

# UND women hold off USD 54-51



Sophomore guard Annie Roche notched 19 points, but the University of South Dakota women's basketball team fell 54-51 to North Dakota in the Coyotes' first-ever Great West Conference game on Saturday night in the DakotaDome. Roche, of Vermillion, shot 5-of-10 from the field, including hitting five threes and was a perfect 4-of-4 from the free throw line. (Photo by David Lias)

By Keith A. Brockberg  
P&D Correspondent

That old feeling returned to the DakotaDome Saturday night for the University of South Dakota's matchup with the Fighting Sioux from the University of North Dakota.

The Coyotes and the Fighting Sioux closed out the storied history of the North Central Conference in 2008 as the cream of the league.

Now in NCAA Division I transitional status, the teams met in Great West Conference play with UND holding on to beat the Coyotes 54-51 in front of a rocking Dome crowd.

"They're a great team and we know they're going to bring it," said USD guard Annie Roche. "It was a great crowd and it brings some of those nostalgic feelings back."

"You have fans who are connected to both schools, and this game really means something to the players," said UND head coach Gene Roebuck. "With rivalries, we really don't have that in our league and that's what it should be all about."

The Coyotes, who trailed by 11 points early in the second half, had two chances to tie the game with a 3-pointer in the final seconds, but the inbound passes could not find a shooter.

UND's defense camped out in 2-3 zone that was intent on keeping the ball out of the paint and the hands of USD forward Amber Hegge. The Fighting Sioux were willing to let the Coyotes beat them from behind the arc.

Last Sunday, the Coyotes cruised to a 67-53 win over Seattle University against a 2-3.

"They just seem to get us back on their heels with their zone," said USD head coach Ryan Williams. "We saw that same zone against Seattle, and we had a little more fun with it; they were dedicating to Hegge and were guarding her with one and a half players."

"They're really tough to guard one on one," said Roebuck. "You pick your poison with them, and we wanted to force them to make baskets."



The Vermillion High School bowling team pictured are (back row) Steven Clark, Joe Peterson, and Thomas Hagenbuch; (middle row) Coach Kevin Annis, Christian Wasley, Matthew Moore, Michael Brunick, Austin Reich, Joseph Mazour, and Coach Holly Annis; (kneeling) Jeanette Conway, Lindsay Robinet, Shelby Covill, Sara Marker, Jennifer Jurgensen, Haley Glawe, and Katie Wasley; (front row) Matthew Glawe and Matthew Wasley.

## VHS bowlers host Harrisburg

The VHS bowling team recently hosted Harrisburg at the Prairie Lanes in Vermillion on Jan. 15. The Vermillion girls defeated Harrisburg 50 to 0 and the Vermillion boys defeated Harrisburg 35 to 15.

VHS results against Harrisburg:

Girls' high game was Jeanette Conway with a 180 and 178 game and 502 series and Katie Wasley with a 177 game.

Boys' high game was Michael Brunick with a 203 and 534 series and Thomas Hagenbuch with a 201 game and 503 series.

The VHS Bowling Team recently hosted Sioux Falls Lincoln at The Prairie Lanes in Vermillion on Jan. 12, 2010. The Vermillion girls defeated Lincoln 34 ? to 15 1/2 and the Vermillion boys losing to Lincoln 24 ? to 25 ?.

VHS results against Sioux Falls Lincoln:

Girls high game was Jennifer Jurgensen with a 174. Boys high game was Michael Brunick with a 198.

The next bowling match will be held on Jan. 22, 2010 at 4:00 PM at Empire Bowl in Sioux Falls.

# Coyotes bounce UND in Great West opener

By Jeremy Hoeck  
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There's grinding out a win, and then there's overcoming a 29-percent shooting performance.

Especially in a league game against your rival.

Yet, that's exactly what the University of South Dakota men's basketball team did Saturday.

Playing in their first-ever Great West Conference game, the Coyotes used 27 points from senior Roman Gentry and a late spurt to defeat rival North Dakota 74-64 on Saturday night in the DakotaDome.

Still, it wasn't the most effective performance.

USD (9-8, 1-0), which won its third-straight Division I game, shot 16-of-55 - 29.1 percent - from the field and 6-of-23 on three-pointers.

"It was a horrible night offensively," head coach Dave Boots said. "Defensively, we won a game. It wasn't because of our offense, that's for sure. Their defense caused a lot of it; they contested shots and took everything away inside."

And on a night when the shots weren't falling, Gentry picked up the slack - especially at the free throw line.

Gentry, a transfer from Wisconsin-Milwaukee, hit 16-of-18 foul shots to score a game-high 27 points. Though he was just 5-of-19 from the field, he scored nine points in the final 4:44 when USD started to pull away.

"I try to get to the rim as much as I can," said the Sioux City, IA, native, who has reached double figures in 10 straight games. "It's about being aggressive when I can see a lane and going hard to the hoop."

After leading 32-30 at half-time, the Coyotes fell behind

52-49 after UND's Travis Bledsoe hit a free throw with 5:44 to play. And if there was a turning point in the contest, it came at that moment.

With his team down by two points, USD sophomore Louie Krogman drained a clutch three-pointer with 5:08 to play, giving the Coyotes a 53-52 lead. That shot helped spark a 12-0 USD run, which also included a three-pointer by freshman Jake Thomas at the 2:46 mark.

At that point, the Coyotes led 61-52 and the game was all but decided.

"We didn't have a lot of them, but those were two crucial ones at the right time," Boots said of the two three-pointers during the spurt.

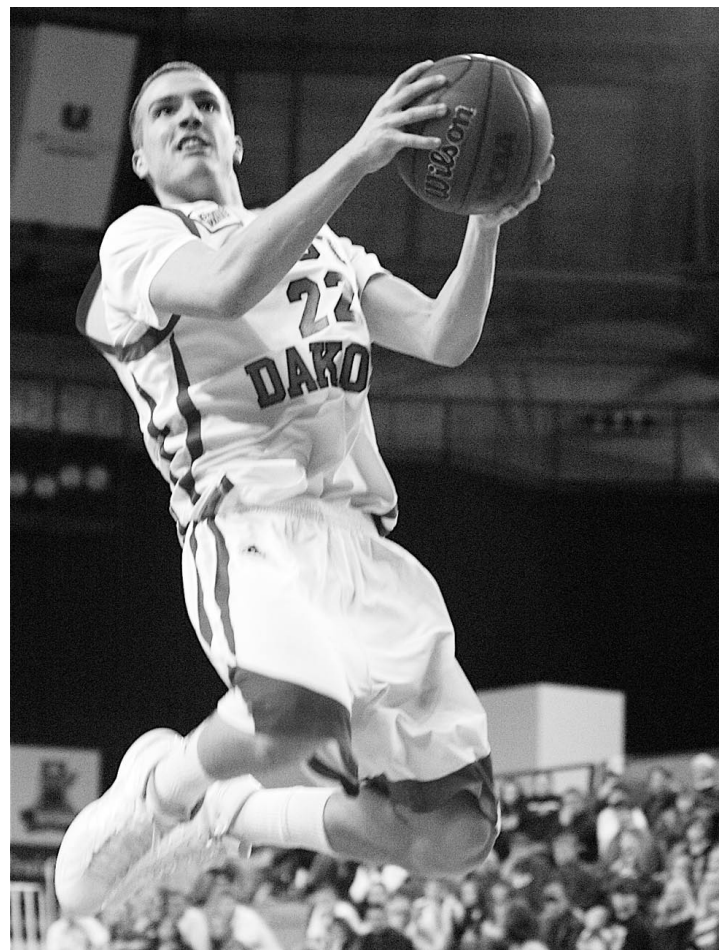
Over the final 2:01, the Coyotes would hit 13 of 14 free throws as the Sioux (3-14, 1-1) were trying anything they could to cut into the margin.

Included in the final two minutes were a pair of technical fouls on UND players for hard fouls - proof of the physical, rugged play by the long-time rivals. Though the two plays didn't seem outwardly intentional, the intensity was evident.

"We didn't finish inside at all," Boot said. "We did a nice job being aggressive and trying to get looks underneath. To get that many free throw attempts means you were aggressive."

For a third-straight game, USD senior Tyler Cain recorded a double-double, with 12 points and 16 rebounds. Krogman added 16 points off the bench, while Thomas had 12 points.

Against a Sioux team that utilized a persistent zone defense that earned UND its first Great West win last Thursday at Utah Valley, the Coyotes were able to overcome a rough shooting night.



Freshman guard Jake Thomas chipped in with 12 points Saturday as the University of South Dakota men's basketball team made a successful debut into the Great West Conference Saturday night by defeating rival North Dakota, 74-64, in front of a season-high 3,205 fans at the DakotaDome in Vermillion.

"It was one of those nights where it was like there was a lid on the basket," Cain said. "But we fed off our defense. We made key stops and hit some big shots off that momentum."

After winning three of four games during its homestand, USD will hit the road for five straight games - four against league foes. The trip begins Thursday night at Utah Valley in Orem, Utah.

"It'll be nice to get these road games out of the way early," Cain said. "Hopefully we can pick up a few wins."



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5	3	2	8	4	1	6	9	7
8	1	7	6	9	2	5	4	3
4	6	9	5	7	3	1	2	8
2	5	1	4	3	8	9	7	6
3	4	6	7	2	9	8	5	1
9	7	8	1	6	5	4	3	2
1	8	3	2	5	4	7	6	9
7	2	5	9	8	6	3	1	4
6	9	4	3	1	7	2	8	5

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