



Vermillion head football coach Andy Homan saw his program improve from 2-8 to 5-5 this season after the Tanagers fell in a 11A quarterfinal game at Dell Rapids on Monday.

FUN

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no interceptions. Madsen finished with 55 yards rushing while fellow senior Bye added 54 yards. "The seniors had to step up and show leadership and this will be the building block for next year," Madsen said. "It's going to keep getting better and better. It feels good to get this going. I just wish we could have had it for all of our years in high school." For Madsen the game means an end to his high school football career and sadly the buck may stop here for one of the Tanager Trucking Twosome along with Bye. "It was a great season, I loved playing with these guys...I am going to miss it," Madsen said. "It hasn't sunk in and maybe by tomorrow I will realize that football is probably going to be done for me." Bye is pleased to have been a part of a team that may have catapulted the program toward new heights.

OVER

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distraction of now former head coach Lenni Billberg's resignation that was announced Wednesday evening. So as their rivals awaited to see what the Tanagers would bring after the program leader of 14 seasons was no longer in charge, Elk Point-Jefferson discovered that there is still fight left in

"We went out there and fought and that's what we were going to do," Bye said. "I am a part of it and I know what's it's like with these guys fighting with them. It's important for me (to have that program continue upward) because the juniors really stepped up and played some leadership roles." For Homan this ends only means a greater future for the Tanager program that improved from a 2-8 campaign in 2013. "This is good, we are building, and the kids are seeing that," Homan said. "The young guys know what we did last offseason and now we have to step it up and work even harder. That's what it comes down to. We need to keep getting bigger and kids bigger to match up with the teams we are playing." "We finish the season .500 and we have to build from it. There are no exceptions because we can't take a step. We have to push these kids even harder this year to continue that growth." Schmidt ended with over 400 yards of all-purpose yards and four total scores for Dell Rapids.

these Tanagers. Ultimately EPJ pulled out a 3-0 (26-24, 25-21, 28-26) win, but each set was hotly contested and despite having every reason to be too drained to play, the Tanagers battled all the way to the end. "I think we played well, but we kind of confused ourselves a couple of times, but overall we were good," senior Caitlin Siegel said. "We just kind of said 'screw it' and we had nothing to lose so we decided to just go out there and play hard."

"We always have heart and I love my team, I believe in my team, because we are a team." Assistant varsity and junior varsity head coach Tori Kroll took over for the remainder of the season and was assisted by Lori Jerred. It was originally reported that Jerred was the interim head coach, but Vermillion principal Curt Cameron confirmed the current staff alignment. Kroll was pleased with her team overall.

NEEDS

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football game," Glenn said. "It's all about winning this thing is and we have to finish. We all want to win in the biggest way. Let's face it, it's what we do." A look back at **Youngstown State Loss** YOUNGSTOWN, Ohio (AP) — Youngstown State scored 21 point in the fourth quarter to rally past South Dakota 28-17 in a Missouri Valley

Football conference game on Saturday. Trailing 17-7 after three quarters, the Penguins (7-2, 4-1 MVFC) put together three long scoring drives to stay in the conference race. "Why we can play or three quarters and not shut it down remains to be seen," South Dakota coach Joe Glenn said. "We didn't finish. We didn't quite get the game shut down." The Coyotes appeared poised to win for just the second time in their last 26 games on the road. But

Andrew Williams' 58-yard TD catch on the first play of the fourth quarter started the Penguins' comeback. Williams had six catches for 140 yards, while quarterback Hunter Wells completed 12 of 23 passes for 244 yards. Less than three minutes after Williams' score, running back Jody Webb dashed 60 yards for a go-ahead score. The drives covered 75 and 96 yards. Webb finished with 128 yards on 11 carries. He also scored on a 34-yard run in the first quarter.

HOST

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recorded at least eight kills with Sydney Dimke's 13 leading USD's attack. Kendall Kritenbrink added 12 kills and Audrey Reeg had 10 kills to round out the Coyotes with double-digit kills. Brittany Jessen had 47 assists and eight kills while Riley Haug led USD defensively with 19 digs. NDSU, who has won five-straight matches, had a .370 attack percentage in the first two sets of the match. The Bison tallied 29 kills and six errors on 62 attacks in the first two sets, while USD had 27 kills and 14 errors on 76 attacks during that stretch. Fassbender led NDSU with 11 kills while Miron had six blocks. Melissa Firtko led USD in those sets by recording six of her nine kills in the match.

added three. Jessen and Kritenbrink had four kills each in the final set for USD. With the loss, South Dakota dropped to third place from a first place tie with Denver and IUPUI in the Summit League standings. Denver swept Western Illinois to move to 10-2 in league play while IUPUI was off on Sunday. The Coyotes will be back in action on Friday when they host Summit leaders Denver (21-5, 10-2) in The Den at 7 p.m. USD lost in Denver in four sets last month.

- Courtesy of USD sports information

A look back at Halloween win Halloween may have kept some of the scarier University of South Dakota volleyball fans from the Coyote Den Friday night, but that didn't mean the visiting Fort Wayne Mastodons weren't left terrified. Just like a horror movie everything started fun and peaceful for the Mastodons before the Coyotes brought the ax and chopped down the defending Summit League champions for the second time this season. The host USD Coyotes lost the first set before establishing its dominance in the Den and won their 14th straight Summit league home match 3-1 (21-25, 25-22, 25-20, 25-18). "We didn't play defense

in the first set - we had five digs and that's not our standard," USD head coach Leanne Williamson said. "We've made a conscious effort to be better defensively and in the first set we went back to what we've done in the past. We challenged them right away after that first set to really pick that up and dig more of their shots and that forced them to go into a different (attack)." Senior outside hitter Kendall Kritenbrink finished with 23 kills, Sydney Dimke and Audrey Reeg added 11 kills apiece, Melissa Firtko had seven kills, and Kelsey Biltoft and Brittany Jessen added six kills each for USD. Jessen added 52 assists, Biltoft ended up with five blocks, and Reeg sparked the defense with 17 digs. Fort Wayne was led by Emily Spencer's 23 kills. "We really started working on keeping our runs this week," Williamson said. "You get a 4-0 run you got to hold that. We need to keep that lead at four if not higher. We've been working on that in practice and we did better with that tonight, but I still think it is something we need to focus on throughout each match." "It comes down to serve-pass. When we weren't serving well, they went on their big runs. If we weren't receiving well it made us easier to defend. It's about evening that out, especially down this home stretch."

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