

Coyotes add four more wins at Holiday Inn Invitational held in Lincoln

The South Dakota women scored 123 points and finished runner-up in the team standings, while the men took fourth with 39 points. Nebraska won the men's and women's team titles.

South Dakota junior Katie Wetzstein set a new school record in the one mile run while junior Amber Eichkorn added a win in the 5,000-meter run as the South Dakota track and field teams opened the indoor season at the Holiday Inn Invitational on Friday at the Devaney Sports Center.

Wetzstein ran a time of 4:52.14 to break the previous record of 4:52.50 set by Ramsey (Kavan) Fitzsimmons in 2008. Wetzstein's time ranks 13th in Division I and leads the Summit League by more than five seconds.

Eichkorn took the women's 5,000-meters in 17 minutes, 1.73 seconds. Freshman Bailey Oettel finished fourth in 18:09.58. Eichkorn and Oettel rank first and second, respectively, in the Summit League.

Sophomore Mach Dojiok was the top collegiate in the 800-meter run and clocked in at 1:53.43. Dojiok finished runner-up to Mark Husted of Brooks Running.

"On the track, Mach was great in being the best collegian in the field on the 800 meter," said USD men's track coach David Gottsleben. "He leads the Summit by two seconds."

Distance teammates freshman Bethany Kozak and junior Kelsey Barrett placed second and third, respectively, in the 3,000-meters. Kozak finished in 10:02.83 and Barrett followed in 10:19.66.

Sophomore Nicole Schmidt placed third in the 1,000-meter run with a time of 2:55.08. The mark is three seconds off Emma Ladwig's school record. Senior Taylor Chapman finished fifth in the same event with a time of 2:31.07.

Junior Kayla Johnson tossed a second-place throw in the women's weight with a mark of 53-05.

Newcomers junior Janelle Noga and freshman Alexis Clark also had top-three marks in their respective events. Noga finished runner-up in the unseeded pole vault at a height of 11 feet, 7 inches, while Clark placed third in the unseeded high jump at 5-4 1/2.

Junior Erik Jorgensen vaulted 15-07 1/4 to take third in the unseeded pole vault competition.

From the preliminary rounds, junior Analisa Huschle heads into Saturday with a top qualifying time of 7.73 seconds in the 60-meter dash. Freshman Brooke Ireland and sophomore Ravan Kott will also advance.

South Dakota's women's distance medley, senior Kyle McKelvey, junior Madison Mills and redshirt Megan Glisar each claimed event titles as the South Dakota track and field teams competed at day two of the Holiday Inn Invitational on Saturday.

"Kyle McKelvey had a great meet in Lincoln with a personal record indoors and the best throw of the Summit by two feet," said Gottsleben. "Cody Snyder also had a great start to his season."

*Courtesy of USD Sports Information, Mark Upward contributed to the story. For an extended version please visit www.plaintalk.net*

Say What? USD Fails to hold 20-0 lead, fall at SDSU

By Jeremy Hoeck  
Press and Dakotan

BROOKINGS – Talk about a recovery.

Not even a 20-0 hole to start a high-energy, rivalry game was detrimental to the South Dakota State men's basketball team. It may have actually been the wakeup call the Jackrabbits sought.

"Twenty-oh, you don't come back from that very often," freshman Reed Tellinghuisen said after

Saturday afternoon's 71-57 victory over the University of South Dakota at Frost Arena.

Picking up their fourth straight Summit League win, the Jackrabbits (13-7, 4-2) used a 28-2 run to flip around a wild first half that saw the momentum shift dramatically in front of 5,354 fans.

"I told the players, in all the games that I've coached, I've never started off 20 to nothing, much less win the basketball

game," SDSU head coach Scott Nagy said.

Yet, that's exactly what the Jackrabbits did.

In what was a 2-point game with 7 minutes and 45 seconds remaining, the home team limited the visitors in red to three baskets the rest of the way – closing on a 22-10 run.

Two days after scoring their first Division I win against North Dakota State, the Coyotes (9-10, 3-2) couldn't close the deal at Frost Arena – a place they haven't won at in 15 years.

They had their chances, but that early lead quickly evaporated.

"To be honest, I think we got a little complacent," said senior Brandon Bos, who had a game-high 18 points. "We completely took our feet off the gas pedal, and when they went on their run we didn't know how to handle it."

In front of a stunned crowd, the Jackrabbits missed their first 12 shots from the field and didn't score until the 12:24 mark, but by that time, USD had a 20-0 lead.

That's when the tides turned.

South Dakota State scored the next 18 points in a 6-minute span and the Coyotes at one point missed 14 consecutive shots, allowing the Jacks to take a 31-29 lead into halftime.

"I felt like we got tentative and weren't nearly on attack as much," USD head coach Craig Smith said. "Felt like we reverted to what's easy. Which is human nature at times, settling for jumper after jumper."

Senior Tyler Larson recorded his ninth

double-double of the season with 12 points and 12 rebounds, along with six assists, but the Coyotes as a team shot 34 percent for the game – a stat both sides mentioned later as proof of SDSU's tough defense.

"The thing I was most proud of, we had low energy most of the night, but they fought through it, and did what they could do," Nagy said.

Tellinghuisen keyed the Jackrabbit attack with 15 points and eight rebounds, while Deondre Parks scored 15 points and George Marshall surged late to add 12 points.

Rather than win a game that was never in doubt from the start, the Jacks instead had to find ways to make plays in key times, which could help them in the long-term, Nagy said.

"In my opinion, wins like this are better for your team," he said. "It gives you more confidence down the road."

Hired away from Nebraska which was in the NCAA Tournament a season ago, Smith pointed to SDSU – which has twice made it to the tournament – as the model to emulate.

"Tradition matters," Smith said. "They have what we want."

USD traveled to Western Illinois on Thursday for a 7 p.m. tilt in Summit League play.

They will then play at IUPUI on Sunday with a scheduled noon tipoff set between the two clubs.

The Coyotes return home on Wednesday for a game against Denver. Game time is set for 7 p.m. at the DakotaDome.



South Dakota's D.J. Davis (32) takes a shot in the paint between South Dakota State's Jake Bittle (4) and Cody Larson (34) during the second half of the Coyotes' 71-57 Summit League loss to the Jackrabbits on Saturday evening at Frost Arena in Brookings.

COURTESY OF SEAN WALSH / BROOKINGS REIGSTER

■ THAT

From Page 1B

teams will wage a battle bloodier than "The Godfather 2" after the two teams went at each other for 40 minutes.

In the end it was USD that was left standing behind a stellar, wire-to-wire performance by Raeshel Contreras and the big play heroics of Tia Hemiller down the stretch to help the Coyotes (14-4, 4-1) to an 82-78 win and a place atop the Summit standings.

One classic down, plenty more to go, as USD won the 75th meeting between two rivals and a pair of the Midwest's best mid-major teams.

"This is a fun win for our team and most importantly we were able to take care of our home court," USD head coach Amy Williams said. "It's been a goal all year and it's become more evident as we watch this league start to unfold a little bit here in the early stages and how critical it's going to be to take care of business on your home court."

"I am really proud of how our team fought and handled adversity throughout the game from tip off to the buzzer. They were able to overcome some shooting woes and come out on top."

Contreras finished with a season-high 32 points, while Nicole Seekamp added 12 points and Heidi Hoff added 11 points for the Coyotes.

"It feels good," Contreras said. "I just take my shots when they are there and try to do what I can. If I can make a play for someone else I will try and do that, if I can score I will try to do that. I am always ready."

SDSU (12-7, 3-3), which played without leading scorer Megan Waytashek who was out due to illness, leads the series 53-22.

"Obviously she's a big player on our team, but a lot of players stepped up," SDSU sophomore Mariah Clarin said. "Macy (Miller) stepped up, Chynna (Stevens) stepped up and Chloe (Coernemann) stepped up. We had a lot of people that were doing really good filling that leadership position."

The freshman Miller

from Mitchell had a career-high 25 points while Stevens and Clarin added 13 points apiece.

Williams hoped the best for Waytashek's quick recovery and said she would like to beat SDSU when they are "fully loaded."

Trying to add a regular season crown to last year's Summit Tournament crown and NCAA bid would mean plenty for USD, but in the end, a win is a win, no matter who it comes against.

Even their biggest rival. "We are going to play them again and it's just going to be a battle," Seekamp said. "No matter if they are having a bad game or we are having a bad game, it's always going to be a close one with State. We have to treat every game as they come and go out there and play."

They played well enough to win this contentious affair and with Hemiller saving her best play for last. "That shows a sign of a great player," Seekamp said of Hemiller, who scored all of her nine points in the last 10 minutes of the game. "She came when we needed her. She made those big plays and it sparked our team. Even though she didn't play great in the first half, she kept fighting and that kind of showed us we needed to stay fighting and we managed to pull through and win that game."

USD attacked the interior early and often and were successful more than not to take an early 6-2 lead.

The Jacks retaliated with a 9-3 run of its own and led 11-9 on a three by Kerri Young at the 14:15 mark of the first half.

SDSU showed an early superiority on the boards as they snatched five offensive rebounds in the game's first six minutes to set an early tone of physicality.

"We talked about how physical (USD) were and how we had to come in and match it or exceed it," Stevens said. "We are just as physical a team as them but it's not a USD-thing it's more of an always-thing for us."

The Coyotes cooled offensively and the SDSU women started percolating to lead 19-14 with 11:39 left in the half.

USD found itself down 24-14 less than a minute later, but would begin to

find its groove again pulling within five over the next three possessions.

Alas, the Jacks regained control and a Cornemann 3-bomb by the Yankton High grad put the visitors up 31-21 with seven minutes left before halftime.

Over the next four minutes the teams struggled to score, but the 'Yotes held a slight edge to pull to within 33-27 by the 3:10 mark.

A minute later, a Heidi Hoff 3-pointer pulled the hosts to within 35-30. Then Hoff dropped two charity tosses with 1:29 to go before halftime to trim the SDSU deficit to 35-32.

USD's defense tightened the screws on the next two SDSU possessions and two Seekamp free throws pulled the Coyotes to within 35-34 before a basket at the buzzer by Clarin gave the Jacks a three-point lead going into the break.

Both teams shot 38 percent from the field over the first 20 minutes while USD's Contreras led all scorers with nine points.

USD started the second half with confidence and attacked the Jacks with vigor and took a 40-39 lead 75 seconds out of the locker room on two Seekamp free throws.

Then Contreras drilled an icy trey from deep 25 seconds later and USD was up 43-39.

The game of back-and-forth commenced as SDSU went on a quick 7-2 run to take back the lead at 46-45.

Contreras dropped the splash-splash with a sweet net ripping three from the left corner at 12:32 of the half to give USD a 52-49 lead.

It was touché to the max as both teams countered their rival from inside, from the foul line and from beyond the ozone with deep threes.

They also exchanged bad passes and missed close-range shots as neither team

could find the proper rhythm to pull away from the other.

USD built a 63-59 lead with 6:32 left on two more Seekamp free throws and slowly it appeared they had gained control going up by six only seconds later.

But missed free throws allowed SDSU to remain in striking range as the Jacks called timeout at the 4:53 mark down 66-61.

Stevens and Kerri Young would connect on back-to-back 3-balls and only 50 seconds were needed to see SDSU back on top at 67-66.

This game was the real deal.

Up 71-69 with 3:22 left, USD came out of a timeout and forced an SDSU turnover. They capitalized with a Hemiller three, her second in the game's latter stages, to put the Coyotes up five.

Then the officials decided they wanted to become a part of the game, making two questionable defensive foul calls on the hosts as SDSU pulled to within 74-72 from the foul line with 1:38 left in regulation.

A Hemiller power drive gave USD a four-point lead, 76-72, and the Coyotes defense forced an SDSU miss from deep to put the Jacks in a hole.

"(Hemiller) is a good player for them," Clarin said. "We did a good job making sure we put the pressure on her and kept her in check. Toward the end we may have loosened up a little bit. We were probably focusing more on other players who were knocking down shots. She's a good player and she was knocking down shots that were open."

The Coyotes made most of their free throws down the stretch to counter some desperation hoops by SDSU and in the end that was enough for the USD win.

For Hoff, a Brandon native and a long-time fan of USD, this win means just



Tia Hemiller (4) came up big for the South Dakota Coyotes in their 82-78 win last Saturday over South Dakota State at the DakotaDome.

THOMAS HATZENBUHLER / FOR THE PLAIN TALK

that much more. "Considering our history between the teams over the last couple of years (the SDSU game) is meaningful for our whole team," Hoff said. "Growing up, this rivalry has always been there and I have always been pro-USD."

USD shot 41 percent while SDSU shot 42 percent and committed 17 turnovers compared to the Coyotes' 16. USD outrebounded the Jacks 37-35 as the statistics clearly showed that very little separated the two teams.

USD traveled to Fort Wayne Thursday for a 6 p.m. tip off and SDSU heads to IUPUI for a 6 p.m. date on Saturday in Summit League action.

South Dakota women def. South Dakota State 82-78

SOUTH DAKOTA STATE  
Chynna Stevens 13, Kerri Young 8, Macy Miller 25, Rachel Walters 3, Mariah Clarin 13, Alexis Alexander

2, Clarissa Over 3, Chloe Cornemann 8, Ellie Thompson 3.

SOUTH DAKOTA  
Tia Hemiller 9, Raeshel Contreras 32, Margaret McCloud 2, Nicole Seekamp 12, Lisa Loeffler 7, Kelly Stewart 3, Bridget Arens 2, Kate Liveringhouse 4, Heidi Hoff 11, Jaylah Jackson 0.

Halftime Score: SDSU 37-34; 3-point field goals: SDSU: 6-16 (Kerri Young 2-4, Clarissa Ober 1-2, Chynna Stevens 1-2, Chpe Cornemann 1-3, Rachel Walters 1-4), USD: 8-19 (Raeshel Contreras 4-7, Heidi Hoff 2-3, Tia Hemiller 2-4); Rebounds: SDSU 35 (Stevens 11), USD 37 (Lisa Loeffler 8); Assists: SDSU 11 (Macy Miller 3), USD 14 (Nicole Seekamp 5); Steals: SDSU 5 (Miller 5), USD 6 (Jaylah Jackson 2); Blocked Shots: SDSU 2 (Two players with 1), USD 3 (Three players with 1); Total Fouls: SDSU 25, USD 20; Fouled Out: Young; Margaret McCloud; Turnovers: SDSU 17, USD 16; Attendance: 3,145.

**CLASSIC RADIO SHOPPER CLEARANCE SALE**

Discounts of more than 50% off!  
Online shopping: Click, Pay, Print & Save!

Shop & Save with the Classic Radio Shopper at [www.classicradioshopper.com](http://www.classicradioshopper.com)

Classic Hits  
106.3 KVHT ★ FM

Classic Radio Shopper Show Saturdays 9-10am