

BLUFFS BULLETIN BOARD

**Seniors return to match play**

On Sept. 22, the seniors formed three-man teams to compete in scramble, match play. The winning teams in no particular order were Jay Hennies, Ken Beringer and Gene Iverson; Turk Pilker, Don Baer and Cleland Cook; Ross King, Bob Solomon and Ray Lynn; plus Louie Postvedt, Dick Bur-

**Wednesday morning ladies have great time**

One more luncheon left for this year. We SHALL be back next May 2010. There were 23 ladies Sept. 23. Desserts were provided by: Darlene Engbrecht and myself (Pat Steckelberg). I don't bake much but got some positive comments. Hope noone got sick later!! Darlene's yellow cake was great! Our drawings are always a topic of some chuckles and fun. Barb Boone today was the biggest winner ... she won the \$5 drawing and some quarters. The other quarter winners were: Vanetta Youngworth, Pat Steckelberg, Ellie Davis, Agnes Moeckler, Maryls Jensen and Beth Silvano. We had some bridge players today ... Rula Hatch was High and Ellie Davis was second High. Occasionally there are enough players for Pitch. Today was one of those. They played five games and the winners: Agnes Moeckler and Sally Gilbertson won three and Rose Mart and Linda Sorensen won two. Dominoes report is: Two tables. Ann Stewart seems to be the luckiest lady today!! She won all the rounds at one of the tables. Guess she woke up today with her lucky stars! The other table had Barb Larsen as lucky with two

bach and Dave Zimmer.

In the only two-man match, the victors were Rex Huska and Bob Lund. Louie Postvedt had a spectacular chip in of 36 feet on hole #13 for a par. If you enjoy team type format play, come join the seniors on Tuesday afternoons at 1 p.m. There are no age qualifications. We would like the younger men to try our formats. We have fun in this league.

rounds and Beth Silvano and Barb Boone each won one. Dominoes today was extra fun!!

Golf report: Only two of us ladies came to play. Darlene Engbrecht and myself. It was a perfect day ... great weather. Not hot and not too cool!

We played "Plain ol' golf with some twists." Sort of made up things as we went! Goals: Both have pars on the par 3 holes and no rough stuff on 5, 6, 7, and 9.

Darlene was doing great! She made both pars and no rough stuff on 5 and 6. Her final score was great also.

Me (Pat) was not sooooo good! I had par on one of the par 3s but was in the rough (as usually I am) on all the holes. GOOD news though - on #9 I did "hole out." Just one of those lucky, lucky off the green putts. My score - well it could have been better but pretty much my usual.

As you can see no matter what you decide to play - golf or cards - there is always fun!! Keep next year, May first Wednesday - marked on your calender and come out to have fun with us. We will having one more day this year ... not too late to see what we do. Catch ya all later!!

Pat Steckelberg  
Publicity

**VHS cross country comes on strong at Yankton**

By Parker Knox  
Sportswriter

Against competition as tough as they will face all season, four Vermillion varsity cross-country runners placed among the top 30 in their divisions at the Yankton Invitational last week. "In general we looked very good in Yankton," said Coach Kelly Fischbach. Sophie Nehlich-Arobba, who was 13th in the varsity girls race in 16:39, looked "especially good, going out and running with the top runners from Yankton for much of the race," Fischbach said. Morgan Hower was 25th in 18:08. In the boys' race Alex Card and Robert Osterberg "ran controlled races and continue to improve each week," according to their coach. "Many of the kids had times that were much better than the previous week in Vermillion." Card placed 23rd in 19:16 and Osterberg 26th in 19:42. Other VHS results at Yankton: Varsity boys: Bennett Johnson 31st, 20:06; Nathan Ford 32nd, 20:10; Tyler Bruce 34th, 20:42;

Carson Sullivan 36th, 21:03; Cody Merrigan 37th, 21:07; Jason Rasmussen 38th, 21:09. JV boys: Seth Miller 15th, 15:59; Matt Hirsch 21st, 16:15; Micah Rarick 24th; Ryan Fischbach 33rd; Colin Olson 34th; Derek Iverson 39th; Dylan Scheidel 41st. JV girls: Jade Postvedt 7th, 19:36; Jana Bye 8th, 19:42; Jackie Hulse 9th, 20:35; Jonna Lynch 10th, 21:13; Cassie Donahoe 11th, 21:22. Middle school boys: Philip Erikson 12th, Lucas Iverson 16th, Kevin Helenurm 23rd, Joe Swanson 28th. Middle school girls: Ashley Sorensen 17th, Britney Sweeney 20th, Caitlin Britten 22nd.

Vermillion Invitational Varsity boys: Alex Card 9th, 19:44; Robert Osterberg 12th, 20:19; Nathan Ford 13th, 20:30; Seth Miller 16th, 20:43; Jason Rasmussen 18th; Cody Merrigan 20th; Micah Rarick 21st; Ryan Fischbach 22nd. Varsity girls: Morgan Hower 13th, 18:11; Jade Postvedt 19th, 20:14; Jonna Lynch 21st, 21:13. JV boys: Matt Hirsch 1st, Tyler Bruce 3rd, Philip Erikson 8th, Colin Olson 9th, Kevin Helenurm 11th, Lucas Iverson 15th, Derek Iverson 16th, Joe Swanson 18th, Mateo Piper 21st, Dylan Scheidel 24th. JV girls: Jackie Hulse 6th, Cassie Donahoe 9th, Britney Sweeney 11th, Ashley Sorensen 13th, Caitlin Britten 15th.

**Second half surge powers USD**

By Jeremy Hoeck  
Yankton Media, Inc.

Call it a coming out party for the University of South Dakota football program.

In the first true Football Championship Subdivision (FCS) home game for the second-year Division I squad, USD made its presence felt in a big way.

Thanks to a complete defensive domination in the second half, keyed by a surprising inside kick to start the third quarter, the Coyotes trounced Southeastern Louisiana 44-13 Saturday, Sept. 26 in the DakotaDome.

Not only did USD (3-1) avenge a one-point loss to SLU last season, but it dominated in every area of this year's matchup.

"This was monumental," said USD senior quarterback Noah Shepard, who passed for 259 yards and two touchdowns to go along with 96 rushing yards and two scores.

"For our progress and taking that next step, we needed this. We're trying to become a legitimate FCS team."

Coming off a rout of FCS non-scholarship Drake last week, that goal for USD took a significant step forward.

Though the Coyotes once led 14-3 early in the second quarter, SLU stormed back. The Lions connected on a 20-yard field goal and later recovered a USD fumble to set up a

23-yard touchdown pass from quarterback Brian Babin to Simmie Yarborough late in the half.

Another fumble by the hosts at the end of the quarter sent the game to halftime at 14-13 - far from dominating. USD head coach Ed Meierkort said he and his coaching staff realized that SLU (2-2) could be susceptible to an onside kick, because of how many players the Lions dropped back for return blocking.

Seeing an opportunity to steal back the momentum, the Coyotes attempted and completed the kick to start the second half - which took nearly every one of the 8,121 fans in attendance by surprise.

"Sometimes we play these FCS games not to lose instead of playing to win," said Meierkort, who improved to 29-2 at home in his USD career. "It was a golden opportunity to practice what we preach."

Forty-seven seconds into the second half, Shepard hit wide receiver Ben Oberle for a 54-yard touchdown. And after each team traded punts, USD recovered a SLU fumble, setting up the eventual blowout.

"We knew we had to come out and play all four quarters. That's the way we saw it, all week," said sophomore running back Chris Ganiou, who ran for a 12-yard touch-

down run midway through the third quarter, giving USD a 27-13 lead.

"We just had to keep pushing."

On the ensuing SLU possession, USD senior defensive back Mychal Bogan intercepted a Babin pass. That set up the Coyotes for a 47-yard field goal by Dustin Nowotny, just over two minutes later.

"Throughout the week, coach Meierkort kept telling us that the defense was so nervous," Bogan said. "We were playing not to lose, instead of playing to win. We came out with emotion and that fire we've been looking for in these big games."

In the fourth quarter, USD got a pair of one-yard rushing touchdowns by Shepard - his seventh and eighth of the season - to push the eventual margin of victory to 44-13.

Yet, it wasn't necessarily the 536 yards of total offense by USD that was the story, instead it was the second-half play by the defense.

After allowing the Lions 232 yards in the first half, the Coyotes held SLU to 15 total yards in the second half, including negative 34 on the ground.

Excluding SLU's final drive of the game, which accounted for 14 yards, the Coyote domination becomes clearer.

"The key for us was that we had to be more physical

on either side of the ball up front," Meierkort said. "We can't run with those (SLU) kids. We needed to get after their quarterback and keep the ball away from them with our run game."

Both proved successful, as USD finished with six sacks and had 277 rushing yards. Ganiou led the running game with 101 yards and two touchdowns on runs of 3 and 12 yards.

With leading receiver Dan Skelly out and sophomore wide-out/kick returner Jeremy Blount leaving with a broken left arm in the first quarter, the Coyotes relied heavily on Vermillion native Oberle. The senior caught seven passes for 110 yards and a touchdown.

"All of us had to step up. Dan Skelly has big shoes to fill," he said. "Noah finds the guy who's open, and it just happened to be me today."

With FCS win No. 3 (including last year) under their belts, the Coyotes turn their attention to rival North Dakota (1-2). USD and UND will meet on Saturday at 4 p.m. in Grand Forks, ND.

"Any time you get an FCS win in the second year, it's exciting," Meierkort said. "This is a different level we're at now. We're not the big kids on the block anymore, we're the new kids on the block."

"Hopefully this can keep pushing us on to some more."

**Tanager girls soccer secures tourney berth, boys need win**

By Parker Knox  
Sportswriter

It's come down to this for the Vermillion boys varsity soccer team - win Saturday or stay home from the state tournament next week.

As for the girls varsity, the pressure is off for this weekend - they came through their must-win game successfully last Saturday.

The Tanager boys stand ninth in the state power points standings, one slot short of state tourney qualification. They have to move up, and the best way to do that is to beat somebody ahead of them. For instance, sixth-ranked James Valley Christian, which comes to Cotton Park for a 4 p.m. face-off Saturday. (The JV game starts at 2.)

The team directly above Vermillion, No. 8 Hot Springs, has to come east to play Sioux Falls Christian and Harrisburg, so perhaps the Tanagers can get some help from either or both of those East River teams, too.

The Tanagers boys lost a 4-2 decision at Freeman Academy last Tuesday. The Vermillion goals were scored by

Alex Thoms and Levi James.

James had a hat-trick day on Saturday as the Tanagers rebounded at Mitchell, skunking the Kernels, 5-0. Besides James' three scores, Tanner Settles found the net twice. Andrew Kost as goalkeeper kept Mitchell off the board.

Also at Mitchell Saturday, the Vermillion girls defeated Mitchell 3-2 in dramatic fashion, assuring themselves of a state tournament berth after missing the state classic last season.

The win, which moved Vermillion up to sixth place on the power points scoreboard, was seriously in doubt at halftime when the Tanagers trailed 2-0.

"Mitchell was clearly the better team for the first 60 minutes," said Coach Dave LaCombe. "But after that the team seemed to come alive." It started when Megan Bottolfsen was taken down inside the penalty mark area, received a penalty kick chance and converted on it.

"That sparked the team as we had some players playing hurt," LaCombe noted. Christine Epping made a hard challenge toward the

goal and was fouled outside the penalty area. That gave Sophie Nehlich-Arobba a direct free kick, and she put that into the upper corner of the net for a stunning 2-2 tie.

The intense match remained tied until only two minutes remained. Hannah Nehlich-Arobba took a hard shot from 25 yards out, and it went in for what proved to be the winning goal.

Katie Wasley had six saves in goal for the Tanagers. LaCombe said Lacey Leitchnam, Shelby Gregoire, Tracy Howe and Kortni Walker had superb performances as they kept Mitchell from scoring throughout the second half.

The VHS girls go all the way to Groton Saturday for their regular-season finale,

but it is a game which does not count in the power points. Earlier last week the girls lost a 4-0 game against West Central.

Pairings for next week's state tournament at Aberdeen Oct. 8-10 will be known as soon as Saturday's games are recorded at www.southdakotasoccer.com.



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