Coyote men's basketball falls in season opener at Nebraska

The South Dakota men's basketball team opened the 2011-2012 season with a 65-48 loss at Nebraska Friday night in the Devaney Center. The Coyotes were led by 16 points from senior Louie Krogman (White River), while senior Charlie Westbrook (Milwaukee, WI) added 10 points.

"I thought we played with them defensively," head coach Dave Boots said. "We played hard and the kids were very competitive. Our offense gave them some points early and we didn't get some defensive rebounds that we had a shot at and that got us down. Once we took away some of the turnovers early, I thought it was a very competitive game against a very good and physical team."

Nebraska (1-0) used a 9-2 run breaking open a 7-6 score early, but the Coyotes responded courtesy of a triple off a steal and a fast-break layup off another steal by Westbrook to pull within 18-13 with 8:40 left in the opening half.

"I thought they pounded us on the glass really hard," Westbrook said. "They play hard and we play hard, too, we made some good steps tonight playing with some new guys and a new atmosphere – we'll get better."

Off an offensive rebound, Coyote sophomore Steve Tecker (Brule, WI) earned the old-fashion three-point play with the hoop-and-harm bringing the Coyotes within 20-16 with 6:04 remaining in the half.

Two quick buckets by Jorge Brian Diaz put

the Huskers back up 24-16 moments later sparked an 8-0 run for a 28-16 lead with 3:51 left. Ricardo Andreotti (Sao Paulo, Brazil) quieted the crowd with a hook shot in the lane bringing the Coyotes within 28-18.

A big block by Andreotti, his second half the half, thwarted a last-second shot by Diaz as Nebraska entered halftime leading 31-19.

South Dakota (0-1) struggled shooting the ball in the opening half as it made just 8 of 30 from the field for 26.7 percent. The Coyotes were led by six early points from Krogman. Westbrook had five points in the half. The Coyotes were just 1 of 12 from deep in the opening half.

Nebraska was led by nine points from Caleb Walker off the bench and eight from Diaz and Toney McCray also had eight points off the bench. The Huskers shot 43.3 percent in the half on 12 of 30. They were 2 of 5 from deep and 3 of 6 from the line.

The Huskers held a 26-15 lead in rebounds and held an 8-5 lead in offensive rebounds leading to a 13-3 advantage in second chance

A big triple by Westbrook on the Coyotes' second possession of the second half brought the team within 31-22 with 18:30 left.

A four-point play by the Huskers swelled the lead to 37-22 with 15:44 remaining as Brandon Richardson was fouled while shooting a triple. A mini-run of 10-5 brought the Coyotes to within 42-32 with 12:14 remaining as the Coyotes trailed by as many as 15 earlier in the half.

Two free throws by Bo Spencer, his first two points of the night, swelled the Husker lead to 51-35 with just over eight minutes left. Spencer transferred to Nebraska last season

For the game, Krogman led the way with 16 points as he was 7 of 16 from the field and 2 of 8 from beyond the arc. Westbrook was 3 of 11 from the field and 2 of 5 from range and 2 of 2 from the line. Andreotti led the team with seven rebounds.

The Coyotes shot 30.9 percent for the game on 17 of 55 from the field. They were 5 of 21 from deep and 9 of 13 from the line.

Nebraska was led by 16 points from Walker to lead four Huskers in double figures. Walker was a perfect 5 for 5 from the field and 3 of 3 from beyond the arc. He was 3 for 4 from the line and tallied seven rebounds. Diaz added 11 points, while both Richardson and Talley chipped in 10 points.

'We have some things which are better than a year ago," Boots added. "A year ago defensively we have very few chances to have our defense win a game for us, but if we played very well offensively we had a chance. Tonight we played well enough defensively to compete, but we didn't get it done on the offensive end. I thought our execution wasn't good enough all the way through.

South Dakota opens the 2011-2012 home slate Sunday, Nov. 20 at 2 p.m. in the DakotaDome versus Nebraska-Omaha.

USD volleyball team tops Jackrabbits in season finale

Freshman Kendall Kritenbrink, sophomore Amber Aschoff and senior Tahnee Reed combined for 47 kills to help the South Dakota volleyball team defeat South Dakota State, 25-23, 24-26, 25-21, 31-29 in Summit League action Saturday night in Brookings. With the win in their finale, the Coyotes improved to 14-18 overall and 7-11 in the Summit League, while SDSU fell to 13-20 overall and 5-13 in the Summit League.

Kritenbrink (Gretna, NE) had 18 kills, while Aschoff (Ankeny, IA) added 17 kills, hitting .400. Reed (Pierce, NE) had 12 kills, hitting .312. Sophomore setter Tori Kroll (Germantown, WI) had 56 kills and 19 digs, while senior Carol Logato (Rio de Janeiro, Brazil) added 23 digs and eight kills. Freshman Riley Haug (Gretna, NE) added 21 digs while sophomore Natalie Walseth (Inver Grove Heights, MN) had eight kills, four block assists and a solo block.

"We're extremely proud to finish up this way and end the season with a win," South Dakota head coach Matt Houk said. "Not many teams get to do that. For it to happen against our rivals is important."

In the opening set, the Coyotes were down 6-4 but scored five straight points – with Aschoff supplying two kills and Logato and Kroll one each – to take a 9-6 lead.

SDSU cut the lead to 9-7 but the Coyotes stretched the lead to 12-7 with three straight points - which included a kill from Aschoff and a service ace from freshman Kyle Everett (Maple Grove, MN).

South Dakota led by as many as six in the set, but the Jackrabbits climbed their way back to within 24-23 after a service ace. However, the Covotes weathered the storm, as an Aschoff kill finished off a 25-23 first-set win.

Aschoff sparked the Coyote offense in the first set with six kills, hitting .667.

"Amber was a huge reason for our success tonight," Houk said. "Not only did she score the ball a lot, but she scored in clutch situations."

South Dakota continued the momentum in the second set, jumping out to a 10-4 lead. Kritenbrink supplied four kills during that stretch. The Coyotes maintained the lead for much of the way before SDSU fought back and took a 23-22 lead.

The Coyotes came back and tied the set at 24-24 on a Kritenbrink kill, but the Jackrabbits scored the final two points on their way to a 26-24 win. Kritenbrink had six kills in the set for the Coyotes, who hit .163; however

SDSU hit .317 with just four errors on 41 attempts.

After the tough second-set loss, the Coyotes rebounded with a strong start to the third set, taking an 8-3 lead. Kritenbrink and Walseth had two kills each, while Reed had a service ace. The Jackrabbits fought back to take a 20-19

Again, the Jackrabbits came back and erased the Coyote lead and took a 20-19 lead. This time, however, South Dakota came back with three straight points – keyed by a kill by Kritenbrink and a combined block from Walseth and Kritenbrink - to take a 22-20 lead. SDSU cut the margin to 22-21, but the Coyotes scored the final three points of the set – two of the points coming on kills from Walseth and Aschoff.

The fourth set was a classic battle between the two in-state rivals.

The set was a seesaw battle with 14 ties and seven lead changes. South Dakota faced a 14-13 deficit but scored eight straight points – sparked by a big serving run by Riley Haug - to take a 21-14 lead. Haug had two service aces during that crucial stretch, while Reed had two kills and Walseth one.

However, the set was far from over. SDSU came back to tie the set at 24-24, and then took a 25-24 lead on a service ace. From there, the set was tied five more times, and the Coyotes faced three SDSU set points – and survived them all. With the set tied at 29-29, a kill by Aschoff gave the Coyotes a 30-29 lead, and a Jackrabbit hitting error clinched a 31-29 South Dakota win and wrapped up the victory in four

"We've been grinders all year," Houk said. "We've been a in a lot of five-set matches. Hopefully, that is a sign of some maturing happening – to be in a tough match and to come out victorious. That is the taste we get to leave in our mouths this offseason."

Kritenbrink finished with 12 digs, while Everett had 10. Reed had four block assists, while Kritenbrink and Kroll had three each. Haug had three service aces while Reed had two.

It was the final collegiate match for Logato and Reed, the two Coyote

"It feels good for those two to finish their careers not only with a win against SDSU, but for them to perform very well," Houk said. "Tahnee took some huge swings. Carol kept balls alive and took a ton of swings in tough situations. I couldn't be happier for those two to finish their careers on a night like this."

Coyote women's swimmers finish second at Border Battle; men third

The South Dakota women's swimming and diving team finished second at the Border Battle, which concluded Saturday in Stevens Point, WI. The Coyote women finished with 950 points at the two-day event, while the Coyote men, who finished third, concluded the event with 785 points.

Seniors Janine James (Cheyenne, WY) and Lizz Hoffman (Eureka) paced the Coyote women with two victories apiece. Senior Chris Hause (Overland Park, KS) won two events to lead the South Dakota men, while seniors Terry Rolfe (Newcastle, WY) and Thad Stoddard (Douglas, WY) each won

James swept the diving events in impressive fashion. She captured the three-meter diving with 243.45 points – the sixth-best score in school history. James won the 1meter diving with a score of 239.65. Sophomore Megan Chmielewski (Shakopee, MN) was second in the three-meter diving at 210.20.

Hoffman continued her winning ways. She won the 100 freestyle with a time of 52.81 and

also captured the 200 freestyle with a time of 1:55.81. Freshman Corey Wannamaker (New Berlin, WI) was second in the 100 freestyle at 54.62, followed by freshman teammate Lydia Engberg (Bismarck, ND) in fourth at 54.70 and junior Kaitlyn Jefferson (Westland, MI) in fifth at 55.51.

Sophomore Linay McCrady was second in the 1,650 freestyle at 18:20.66, with junior Jackie Kahnke (Shakopee, MN) fifth at 18:39.03. McCrady was also third in the 200 freestyle at 2:00.75 with Engberg taking fifth at 2:01.87.

The Coyote women's 200 medley relay was third at 1:52.14. That consisted of sophomore Mariah Anderson (Kearney, NE), junior Shannon Moceri (South Lyon, MI) freshman Molly Knowles (Lockport, IL) and Hoffman.

Moceri was third in the 200 breaststroke at 2:32.12, while senior Kayla Smith (Woodbury, MN) was fourth at 2:36.25. Moceri was third in the 100 breaststroke at 1:08.44.

Freshman Paige Stavely (Hemlock, MI) was fourth in the 400 IM at 4:54.76 while sophomore Emily Alitz (Hastings, MN) was

Knowles was fourth in the 100 butterfly at 1:02.62 and fourth in the 200 butterfly at 2:16.08.

The South Dakota 400 freestyle relay was second at 3:41.50. That consisted of Wannamaker, Anderson, Jefferson and Hoffman.

USD's 800 freestyle relay was third with a time of 8:06.52. That consisted of McCrady, freshman Delaney Schenk (San Diego, CA), freshman Miranda Vlach-Buller (Grand Island, NE) and junior Raynee Buckley (Omaha, NE).

Hause had a strong meet in the diving events. He won the 3-meter diving with a score of 276.90, and added a victory in the 1-meter diving at 222.40.

Rolfe also had a good meet. He won the 400 IM at 4:15.75 and added a runner-up finish in the 200 backstroke at 1:55.08. Stoddard also had a

showing. He won the 100 backstroke at 51.55 and was second in the 100 butterfly at 51.64. Freshman Colin Krysl

(Bellevue, NE) was third in the 200 butterfly at 1:59.85 and fourth in the 400 IM at 4:18.85.

Senior Dane Van Arkel

(Colorado Springs, CO) was third in the 200 freestyle at 1:48.20 with freshman Blake Frederick (Lincoln, NE) taking fourth at 1:48.41. Junior Cody Horton (Mitchell) was fifth at 1:49.34 and senior Gabe Sands (Greeley, CO) sixth at 1:50.17. Van Arkel was third in the 100 freestyle at 47.92. Stoddard was sixth at 48.34.

The Coyote men's 200 medley relay was second at 1:36.17. That consisted of Stoddard, freshman Jake Tempesta (Apple Valley, MN), Krysl and Van Arkel. The South Dakota 400 freestyle relay was second at 3:10.62. That consisted of Van Arkel, Sands, Rolfe and Stoddard. The Coyotes' 800 freestyle relay was second at 7:09.31. That consisted of Stoddard, Rolfe, Krysl, Frederick.

Freshman Dakota Soucie (Fairfield, NE) was fifth in the 200 breaststroke at 2:18.68 and sixth in the 100 breaststroke at 1:02.50. Freshman Christian Nygaard (Circle Pines, MN) was fifth in the 1,650 freestyle at 17:32.33.

Next action for the Coyotes is a home dual against South Dakota State on Saturday, Nov. 19 at the DakotaDome pool.

Hoffman named Summit League Swimming Athlete of the Week

South Dakota senior Lizz Hoffman has been named the Summit League Women's Swimming and Diving Athlete of the Week, the league announced on Tuesday. It is the first honor of the season for Hoffman and the third of her career.

Hoffman (Eureka) earned the honors after an outstanding week of competition in Wisconsin. In a dual meet against Green Bay on Nov. 10, Hoffman won two events, capturing the 200 freestyle (1:54.60) and the 500 freestyle (5:03.70). Her 200 freestyle time is the third-best in the Summit League this season, while the 500 free time is second-best.

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At the Border Battle in Stevens Point, WI, on Nov. 11-12, Hoffman added three more wins. She won the 50 freestyle (24.38), the 100 freestyle (52.81) and the 200 freestyle (1:55.81). Her 50 freestyle and 100 freestyle times are each the secondbest in the Summit League this

Hoffman has 14 event wins on the season, leading the Coyote women in that category.

South Dakota returns to action on Saturday, Nov. 19 at home against instate rival South Dakota State. The meet begins at 1 p.m. at the DakotaDome pool.

South Dakota volleyball falls to first-place Bison

Freshman Kendall Kritenbrink had a doubledouble with 10 kills and 17 digs,, but the South Dakota volleyball team was unable to slow down North Dakota State hitting attack in a 25-16, 25-13, 25-21 loss to the Bison in Summit League action Friday night in Fargo, ND. The Coyotes fell to 13-18 overall and 6-1 in the conference, while the first-place Bison improved to 23-8 overall and 15-2 in the Summit League.

Kritenbrink (Gretna, NE) now has nine double-doubles on the season. Freshman Riley Haug (Gretna, NE) added 21 digs, while senior Carol Logato (Rio de Janeiro, Brazil) had six kills, 12 digs and two service

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aces. Sophomore Tori Kroll (Germantown, WI) had 23 set assists and four kills.

The Bison, who have won seven in a row and clinched the Summit League regular-season title with the win, hit .258 for the match, compared to .042 for the Coyotes.

After struggling to see their hitting attack rolling in the first two sets, the Coyotes got their attack going in the third set. They took a 10-7 lead, going on a 5-2 spurt, which was keyed by two kills from Kritenbrink and one each from Kroll and sophomore Natalie Walseth (Inver Grove Heights, MN). South Dakota led 12-11 after a kill by sophomore Amber Aschoff (Ankeny, IA), but the

Bison went on a 6-2 run to build a 17-14 lead.

The Coyotes cut the lead to 17-16 with two straight points, thanks to a kill and a block from Reed. NDSU pushed the lead back to 19-16, but kills from Kroll and Reed brought the

Coyotes within one again at 19-18. But the Bison increased their lead, scoring four straight points to build a 23-18 lead.

South Dakota cut the gap to 23-20 after a Kritenbrink kill but got no closer as the Bison won 25-21.



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