



Caleb Miller attempts to score despite heavy defensive pressure in the lane from Lennox during the Tanager's Tuesday game with the Orioles in Vermillion. Austin Krier blistered the nets that night, scoring 26 points.

(Photo by David Lias)

Tanager boys now 2-0 after defeating Lennox Tuesday

By Parker Knox
Sportswriter

A 9-0 run to start the second half put Vermillion's boys basketball team in comfortable position Tuesday night, coasting over Lennox by a 34-17 score at that point.

But as the Orioles crept back into contention and the Tanagers' shooting went cold for a spell, Lennox found itself within 38-34 with 3:25 left in the game. But not to worry!

Austin Krier, completing a 26-point night, drove the baseline for a crucial layup, Nile Morecraft sank a free throw at the 2:11 mark, and then the Tanagers sank eight out of eight free throws in the final minute – the first two by Tanner Anderson and then six in a row by Krier.

The end result was a 49-40 Tanager win and a 2-0 record in the Big 8 Conference to open the season.

Krier was 7-of-15 from the field and 10-of-10 at the stripe while Anderson contributed 12 points as he and Krier accounted for 38 of the team's 49. Nick Jensen had four points, Morecraft three, and Caleb Miller and J.T. Sorensen two apiece.

Sorensen and Leber had vicious rebounding nights, leading the team with six apiece while Miller picked off five and Morecraft four.

The Tanagers built a 25-17 halftime lead. To start the third quarter Anderson drove for a layup, Krier sank a jumper, Sorensen put back a rebound for two, and Krier canned a trey for the 34-17 advantage that seemed safe. But over the next eight minutes the only points VHS could muster came on a basket by Anderson and one by Morecraft when Tanner Settles found him wide open beneath the basket.

But while their points were hard to come by, the Tanagers kept the defensive pressure on the Orioles, who had to work for everything they got. Vermillion shot 33 percent from the field and made 14 of 19 free throws. Lennox had a 36-28 rebounding edge.

In the season opener at Harrisburg last Friday, a 12-point run late in the first period and extending into the second by the Tanagers broke a 13-all tie and propelled Vermillion to a blow-out win, 71-54.

Part of that 12-0 surge was a buzzer-beating three-pointer by Tanner Anderson, and the end of it was the first of four second-quarter treys by Austin Krier, part of his game-high 24 points that included five three-point baskets.

Harrisburg, down at the intermission by 44-24, made a mini-run at the Tanagers, pulling to within 13, but a quick 8-0 spurt by Vermillion quelled that rally, and the Tigers didn't have another one in them.

"We need to keep the game going up and down instead of a slowed-down, half-court game," Coach Jay Drake said, "so we have to keep this going." Harrisburg did what it could to slow things down, fouled prolifically and probably excessively and sending the Tanagers to the free-throw stripe 48 times – 22 of them in the fourth quarter alone when the game was already out of reach.

"We did a good job at getting to the line," Drake said. "We just need to make a few more of them than we did." The Tanagers sank only 26 of those 48 free-throw attempts. But they shot 50 percent from the field, including seven of 11 from behind the circle.

Anderson had 19 points along with three assists and two steals. Anthony Leber contributed eight points, Nile Morecraft and Tanner Settles six each, J.T. Sorensen five and Caleb Miller three along with three assists. Among Vermillion's 37-24 rebounding advantage were five boards each from Anderson, Morecraft and Leber, four each from Settles and Sorensen, and three apiece from Nick Jensen, Miller and Krier.

Alex Jacobsen led Harrisburg with 15 points.

After a contest at Madison last night (Thursday), the Tanager boys will be at home Tuesday in a girls-boys doubleheader against Tri-Valley.

USD bags Bears 73-48

By James D. Cimburek
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Coming off a season-low 43 points in a loss at Northern Iowa, the University of South Dakota women's basketball team was looking to get its offense going in a matchup against Big Sky Conference defending co-champion and former North Central Conference rival Northern Colorado.

The Coyotes did just that, blistering the nets at a 50 percent clip and setting a defensive milestone to boot, as they bounced the Bears 73-48 Saturday at the DakotaDome.

In the contest, senior Jodie Boss became the Coyotes' all-time leader in blocked shots with 136, tying her single-game mark of seven in the process.

Boss, who is also the career in blocked shots at Wayne State (168), also went over 300 blocked shots for her collegiate career on Saturday.

"Last year I got the single-season record. Once I knew how close I was, it became a personal goal of mine," said the 6-4 senior of the mark.

The Columbus, Neb., native's ability to deflect shots without making contact has been vital to USD's defensive effort.

"She is such a unique talent," said USD head coach Ryun Williams. "She has a good sense of timing. She understands help situations, which allows our guards to lock up on the perimeter. She's tuned into the scouting report every single night."

The game started with an offensive surge. Amber Hegge attacked the basket for the game's first four points, and a Tempest Wilson kick-out to Boss gave the Coyotes a 6-0 lead to start the game. UNC scored the next five points, all by Lauren Oosdyke, but another 8-2 USD run – including a pair of Alexis Yackley three-pointers, kept the Bears at arm's length.

With UNC within two, 21-19, the Coyotes started to pull away. Three-pointers by Annie Roche and Taylor Moore, combined with inside scores by Hegge and Boss, gave USD a 34-24 lead. After a Molly Duehn three-point play for UNC, the Coyotes scored the next 14 points to put the game out of reach.

Hegge scored the first four points of the game and the first eight points of the second half on the way to a game-high 21 points. She also had seven rebounds and four blocked shots.

"It's an unwritten rule. She's definitely our offensive spark," said Yackley, who had 11 assists and seven rebounds to go with her



South Dakota's Amber Hegge, 22, finds a cutting Jodie Boss, near right, during the Coyotes' home matchup with Northern Colorado Saturday at the DakotaDome.

(James D. Cimburek/P&D)

11 points. "She gets it going, they collapse in on her and it opens things up."

Roche finished with 16 points, hitting four three-pointers. Boss had 14 points on 6-7 shooting to go with her seven blocks. Wilson had nine rebounds in the win.

As a team, USD had 25 assists on its 28 field goals, and outrebounded the Bears 38-25.

"This was a big win. Coming off the UNI game and a long road stretch, it could have been easy to be flat," Williams said. "We played extremely well on both ends for 40 minutes."

Oosdyke finished with 10 points for

UNC (5-4). D'shara Strange had nine points and seven rebounds.

The Coyotes will now take nine days off from competing as it is finals week at USD. When USD (6-2) returns to action, it will travel to Utah Valley (Dec. 19) and Idaho State (Dec. 21).

For the Coyotes, going into the longest break from games during the season, having a win to enter the layoff is a good thing.

"All of the players were a little afraid of what practice would have been like," Yackley said. "It will be nice to relax a little and get in the gym."

Team effort leads to Tanager girls basketball win

By Parker Knox
Sportswriter

Two games early next week – one at Madison on Monday and the other at home Tuesday against Tri-Valley – will send Vermillion's girls basketball team into a 10-day Christmas break.

Coach Nick Mayer's third season at the Tanager helm began successfully when his girls combined 33 rebounds, 11 steals and double-digit offensive production from Val Robinson and Kelly Amundson for a 42-38 win over Harrisburg.

The Tanagers' biggest lead came at 37-31 with 3:14 remaining when Beth Szymonski, who had just made a pair of key defensive stops at the other end of the floor, scored. Seconds later she grabbed a key

rebound that enabled Vermillion to kill substantial clock time on its ensuing possession.

In the final 64 seconds Harrisburg fouled constantly, and the Tanagers were able to make enough free throws, including their final five points, to keep their lead. Robinson twice made one of two foul shots as did Amundson, then Lexi Regnerus sank a pair for a seven-point lead. A meaningless three-pointer at the final horn brought Harrisburg back to within four.

The Tanagers trailed at halftime, 19-18, but when Robinson sank a three-pointer early in the third quarter, Vermillion had a lead it would never relinquish. Robinson scored the team's first nine points of a 15-point third quarter en route to her game-

high 18 points. Amundson finished with 14. Szymonski had six and Regnerus and Bailey Carlson two each. Morgan Beaner led Harrisburg with 10.

"It was a complete team effort," Mayer said later. "We stressed defense and rebounding in practice." And those were keys to the win.

His team shot 31 percent

from the field, making 16 of 51. "We just have to keep shooting," Mayer said. "The shots will drop eventually."

The fact that his club was able to win a tight one was pleasing to Mayer. "We are a different team than we were last year," he said, "and the girls are believing they can win close games."

Warren invited to play in FCS Senior Scout Bowl

University of South Dakota senior quarterback Dante Warren has been invited to play in the FCS (Football Championship Subdivision) Senior Scout Bowl Game in Myrtle Beach, SC. The game is scheduled for a 2 p.m. ET kick Saturday.

"I feel extremely humbled to be in this game," Warren said. "I'm excited to have a chance to represent USD amongst everyone at the FCS division. This is a huge opportunity and I am so grateful to everyone who has helped me get to this point."

Warren, who will compete for the South Team, is one of just two student-athletes from Great West Conference schools. North Dakota's free safety Dominique Hawkins is the other as he will compete for the North Team. Warren will be sharing quarterback duties with Liberty's Mike Brown.

Coyote fans can watch the game and follow Warren on the internet by logging on to www.HTCNetRacer.net. There will be an icon on the left hand side of the page. The broadcast is scheduled to go live at approximately 12:45 p.m. ET. Fans also can log on to www.fcsseniorbowl.com for more information, including team rosters.

Warren, a native of Arlington Heights, IL, put the finishing touches on a stellar career under center for the Coyotes. He was a

co-recipient of the Team Coaches' Award this season and was a Great West Honorable Mention All-Conference selection by both the coaches and the media.

He played and started all 11 games for the Coyotes this season helping to lead the team to a 6-5 record including a thrilling, 30-17 victory over then No. 1 ranked and defending national champion Eastern Washington in the DakotaDome Sept. 10. EWU quarterback Bo Levi Mitchell will be calling signals for the North Team Saturday.


Warren passed for 1,729 yards with 14 touchdowns on 122 of 202 for the year. He had just seven interceptions on the year,

while rushing for 415 yards and a team-high nine touchdowns. He tallied the seventh single-season record for total offense with 2,144 yards as he had the fifth-most in 2010 with 2,530 yards.

He finished third in passing average at a 157.2 clip in the final year of the Great West Conference and led the league in passing efficiency at 148.2, while finishing third in total offense at 2,144 yards and 194.9 yards per game.

For his career, he ranks sixth all-time in total offense with 5,362 yards, while he is fifth in passing yards with 4,361. His 35 career passing touchdowns ranks fourth all-time.

Warren earned second team



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NOTICE TO CLAY COUNTY RESIDENTS

DETRIMENTAL USE OF RIGHTS-OF-WAY ALONG COUNTY HIGHWAYS IS ILLEGAL

Instances have come to the attention of the Clay County Highway Department of violations of South Dakota Codified Law 31-32-3.1, entitled **INTENTIONAL DUMPING ON HIGHWAY RIGHT-OF-WAY PROHIBITED**. This statute applies to all public highways, all County Highways, and Township Roads. The piling of snow on County Highways, or within the Right-of-Way thereof, causes a serious hazard to the traveling public and constitutes a Class 1 misdemeanor. These piles of snow can cause serious injuries or fatalities if struck by a vehicle. They also cost the County funds to remove or push back. Because the piles of snow can become very solid, and at times contain debris, serious damage to County snow removal equipment can occur.

The County can recover the cost of equipment damage from the individual responsible for the snow piles, SDCL 31-32-9. In addition, the person performing this misdemeanor also may be legally liable in the event of a vehicle accident. Please remove or flatten any piles you may have placed on public highways, as well as refrain from piling snow in the future.

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