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**(S.D.)-School Of Mines Joining RMAC**



By: Chris Fankhauser Posted at: 01/21/2014 07:58 AM

RAPID CITY, S.D. (AP) - South Dakota School of Mines & Technology in Rapid City is joining the Rocky Mountain Athletic Conference.

Mines President Heather Wilson says the conference is a natural fit for the public university and allows it to compete against traditional rivals.

Black Hills State University in Spearfish is already a conference member. The 13 other schools are in Nebraska, Colorado and New Mexico.

The School of Mines is in its first year as a full member of NCAA Division II athletic competition.

The Hardrockers currently compete as an independent in all sports except men's soccer and football. All sports will join the Rocky Mountain conference.

Mines is looking for a new athletic director to replace Dick Kaiser, who resigned in July to join his son at Northwestern Oklahoma State University.

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