

Volleyball: Coyotes go five again, beat Drake

By Jeremy Hoeck

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It's almost as if the volleyball gods were testing South Dakota.

In each of its previous two matches, USD was frustrated in a 3-2 loss to Summit League competition.

Maybe all the Coyotes needed was a non-conference showdown.

"I was saying 'Hallelujah' at the end," said senior Carol Logato, whose 27 digs helped USD get over the hump with a 25-18, 19-25, 25-19, 25-27, 15-10 win against Drake on Monday night at the DakotaDome.

"We needed that to happen."

It was a similar story for the Coyotes (11-12) in five-set losses to Southern Utah last Friday and Oral Roberts on Sunday: Let-downs in set four and struggles in set five.

In Monday's fifth set with the visiting Bulldogs, the Coyotes hit .333 with nine kills and only two attack errors.

"I think there was a great deal of learning since Sunday, that you have to be extremely focused on point one," USD coach Matt Houk said. "The girls took that to heart and didn't just expect things to come to them."

The two teams split the opening two sets, with Drake rallying from a 14-17 deficit in the second set to win 25-19.

Then in the third set, Kendall Krittenbrink – who had a match-high 28 kills – put USD ahead for good, 10-9, as the Coyotes avoided any letdown.

Until the fourth set.

In what was almost a mirror image of Sunday, USD let a big lead in the fourth set evaporate.

The Coyotes led 17-13 before Drake rallied. A pair of kill attempts for USD went long, allowing the Bulldogs to force a fifth set.

"Coach kept telling us to stay focused and stick with what we do best," Logato said. "And I think we played relaxed and finally got it done."

Needing to find some sort of spark, USD again went with junior transfer Bailey Lupardus as the starting setter – her third start of the season. And she didn't disappoint, recording 28 assists and 11 digs.

The Coyotes also experimented with having both setters, Lupardus and usual starter Tori Kroll in the game at the same time. Oddly

enough, Kroll also finished with 28 assists and 11 digs.

"Bailey earned the right to start, but we wanted to find a way to get her and Tori in there at the same time," Houk said. "We thought if we could keep Drake on their heels, we could do some good things."

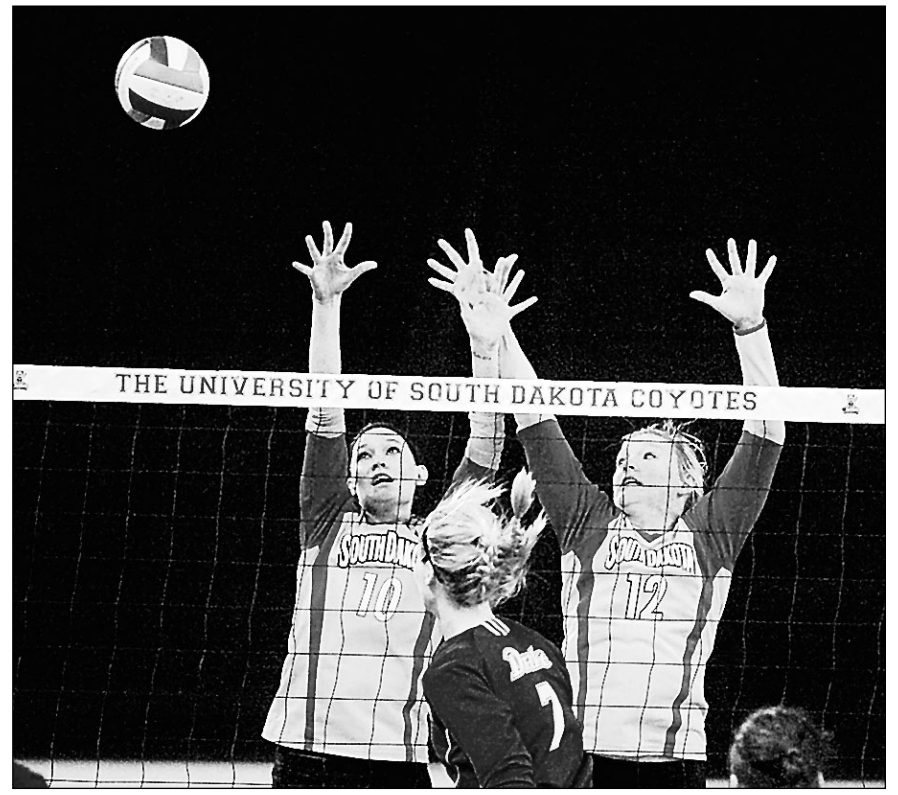
Amber Aschoff chipped in with 11 kills for USD, which had 30 attack errors and 10 serving errors. Tahnee Reed added nine kills and Riley Haug chipped in with 14 digs.

The Coyotes begin a three-match Summit League road trip Saturday at Missouri-Kansas City. USD will then bus to road matches at Western Illinois and IUPUI next week.

"We love being at home, obviously, but it can be a real positive to be on a bus together," Houk said. "We all do this for the relationships, and being on a bus for eight hours is the best way to bond."

Either way, home or away, the mission is the same, Logato said.

"It's nice to be at home in front of our people, but we need to get the job done away from the Dome," she said. "Like coach says, the ball is still round and the court is the same size, so it doesn't matter who you play."



South Dakota's Tahnee Reed, 10, and Kendall Krittenbrink, 12, go up for a block during the Coyotes' home volleyball match with Drake, Monday at the DakotaDome. USD scored a 3-2 victory over the Bulldogs in the non-conference matchup.

(Photo by David Lias)

Three tough matches await Tanager volleyball squad

By Parker Knox

Sportswriter

Three matches, all against tough opponents, await the Vermillion volleyball girls as they continue their pursuit of home-court advantage in the upcoming District 8A tournament.

The Tanagers stood at 13-6 at the beginning of this week and had the top seed, which means hosting the district tournament the week after next. But Elk Point-Jefferson was right behind at 14-10, and Dakota Valley was threatening with a 12-9 record. Beresford brings up the rear with a 9-11 record.

The Tanagers will be home tonight (Friday) against that Dakota Valley team. On Monday it will be the last home match of the regular season, and the opponent will be Harrisburg, which currently holds the top seed spot in District 7A, the other district which comprises Region 4. Finally Vermillion closes the regular season next Thursday at EP-J. The district tournament dates will be Tuesday

and Thursday, Nov. 1 and 3.

Vermillion kept the hounds at bay by winning both of its matches last week on their home court – 3-0 over Ponca and 3-2 over Canton.

The Tanagers swept Ponca by set scores of 25-18, 25-20 and 25-15. Lexi Regnerus recorded seven kills and two blocks, Kylie Fischbach four kills and 13 set assists, Lizzy Bye four kills and six digs and Beth Szymanski four kills and four digs to lead Vermillion to its victory.

Vermillion won its 13th dual of the season in a barn-burner with Canton. The visiting C-Hawks won, 25-16, in the opening set, but the Tanagers rolled to a 25-14 win in the second set. The Tanagers won a close one, 25-23, and lost a close one, 22-25, to set up a deciding fifth set, which was Vermillion's by a 15-8 count.

Szymanski registered 10 kills and 15 digs, Bye eight kills and 28 digs, Fischbach seven kills and 12 digs, Sami Girard 20 assists with 15 digs and Emily McClelland 31 digs in the marathon match.

USD men's basketball visits Sunrise Villa

Members of the South Dakota men's basketball team had the opportunity to visit Sunrise Villa in Irene, Sept. 26 for 6 to 8 p.m. Sunrise Villa is attached to Sunset Manor Nursing Home. Sunrise Villa is South Dakota's only long term rehabilitation center for people with traumatic brain injuries (TBI).

"It was a very humbling experience for our guys," South Dakota assistant men's basketball coach Joey James said. "If they didn't appreciate how grateful they are and how precious life can be, I guarantee you they do now. We also appreciated the residents allowing us to come over and visit with them. They were very entertaining and great hosts."

The Coyote student-athletes had a chance to interact with the residents and spend some time hearing their stories and talking basketball.

Brain injuries can occur at any age and can happen through heart attacks, strokes, violence, car accidents, sports



injuries, etc., which can greatly affect a person's physical and mental functioning. For more information about sport injuries to the brain please see www.biausa.org.

Defense (solos-assists-total tackles): VHS, Mart 7-5-12, Garcia 4-5-9, Chayse Meierkort 1-7-8, Brett Bye 6-1-7, Brown 5-1-6, Nick Jensen 4-2-6, Dan Goeden 2-3-5, Anderson 2-2-4, Fore 3-1-4, Alex Osborne 2-1-3, Stetson Kastengren 1-2-3, Tyler Madsen 1-0-1, Nathan Garrett 1-0-1, Ty Iverson 0-1-1, Thomas Walker 1-0-1, Regan Bye 0-1-1. Interceptions: Anderson 1.

FOOTBALL

From Page 5

run (Will Mart kick), 4:00.

VHS: Tanner Anderson 19- yd. pass from Kyle Weiss (kick blocked), 0:48.

Madison: Chris Nielsen 23- yd. pass from Kyle Roemen (Trevor Holbrook kick), 0:02.

3rd quarter:

Madison: Milne 3- yd. run (Holbrook kick), 4:33.

VHS: Avery Garcia recovered blocked punt in end zone (Fore run), 0:33.

4th quarter:

VHS: Fore 2- yd. run (Anderson pass from Weiss), 7:30.

	VHS	MADISON
First downs	10	19
Rushes-yds.	40-154	40-228

Passing yds.	121	145
Total yds.	275	373
Passes	7-9-0	13-23-1
Punts-avg.	4-34.0	3-26.0
Fumbles-lost	1-0	1-0
Penalties-yds.	15-76	8-79

Rushing: VHS, Fore 26-103, Mitch Brown 11-42, Anderson 1-9, Weiss 1-0, Mart 1-0. Madison, Page 18-84, Milne 16-72, Roemen 2-20, Matt

DeBilzan 1-0, D'Artist Williams 2-29.

Passing: VHS, Weiss 7-9-121. Madison, Roemen 13-23-145.

Receiving: Anderson 3-61, Fore 2-33, Brown 2-27. Madison, Brendon Waldner 7-69, Nielsen 2-29, Milne 2-27, DeBilzan 1-17, Ian MacKenzie 1-3.

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