

Upcoming Sports Schedule

Tanager boys golf Elk-Point Jefferson	9 a.m. Sept. 16	Tanager volleyball at Bon Homme	8:30 a.m. Sept. 17	Tanager golf at Big 8 Conference Lennox	10 a.m. Sept. 20
Tanager X-Country Home Invite	3:45 p.m. Sept. 16	Tanager girls soccer vs. West Central at SF	11 a.m. Sept. 17	Tanager volleyball at Tea	5 p.m. Sept. 20
Tanager boys soccer at Chamberlain	4 p.m. Sept. 16	Tanager boys soccer vs. Lead/Deadwood	1 p.m. Sept. 17	Tanager boys soccer at Harrisburg	6 p.m. Sept. 20
Tanager football at Canton	7 p.m. Sept. 16	Tanager X-Country at Alcester/Hudson	3:45 p.m. Sept. 19	Tanager girls tennis at SF O'Gorman	3 p.m. Sept. 22
				Tanager X-Country at Yankton	4:15 p.m. Sept. 22

Two home games left for VHS girls varsity soccer

By Parker Knox
Sportswriter

Suddenly only two weeks remain in the regular season for girls soccer, and Vermillion's girls need wins to avoid having to go on the road for a state tournament play-in game.

The varsity Tanagers, who lost last week to Harrisburg, 3-1, and to Groton, 6-1, to fall to 1-5 for the season, have only two games remaining – at home against Mitchell Sept. 24 and at home against West Central Sept. 27. The JVs, besides playing those same two opponents, will play at West Central at 11 a.m. Saturday.

The lone goal for Vermillion in the Harrisburg loss came from a cross set up by Tori Gregoire with Teddi Settles putting the ball into the back of the net. The game was tied at halftime, but a few key mistakes allowed Harrisburg to go up by two in the second half.

"The girls played their best soccer this season against a very strong Harrisburg team," Coach Dave LaCombe said. "Each game we are showing some progress, and it was nice to have three starters back in the lineup. We are still banged up, but with a little bit of healing and time, we will be contenders."

The JVs tied Harrisburg, 2-2. Natalie Hertz scored off a Bailey Gale assist, and Hertz assisted on a Maddie Gregoire goal for VHS.

VHS golf hosts Vermillion Invite

By Parker Knox
Sportswriter

Perfect weather attracted a large field to The Bluffs golf course, which later will be the site of regional and state tournaments, for the Vermillion Invitational Friday.

Sioux Falls Christian's Jon Van't Hul posted a 37-35=72 for the day's best score. He was two shots better than Harrisburg's Alex Steen at 74.

Vermillion's golf team recorded a 377 team score. Tanager counters started with Carter Andre at 83, followed by Mitch Ellison at 91, Peter Haight's 98 and Paul Schwasinger's 105. Other VHS scores were Jay Munger's 118 and Jacob Odens' 125.

Earlier last week the Tanagers dropped a close dual to the Orioles at Lennox by 188-192. Dusty Javers of Lennox was the medalist with a 44. Andre, Haight, and the Orioles' Erich Schmidt tied for second with 97s. Ellison tied for fifth with a 98, Schwasinger was ninth with a 50, and Odens was 10th with a 53.

The Tanager JV team included Munger with a 49, Tim Ellison 56, Tristan Meadows 57, John Benson 58, Andrew Heine 58 and Gavin Gilberts 68.

The regular season concludes with the Tanagers at the Elk Point-Jefferson Invitational today (Friday) and at the Big 8 Conference meet in Lennox next Tuesday.

Coyotes upset No. 1 Eastern Washington

By Jeremy Hoeck
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Another mid-September afternoon and another program-defining victory. This time, though, the University of South Dakota football team picked on someone its own size.

Nearly a year to the day after beating Minnesota, USD pulled another upset in beating No. 1 and defending national champion Eastern Washington 30-17 in front of a loud DakotaDome crowd Saturday afternoon, Sept. 10.

Though, make no mistake, this one means more, according to Coyote head coach Ed Meierkort.

"Honestly, this is a bigger win for us," Meierkort said. "This is the level we're supposed to be at. They won a national title and are the number one team in the country, and it doesn't get any bigger."

"The Minnesota thing was cool for all the alumni, the fanfare and the checkbook, but we are an FCS team now to be reckoned with," he added. "We can play with anybody in the country and we proved it today."

Not only did the Coyotes (1-1) beat the Big Sky Conference powerhouse, they kept the pressure on one of the best offensive units in the nation.

USD pulled ahead 21-0 in the second quarter on an interception return for a touchdown by senior safety Jim

Thompson, capping off a first half completely dominated by the Coyote defense.

"One thing at practice we tried to work on was to come out with a lot of energy, go out and have fun," Thompson said. "We've got a bunch of seniors, and we came together and said Thursday's practice was a lot of fun, we need to bring that to the field."

"And we brought it and came out successful."

Though the Coyotes had two touchdowns called back on penalties in the third quarter and though EWU got within 24-17, USD kept the upset intact.

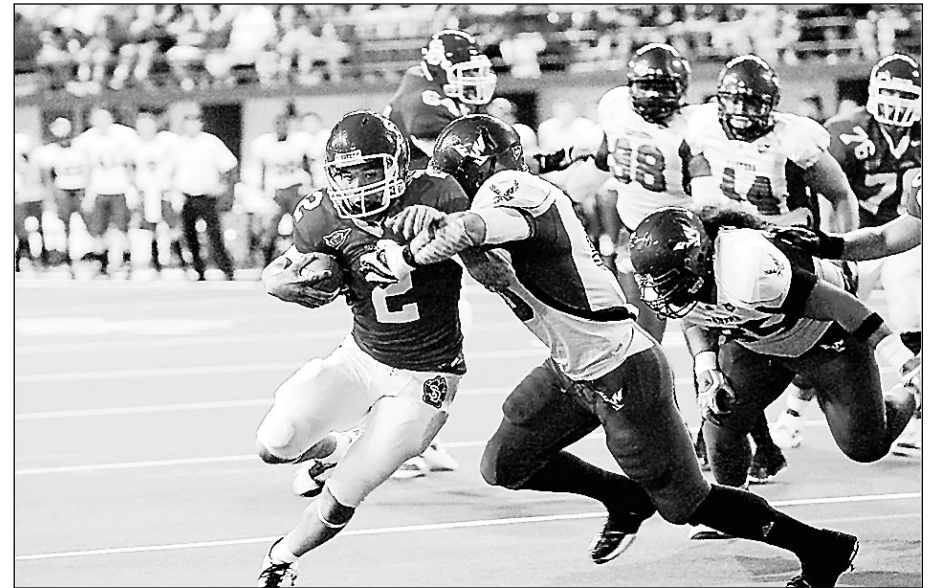
Both times the Eagles (0-2) scored in the third quarter, the Coyotes responded with a field goal – proof that they lived up to the challenge.

"From the time we got off the plane at Air Force (last week), all we talked about was winning this football game. I knew these guys could do it," Meierkort said. "They needed to do this on their own."

"We had to take the training wheels off and send the young man down the hill and see how he did," he added. "They played warp speed with their hair on fire, and did some fantastic things."

The Coyotes got on the scoreboard first on a 2-yard touchdown run by senior quarterback Dante Warren midway through the first quarter.

With the Eagles not getting anything



South Dakota quarterback Dante Warren, left, gets past an Eastern Washington defender for a touchdown during the first half of the Saturday's game in the DakotaDome. See more photos at spotted.plaintalk.net.

(Photo by David Lias)

done on offense themselves, USD added to its lead early in the second quarter. Jeremy Blount caught a 48-yard touchdown pass from Warren to put the Coyotes ahead 14-0.

Blount, a senior receiver and kick returner, equated playing EWU to a 2008 home contest against rival North Dakota.

"It feels very good. It was one of the first times a big game was like this, since we came up short to North Dakota," he said. "All during practice we knew those linebackers and safeties couldn't match up with me speed-wise."

"It just feels real good, because we worked so hard."

VHS tennis plays 6 duals in 5 days

By Parker Knox
Sportswriter

The final two weeks of the high school tennis season will find Vermillion on the road to Sioux Falls O'Gorman for a dual next Thursday.

Six duals within five days kept the Tanagers hopping last week, but the busy schedule included a 5-4 dual win over Spearfish at Brandon Valley's jamboree Saturday. Claire Jones, Valerie Robinson and Jenny Sun won in singles against the Spartans while the Jones/Robinson and Sun/Abby Weiss doubles teams also scored victories.

Jones and Robinson, who both lost tough tiebreaker duals against Aberdeen Central, also were winners in singles in a 7-2 loss to Brandon Valley. Earlier in the week VHS dropped duals to Madison and Yankton.

ABERDEEN CENTRAL 9, VHS 0

Singles

1. Claire Jones lost to Brenden 6-3, 4-6 (5-10).
2. Valerie Robinson lost to Strohfus 6-1, 1-6 (7-10).
3. Abby Weiss lost to Kinder 0-6, 0-6.
4. Libby Sykes lost to Hanson 0-6, 0-6.
5. Shelby Glover lost to Peck 0-6, 0-6.
6. Steinmeyer lost to Hansen 1-6, 0-6.

Doubles

1. Jones/Robinson lost to Brenden/Hanson 2-6, 2-6.
2. Weiss/Sykes lost to Strohfus/Peck 0-6, 0-6.
3. Glover/Steinmeyer lost to Kinder/Hanson 0-6, 0-6.

MADISON 7, VHS 2

- Singles
1. Jones lost to Lynch 6-10.
 2. Robinson def. Roemen 10-2.
 3. Weiss lost to Droge 0-10.
 4. Sykes lost to Olsen 5-10.
 5. Glover lost to Graham 3-10.
 6. Steinmeyer lost to Heim 7-10.

Doubles

1. Jones/Robinson def. Lynch/Roemen 6-0.
2. Weiss/Sykes lost to Droge/Olsen 4-10.
3. Glover/Steinmeyer lost to Graham/Heim 4-10.

YANKTON 8, VHS 1

Singles

1. Jones lost to V. Rockne 5-10.
2. Robinson lost to Klimisch 0-10.
3. Weiss lost to Henderson 1-10.
4. Sykes lost to Gill 0-10.
5. Glover lost to S. Rockne 0-10.
6. Steinmeyer lost to Santos 0-10.

Doubles

1. Jones/Robinson def. V. Rockne/Klimisch 10-6.
2. Weiss/Sykes lost to Henderson/Gill 2-10.
3. Glover/Steinmeyer lost to S. Rockne/Rotherbecker 0-10.

VHS 5, SPEARFISH 4

Singles

1. Jones def. Donn 10-2.
2. Robinson def. Hoffman 10-2.
3. Jenny Sun def. England 10-3.
4. Weiss lost to K. Iverson 3-10.
5. Glover lost to Arlt 9-11.
6. Steinmeyer lost to E. Iverson 7-10.

Doubles

1. Jones/Robinson def. Donn/Hoffman 10-0.
2. Weiss/Sun def. England/K. Iverson 10-6.
3. Glover/Steinmeyer lost to Arlt/E. Iverson 4-10.

BRANDON VALLEY 7, VHS 2

Singles

1. Jones def. Buse 10-6.
2. Robinson def. Nausz 10-2.
3. Sun lost to Rubin 0-10.
4. Weiss lost to Mutschelknaus 2-10.
5. Glover lost to Thomas 0-10.
6. Steinmeyer lost to Spanton 0-10.

Doubles

1. Jones/Robinson lost to Buse/Nausz 4-10.
2. Weiss/Sun lost to Rubin/Thomas 1-10.
3. Glover/Steinmeyer lost to Mutschelknaus/Marso 1-10.

MILBANK 6, VHS 3

Singles

1. Jones def. Niedert 10-2.
2. Robinson def. Barlund 10-0.
3. Sun lost to Bohn 0-10.
4. Weiss lost to Kurtz 2-10.
5. Glover lost to Beirsbach 1-10.
6. Steinmeyer lost to Breske 1-10.

Doubles

1. Jones/Robinson def. Niedert/Bohn 10-1.
2. Weiss/Sun lost to Barlund/Kurtz 0-10.
3. Glover/Steinmeyer lost to Beirsbach/Breske 0-10.

Tanager volleyball now 3-2 in duals after losses

By Parker Knox
Sportswriter

Vermillion's volleyballers, 3-2 in duals after losses to Bon Homme and Tri-Valley last week, go back out on the road for the next two weeks, starting with the Bon Homme Invitational in Tyndall Saturday. VHS will play at Tea Area next Tuesday.

In a battle of undefeated teams Bon Homme took the first two sets at the VHS gym, 25-20, but VHS rallied to hand Bon Homme its first set loss of the season, 28-26. However, the Cavaliers won the fourth, 25-19, to clinch a 3-1 win.

On the attack Kelly Amundson, Katie Herrera and Kylie Fischbach slammed home seven kills apiece, Sami Girard had 16 set assists and

Fischbach 11, and Beth Szymonski had four ace serves. Stephanie Erwin and Lizzy Bye had six kills each.

The Tanagers placed six girls in double figures in digs – Szymonski 21, Bye 21, Emily McClelland 18, Fischbach 17, Blair Gilkyson 12 and Lexi Regnerus 11. Amundson had four block assists, Fischbach and Herrera three apiece.

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