

Volleyball Swept By Indians Western Illinois Rolls Past USD

BY ELYSE BRIGHTMAN
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The Vermillion High School volleyball team put up a tough fight Tuesday night against Ponca (Nebraska) High School but were unable to seal the deal in a close first set and went on to drop a three set match 25-23, 25-21, 25-15.

"Ponca was very aggressive with their hitting," said Vermillion head coach Gabi Jarchow. "We did a nice job of blocking tonight. Our defense kind of struggles a little bit, but with a good hitting team that's their powerpoint, so there's not much we can do with that."

The first set was a close back and fourth game that was tied at 20 points each. Ponca jumped to a 24-21 lead and Vermillion then came back within one, but Ponca landed the point and took the set 25-23.

Vermillion kept up the efforts in game two, but again was unable to find the result they wanted, falling 25-21.

"It is important to win that first game, but we had a couple errors there right at the end," Jarchow said. "Otherwise, we would have been right in there with them. I said, 'Come out with the same intensity as we left.' They did and they just have to keep that intensity high throughout the game. I feel like they did a good job carrying over their intensity to that second game."

In the final set, Ponca held a comfortable lead through the entirety of the game by gaining points through defensive errors by the Tanagers. Ponca cruised to a 25-15 win and a 3-0 match win.

"We'll definitely work on communication," Jarchow said. "We struggled with a couple communication errors that kind of threw us in a couple of the games, but other than that the girls played hard. They didn't just lay down for them, which I'm glad to see. They showed that they wanted to be out there and that they cared and they had drive tonight."

Vermillion's Kayla Stammer racked up 12 assists in the match. Emily Bye had 11 digs and one ace. Hannah Lunning also had one ace along with five kills.

The loss snaps the Tanagers two-game win streak going into the Dakota XII conference tournament at West Central on Saturday.



ELYSE BRIGHTMAN/ FOR THE PLAIN TALK
Haleigh Melstad dives for a ball during the Vermillion High School volleyball game against Ponca (Nebraska) High School Tuesday night.

Peters, Schulz Take Top Honors At Dak XII Meet

BY ELYSE BRIGHTMAN
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The Dakota XII cross country teams came together to last Thursday to crown conference champions for the 2015 season.

The familiar opponents met at the Bridges Golf Course in Beresford on a cloudy, chilly and windy afternoon for the 5k race through the rolling hills of the golf course.

"Facing so much of the same competition does have some positive and negative aspects," said Vermillion High School head coach Kelly Fishback. "Sometimes you psych yourself out because you get too much in the mental aspect. At the same time, it takes away some of the 'fear factor' as you have a good idea what to expect."

Derick Peters of West Central and Marisa Schulz of Dakota Valley each claimed the individual titles.

Peters crossed the finish line with plenty of room to spare as he clocked in at 16:20, more than 30 seconds ahead of second place Braden Peters (16:53.23), also of West Central. Alec Atwood of Beresford just missed second coming in less than one second behind Braden Peters at 16:53.48.

Vermillion's top finisher for the boys was Justin Sorenson, who came in at 18:01 as the 16th runner to cross the finish line.

Vermillion also saw Tate Neilson (19:35), Cordell Sweeney (19:43), Landon Smith (19:48), Riley Palensky (19:54) and Nate Bohnsack (20:03) compete in the boys' varsity division.

Schulz's first place in the girls' varsity division came at a time of 19:29. Cait Savey of Beresford and Cami Streff of Madison placed second and third with times of 19:37 and 19:41 respectively.

Maddie Lavin of Vermillion ran a time for 20:27 for ninth place and the top Tanager for the girls'.

Seventh grader Taryn Whisler (21:39) was Vermillion's next finisher, just shy of a medal at 22nd place in the field of 59.

Rachel Brady (22:19), Katie Kost (23:20) Madisen Martinez (23:27) and Melissa Mikkelsen (23:40) all raced for Vermillion in the varsity girls division.

"Overall, I was pleased by the performance of the kids," Fishback said.

The Tanagers will have a full week of rest and practice before returning to Beresford on Thursday, Oct. 15, for the Region 3A meet for a chance to qualify for the state meet.

"We are doing high intensity workouts, but shortening down the length of them to try to have fresh legs for Thursday," Fishback said.



ELYSE BRIGHTMAN/ FOR THE PLAIN TALK
Taryn Whisler ran a time of 21:38 for Vermillion High School at the Dakota XII Conference meet last Thursday in Beresford.

Glenn Hoping Patience Pays Off At NDSU

BY JEREMY HOECK
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Joe Glenn knows full well the patience involved in picking up a win in Fargo, North Dakota.

Once the head coach at Northern Colorado, Glenn didn't win a game at North Dakota State until his sixth try, in 1999 – back in the Division II days.

Now the head coach at the University of South Dakota, Glenn will lead his Coyotes up to Fargo on Saturday for a showdown with the four-time defending national champion Bison who own a 26-game home win streak – longest in all of Division I.

"I've been a part of teams that have gone in there and won," Glenn said during Tuesday's Missouri Valley teleconference. "It can happen, and they know it can happen."

"That's why they're practicing hard. They can't let their guard down, they know that."

North Dakota State (4-1, 2-0), ranked second this week, has not lost a game at the Fargodome since 2012, but that season the Bison went on to win their second straight national championship.

Times have changed since those D-II days when Glenn was leading Northern Colorado to back-to-back national titles, but as he said Tuesday, all streaks eventually come to an end – he once won 16 straight home games while at UNC.

"Someday it ends," Glenn said, chuckling. "Somebody will beat them before the end of time."

It has already happened this season to the Bison. They lost a 38-35 season-opening game at Montana back in August, a game where the Grizzlies passed for 434 yards and recovered two fumbles.

After that game, however, the Bison dominated Weber State and North Dakota, and then won consecutive games against ranked teams South Dakota State and Northern Iowa.

The keys to those wins for the Bison? The same formula

that led to four national titles in a row.

North Dakota State leads the country in average time of possession and third down defense, a recipe that leads to the Bison getting its offense on the field and eat some clock.

"You can't turn the ball over, and you've got to be able to mix it up on them, and that's what we're hoping to do," Glenn said.

The Coyotes (2-3, 0-2) are also hoping to find any positive signs out of the trip to Fargo. The recent series against the Bison has been one-sided: NDSU has out-scored USD 143-7 in the last three meetings.

The Bison, though, can't exactly expect another easy win.

"I've got a tremendous amount of respect for coach Glenn, and he'll have them ready to play a clean football game," NDSU coach Chris Klieman said Tuesday.

While the Bison have dominated the FCS ranks in recent years, the Coyotes are still trying to find a toehold in the Missouri Valley. USD has lost 14 straight conference games (12 in a row by double digits) and has just one road win since joining the league in 2012.

Put together, USD knows the challenge in front of it.

"It'll take a yeoman's effort for us to go up there and snatch a victory," Glenn said, before adding, "but crazy things happen once in a while."

NDSU Over USD In Double OT

FARGO, N.D.—North Dakota State's leading scorer Lauren Miller found open field in the 105th minute to set up teammate Britney Monteon for the golden goal against South Dakota at Dacotah Field on Sunday afternoon.

The double-overtime win puts North Dakota State at the top of the league standings with a 9-5-0 overall record and 4-0-0 Summit League record. South Dakota falls to 4-10-0, 1-2-0 Summit League.

Miller had been well-marked throughout the match, with Coyote defenders senior Kasha Meyer and sophomore Katlin Ptacek making numerous defensive stops. The Coyote back line limited Miller to a single shot-on-goal during the game.

Then in the second overtime period, Miller was unmarked at midfield. She carried it down the middle for 10 yards before sending it to Monteon at the right side of the goal box. Monteon fired off a shot across the box and into the far left side of the goal.

The Coyotes led the attacking front, outshooting the Bison 17-14.

North Dakota State goalkeeper Sierra Bonham grabbed five saves off shots-on-goal by sophomore Britney Baker, sophomore Courtney Baker, and senior Brenna Bills.

South Dakota goalkeeper Sydney Hardin also faced five shots-on-goal, pulling down four saves.

The Coyotes travel to Brookings on Friday to take on South Dakota State at 6 p.m. The Summit League contest will also be the second match-up of the South Dakota Showdown Series between the rival schools. The Coyotes and the Jack-rabbits compete in volleyball on Tuesday at 7 p.m.

USD Over ORU, Fall To SDSU

BY JEREMY HOECK
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Haley Jorgensen had spent the majority of college volleyball career standing by her team's bench, cheering on her teammates.

The Hurley native, in her fourth season at the University of South Dakota, had never really been counted on for much action in an extended role.

That all changed Sunday. Due to a season-ending injury to one of USD's main hitters, Jorgensen was not only on the court in a Summit League match but she figured prominently in a 3-2 win over Oral Roberts.

"I really needed to prove myself, especially to my team," said Jorgensen, who finished with 12 kills (second on the team) on 28 swings with six block assists to lead USD to its first league win. Set scores were 25-11, 22-25, 14-25, 25-23, 15-8.

"And I think I did exactly that for them to have confidence in me," Jorgensen added.

Jorgensen, a former high school standout at Viborg-Hurley, had played in a total of 36 sets over three seasons (she redshirted in 2012) for the Coyotes prior to Sunday.

A knee injury to junior Sydney Dimke, however, meant players like Jorgensen were going to suddenly take on a larger role.

"When you get your opportunity, you have to take advantage of it," head coach Leanne Williamson said. "That can be

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