

Coyote women bounce Western Illinois

By Keith A. Brockberg
P&D Correspondent

The University of South Dakota Coyotes returned to the DakotaDome from an emotionally draining road trip at North Dakota State and newly reinstated rival South Dakota State, finding themselves at 2-5 and occupying 9th place in the Summit League standings.

With a chance to move up with a pair of home games, the Coyotes responded to the losses at NDSU and SDSU by beating the Western Illinois Leathernecks 78-57 Saturday afternoon.

"All those kids who didn't shoot well at South Dakota State shot well today," USD head coach Ryun Williams said. "It was neat to see them respond that way."

Brittany Demery gave the Leathernecks a quick 10-6 lead with a pair of 3-pointers and two free throws.

Tempestt Wilson asserted herself as the half's hot shooter by dropping in back-to-back treys, putting the Coyotes ahead 12-10.

Amber Hegge added an old-school 3-point play and a baseline drive for a bucket as the Coyotes were on their way to a 21-2 run.

Wilson and Annie Roche, the latest Coyote to join the 1,000-point scoring club, added 3-pointers as Wilson, who was 3-3 from downtown with 13 points at the half, moved in for a jumper and a 27-12 Coyote lead.

The Leathernecks trimmed USD's lead to single digits, 37-28, as Saula Kontautaitė scored off a Coyote turnover.

Alexis Yackley was 4-4 from the free-throw line in the final 1:33 of the half to give USD a 41-30 bulge at the break.

The tide turned with half, and the Leathernecks were charging.

Western Illinois pulled to within 44-36 on a drive from Rebecca Henricson and 3-pointers from Kontautaitė, Sadie Webb and Michele Salvatori completely evaporated the deficit and put the Leathernecks in front 45-44 at the 15:51 mark.

"We were thinking a lot of things then; the first five minutes of the half and we wanted to capture their spirit but we didn't do that," Williams said of the Western Illinois surge. "They went on a 15-5 run and we tightened up a bit; things got a little bit nerve-racking."

"It was neck and neck at one point, but we knew what we had to do," Wilson said as the Leathernecks' position on top was short-lived.

Wilson, who remained hot, hung in the lane against contact and got a short jumper to fall, taking back the lead for the 'Yotes.

Jodie Boss, who leads the Summit League with a 55.9-percent field-goal percentage, scored her first points of the game with a 3-point play for a 49-45 lead with 15:01 left.

Webb made one of two free throws, to slightly stem USD's tide, but Wilson went back to the lane and forced another short jumper through the hole.

Boss added two more free throws and freshman Kelly Stewart scored from downtown, and the Coyote lead was back to double-digits at 56-46 with 11:29 to play.

Demery scored on a jumper, keeping the Leathernecks in the hunt, trailing 57-50, but Wilson stuck another trey and the Coyotes never looked back.

Boss continued on with her eight-of-nine free-throw shooting half and Roche and Yackley added 3-pointers as the Coyotes built a 72-55 lead and went on to the 78-57 win.

Led by Boss and Wilson, USD retracted the game with Hegge on the bench. The senior backbone of the Coyotes picked up a pair of



Junior guard Alexis Yackley goes up for a shot during Saturday night basketball action in the DakotaDome. Yackley, with 12 points and five assists, was one of five South Dakota players who scored in double figures – led by a season-high 22 points from junior guard Tempestt Wilson – to help the Coyote women's basketball team roll to a 78-57 win over Western Illinois.

(Photo by David Lias)

fouls five seconds apart early in the second half and had to sit after picking up her fourth personal with 14:17 to play.

Hegge returned but was scoreless in the half, but Wilson, Boss, Roche and Yackley picked up the slack.

"Tempestt and Jodie were exceptional today – especially when Amber went to the bench," Williams said.

"Obviously when your best player and top scorer goes out, somebody has to step up and it can't be just one player," Roche said. "The whole team responded."

Coming off a 19-point game in Brookings that kept the Coyotes within reach of the league-leading Jacks, Wilson finished with a season-high 22 points, continuing her knack of having great shooting nights when the 'Yotes really need her.

"Tempestt is a good player and everything she got today was within what we were trying to do," Williams said of the junior guard.

"Temp realizes that she is a capable scorer and that South Dakota State game really got her going,"

"Temp has a killer instinct and she comes up big for us at the right time," Roche said.

Roche finished with 13 points as Boss and Yackley each had 12 points. Boss and Hegge each had double-doubles as Boss grabbed 13 rebounds and Hegge had 10 points and 10 rebounds.

Hegge, who is ranked in the Summit League's top-10 in 10 different categories also had six assists in her 25 minutes. Yackley had five assists and Boss had four blocks.

Demery led WIU with 14 points as Valencia Kelly had 12 points and seven rebounds.

The Coyotes jumped up two spots in the Summit standings with the win and can continue to rise with a win over IUPUI tonight at 7 p.m.

"We're not afraid to address the standings with the team because we're in a conference finally," Williams said. "We have to claw our way up and we can do that with a good 80 minutes of basketball; we got 40 solid minutes today."

USD

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campus. Not going to happen," he said. "We're about creating an opportunity where people can responsibly consume a beverage."

To that end, students will be limited to the quantity of liquor they can have in their room, and the number of age-appropriate students who can consume there at one time, he said.

Additionally, alcohol will only be allowed in specific rooms in both facilities.

"Those units will be clumped together, in essence," Covington said. "In Coyote Village we'll start in one wing, in McFadden we'll start on a certain floor, so that people are together."

"We don't want a 'shotgun approach' around the building," he said.

Penalties for violations of the policy will depend on the extent of the violation, but students may find the loss of their liquor

designation, Covington said.

"Probably the thing we anticipate students are going to be most cautious about is, understanding that they could lose their designation as having a unit where alcohol is allowed," he said. "So one person in a four-bedroom unit making a mistake, as such ... one has three roommates who are not very happy with him or her."

"There is some positive peer pressure we think will occur around that," he said.

Covington said that while he has heard of many students who are excited for the change in policy, others are wary.

"We are aware of some who are a little bit hesitant, wondering what it's going to do," he said. "Some think that it may change the environment significantly."

USD junior Peter Olson said most McFadden and Coyote Village residents are 21, "so I don't see it as a problem for the university, and I don't think it's going to change a whole lot."

Sophomore Scott Millar

called the policy "interesting," but acknowledged, "I feel like it's going to be hard to enforce people that aren't 21 from drinking in those rooms."

Olson agreed, adding, "People are going to drink whether anybody wants them to or not. The university can't really stop it."

USD is the first school in the state to act on the Board of Regents' change in policy, but the idea was discussed long before the change was officially made.

"It's a piece that we hear consistently," Covington said. "Why is it that I live in this independent living environment, I may be a graduate or a professional student, I may be 24 years old, and you're telling me that when I kick back to watch the Super Bowl in my apartment that I

can't have a beer?"

Until recently, "there really was no conversation for us to have," Covington said. "But once the board made that possible, we were able to have a different conversation with the students as they brought the question forward."

He added that the university is willing to give the students an opportunity to prove they can be responsible enough for the policy change.

"We'll probably have a kink or two, but we'll figure out how to make some minor adjustments," he said.

Covington said he'll be interested to see what kind of an impact it does have.

"It may be minimally noticeable," he said. "Only time will tell. Once we get to the fall, we'll have a much better idea."

Track benefit plans for G-V under way

Make plans now to attend the Gayville Volin Track-a-Palooza! The event is planned for March 24 at the Gayville Community Center.

The purpose of this benefit is to build an all weather track and field facility at the Gayville Volin School for use by students and community members. Track-a-Palooza committee members were busy again the past weekend putting together the details of the free will supper, raffle, live auction, and silent auction. The meal will consist of pork loin sandwiches, chips, beans, drink, and dessert. The meal begins at 5 p.m.

Members have started collecting donations for both auctions and already have over 40 items given from local businesses and individuals. Items range from seed corn, massages, BBQ catered party, golf outings, clothing, home décor and much more. A

complete list of auction items is hanging in the Gayville-Volin School. The silent auction and raffles will begin at 5 p.m. and live auction will start at 6:30 p.m.

Funds up to \$500 are being matched by Modern Woodman. There is also a checking account open at Cortrust Bank in Gayville for monetary donations.

If you are interested in helping with the Track-a-Palooza, there are a variety of options:

- Help serving the meal
- Pan of bars for desserts
- Donate a good or service to the live or silent auction
- Cash donations to help pay for the cost of meal

The Track-a-Palooza committee will be meeting again on Feb 11. If you have any questions or would like to make a donation, please contact Jerry and Amy Gustad (267-2211), Jim and Sharon Petrik (267-4130), or Pam Ganschow (267-2607).

Tanager gymnast Rory Tucker champ at dual with Y-BH

By Parker Knox
Sportswriter

Vermillion gymnasts will have their last home meet Tuesday in a triangular against Wagner and West Central, and the competition will also conclude the regular season.

All that will remain then will be the Region 2A meet in Wagner on Feb. 10 and the state meet Feb. 16-17.

Last Thursday Yankton-Bon Homme came to VHS for a dual and went home with a victory by a team score of 128.5 to 118.9.

Y-BH's Charlotte Taggart was the all-around champion with a total score of 32.2. Top Tanagers in the all-around were Morgan Hower, fifth at 30.1; Jamie Moos, seventh at 28.75, and Cheyenne Mallory, eighth at 27.75.

Rory Tucker was Vermillion's lone individual champion, capturing the floor

exercise with an 8.3 score.

Other VHS scores in individual events:

- Bars: Hower fourth, 7.8; Moos seventh, 7.3; Mallory 10th, 6.35; Anne Hammond 11th, 5.3; Maddie Mockler 12th, 5.2; Ellie Glover 13th, 5.05; Cassie Donahoe 14th, 5.0.

- Beam: Jade Postvedt third, 8.35; Tucker seventh, 7.75; Hower ninth, 6.6; Mockler 10th, 5.9; Moos 11th, 5.75; Donahoe 12th, 5.55; Mallory 13th, 5.2.

- Floor exercise: Mallory third, 8.0; Alexis Reich fourth, 7.85; Moos fifth, 7.5; Hower seventh, 7.5; Postvedt ninth, 7.35; Glover 15th, 6.8.

- Vault: Hower fourth, 8.4; Hammond fifth, 8.3; Moos eighth, 8.1; Mockler 10th, 7.7; Tucker 11th, 7.4.

Yankton-Bon Homme won the JV competition, 97.4 to 35.08. Tucker was an individual winner for VHS on the bars with a 5.2 score.

Tanager grapplers will host duals tonight

By Parker Knox
Sportswriter

The last home matches of the regular season await Vermillion wrestling fans within the next four days, starting tonight (Friday).

If it's true a team gets better by taking on strong competition, then the Tanagers have that chance tonight when they host Rapid City Stevens and Rapid City Central in a pair of duals at the VHS gym.

The Tanagers will also be home for two more duals Monday as part of a triangular against Beresford and Dakota Valley. Those will be the last home matches until VHS hosts the Region 2A Tournament Feb. 16-17.

Last Thursday the Tanagers picked up five individual victories in a 51-27 dual loss to Canton at the VHS gym.

Four of the Vermillion wins came by pins. Brandon Steeholdt stuck John Lemer in 4:28 at 113 pounds. Brett Bye took only 33 seconds to pin Dylan Krejci at 132 pounds. Brandon Hertz won by pin in 4:00 over Jayden Broughton at 145. Will Mart pinned his 285-pound opponent, Kelby Nelson, in 5:01.

The other Tanager winner was Carter Kratz with a 6-0 decision over Derek Dilts in the 120-pound class.

Kyle Seibel lost by pin in 1:18 at 108, Josh Callahan lost by pin in 1:38 at 126, Regan Bye lost by 4-0 decision at 138, Damarius Cheeseman lost by pin in 3:09 at 152, Alex Osborne lost by pin in 1:30 at 160, Avery Garcia lost by pin in 0:40 at 180, and Seth Heine lost by pin in 0:34 at 220. Vermillion was open at 170 and 195.

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5				3			6
3				6	1		
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	2	3		1		5	
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		9		7		8	1
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Vermillion Plain Talk
Check today's issue for the solution to the puzzle.
INT Book 29 #2