

THE BLUFFS

The Bluffs Junior Tournament

Sponsored by The Bluffs and Hy-Vee

Boys 7-8		
Oliver Hansen	20	1st
Conner Roerig	22	2nd
Girls 7-8		
Stephanie Carr	29	1st
Isabelle Newcombe	29	2nd
Boys 9-10		
Connor Larson	37	
Jack Freeburg	39	
Jackson Girard	17	1st
Ben Burbach	18	2nd
Will Fairholm	34	
Kaleb Preister	24	
TJ Tracey	27	
Carter Skogsberg	24	
Bodhi Brady	31	
Kyler Christensen	25	
Caleb Emerson	33	
Austin Newcombe	32	
Wyatt Gestring	29	
Jackson Hennies	19	3rd
Roz Baylor	31	
Girls 9-10		
Paige Pederson	33	3rd
Carley Johnson	37	
Mya Dejong	30	2nd
Leah Herbster	26	1st
Boys 11-12		
Liam Mechling	27	
Hunter Lavin	23	2nd
Brady Martinez	19	1st
Noah Gilbertson	26	3rd
Tyler Mann	45	
Riley Palensky	30	
Dillon Gestring	28	
Girls 11-12		
Sadie Pederson	45	
Lilly Johnson	31	1st
Katrina Heles	35	3rd
Maddie Christensen	35	2nd
Samantha Vogel	31	

Coyotes tabbed for 8th in MVC

The USD Coyotes are not expected to threaten for the Missouri Valley Conference title in 2014.

The Coyotes are expected to toil toward the bottom of the standings as they were picked 8th by league coaches after last season's 4-8 record.

That is of course according to a consensus which does not include Joe Glenn.

The third-year head coach of the Coyotes is definitely not planning on falling in line with the voters' way of thinking.

"I definitely take offense and yet I never did like it

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USD construction project takes key step forward

By Jeremy Hoeck

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As work continues on a number of athletic-related facility updates at the University of South Dakota, the two biggest projects were turned over to contractors on Monday.

Mortenson Construction, based in Minneapolis, assumed control of the grounds for a \$66 million project at USD that includes a 6,000-seat basketball and volleyball arena, an outdoor track and soccer complex, and an academic laboratory.

That doesn't, however, mean that Mortenson would have workers on site Monday to begin moving ground, according to USD athletic

director David Herbster.

"Anything on our end that we need to remove and get ready, we've done that," he said last Thursday.

The timetable for construction remains on schedule, according to Lorin Wilcox, the project manager and building engineer for USD's Facilities Management staff. The track and soccer complex is set for a 2015 completion, while the arena will be ready for use by 2016.

"What they choose to do with that (Monday) is up to them," Wilcox said last week. "We're more concerned with the end date, which they'll meet."

The bids for the track and soccer complex were due in Pierre on Thursday, and the first

bid packages for the arena were sent out Thursday as well, Wilcox said.

From there, Mortensen will sort through the bids and award subcontractors for both projects.

Those are not the only athletic-related updates underway at USD, however, Herbster said:

- New metal football bleachers on the west end of the DakotaDome are being installed, with a completion date of Aug. 15.

- The lockers in the soccer and swimming/diving locker rooms were replaced,

- The DakotaDome pool has been off-line since June so it can be resurfaced, Herbster said, and

- A new Daktronics scoreboard will be installed out at the main softball field.

"These are upgrades that have been on our books for a while," Herbster said, "but there will always be a priority."

USD has tried to tackle smaller projects every year, he added. In 2011, for example, the permanent seats in the DakotaDome were replaced and a new basketball court was purchased.

Many of the projects, though, such as the new locker rooms and resurfaced pool are not ones the general public would notice, Herbster said.

You can follow Jeremy Hoeck on Twitter at twitter.com/jhoeck.

MVFC 'not OK' with so few playoff qualifiers

By Jeremy Hoeck

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With four more teams to the Football Championship Subdivision (FCS) playoff field a year ago, the Missouri Valley Football Conference probably could have qualified more than two teams.

Or, in the minds of league officials and coaches, it should have sent more than two.

Commissioner Patty Viverito made clear during Tuesday's preseason coaches teleconference that the Missouri Valley deserved more than two playoff bids in 2013.

"Having only two teams in an expanded bracket is not OK," Viverito said. "We have playoff caliber teams not being selected, and that's not OK."

Despite the FCS post-season bracket being expanded from 20 to 24 teams last season, the highest-ranked league in the country earned only two bids: North Dakota State and South Dakota State.

Both won at least one game (NDSU captured its third straight national title), but many who follow the league felt Youngstown State was also deserving of an invitation. The Penguins were 8-3 a year ago, despite losing their final three games, which may have hurt their prospects.

That didn't sit well in Youngstown, according to head coach Eric Wofford.

"I think it's very clear that we should have three or four teams in," he said Tuesday. "Everyone knows that; every coach knows that."



(Courtesy image)

And still, the Valley had two teams in the post-season.

Despite leading the nation in the Gridiron Power Index (GPI), the ranking model that serves as the top indicator for at-large selection, the MVFC had North Dakota State at No. 1, Youngstown State at No. 9, South Dakota State at No. 12 and Northern Iowa at No. 13.

"That's the thing that's unfortunately out of our control," Wofford said.

As for a way to avoid a similar issue in the future, Viverito

pointed to two specific ideas: Help the selection committee "understand and respect strength of schedule," and continue to schedule top-25 non-conference games.

"We're not doing a lot of that," she said, referring to the latter. "Getting them on our schedule; that may be the more challenging part, rather than beating them."

The University of South Dakota, for one, played in 2013 a model similar to the one Viverito suggested. The Coyotes lost close

games to Northern Arizona and Montana, both top-25 and playoff-bound teams out of the Big Sky Conference.

USD head coach Joe Glenn, who previously coached in the Big Sky, was quick to point out that a difference between that league and the Missouri Valley was easy to see late in the season — when the Coyotes played Montana and North Dakota State in consecutive weeks.

"There was no comparison. None whatsoever," Glenn said.

By that point, USD had also completed its conference schedule (at 3-5), and was able to reflect back on a 6-point loss at Northern Arizona. "And they weren't as good as people in our league," Glenn added.

The first Valley coach to talk at length about — and offer a proposal to bolster — the league's playoff chances was Mark Farley at Northern Iowa.

He suggested that perhaps the league should split into two divisions to have two league champions, and then a third team could possibly earn an at-large bid to the post-season.

"We need to plan ahead and project some possibilities of what we can do to get a third or fourth team in," Farley said. "Scheduling is a big part of that."

Viverito was asked about the possibility of splitting the league into two 5-team divisions as Farley suggested, and she wasn't in favor in playing fewer games.

"I have a hard time envisioning how that logic helps us," the commissioner added.

CHURCH SCHEDULES

BERGEN LUTHERAN Church: "The little white church on Timber Road." Worship 9:00 a.m. Sunday School 10:15 a.m.

Blessed Teresa of Calcutta Catholic Church, 995 N. Sioux Point Road, Dakota Dunes, SD. Weekend Masses: Saturday, 4:30 p.m.; Sunday, 9:30 a.m. and 5:30 p.m.

BRULE Creek Lutheran Church, Elk Point, SD: Worship Service 11:00am, Sunday School 9:45am to 10:45am.

CHRIST OUR SAVIOR Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod: Worship Sunday 6:00 p.m., Bible Study Tuesday, 9:00 p.m., Neuhardt Center, 624-5398 or 1-800-998-1234

CHURCH OF CHRIST, 102 Prosp: Sunday Worship 10:00 a.m.; Bible Study 9:00 a.m.; Bible Study 12:00 noon; Wednesday Night Classes, 7:00 p.m.

Concordia Lutheran Church (LC-MS) 7 South University Street, Vermillion. Divine Service — Sunday, 10:30 a.m.; Sunday School — Sunday, 9:00 a.m. Pastor Samuel Needham. Contact us at (605) 624-3459 or at lcmsvermillion.org

CORNERSTONE CHURCH: *A Place To Grow.* Located at the corner of Crawford & Cherry St. Celebration Service: Sunday during the School year 9:00am and 10:30am (subject to change during holidays) in the summer Sunday 10 AM. Check us out at cornerstonesd.org or call (624-8809) for further information.

DALESBURG BAPTIST Church 30503 466th Ave., Beresford, Pastor Darren Reghehr. 9:45am, Sunday School; 11:00am, Morning Worship; Mid-week Services Wednesdays, 7:00pm. (605)253-2622.

Dalesburg Lutheran Church: 12 miles North of Vermillion on University Road. Worship Services 9:15 a.m. Sunday School 10:45 a.m. Website: www.dalesburglutheran.org

Elk Point Baptist Church. Sunday worship at 11:00am, Tuesday evening Bible study at 7:00pm. 101 North Green St., Elk Point, SD 57069. (605)222-1981

FAITH FELLOWSHIP of the Open Bible on Bypass 50 and Highway 19: Sunday Celebration 10:30 a.m. Pastor Tony Armbrust, 624-2921.

FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH: 401 Main Street, Makell, NE. Worship: 9am. Communion: 1st and 3rd Sundays. (605)658-0240 (home) (402)-692-3323 (church).

Faith United Lutheran Church, ELCA, 44874 303rd St/Po Box 168, Volin, SD 57072, (605)267-2277. Sunday Worship: 9:30am with Holy Communion the 1st & 4th Sundays. WOW Wednesday program beginning at 6:30pm for all children 3 yrs old - 7th grade, and confirmation classes for those in grades 8th & 9th.

St Paul Lutheran Church, 31903 475th Ave, Elk Point, SD 57025, Sunday Service 10:30 am, Pastor David Bentz.

FIRST BAPTIST Church Elmer "Sandy" Aakre, Pastor 624-6391 home, 624-4658 church. Time: 9:15 Sunday School, 10:30 Worship. Sunday Choir Practice, 11:50 a.m.

GAYVILLE LUTHERAN Church: Sunday School 9:15 a.m., Worship 10:30 a.m.

GOSPEL CHAPEL Church, 708 Jessie St./Highway 12, Newcastle, NE. Sunday School, 9:30 a.m.; Sunday worship 10:30 a.m.; AWANA Wednesday at 7 p.m., 402-355-2305. Pastor Chuck Myers, 402-355-1335.

GRACE BAPTIST Church, SBC, Pastor Steve Ford, 1102 E. Main. Phone 624-4949. Adult's and Children's Sunday School 9:30 a.m. Sunday Worship 10:45 a.m. Prayer Meeting Wednesday Night 7 p.m.

HILLSIDE COMMUNITY CHURCH 1800 Constance Dr. Worship Sept.-May 10:30a.m. AWANA Small groups; 9-10:15 Worship May-August 10a.m., 605-624-4862, www.hillside-cc.com Like us on Facebook!

IMMANUAL Lutheran Church, Elk Point, SD: Worship Service 9:00 a.m., Sunday School 10:00 a.m.

KOMSTAD COVENANT Church, Rural Beresford and Centerville, SD: Matt Styles, Pastor. 18 miles north on University Road. Phone 563-2402. Sunday School 10 a.m., Worship Service 11 a.m.

PLEASANT VALLEY Lutheran Church, Rural Vermillion: Sunday School 9:45 a.m., Worship Service 10:30 a.m., Holy Communion First Sunday of every month. All welcome.

PROVIDENCE REFORMED Church, 830 Madison: Sunday School 9:30 a.m., Sunday Worship 10:30 a.m. "We Welcome You To Historic Protestant Worship And Fellowship."

ST. AGNES Church, 416 Walker St., Fr. John Fischer: St. Agnes Church and Parish Office, tele. 624-4478. St. Agnes Rectory, 505 Catalina, tele. 624-1995. Mass schedule: 5 p.m. Saturday, 8:00 a.m. and 10:30a.m. Sunday, Weekday Masses — consult weekly bulletin; Sacrament of Penance, Saturday 4-4:45p.m.

ST. PAUL'S Episcopal Church, corner of Main and Linden. Sunday: nursery available. 10:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist. 11:00 a.m. coffee hour. Call 624-3379 for more info.

Sunday evening Experience at ONE HOUR is comprised of two primary elements: powerful worship and a life-changing message. Worship at ONE HOUR is led by a talented live band in a style that is consistent with todays culture and a relevant teaching message from LifeChurch.tv's senior pastor, Craig Groeschel, via video broadcast. The worship is intense and the teaching is challenging but the environment will be relaxed and casual. ONE HOUR on the USD Campus at the MUC, 6:30pm Sundays! www.one-hour.org

The Luther Center at USD: Life at the corner of campus and faith. Located at Cherry & Plum Streets, Vermillion. We worship weekly on Wednesday evenings at 8:30pm and host service and fellowship events throughout the year. Visit us online at www.luthercenter.org or find us on facebook!

The United Church of Christ Congregational, Highway 12 Newcastle, NE. Worship: 7:00 p.m. Saturday. Pastor Gary Kimm. Come join us!

The Vermillion First United Methodist Church, a welcome place reaching out to all God's people. Located at 16 N. Dakota St. Adult Sunday School 9am; Sunday Worship 10:25am; Children's Church after Children's Sermon (PreK-5). Welcome Table-serving free meal Mondays 5:30-7pm. Youth Group with Meal (Gr. 6-8) Wednesdays 5:30-7pm. High School Youth Group 7pm. Adult Choir Rehearsal 7pm. Praise Band rehearsal 8pm. Friday Morning Book Study and Breakfast 6:45am. Call (605)624-2179 for more info. Pastor Rick Pittenger.

Trinity Lutheran Church, 816 E Clark St, Vermillion

Worship Times: Wednesday evening: 6:15 PM and Sunday morning: 10:00 AM

Radio broadcast: Sunday morning at 10 AM on KVTK Radio, AM 1570

Holy Communion celebrated monthly. Pastor Trisha Boese and Intern Pastor Jason Clifton www.trinityvermillion.org

Facebook: Trinity Lutheran - Vermillion, SD (605)624-4442.

Unitarian Universalist "The Uncommon Denomination."

Services are the first and third Sunday of each month at 7 p.m. in the basement of the United Church of Christ, 226 E. Main. Child care services and refreshments provided. All welcome. Info: www.unitarianvermillion.blogspot.com

UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST CONGREGATIONAL, 226 E. Main St., Pastor Steve Miller. 10:30a.m. Worship Service. *No Longer Strangers*

www.uccvermillion.org

Visit the Plain Talk Website at www.plaintalk.net

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