

# Volleyball Goes 3-3 During Busy Week

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The Vermillion High School volleyball team kept busy last week with six matches over five days, including the Dakota XII Conference tournament at West Central Saturday.

The games began last Thursday with a three set sweep of Canton (25-15, 25-10, 25-14) at home.

"We played a very consistent game," said Vermillion head coach Gabi Jarchow. "The girls were disciplined and stayed focused. We played as a team."

Kayla Stammer's 18 assists spread the offense and allowed Morgan Herbster to put down eight kills and Haleigh Melstad added five.

Defensively, Emily Bye recorded seven digs along with four aces.

The game gave Vermillion its third win in four games putting them in good standing going into the conference tournament at West Central Saturday.

The tournament's first game was a rematch of the season opener against Lennox. That game back on Sept. 1 was a five-set nail biter that saw a Lennox win. Saturday's match was a different story as the Tanagers topped the Orioles in three sets 11-25, 25-13, 25-23.

Vermillion went on to lose the next two games in two sets each against Sioux Falls Christian (25-14, 25-15) and Tea Area (25-15, 26-24), but the Tanagers saw a win in the final game of the tournament against Dell Rapids (25-18, 25-21).

"Overall, the girls played a very consistent tournament," Jarchow said. "They served very aggressive against teams, which got them out of system. The girls did a very good job of keeping



ELYSE BRIGHTMAN/ FOR THE PLAIN TALK  
Vermillion High School's Kaci Madsen jumps for a block against Beresford Tuesday night.

the ball in play and making the other teams make the mistakes. I am very pleased with the girls and the outcome of the tournament."

Hannah Lunning and Herbster each recorded six kills at the tournament. Stammer put up 24 assists and Bye had 27 digs over the four matches.

"The girls played amazing on Saturday," Jarchow said. "I couldn't have asked them to do any better. It was really a long day, you could tell they were exhausted by the end, but they fought through it and finished the day off on a good note by beating Dell Rapids."

On Tuesday night, Vermillion celebrated senior night against visiting Beresford falling in four sets

16-25, 25-22, 14-25, 16-25.

"I think the girls just really needed to come together as a team tonight," Jarchow said. It was just an off night for us and we have those. It just happened that it was tonight."

The height of Beresford's front line allowed them to shut down Vermillion's offense and maintain comfortable leads in three of the four sets.

"We have to make sure that our hitters hit high hands and not straight into the block, or even just hit around them. But, having tall players for a block is definitely a huge advantage and we weren't ready for that tonight," Jarchow said.

After falling 25-16 in the first set, Vermillion stepped up in the second set and held a lead until Beresford

tied it at 17. Vermillion retook the lead, but again, Beresford threatened by coming within one at 23-22. Vermillion kept fighting and went on to win 25-22.

"They did come together in that second set," Jarchow said. "At the beginning of the third set I told them that's how they needed to play and they said they enjoyed playing in that second set, which was good to hear. We just need to get them to play consistently like that."

The final two sets went much like the first and Beresford went on to win the match three sets to one.

The Tanagers now have six wins on the season at 6-15 and will be back in action Friday night at Dakota Valley (22-4) beginning at 7:30 p.m.

# Injury Ends Bouma's Season

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With the high of Saturday's win at North Dakota State came the unfortunate news for the University of South Dakota that running back Trevor Bouma suffered a season-ending injury.

The junior and leading rusher for the Coyotes – who has missed time with injury in all three of his years – aggravated a surgically-repaired arm on his final carry in Fargo, where USD won for the first time since 1978.

Head coach Joe Glenn – whose team hosts Missouri State on Saturday – confirmed Bouma's status during Tuesday's Missouri Valley teleconference.

"He's devastated, of course," Glenn said. "He tells me, 'I'll be at every practice, at every meeting, be on the bus,' doing everything he can to help us win."

"He's got his heart and soul into it." Bouma, from LeMars, Iowa, had been leading the Coyotes with 72 carries for 435 yards and six touchdowns. He put together back-to-back performances of 186 and 117 yards in wins over UC Davis and Drake, but then was held to 21 yards over two league games prior to Saturday – when he rushed for 94 yards against the Bison.

In short, whenever Bouma was productive, the Coyotes (3-3, 1-2) tended to play better.

"It won't change what we do, it might change what we're better at," Glenn said. "You are what you are."

And what that is, particularly this year, is a deep rushing attack. South Dakota, 36th nationally in rushing offense (180.7 yards per game), will now turn to a pair of freshmen to carry the load in Bouma's absence.

Michael Fredrick (59 carries, 222 yards, 1 TD) is listed as the top back on the depth chart, while Nate Gunn (25 carries, 108 yards, 1 TD) is the main back-up. Junior quarterback Ryan Saeger also figures prominently in the run game, with 67 carries.

"It might be by committee a little bit," Glenn said. Such depth is certainly a new feature this season for USD, as Glenn pointed out – he also referenced junior fullback Drew Potter as another possibility out of the backfield.

"It's not like other years I've been here, where we put a receiver at tailback, or a quarterback at tailback, and they haven't really played the position," Glenn said.

By having options, the Coyotes – while certainly disappointed – remain optimistic that they can move forward without Bouma.

"We'll be fine," Glenn said. "Everybody goes through injuries. You go to the next guy. You believe in them and get them ready. Things have a way of working out."

Whoever carries the ball Saturday for the Coyotes will be doing so against a Missouri State defense that ranks 122nd nationally (second to last) with an average of 552 yards allowed per game.

Saying that his team is focused on itself rather than who they're playing, Glenn did say that the next step for his program after the NDSU win is to carry that momentum over into Saturday.

"If we have any dreams of being a good football team, you have to start putting some back to back," Glenn said.

# Tanagers Fall To Orioles, Face Trojans Thursday



SHAUNA MARLETTE/ FOR THE PLAIN TALK  
Vermillion's Rylan Pratt in action against Lennox last Friday night inside the Dakota Dome.

BY SHAUNA MARLETTE  
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The murderer's row of opponents continues for the Vermillion Tanagers on Thursday when they face the No. 4 ranked, 7-1 West Central Trojans.

The game will be the fourth in a row against teams ranked in the top five of the state.

"We feel if we play to our potential we can compete with the teams we play, we go into each game looking to improve and just play football," said head coach Andy Homan.

Last Friday, the Tanagers faced off against No. 5 Lennox in the DakotaDome.

Lennox got off to a quick start marching down the field for a touchdown.

However, Vermillion was able to answer and take a brief lead when Carter Kratz connected with Matt Ouellette on a 68 yard touchdown pass, followed by a two-point conversion to go up 8-7.

"(The) highlight was when we were able to get a big play from Kratz to Ouellette to help put us back in the game," Homan said.

After that, the Tanagers were only able to stop Lennox on two of their possessions the rest of the game allowing 40 unanswered points.

In all, the Tanagers had 158 total yards in the game. In addition to his 68 yard catch, Ouellette added a 22 yard carry. But for most of the night the Tanager offense was never able to get going.

Defensively Jon Rosales and gave DeJong each had six tackles in the game, with Rosales notching one sack and one tackle for loss.

"I am proud of my whole team," Homan said. "Every game has been a fight and they have all kept fighting."

# Seekamp Tabbed Summit League Preseason Player Of The Year

ELMHURST, Ill.—South Dakota senior guard Nicole Seekamp was voted the Summit League Preseason Player of the Year while the Coyote women's basketball team placed second in the preseason poll released by the league office Wednesday evening. Seniors Tia Hemiller and Margaret McCloud were also named preseason second-team all-Summit League. The polls were voted on by the league's head coaches, sports information directors, and select media.

The reigning Summit League regular season champions received 502 points and 15 of 33 first-place votes for second place. South Dakota State edged the Coyotes out of the top spot by six points with a total of 508 points and 17 first-place votes.

IUPUI took third with 379 points, while Oral Roberts grabbed the final first-place vote and finished fourth with 317 points. Western Illinois (276), North Dakota State (250), Omaha (199), Denver (183), and Fort Wayne (86) rounded out the poll. Seekamp led the Summit League in assists (5.1 apg), steals

(1.9 spg), and assist-to-turnover ratio (2.01) last season. She was the fourth-leading scorer in the Summit at 15.6 points per game. At the Summit League Tournament, she averaged 23 points, five assists and two steals. Seekamp is a two-time first-team all-Summit League performer and became the third player in Summit League history to twice be named the Summit League Tournament Most Valuable Player last season.

The Coyotes' starting point guard, Hemiller averaged 8.4 points, 5.2 rebounds, and 2.7 assists per game. Hemiller earned honorable mention all-Summit League honors a year ago.

In the post, McCloud led the Summit League in field goal percentage at 54.5 percent (131-240). She averaged 9.4 points and 6.3 rebounds per game.

The Coyotes are under the direction of head coach Amy Williams, who is set to begin her fourth season at South Dakota. The team returns three starters and seven letter-winners. South Dakota opens the 2015-16 season at Utah on Nov. 13 at 5:45 p.m.



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