane Jensen, RC Stevens 72; Nolan Wiegell, Huron 73; Taylor Fjeresstad, Brandon Valley 73; Grant Kolb, SF O’Gorman 74; Will Grevious, SF Washington 75; Brenden Bassing, SF O’Gorman 76; Jack Lundin, SF Roosevelt 76; Taylor Schultz, RC Stevens 76; Tony Hayes, SF O’Gorman 76; Garrett Hohn, Parkston 77; Hank Eggbraaten, SF Washington 77; Jacob Otta, SF O’Gorman 77; Luke Rezac, SF Lincoln 77; Riley Goeller, Huron 78; Sam Batta, Watertown 78; Ben Clarke, SF Lincoln 79; Bennett Lundy, Aberdeen Central 79; Joe Fuhr, Harrisburg 79; Mat Jensen, Yankton 79; Parker Smith, SF Roosevelt 79; Tice McVay, Sturgis 79; Tyler Westra, SF Lincoln 79

OTHER AREA: Alex Scott, Parkston 80; Mason Sundleaf, Yankton 81; Michael Frick, Yankton 81; AJ Fernandez, Yankton 82; Nate Hohn, Parkston 86; Drew Kurtz, Parkston 88; Jimmie Cunningham, Yankton 89; Dalton Mabeum, Yankton 90

GPAC Men No. 1

SIoux CENTER, Iowa – Mount Marty College sits in 10th place after the opening round of the Great Plains Athletic Conference men’s golf Championships. The first round was held Friday at The Ridge Golf Course in Sioux Center, Iowa.

Northwestern holds a one-stroke over Doane, 289-290, after the first round. Dakota Wesleyan is third at 295.

Doane’s Cale Benson and Northwestern’s Zach Riddle each shot 69 to lead the way.

MMC shot 320, led by Joe Brinkman’s 77. Dylan Brendt shot 80, Luke Loecker shot 81, Robbie Neswick shot 82 and Collin Matthews carded an 85 for the Lancers.

Next for MMC is the Morningside Invitational on Monday.

The second round of the GPAC Championships will be held Oct. 1 in Lincoln, Neb. The third and fourth rounds will be held in the spring.

Raiders Blank AC-DC

GAYVILLE – Grant Rice’s three touchdowns fueled Gayville-Volin to a victory over Andes Central/Dakota Christian 30-0 on Friday in Gayville.

For the raiders (2-2) Rice threw, took an interception back, and ran for a touchdown to go with 53 yards running, 17 yards passing, and a team-high 15 tackles. Zach Anderson ran for 56 yards on the ground on just eight carries and finished with 13 tackles. CJ Lee added a touchdown on a 10-yard run in the second quarter and led GV with 60 yards rushing on five carries.

For AC/DC Hayden Medicine Horn led the team in rushing with 61 yards on five carries.

Gayville-Volin will be on a bye next week, while Andes Central/Dakota Christian will return home to play Corsica-Stickney.

ANDES CENTRAL/DAKOTA CHR. (1-2) 0 0 0 0
GAYVILLE-VOLIN (2-2).....8 16 6 0 - 30

Baltic 47, Centerville 16

CENTERVILLE – The running duo of Kadin Wolff and Sam Clark, who combined for 458 yards and five touchdowns, led Baltic over Centerville 47-16 on Friday in

Centerville.

Clark had a game-high 267 yards on 13 carries for three scores for the Bulldogs (2-1), Wolff ran 11 for 191 and two scores. Each player finished tied for the team lead in tackles with 12.

For Centerville (0-4) the leading rushers were Adam Austin with 49 on 15 carries and Tyrell Martz with 45 yards on 13 carries. Bailey Johnson was the leader in tackles and sacks with seven and one respectively.

Next Friday, Centerville will travel to play Chester Area and Baltic will return home to take on Garretson.

Tripp-Delmont-Armour 44, Marty 18

MARTY – Pascal Paravan accounted for three touchdowns to lead Tripp-Delmont-Armour past Marty 44-18 in nine-man football action on Friday.

Paravan rushed for scores of 13 and four yards, and returned an interception 25 yards for a touchdown for TDA. Also for the Night-hawks, Logan Fechner (20 yards), Noah Schafers (15 yards) and Hunter Stoltenburg (54 yards) rushed for