

South Dakota State JACKRABBIT ATHLETICS NEWS RELEASE

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2018 BASEBALL INFORMATION

Summit League play begins at ORU

THIS WEEK

SOUTH DAKOTA STATE (2-14, 0-0) at ORAL ROBERTS (8-6, 0-0 Summit)

J.L. Johnson Stadium • Tulsa, Oklahoma 6:30 p.m. Friday • 2 p.m. Saturday • 1 p.m. Sunday

SDSU PROBABLE STARTERS

- 1B Josh Falk, So., R-R, Minnetonka, Minn. (.304 avg. 2 HR, 7 RBI, .446 OBP)
- 2B Gus Steiger, Fr., R-R, Minnetonka, Minn. (.228 avg., 1 HR, 7 RBI, 2-2 SB)
- SS Tony Kjolsing, Sr., R-R, Chaska, Minn. (.224 avg., 2 HR, 7 RBI, 7-9 SB)
- 3B Newt Johnson, Sr., R-R, Rapid City, S.D. (.203 avg., 1 HR, 9 RBI, 3 2B)
- C Kolton Michalski, Jr., R-R, Watertown, S.D. (.077 avg., 1 RBI in 10 GS)
- or Derek Hackman, Fr., L-R, Johnston, Iowa (.200 avg., 1 2B, 1 RBI in 3 GS)
- LF Logan Holtz, Jr., R-R, Urbana, Iowa (.240 avg., 3 RBI, .345 OBP)
- CF Philip Jacobson, Sr., R-R, Dakota Dunes, S.D. (.171 avg., 1 2B, 2 RBI)
- or Landon Badger, So., L-L, Pierre, S.D. (.240 avg., 1 2B, 3 RBI, 1-2 SB)
- RF Phil Velez, Sr., R-R, Des Moines, Iowa (.184 avg., 1 2B, 3 RBI)
- or Skyler Wenninger, Sr., R-R, Luverne, Minn. (.186 avg., 2 2B, 5 R)
- DH Josh Kutzke, Jr., R-R, Kennewick, Wash. (.265 avg., 2 2B, 3 RBI
- or Anthony Schneider, Sr., L-R, Altoona, Iowa (.167 avg., 2 HR, 9 RBI, .500 slg. pct.)

SDSU PROBABLE STARTING PITCHERS

- Brady Moxham, So., RHP, Oakville, Manitoba (0-2, 6.55 ERA, 4 GS, 22.0 IP, 21 K, 10 BB)
- Otis Roby, Jr., RHP, Knoxville, Iowa (0-2, 8.44 ERA, 4 APP, 2 GS, 10.2 IP, 12 K, 9 BB)
- 3 To be determined



Sports Information Contact: Jason Hove

March 14, 2018

BROOKINGS, S.D. —The South Dakota State University baseball team opens Summit League play this weekend with a three-game series at defending league champion and preseason favorite Oral Roberts.

The series opener is set for 6:30 p.m. Friday at J.L. Johnson Stadium on the ORU campus in Tulsa, Oklahoma. The series continues with a 2 p.m. contest Saturday, with Sunday's series finale slated for 1 p.m. Friday's series opener is slated to be carried on ESPN3.com, with games Saturday and Sunday available for viewing through ORUAthletics.com.

SDSU enters its 11th season of Summit League play with a 2-14 overall record thus far in 2018. The Jackrabbits began the season with an eight-game losing streak and are in the midst of a six-game skid after being swept in series last week at Air Force (two games) and Northern Colorado (four games).

Oral Roberts, meanwhile, has compiled an 8-6 record in nonconference play so far this season. The Golden Eagles recorded wins over nationally ranked Wichita State and Dallas Baptist last week, but dropped a 6-5 decision at Missouri State in their most recent action Tuesday night.

THE SERIES: South Dakota State and Oral Roberts will play for the 58th time, when the two squads meet in Friday's series opener. The Golden Eagles hold a 44-13 advantage in the series that dates back to 1971.

Oral Roberts won the season series, 6-1, a season ago. In the first series between the two teams last season, Oral Roberts carried the momentum from an extra-inning win in the opening game of the series March 24 in Tulsa to a series sweep. The Golden Eagles came away with a 7-6, 13-inning victory in an opener that was played over two days as the game was suspended by inclement weather after 11 innings, then posted wins of 11-5 and 6-2 to close out the series.

The Jackrabbits picked up their lone win in the 2017 season series in the middle game of a three-game series April 22 at Erv Huether Field. In posting a 5-2 victory, SDSU scored twice in both the sixth and seventh innings to secure the win. Ethan Kenkel pitched five strong innings, while Derek Feige (three innnings) and Chris Halbur (one inning) combined for four shutout innings in relief.

ORU won the other two games of SDSU's home series by scores of 8-6 and 14-5.

The two squads met for the final time in 2017 in a winners' bracket game at the Summit League Baseball Championship May 25 in Tulsa. Newt Johnson's two-run home run in the bottom of the second inning tied the game at 2 before the Golden Eagles grabbed a 4-2 lead with single runs in the fifth and sixth innings.

SDSU loaded the bases with no outs in the eighth, but could manage only one run as the Golden Eagles turned their fourth double play of the game. ORU added a run in the ninth to seal a 5-3 victory to advance to the championship round.

2018 SCHEDULE

FEBRU	ARY	
17	vs. Austin Peay (at St. Louis, Mo.)	L, 2-4
18	vs. Austin Peay (at Sauget, III.)	L, 3-9
19	vs. Illinois [at St. Louis, Mo.]	L, 2-5
23	vs. Bradley (DH - at Edwardsville,	
25	vs. Bradley (at Edwardsville, III.)	L, 1-5
28	at Minnesota (at U.S. Bank Stadiu	,
MARCI	-	, L, U-1
2	at Southeast Missouri State	L, 8-12
3	at Southeast Missouri State	W, 7-4
4	at Southeast Missouri State	W, 6-5
6	at Air Force	L, 7-8
7	at Air Force	L, 7-11
9	at Northern Colorado	(11 inn.) L, 2-3
10	at Northern Colorado (DH)	L, 4-5/L,2-8
11	at Northern Colorado	L, 7-11
16	*at Oral Roberts	6:30 p.m.
17	*at Oral Roberts	2 p.m.
18	*at Oral Roberts	1 p.m.
20	at Creighton	6:30 p.m.
23	*at Western Illinois	3 p.m.
24	*at Western Illinois	1 p.m.
25	*at Western Illinois	1 p.m.
30	*at Omaha	4 p.m.
31	*at Omaha	2 p.m.
APRIL	at omana	- p
1	*at Omaha	noon
4	DAKOTA WESLEYAN	3 p.m.
6	*FORT WAYNE	3 p.m.
7	*FORT WAYNE	1 p.m.
8	*FORT WAYNE	1 p.m.
11	DAKOTA STATE	3 p.m.
13	*NORTH DAKOTA STATE	3 p.m.
14	*NORTH DAKOTA STATE	1 p.m.
15	*NORTH DAKOTA STATE	1 p.m.
17	at Minnesota (at Siebert Field)	6 p.m.
20	*ORAL ROBERTS	3 p.m.
21	*ORAL ROBERTS	1 p.m.
22	*ORAL ROBERTS	1 p.m.
25	CREIGHTON	3 p.m.
27	*at Fort Wayne	2 p.m. ET
28	*at Fort Wayne	1 p.m. ET
29	*at Fort Wayne	noon ET
MAY		
4	*OMAHA	3 p.m.
5	*OMAHA	1 p.m.
6	*OMAHA	1 p.m.
9	at Wichita State	6 p.m.
11	*WESTERN ILLINOIS	3 p.m.
12	*WESTERN ILLINOIS	1 p.m.
13	*WESTERN ILLINOIS	1 p.m.
17	*at North Dakota State	6:30 p.m.
18	*at North Dakota State	6:30 p.m.
19	*at North Dakota State	1 p.m.
23-26	at Summit League Baseball Cha	ampionship
	(Tulsa, Okla — if qualified)	
	*Summit League game	

*Summit League game Home games in CAPS DH denotes doubleheader

All start times Central Time unless noted otherwise

PRESEASON POLL: The Jackrabbit baseball team has been picked to finish second in the upcoming Summit League race, according to a poll of league coaches released Feb. 8.

SDSU received 20 points and one first-place vote, finishing behind defending champion Oral Roberts, which received the other five first-place votes and 25 total points. North Dakota State completed the top half of the poll with 17 points.

Rounding out the second half of the poll were Western Illinois (14 points), Omaha (9) and Fort Wayne (5).

The Jackrabbits, who return six position starters, will attempt to qualify for the Summit League postseason tournament for the ninth time in 10 years. The 2018 Summit League Baseball Championship is slated for May 23-26 in Tulsa, Oklahoma.

In addition, SDSU shortstop Tony Kjolsing was selected as a Summit League Player to Watch. A senior from Chaska, Minnesota, Kjolsing batted .291 with four home runs and 21 runs batted in while playing in 32 games during the 2017 season.

SUMMIT LEAGUE SUCCESS: South Dakota State has been a consistent winner in The Summit League since it became a league member a decade ago. In their first 10 seasons as a member of The Summit League, the Jackrabbits compiled a 148-115 (.563 winning percentage) in conference games. SDSU posted a .500 or better record in league play seven times and made eight appearances in the four-team postseason tournament out of nine years it was eligible.

The Jackrabbits shared a Summit League regular season title in 2010 and won the Summit postseason tournament in 2013.

LAST WEEKEND: The Jackrabbits were swept in a four-game weekend series at Northern Colorado. Two of the games were decided by one run.

Game 1: Northern Colorado 3, SDSU 2 (11 inn.)

Alex Kiel singled home the winning run in the bottom of the 11th inning, lifting Northern Colorado over South Dakota State, 3-2, in the opening game of a four-game nonconference college baseball series March 9 at Jackson Field in Greeley, Colorado.

UNC's game-winning rally in the 11th began with a leadoff walk to Brett Minnick. After Jackrabbit reliever Austin Suhr retired the next two batters on flyouts, Minnick stole second and later slid in ahead of the tag on Kiel's single to left field.

The Jackrabbits forced extra innings with a run in the top of the ninth. Phil Velez singled with one out, moved to second on a sacrifice bunt by Phil Jacobson and scored when Gus Steiger singled to left field. UNC left the bases loaded in the bottom of the ninth as Suhr worked out of a iam.

SDSU broke a scoreless deadlock with a run in the fifth. Velez drew a one-out walk before scoring on a wild pitch issued by UNC starter Isaac Bracken.

The Bears tied the game at 1 in the sixth on an Evan Johnson run-scoring single, then took a 2-1 lead in the home half of the eighth on another RBI single by Johnson.

Jackrabbit starter Brady Stover limited UNC to two hits over five scoreless innings. The sophomore left-hander struck out a career-high nine batters and walked only one in a nodecision effort.

UNC held an 8-6 advantage in hits as Kiel and Johnson each tallied two. Logan Holtz was the lone Jackrabbit with a pair of hits.

Bracken also recorded nine strikeouts for the Bears and walked two in six innings. Corey Nakakura, who pitched a scoreless top of the 11th, picked up the win for UNC..

NORTHERN COLORADO 3, SOUTH DAKOTA STATE 2 (11 inn.)

SDSU	000	010	001	00	2-6-1
UNC	000	001	010	01	3-8-0

SDSU: Brady Stover, Derek Feige (6), Alex Marro (8), Austin Suhr (9) and Kolton Michalski, Derek Hackman. UNC: Isaac Bracken, Justin Mulvaney (7), Connor Leedholm (9), Corey Nakakura (11) and Alex Kiel.

W-Nakakura (1-0). L-Suhr (1-3). Save-none.

Game 2: Northern Colorado 5, SDSU 4

Northern Colorado scored two times in the bottom of the sixth inning to pull out a 6-5, seven-inning victory in the opening game of a March 10 doubleheader.

Austin Miller drew a walk with the bases loaded to force in the winning run. Jack Pauley started the game-winning rally with a base hit, moved to third on an error and scored the tying run on a groundout.

GAME HIGHS

TEAM BATTING

At-Bats: 38, at Northern Colorado, 3-9-18 Runs Scored-Game: 8, at Southeast Missouri State, 3-2-18

Runs Scored-Inning: 6, 4th inning at Air Force, 3-6-18, and 5th inning at Air Force, 3-7-18

Hits: 13, at Air Force, 3-6-18

Runs Batted In: 7, three times (last: at Air Force, 3-6-18)

Doubles: 3, at Air Force, 3-7-18

Triples: 1, vs. Bradley, 2-25-18, and at Southeast Missouri State, 3-3-18

Home Runs: 2, at Northern Colorado, 3-11-18

Total Bases: 18, at Air Force, 3-6-18

Walks: 13, at Southeast Missouri State, 3-2-18 Strikeouts: 16, at Northern Colorado, 3-9-18

Sacrifice Hits: 2, at Northern Colorado, 3-10-18 [Game 1]

Sacrifice Flies: 2, at Southeast Missouri State, 3-4-18 Stolen Bases: 2, four times (last: at Northern Colorado, 3-10-18 [Game 1])

Hit By Pitch: 2, five times (last: at Northern Colorado, 3-9-18)

Runners Left on Base: 13, at Southeast Missouri State, 3-2-18

TEAM FIELDING

Putouts: 32, at Northern Colorado, 3-9-18 Assists: 15, at Southeast Missouri State, 3-2-18, and at Air Force, 3-6-18

Errors: 5, at Northern Colorado, 3-10-18 [Game 2] Double Plays Turned: 2, at Northern Colorado, 3-11-18

TEAM PITCHING

Innings Pitched: 10.2, at Northern Colorado, 3-9-18 Most Runs Allowed: 12, at Southeast Missouri State, 3-2-18

Most Earned Runs Allowed: 11, at Southeast Missouri State, 3-2-18, and at Air Force, 3-7-18

Fewest Runs Allowed: 1, at Minnesota, 2-28-18 Fewest Earned Runs Allowed: 1, at Minnesota, 2-28-18 Hits Allowed: 16, at Air Force, 3-7-18, and at Northern Colorado, 3-11-18

Fewest Hits Allowed: 3, at Minnesota, 2-28-18 Most Walks Allowed: 8, vs. Austin Peay, 2-16-18, and at Southeast Missouri State, 3-2-18

Fewest Walks Allowed: 1, at Minnesota, 2-28-18, and at Air Force, 3-7-18

Strikeouts: 15, at Northern Colorado, 3-9-18 Home Runs Allowed: 2, at Southeast Missouri State, 3-2-18

Wild Pitches: 4, three times (last: at Southeast Missouri State, 3-2-18)

Hit Batters: 4, at Air Force, 3-7-18

Tyler Yamaguchi followed with a base hit and advanced to third on back-to-back walks issued to Jake Garcia and Dean Lawson by Jackrabbit starter Tyler Olmstead. Miller's walk came against freshman reliever Bret Barnett.

SDSU built a 3-0 lead, taking advantage of two UNC errors to score a run in the second inning before tacking on two more runs in the fourth. The Jackrabbits strung together four consecutive singles, the last two of which were by outfielders Logan Holtz and Phil Velez to drive in runs.

Northern Colorado responded with three runs in the home half of the fourth to tie the game at 3-all. Yamaguchi plated the first two runs with a single to left-center field and later scored on a base hit by Garcia.

The Jackrabbits regained the lead in the top of the sixth as Ian Cote delivered a double that scored Holtz, who was the lone SDSU player with two hits. The Jackrabbits out-hit UNC, 7-6.

A sophomore from Sioux Falls, Olmstead suffered his first collegiate loss after winning his first three decisions over two seasons. He struck out seven and walked three while surrendering five runs on six hits.

UNC starter Keenan Lum struck out seven and walked four over five innings. Connor Leedholm earned the save after fanning the side in order in the top of the seventh.

NORTHERN COLORADO 5, SOUTH DAKOTA STATE 4 (7 inn.)

SDSU 010 201 0 4-7-3 UNC 000 302 X 5-6-4

SDSU: Tyler Olmstead, Bret Barnett (6), Mitchell Oehme (6) and Ian Cote. UNC: Keenan Lum, Karver Pate (6), Connor Leedholm (7) and Jake Garcia, Alex Kiel.

W-Pate (1-0). L-Olmstead (1-1). Save-Leedholm (3).

Game 3: Northern Colorado 8, SDSU 2

Northern Colorado scored in each of its last six innings of batting to complete the doubleheader sweep with an 8-2 victory.

SDSU tallied the first run of the game in the top of the second as Josh Falk hit a leadoff double and scored on a groundout off the bat of Tony Kjolsing.

From there it was all UNC as the Bears scored single runs in the third and fourth innings, followed by two-run frames in the fifth and sixth innings. The Bears added runs in the seventh and eighth innings. Cole Maltese and Baxter Halligan each posted two hits and a run batted in, while Miller contributed a pair of runs batted in.

The Jackrabbits' other run came in the top of the ninth on a double by Skyler Wenninger that brought home Newt Johnson. Wenninger and Falk each accounted for two of SDSU's five hits.

SDSU starter Brady Moxham pitched seven innings, striking out six and walking only one despite giving up seven runs — five earned — on seven hits. Bryce Hanson made his season debut and allowed an unearned run in the eighth as he walked two and struck out a pair.

NORTHERN COLORADO 8, SOUTH DAKOTA STATE 2

SDSU 010 000 001 2-5-5 UNC 001 122 11X 8-7-3

SDSU: Brady Moxham, Bryce Hanson (8) and Kolton Michalski, Derek Hackman. UNC: Aaron Hamilton, Austin Bergdahl (6), Caden Maher (9) and Alex Kiel.

W-Hamilton (1-2). L-Moxham (0-2). Save-none.

two-run single by Logan Holtz.

Game 4: Northern Colorado 11, SDSU 7

Northern Colorado struck for seven runs in the second inning en route to an 11-7 victory and sweep of the four-game nonconference baseball series March 11 against South Dakota State at Jackson Field.

The Bears improved to 10-5 overall while SDSU dropped to 2-14 on the season.

Leading 1-0 after scoring an unearned run in the bottom of the first inning, UNC sent 12 men to the plate in the seven-run second inning. Brett Minick doubled twice in the frame, starting the outburst with a leadoff double off Jackrabbit starter Otis Roby before

Lawson also doubled in a run for one of UNC's six hits in the second inning.

SDSU chipped away at the deficit, scoring a run in the fourth on a solo home run by Josh Falk and adding three runs in the fifth on a run-scoring single by Josh Kutzke and

adding an RBI double against reliever Korey Kuhlmann to put the Bears up 8-0. Dean

2018 SUMMIT LEAGUE STANDINGS

SCHOOL	O VERALL	Conf.
Oral Roberts	8-6	0-0
North Dakota State	7-9	0-0
Omaha	4-11	0-0
Fort Wayne	4-9	0-0
South Dakota State	2-14	0-0
Western Illinois	0-11	0-0
Records through games player	d March 13, 2018	

2018 SUMMIT LEAGUE PRESEASON POLL

1. Oral Roberts (5)	25
2. South Dakota State (1)	20
3. North Dakota State	17
4. Western Illinois	14
5. Omaha	9
6. Fort Wayne	5
Notes: First-place votes in parentheses	



MISCELLANEOUS STATS

MULTI-HIT GAMES						
6	Newt Johnson	6				
4	Nick Smith	5				
3	Josh Falk	2				
2						
	CURRENT REACH	ED				
	BASE STREAK					
3	Skyler Wenninger	11				
2	Newt Johnson	9				
2	Josh Kutzke	9				
	Landon Badger	8				
	4 3 2 3 2	4 Nick Smith 3 Josh Falk 2 CURRENT REACH BASE STREAK 3 Skyler Wenninger 2 Newt Johnson 2 Josh Kutzke				

Northern Colorado countered with a pair of runs in the home half of the fourth on back-to-back RBI doubles from Tyler Yamaguchi and Payton Tapia. The Bears out-hit SDSU, 16-8, with eight of their hits of the two-base variety.

Austin Miller was 3-for-5 with a pair of doubles to lead UNC, which had six different players register two or more hits.

Kutzke, who was 2-for-5, delivered his second run-scoring hit for SDSU in the top of the seventh, while Tony Kjolsing provided the final tally for the Jackrabbits with a two-run homer in the ninth. Kjolsing and Falk each added two hits, while their home runs were the only ones by either team in the four-game series.

UNC starter Baxter Halligan struck out seven and walked three over five innings to pick up the win.

Jackrabbit freshman Bret Barnett retired all six batters he faced between the fifth and sixth innings to keep SDSU within striking distance.

NORTHERN COLORADO 11, SOUTH DAKOTA STATE 7

SDSU	000	130	102	7-8-1
UNC	170	200	10X	11-16-2

SDSU: Otist Roby, Korey Kuhlmann (2), Brett Mogen (3), Bret Barnett (5), Mitchell Oehme (7), Bryce Johnson (8) and Kolton Michalski. UNC: Baxter Halligan, Zach Heath (6), Anthony Brady (7), Jacob Bogacz (8), Gavin Gorrell (9) and Payton Tapia, Alex Kiel.

W-Halligan (2-0). L-Roby (0-2). Save-none.

HR: SDSU-Josh Falk (2), Tony Kjolsing (2).

INJURY BUG: During its recent six-game slide the Jackrabbits have been without the services of three members of its starting lineup due to injuries.

Junior Nick Smith, who led SDSU in batting last season with a .340 average and was a second-team all-Summit League selection as a utility player, has been limited to 25 at-bats in eight games so far this season.

Sophomore center fielder Landon Badger has been out of action since being injured in the series opener at Southeast Missouri State on March 2. Badger batted .400 (4-for-10) during the opening weekend, including notching a three-hit game versus Austin Peay on Feb. 16.

Senior outfielder/designated hitter Anthony Schneider left the game early due to injury in the series opener at Air Force on March 6. Schneider shares the team lead in both home runs (2) and runs batted in (9).

Badger, Schneider and Smith are all left-handed hitters.

In addition, sophomore southpaw Brady Stover missed his scheduled start in the series at Southeast Missouri State, but came back to record a career-high nine strikeouts March 9 at Northern Colorado. However, Stover is questionable for action this weekend at Oral Roberts.

SOLID DEFENSE: The Jackrabbits entered last weekend as the top fielding team in The Summit League with a .986 fielding percentage through 12 games, a mark that also ranked sixth among NCAA Division I teams. Last weekend, however, SDSU struggled in the field at times during their series at Northern Colorado, committing 10 errors in the fourgame set to fall to a .972 overall team fielding percentage.

NEW ARMS: Seven Jackrabbit pitchers made their SDSU debuts on the opening weekend of play in Missouri and Illinois. Brady Moxham and Korey Kuhlmann each started games for SDSU, while Otis Roby, Austin Suhr, Alex Marro, Bryce Johnson and Mitchell Oehme made appearances in relief.

SCHNEIDER CLEARS THE BASES: Senior Anthony Schneider made the most of his run-scoring opportunities in the Jackrabbits' weekend series at Southeast Missouri State by driving in seven runs in eight official at-bats. Schneider began the weekend by hitting a pinch-hit grand slam in the March 2 series opener, then went 1-for-4 with a run-scoring double the next day.

In the March 4 series finale, Schneider plated a first-inning run with a double and added a sacrifice fly in the sixth inning.

For the series, Schneider batted .375 (3-for-8) and slugged 1.000 as all three of his hits went for extra bases — a home run and two doubles.

Schneider's grand slam was the first by a Jackrabbit player since Matt Johnson connected on April 23, 2016, at Omaha.

QUICK FACTS

Name of School: South Dakota State University

CITY/ZIP: Brookings, SD 57007 FOUNDED: February 21, 1881 ENROLLMENT: 12,527 (fall 2017) COLORS: Yellow and Blue

HOME STADIUM: Erv Huether Field (600 capacity)

President: Dr. Barry H. Dunn Athletic Director: Justin Sell 2017 Overall Record: 26-24

2017 SUMMIT LEAGUE RECORD: 18-12 (third place in regular season; third place at Summit League Baseball Championship)

Home Record: 11-5

Away/Neutral Record: 9-14/6-5 Letterwinners Returning/Lost: 16/12 Position Starters Returning/Lost: 6/3 All-time Record: 1,300-1,142-5

FIRST YEAR OF BASEBALL: 1947

NCAA DIVISION I POSTSEASON APPEARANCES:

One/2013

NCAA DIVISION II POSTSEASON APPEARANCES:

Nine (last in 1995)

KJOLSING STREAK ENDS: Shortstop Tony Kjolsing had his streak of reaching base safely by hit or walk end at 26 consecutive games in the March 9 series opener at Northern Colorado. A senior from Chaska, Minnesota, Kjolsing reached base safely in the final 14 games of the 2017 season and was on base in the first 12 games of 2018 before going 0-for-5 in an extra-innings loss to the Bears.

Kjolsing enters the weekend as the top base stealer in The Summit League with seven stolen bases in nine attempts.

FALK LEADS OFFENSE: Sophomore first baseman Josh Falk has been the top hitter for the Jackrabbits as they enter the Summit League portion of their schedule. The Minnetonka, Minnesota, native has hit safely in 10 of the last 12 games . He is batting .356 (14-for-45) over that span with a team-best six multi-hit game.

Falk connected on his first home run as a Jackrabbit March 6 at Air Force, a game in which he also collected a season-high three runs batted in. He added a home run in the March 11 series finale at Northern Colorado to tie for the team lead in that category.

STEIGER IN THE CLUTCH: Freshman Gus Steiger notched game-winning RBIs in back-to-back victories at Southeast Missouri State to open the month of March.

In a March 3 game, Steiger hit a two-run home run in the sixth inning to break a 2-all tie as the Jackrabbits went on to post their first win of the season, 7-4. The next day, he delivered a sacrifice fly in the top of the ninth that gave SDSU the lead in a 6-5 victory.

Steiger also plated the tying run in the top of the ninth in the March 9 series opener at Northern Colorado with a two-out single. The Jackrabbits went on to fall, 3-2, in 11 innings in their first extra-innings contest of the season.

A native of Minnetonka, Minnesota, Steiger has batted leadoff and started each of the Jackrabbits' last 11 games at second base.

KUHLMANN IN CONTROL: Junior left-handed pitcher Korey Kuhlmann ranks third on the team with 16 innings pitched so far this season and has yet to issue a walk. Kuhlmann has made five appearances, including three starts, and recorded nine strikeouts, including a season-high four in his Jackrabbit debut Feb. 18 versus Illinois.

COACH BISHOP: Rob Bishop, who has guided college baseball teams to more than 500 victories, was named head baseball coach at South Dakota State University on Aug. 1, 2016. Bishop is the ninth head coach in program history and the fourth in the Division I era of Jackrabbit baseball.

Overall, Bishop holds a 577-360-1 record (.616 winning percentage) as a collegiate head coach, including a 28-38 mark with the Jackrabbits. Prior to coming to SDSU, he spent six years at NCAA Division II member Montana State University-Billings, where he led the Yellowjackets to back-to-back Great Northwest Athletic Conference regular season titles in 2015 and 2016, attaining the program's first-ever 30-win season with a 30-20 record in 2016.

His squads also were honored as the top academic team in the GNAC each of his last three seasons.

Previously, Bishop spent 10 years at Miles City Community College in Montana, where his teams won MonDak conference championships every year. His squads also claimed five consecutive junior college region titles and a Northwest District championship in 2007 to advance to the NJCAA Division II College World Series. He also served as athletic director the last five years of his tenure at Miles City.

Bishop served as a graduate assistant at SDSU under head coach Mark Ekeland during the 1998 and 1999 seasons. In his first season as a head coach, Bishop led Huron University to the South Dakota Intercollegiate Conference title in 2000.

A 1994 graduate of Jamestown College, Bishop earned NAIA All-America honors during the 1992 and 1994 seasons as an infielder.

THE ROSTER: The 2018 SDSU baseball roster features 33 players from six different states and one Canadian province. Of the 33 players, 12 are from South Dakota, 10 are from lowa and seven hail from Minnesota. Arizona, Washington and Wisconsin are represented by one player each, as is Manitoba.

By class, seven are seniors, 11 are juniors, eight are sophomores and seven are incoming freshmen.

SOUTH DAKOTA STATE PRONUNCIATION GUIDE

Players	
Cote	CO-tee
Feige	FY-jee
Kjolsing	COLE-sing
Kuhlmann	COOL-man
Kutzke	CUTS-key
Marro	MAHR-oh
Michalski	mah-HALL-ski
Mogen	MOE-gun
Moxham	MOCKS-hum
Oehme	OH-me
Olmstead	OLM-sted
Reimers	RYE-mers
Roby	ROE-bee
Steiger	STY-gurr
Suhr	SOOR
Velez	vel-EZZ
Wenninger	WENN-en-gurr
COACHES	
Grunzke	GRUNS-key
Higginbotham	HIGG-in-bawth-um
Mormann	MORE-man

No.	PLAYER	Pos.	B-T	Нт.	WT.	YR.	HOMETOWN (PREVIOUS SCHOOL)
1	Logan Holtz	OF	R/R	5-11	175	Jr.	Urbana, Iowa/Marshalltown CC (Iowa)
2	Nick Smith**	IF/OF	L/R	5-11	175	Jr.	Chanhassen, Minn./Chanhassen H.S.
3	Gus Steiger	IF	R/R	5-11	180	Fr.	Minnetonka, Minn./Minnetonka H.S.
4	Ian Cote**	C	R/R	5-8	190	Jr.	Chanhassen, Minn./Minnetonka H.S.
5	Bryce Johnson	Р	L/L	6-0	160	Jr.	Glendale, Ariz./Phoenix College (Ariz.)
6	Phil Velez**	0F	R/R	5-8	180	Sr.	Des Moines, Iowa/Southeastern CC (Iowa)
7	Bret Barnett	Р	L/L	6-2	175	Fr.	Indianola, Iowa/Martensdale-St. Mary's H.S.
8	Tony Kjolsing***	IF	R/R	5-11	175	Sr.	Chaska, Minn./Chaska H.S.
9	Skyler Wenninger**	IF/OF	R/R	6-0	180	Sr.	Luverne, Minn./Minnesota-Duluth
11	Landon Badger*	0F	L/L	6-0	185	So.	Pierre, S.D./T.F. Riggs H.S.
12	Anthony Schneider**	IF/OF	L/R	6-0	190	Sr.	Altoona, Iowa/Southeast Polk H.S.
13	Brady Moxham	Р	R/R	6-3	195	So.	Oakville, Manitoba/Midland College (Texas)
14	Colton Cox	0F	R/R	6-1	185	Fr.	Aberdeen, S.D./Roncalli H.S.
15	Otis Roby	Р	R/R	6-1	210	Jr.	Knoxville, Iowa/Southeastern CC (Iowa)
17	Brett Mogen*	Р	R/R	6-2	200	So.	Dell Rapids, S.D./Dell Rapids H.S.
18	Alex Marro	Р	R/R	6-1	205	Jr.	Janesville, Wis./McHenry County College (III.)
19	Josh Falk	IF	R/R	6-2	230	So.	Minnetonka, Minn./Gulf Coast State (Fla.)
20	Kolton Michalski**	C	R/R	6-0	200	Jr.	Watertown, S.D./Watertown H.S.
21	Philip Jacobson***	OF	R/R	6-1	185	Sr.	Dakota Dunes, S.D./Bishop Heelan H.S.
22	Derek Feige**	Р	R/R	6-0	175	Sr.	Sioux Falls, S.D./New Mexico State
23	Brady Stover*	Р	L/L	6-2	190	So.	Huxley, Iowa/Collins-Maxwell-Baxter H.S.
24	Korey Kuhlmann	Р	L/L	6-1	220	Jr.	Ute, Iowa/Iowa Western CC
25	Josh Kutzke	IF	R/R	5-10	225	Jr.	Kennewick, Wash./Walla Walla CC (Wash.)
27	Austin Suhr	Р	R/R	6-0	205	Jr.	Bettendorf, Iowa/Iowa Central CC
28	Tyler Olmstead*	Р	R/R	6-2	220	So.	Sioux Falls, S.D./Washington H.S.
29	Mitchell Oehme	Р	R/R	6-5	195	Fr.	Minnetonka, Minn./Minnetonka H.S.
30	Andrew Zimmerman	Р	R/R	5-11	185	Fr.	Urbandale, Iowa/Johnston H.S.
31	Quinn Reimers*	Р	R/R	6-4	235	So.	Pierre, S.D./T.F. Riggs H.S.
32	Derek Hackman	C	R/R	6-0	220	Fr.	Johnston, Iowa/Johnston H.S.
33	Newt Johnson***	IF	R/R	6-2	210	Sr.	Rapid City, S.D./St.Thomas More H.S.
34	Bryce Hanson**	Р	L/L	6-4	230	Jr.	Dakota Dunes, S.D./Sergeant Bluff-Luton H.S.
38	Timmy Paris	C	R/R	6-1	205	Fr.	Rapid City, S.D./Rapid City Central H.S.
	Cody Carlson	Р	L/L	5-10	205	So.	Rapid City, S.D./Northeastern JC (Colo.)

COACHING STAFF

26Rob BishopHead Coach10Brian GrunzkeAssistant Coach40Mitch MormannPitching Coach39Danny HigginbothamVolunteer Assistant

* indicates number of varsity letters earned

A LOOK AHEAD: SDSU is scheduled to return to nonconference action March 20 at Creighton. First pitch is slated for 6:30 p.m. at TD Ameritrade Park in Omaha, Nebraska. From there, the Jackrabbits head back on the road for Summit League action March 23-25 at Western Illinois.

Further updates will be available through GoJacks.com and Twitter (@GoJacksBaseball).

The Automated ScoreBook Overall Statistics for South Dakota State (as of Mar 15, 2018) (All games Sorted by Batting avg)

Record: 2-14 Home: 0-0 Away: 2-8 Neutral: 0-6 Conference: 0-0

Player	avg	gp-gs	ab	r	h	2b	3b	hr	rbi	tb	slg%	bb	hp	so g	gdp	ob%	sf	sh	sb-att	ро	а	е	fld%
Josh Falk	.304	16-15	56	7	17	2	0	2	7	25	.446	5	5	15	2	.409	0	0	0-0	33	2	0	1.000
Josh Kutzke	.265	13-8	34	4	9	2	0	0	3	11	.324	8	0	15	1	.405	0	0	0-0	68	10	1	.987
Logan Holtz	.240	11-5	25	1	6	1	0	0	3	7	.280	4	0	4	0	.345	0	0	0-1	7	1	3	.727
Landon Badger	.240	8-8	25	1	6	1	0	0	3	7	.280	4	0	6	0	.345	0	0	1-2	22	0	0	1.000
Gus Steiger	.228	14-14	57	7	13	1	1	1	7	19	.333	1	1	11	0	.250	1	1	2-2	17	44	0	1.000
Tony Kjolsing	.224	16-16	58	12	13	2	0	2	7	21	.362	14	1	19	1	.378	1	0	7-9	23	38	2	.968
Newt Johnson	.203	16-16	59	9	12	3	0	1	9	18	.305	9	1	14	0	.314	1	0	0-0	42	26	4	.944
Nick Smith	.200	8-6	25	3	5	2	1	0	4	9	.360	1	0	3	0	.222	1	0	1-1	0	0	0	.000
Derek Hackman	.200	9-3	10	0	2	1	0	0	1	3	.300	1	0	3	0	.273	0	0	0-0	20	2	0	1.000
Skyler Wenninger	.186	14-13	43	5	8	2	0	0	1	10	.233	8	2	16	1	.340	0	0	1-1	16	9	0	1.000
Phil Velez	.184	14-10	38	6	7	1	0	0	3	8	.211	2	0	10	2	.220	1	3	0-0	14	0	0	1.000
Philip Jacobson	.171	14-9	35	3	6	1	0	0	2	7	.200	4	1	12	1	.275	0	3	0-2	18	1	2	.905
Anthony Schneider	.167	11-8	24	4	4	2	0	2	9	12	.500	4	0	9	0	.267	2	0	0-0	5	0	0	1.000
Ian Cote	.143	6-3	7	0	1	1	0	0	1	2	.286	1	0	6	0	.250	0	0	0-0	25	4	0	1.000
Kolton Michalski	.077	12-10	26	4	2	0	0	0	1	2	.077	3	2	9	0	.226	0	1	0-0	76	5	0	1.000
Derek Feige	.000	1-0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	.000	0	0	0	0	.000	0	0	0-0	0	0	0	.000
Totals	.213	16	522	66	111	22	2	8	61	161	.308	69	13	152	8	.316	7	8	12-18	398	163	16	.972
Opponents	.298	16	526	103	157	31	2	8	88	216	.411	63	18	121	8	.390	3	11	33-41	432	167	18	.971

LOB - Team (121), Opp (120). DPs turned - Team (8), Opp (10). Picked off - Kjolsing 1, Schneider 1, Smith 1.

(All games Sorted by Earned run avg)

Player	era	w-I	арр	gs	сg	sho	sv	ip	h	r	er	bb	so	2b	3b	hr	b/avg	wp	hp	bk s	sfa :	sha_
Bret Barnett	0.00	0-0	5	0	0	0/0	0	3.2	1	0	0	2	3	0	0	0	.091	0	1	0	0	0
Bryce Hanson	0.00	0-0	1	0	0	0/0	0	1.0	0	1	0	2	2	0	0	0	.000	0	0	0	0	0
Brady Stover	2.77	0-0	3	3	0	0/0	0	13.0	8	4	4	7	18	2	0	1	.178	0	2	0	0	0
Tyler Olmstead	4.15	1-1	4	3	0	0/0	0	17.1	19	8	8	5	16	6	0	0	.284	0	2	1	0	0
Austin Suhr	5.06	1-3	7	0	0	0/0	0	10.2	12	8	6	6	7	1	0	1	.293	4	1	0	0	1
Brady Moxham	6.55	0-2	4	4	0	0/0	0	22.0	23	20	16	10	21	4	0	2	.267	4	3	1	0	4
Korey Kuhlmann	6.75	0-3	5	3	0	0/0	0	16.0	23	13	12	0	9	4	0	1	.333	0	1	1	0	0
Derek Feige	6.75	0-0	5	0	0	0/0	0	4.0	5	3	3	4	7	1	0	1	.294	6	0	0	0	0
Brett Mogen	7.11	0-1	7	1	0	0/0	0	12.2	19	10	10	3	7	4	2	0	.373	0	1	0	2	2
Mitchell Oehme	7.20	0-1	6	0	0	0/0	0	5.0	8	5	4	3	6	1	0	1	.400	2	0	0	0	1
Quinn Reimers	8.10	0-0	3	0	0	0/0	0	3.1	5	3	3	1	2	0	0	0	.357	1	2	0	0	1
Otis Roby	8.44	0-2	4	2	0	0/0	0	10.2	14	14	10	9	12	4	0	1	.311	5	1	1	0	1
Bryce Johnson	9.39	0-1	7	0	0	0/0	0	7.2	15	8	8	4	6	2	0	0	.405	2	2	0	0	0
Alex Marro	9.53	0-0	6	0	0	0/0	1	5.2	5	6	6	7	5	2	0	0	.263	0	2	1	1	1
Totals	5.97	2-14	16	16	0	0/0	1	132.2	157	103	88	63	121	31	2	8	.298	24	18	5	3	11
Opponents	3.50	13-2	16	16	0	1/1	6	144.0	111	66	56	69	152	22	2	8	.213	12	13	1	7	8

PB - Team (6), Cote 4, Hackman 1, Michalski 1, Opp (6). Pickoffs - Team (2), Olmstead 1, Mogen 1, Opp (3). SBA/ATT - Michalski (15-17), Cote (13-15), Moxham (6-10), Hackman (5-6), Roby (5-6), Kuhlmann (4-5), Mogen (4-4), Stover (4-4), Barnett (2-3), Oehme (3-3), Olmstead (2-3), Reimers (2-2), Suhr (1-1).

The Automated ScoreBook Overall Statistics for South Dakota State (as of Mar 15, 2018) (All games Sorted by Fielding pct)

Player	С	ро	а	е	fld%	dp	sba	csb	sba%	pb	ci
Kolton Michalski	81	76	5	0	1.000	0	15	2	.882	1	0
Gus Steiger	61	17	44	0	1.000	5	0	0		0	0
Josh Falk	35	33	2	0	1.000	2	0	0		0	0
Ian Cote	29	25	4	0	1.000	0	13	2	.867	4	0
Skyler Wenninger	25	16	9	0	1.000	0	0	0		0	0
Landon Badger	22	22	0	0	1.000	0	0	0		0	0
Derek Hackman	22	20	2	0	1.000	0	5	1	.833	1	0
Phil Velez	14	14	0	0	1.000	0	0	0		0	0
Brady Moxham	9	4	5	0	1.000	0	6	4	.600	0	0
Anthony Schneider	5	5	0	0	1.000	0	0	0		0	0
Bryce Johnson	4	2	2	0	1.000	0	0	0		0	0
Brett Mogen	3	1	2	0	1.000	0	4	0	1.000	0	0
Otis Roby	2	2	0	0	1.000	0	5	1	.833	0	0
Korey Kuhlmann	2	0	2	0	1.000	0	4	1	.800	0	0
Alex Marro	1	1	0	0	1.000	0	0	0		0	0
Mitchell Oehme	1	0	1	0	1.000	0	3	0	1.000	0	0
Josh Kutzke	79	68	10	1	.987	6	0	0		0	0
Tony Kjolsing	63	23	38	2	.968	5	0	0		0	0
Newt Johnson	72	42	26	4	.944	3	0	0		0	0
Philip Jacobson	21	18	1	2	.905	0	0	0		0	0
Tyler Olmstead	7	2	4	1	.857	0	2	1	.667	0	0
Logan Holtz	11	7	1	3	.727	0	0	0		0	0
Austin Suhr	3	0	2	1	.667	0	1	0	1.000	0	0
Quinn Reimers	3	0	2	1	.667	0	2	0	1.000	0	0
Brady Stover	2	0	1	1	.500	0	4	0	1.000	0	0
Nick Smith	0	0	0	0	.000	0	0	0		0	0
Derek Feige	0	0	0	0	.000	0	0	0		0	0
Bret Barnett	0	0	0	0	.000	0	2	1	.667	0	0
Bryce Hanson	0	0	0	0	.000	0	0	0		0	0
Totals	577	398	163	16	.972	8	33	8	.805	6	0
Opponents	617	432	167	18	.971	10	12	6	.667	6	0