VB: South Dakota 3, Jacksonville State 0

GRAND FORKS, N.D. – Senior Sydney Dimke recorded 13 kills and junior Audrey Reeg added 10 more as South Dakota swept Jacksonville State 25-21, 25-10, 25-22 in the opening match of the UND Classic on Friday at Betty Engelstad Sioux Center.

South Dakota (3-4) takes the series lead against Jacksonville State (4-4) 2-1. The two teams won a match apiece in two meetings in 2012.

"I'm really happy with the way we played in this match," said Williamson. "Playing this early in the morning can be tough, so for them to come out and win in three sets against a good offensive team is reassuring. It was definitely a team win since we finished hitting .400 as a team. Sydney had a great match all around with 13 kills and 16 digs. However, I am really happy with our middles efficiency. They followed the game plan and attacked with a lot of confidence. Brittany did a tremendous job of moving the ball around and putting our hitters into positive situations while also scoring herself."

The Gamecocks set the tone early in the first set with a 16-10 lead. A pair of kills from Dimke, Reeg, and junior Lindsey Brown put the Coyotes on a 10-1 run to take the lead 18-17. The two teams rallied back and forth until freshman Hayley Dotseth swatted down the Coyote's final point to take game one 25-21.

South Dakota cruised to a 25-10 win in the second set. The Coyotes notched a .583 hitting percentage and held Jacksonville to a .136 clip. Dimke led the Coyotes with four kills and two serving aces. Brown tallied four kills and sophomore Brittany Jessen had a run of three aces. Freshman Kelly Braghini also recorded her first collegiate kill on the 23rd point of the set.

The two teams remained relatively even through the sixth point of set three. South Dakota went on a 6-1 run with a pair of kills from Reeg and two points from Brown to pull into the lead 13-7. The Gamecocks came within two again at 23-21, but two kills by Dimke finished off the match at 25-22.

On the receiving end, Dimke tallied 16 digs and senior Kaitlyn Hastings added 10.

The Coyotes return to the court tonight at 7:30 p.m. to face the host North Dakota. Fans can watch the televised game on MidcoSN in addition to online at UNDSports.com.

Back To School Lunch Reform

BY REP. KRISTI NOEM

It's back to school, and for most South Dakota students, that means back to school lunches. Once again this year, schools are facing even more stringent restrictions when it comes to what they can put on our kids' plates. As a mom, I think it's gone too far. I want to do everything I

can to make sure my kids are eating healthy and learning healthy habits. It's one of the most important things we can do for our children. But I also know that if the food doesn't taste good and half of it is pushed off the tray at the end of the meal, it's not doing them any favors. Unfortunately, that's what is happening under current regulations. As a result, kids are leaving the table hungry or opting to bring their own lunch and dropping out of the school meal program completely.

In fact, between the 2010-11 and 2012-13 school years 1.2 million kids dropped out of the federal school lunch program. That was the first decline we'd seen in over a decade. Unfortunately, when participation declines like this, food and labor costs increase, meaning some school districts have had to pull from their general fund to make ends meet.

The downward trend began after Michelle Obama's Healthy, Hunger-Free Kids Act was implemented and a slew of new regulations came into effect. These new regulations tied the hands of local schools and parents, so we've been working since to bring some relief.

This year, Congress has begun the process of reauthorizing the school meal program, giving an opportunity to make some meaningful changes. Some of what we're looking to do is captured in legislation I wrote.

More specifically, under Michelle Obama's law, schools are strictly limited in the amount of sodium they can serve – so much so that once the law is fully implemented, foods with naturally occurring sodium, like milk, cheese and some meats, could push schools outside the USDA-approved zone and jeopardize some of the federal funding they receive for school lunches. I would like to scale back those restrictions, as well as those that require foods to be 100% whole-grain rich. Those changes give schools more choices.

My legislation also makes the USDA's easing of meat and grain requirements permanent. As written, the law limits schools to serving only small amounts of meat. In fact, three chicken nuggets could put a school over the allowed meat limits. While the USDA has lessened those restrictions through regulations because of pressure from Congress, I'd like to back that change with the certainty of law.

Finally, we should give schools some additional flexibility if the costs to comply with certain federal regulations get too high, which my legislation does as well.

These changes need to be made – and they can be made while still ensuring students are served nutritious meals.

Our son, Booker, is an active kid. I want to make sure federal regulations aren't stopping him or any of our young people from getting the food they need to be successful in school and in their after-school activities.

Two Join USD Foundation Staff

The University of South Dakota Foundation has added two new staff members to its Constituent Engagement team.

Heidi Schemmel who has a BA in marketing from the University of Wisconsin Eau Claire, is associate director of constituent relations. She previously worked in market research and most recently as a donor relations specialist for the Sanford Health Foundation.

Leslie Gerrish is associate director of constituent engagement. She leads the event management initiatives and other donor engagement efforts. Her undergraduate degree was granted by Purdue University; her master's degree in fundraising and nonprofit management by Indiana University. Gerrish most recently served as an account manager for Wellington, a Kansas Citybased event firm, for which she planned and executed events in this country and and internationally.





