

Softball: Coyotes beat SDSU

By Jeremy Hoeck

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Forty-four runs in nearly five and a half hours. To say it was a marathon day for the University of South Dakota and South Dakota State softball teams would be putting it lightly.

The one, rather big, solace for the Coyotes was that they picked up a pair of one-run Summit League wins, 7-6 and 16-15 over their rivals in Friday's doubleheader in Vermillion.

"It wasn't necessarily our best defensive or pitching games, but we figured out a way to come out on top," said USD head coach Amy Klyse, whose team improves to 24-12 and 7-1 in league play.

"And that's all that matters in the end, that you get two 'W's.'"

It was far from easy and far from pretty, though.

On a blustery day in the South Dakota Showdown Series, the teams combined for eight errors, 15 walks and 33 runners left on base.

The story, rather than a Coyote sweep, was nearly an epic USD collapse. Once up 13-2 in the second game, the hosts gave up 10 unanswered runs.

"Mentally we can't let that get to us," said sophomore catcher Allie Daly, who had two home runs and eight RBI on the day. "After we make the error, we have to make sure we're ready for the next play."

The fact that the Coyotes were able to do exactly that on Friday is perhaps direct evidence that 2013 is proving to be vastly improved from 2012, according to Klyse — whose team has already eclipsed last year's win total.

"I think for sure last year if someone scores 15 runs against us, we're nowhere close to being in the game," she said. "We're scoring runs, and that hasn't always happened in the past."

Having already won game one in dramatic fashion, the Coyotes appeared ready for anything but drama in game two.

A pair of 6-run innings, highlighted by a Katelyn Wudel 2-run triple and a Daly grand slam in the third, put the Coyotes ahead 13-2.

The Jackrabbits made a furious comeback, scoring 10 unanswered runs to get within 13-12 — aided by some Coyote mistakes and an Alex Landon 3-run homer.

USD responded with three runs in the bottom of the fifth, but the Jacks made things interesting by scoring three runs in the top of the seventh.

"We just have to keep a level head, and coach always says, 'Go pitch by pitch,'" said Coyote senior pitcher Erica Denney, who got the save in game two. "If you do that, you don't focus on what could happen, you worry about that play going on."

In what was a back-and-forth first game, SDSU pulled ahead 5-4 after a 3-run top of the fifth inning. Yankton native Christine Broders put the Coyotes in front 6-5 with an RBI double in the bottom of the sixth.

The Jackrabbits tied the game at 6-6 in the sixth on an RBI double by Elyse Eitel, but USD relief pitcher Madison Frain got the next three hitters out to end the threat.

With the bases loaded in the seventh inning, Daly sent a line drive to right-center field to score the game-winning run.

For the Coyotes, who had four players batting at least .300 before Friday, it wasn't exactly a surprise to see a clutch hit, Daly said.

"We've been hitting the crap out of the ball, honestly," she said. "The biggest difference between this year and last year is our hitting."

True to form, the Coyotes were a study in balance on Friday.

On the day, freshman Yvon Minogue had five hits and five RBI, while Lindsey Boyd and Katie Cochran both added four hits. Broders finished with three hits.

Having already won the series and therefore earning a point in the South Dakota Showdown Series, the Coyotes will look for a weekend sweep in today's (Saturday) final game at noon in Vermillion.

With the season setting up for a potential Summit League Tournament run, USD is instead keeping things simple.

"What we're working right now is that every game is our most important game, not look at where we're at and where the standings are at," Klyse said.

You can follow Jeremy Hoeck on Twitter at twitter.com/jhoeck.

VHS track battles Mother Nature, competes in 2 meets

By Parker Knox

Sportswriter

The Vermillion High track teams, facing challenges from the weather man this week, got in two meets in the first week of the season — one in cold weather and one on a relatively nice day — and already there is a Tanager athlete qualified for the state meet at the end of May.

The Tanagers had two individual champions and one winning relay team as the VHS Booster Club hosted its annual meet last Thursday. Colin Olson is already assured of state meet participation in the 200-meter dash as his third-place time of :23.10 meets the qualifying standard.

Maddie Lavin won the girls 1600-meter run in 5:43.20, and Nick Jensen edged a duo of Dakota Valley stars to win the boys discus with a heave of 143 feet, beating the Panthers' Jason Lupkes by a foot and Taylor Lambert by just over three feet. Jensen nearly had another win but placed second behind Lambert in the shot put. Jensen's toss was 49 feet, and Lambert won at 53'3".

The relay title for Vermillion came in the girls 1600-meter sprint medley where Paige Olson, Sydney Peters, Megan Olson and Lavin strode to victory in 4:39.70, topping runner-up Lennox by 11 full seconds.

The VHS girls accumulated 30.5 points to place seventh, and the boys had 47 points to place fifth. Harrisburg won both team titles with 140.5 boys points and 143 points on the girls' side.

Other team points for the VHS girls came from Hailey Friedel, fourth in the 100 in :13.80 and tied for sixth in the 400 in 1:08; the 4x400 relay team, fourth in 4:30.10, and the 4x200 team, fifth in 1:56.70.

Alex Robertson earned team points for the VHS boys, tying for fourth in the high jump at 5'6" and placing fifth in the long jump at 17'7".

Nathan Ford placed fifth in the 3200 with an 11:08.70 clocking. The Tanagers also had second-place relay teams in the 4x100 (:47.50) and the 4x200 (1":39.40).

Dylan Fischbach's times in wheelchair events were :18.10 in the 100-meter dash, :34.90 in the 200, 1:17.10 in the 400, and 2:39.73 in the 800.

At Elk Point-Jefferson's Husky Invitational on April 2, Austin Krier of VHS emerged as the 800-meter run champion with a 2:04.09 time. Colin Olson and Nick Jensen each placed in two events. Olson grabbed second place in the 200 in :23.36 and third in the 400 in :52.65. Jensen was second in the shot put at 49'2" and third in the discus at 140'3".

Alex Robertson took second with a high jump of 5'10". J.T. Sorensen ran fifth in the 400 in :54.35. Nate Ford was fifth in the 34200 in 11:12.32, and Chris Pollema was sixth in the 110-meter hurdles in :19.22. A Tanager relay team finished fifth in the 3200-meter event in 9:38.03.

The only individual placing for the VHS girls' squad was Maddie Lavin with a third in the 1600 in 5:34.67. VHS girls relay teams were second in the medley in 4:36.40, fourth in the 1600 in 4:38.60, and fourth in the 3200 in 12:02.83.

A unique exhibition event called the quadrathlon was part of the EP-J meet. Athletes compete in an unusual combination of events--the 200, the 400, the shot put and the long jump. Colin Olson placed second, just one point shy of first place, and J.T. Sorensen was third. Sorensen actually had the same number of points as Olson, but Olson's wins in the 200 and 400 gave him a tiebreak advantage. Megan Olson finished fifth in the girls' quadrathlon.

At the season-opening Dan Lennon meet inside the DakotaDome, Olson placed third in the 400 in :52.57, and Fischbach rolled the 1500-meter distance in 4:52.17 in his wheelchair event.

The next meet on the VHS track schedule is at Lennox next Thursday.

FOR THE RECORD

Cases Disposed 3/29-4/4/2013

Taylor Sue Ellen Perkins, 1927 1st Avenue SW, Cedar Rapids, IA; Speed on four-lane in rural areas, \$39.00 plus costs

Cory Gohl, 910 Main St. E., Melrose, MN; Obey traffic device unless directed by policeman, \$54.00 plus costs

James Robinson, 1801 Boots Circle, Buffalo, MN; Speeding on other roadways, \$39.00 plus costs

Sean L. Christensen, 314 Austin St. Lot 2, Vermillion; Speeding on other roadways, \$79.00 plus costs

Kurt Siebel, 403 Oakmont Dr., Vermillion; No drivers license, \$54.00 plus costs

Brittney Markee, 221 W. Dartmouth, Vermillion; No drivers license, \$54.00 plus costs

costs; Seat belt violation, \$25.00 Dalton Markus Gath, 208 E. Cherry, Vermillion; Open container, \$54.00 plus costs

Daniel Eugene Klinger, 1305 Lincoln #106, Vermillion; Seat belt violation, \$25.00

Kelsey Rae Galbraith, 26810 313th Ave., Ideal, SD; Speeding on other roadways, \$39.00 plus costs

Philip Durham, PO Box 327, Newcastle, NE; Failure to make proper stop at stop intersection, \$54.00 plus costs

John Lester Landeen, 29747 467th, Beresford; Seat belt violation, \$25.00

Mitchel Patrick Breen, 208 NW Ave., Wagner; Speeding on other roadways, \$39.00 plus costs

Bradley Sharp, 401 E. 2nd St., Dell Rapids; Seat belt violation, \$25.00

Daniel August Frieberg, 906 Pebble Beach Drive, Beresford; Seat belt violation, \$25.00

Jerome Schmitz, 31647 Greenfield Rd., Vermillion; Seat belt violation, \$25.00

Dustin Michael Wolforth, 110 Forest Ave. #204, Vermillion; Speeding on other roadways, \$39.00 plus costs

Michael Runyon, 519 Elm Street, Vermillion; No drivers license, \$54.00 plus costs

Heidi DeVries, 1507 Brandon Drive, Vermillion; Overdriving road conditions, \$54.00 plus costs

Dale J. Merkel, 1303 E. 4th, Crofton, NE; Speeding on other roadways, \$19.00 plus costs

Jenna Jo Medick, 33278 L21, Kingsley, IA; Speeding on other roadways, \$39.00 plus costs

Steven Ray Foltz, 530 Elm St. #47, Vermillion; Speeding on

other roadways, \$19.00 plus costs

Kaye Lynn Bjorkman, 32177 Ponderosa Dr., Vermillion; Speeding on other roadways, \$39.00 plus costs

Rose Lee Zachariassen, 411 Stanford St. #33, Vermillion; Use of nontransparent material on vehicle window, \$25.00

Jennifer Renae Teslow, 901 E. 70th Street, Sioux Falls; Speeding on other roadways, \$39.00 plus costs

Gene M. KJose, 402 E. Lincoln, Elk Point; Seat belt violation, \$25.00

Andrew T. Johnson, 45646 SD Highway 50, Meckling; Litter from vehicle or transport it to rest area, \$104.00 plus costs

Loren D. Johnson, 46879 Burbank Rd., Burbank; Speeding on other roadways, \$39.00 plus costs

Alexander Chase Peterson, 856 Madison, Vermillion; Urinating in public, dismissal-deferred prosecution

Judge Glen W. Eng presiding

Brandon Landers, 418 1st St. NW, Watertown; Possession controlled substance, \$1,000.00 plus costs; Use or possession of drug paraphernalia, dismissed;

Possess two ounces of marijuana or less, dismissed; Ingest intoxicant other than alcoholic beverage, dismissed; Possess two ounces of marijuana or less, recharged; Ingest intoxicant other than alcoholic beverage, recharged; Conditions of the court

Alexander H. Milun, 400 Carr Street #105, Vermillion; Distribute/possess with intent

to distribute marijuana one ounce or less, \$1,000.00 plus costs, 150 days jail; Distribute/possess with intent to distribute marijuana one ounce or less, dismissed; Drug free zones created, dismissed; Conditions of the court

Alexander H. Milun, 400 Carr Street #105, Vermillion; Use or possession of drug paraphernalia, dismissed;

Drug free zones created, dismissed; Distribute/possess with intent to distribute one pound or more of marijuana, \$1,000.00 plus costs;

Distribute/possess with intent to distribute one ounce less half-pound marijuana, recharged; Drug free zones created, recharged; Conditions of the court

POEMS

From Page 01

to search and find a poem and memorize it, and then present it," she said.

Two or three people from each class are then selected to compete in a local contest. A videotaped performance of the winner is then sent to a panel of judges at the state level.

"They watch the videos, and from those videos they select nine to 10 people to actually go to Sioux Falls and compete at the state contest," Begley said.

At the local and state levels, Pearson recited three poems: "Thoughtless Cruelty" by Charles Lamb, "Larkinesque" by Michael Ryan and "I Find No Peace" by Thomas Wyatt.

After the state competition, students have the opportunity to switch they poems they recite, so Pearson has opted to drop the Wyatt selection in favor of "Every Single Day" by John Straley.

"We're continuing to work on the poems and get the best as I can so I can have a chance at nationals," he said.

Poetry Out Loud offers specific regulations as to which poems a student can recite during the competitions.

"They have a Web site ... that offers hundreds and hundreds of poems, and they're all by established poets," Begley said. "They say you have to pick your poems from their Web site, and one of the poems that you choose has to be pre-1900. One of them has to be 25 lines or less. The other can be basically of your choosing."

Pearson said he enjoyed watching the competitors at state.

"It was really interesting seeing everybody share a poem with people, because obviously poems mean different things to

different people," he said. "Even if the writer meant something else, the writer could take the poem and put a whole new spin on it."

When Pearson arrives at nationals, he will be competing against students from the other 49 states, as well as Washington, DC, the U.S. Virgin Islands and Puerto Rico.

The students will be vying for a total of \$50,000 in various awards.

"At nationals, they section everyone off into three groups," Pearson said. "Each group will perform, and then three finalists are selected from each of those three groups, so nine people will advance to the finals. Then after that, they'll pick three from the finalists."

The overall winner will be chosen from those final three. Begley said she encourages many students to take part in the program.

In addition to gaining confidence with public speaking, she said, "They start thinking more deeply critically about literature and the meaning behind the words. Poetry is so dense, and there's so much meaning packed into so few words that the challenge and the enjoyment in it is to dig

into it and find that core of the poem. What is that poet trying to say through these very few words?"

"I think it's a great challenge, and it's a great way to let your cognitive functions really kick in," she said.

Pearson also went to the state competition when he was a sophomore, although he did not compete last year.

"Before I had really gotten into it," he said "I wasn't a big fan of poetry. But once I started reading poems and deciphering them, and thinking really critically about them, I really started to find an interest in it."

He said he hopes others will, too.

For local residents who are interested in seeing Pearson perform, he will be at the regular USD Poetry Slam, which will take place at 7 p.m. in the Pit Lounge at the Muenster University Center on April 25.

For more information about Poetry Out Loud, visit <http://www.poetryoutloud.org/>.



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