

Football

From Page 8

the game from a two-yard pass followed by a two-point conversion.

With less than two minutes to play, Vermillion fumbled the ball off a snap which was recovered by Dell Rapids and returned for a 53-yard touchdown for the final scoring play of the game and a 35-6 Quarriers lead.

Vermillion again threatened with a 20-yard kick-off return from Ouellette to the Tanagers own 44-yard line.

"Matt (Ouellette) had another fantastic game. We ask him to go a lot of places now and it's great that he's a senior like that and can just jump in and play wherever we want," Homan said.

The Tanagers combined for 48 rushing yards on three plays in the last drive ending with a 28-yard carry by Riley Johnson to the nine yard line before time ran out. Johnson replaced Kratz at quarterback in the closing minutes and ran for 40 yards on three attempts.

Kratz threw 18 complete passes for 255 yards in the game.

"We wanted to establish our running game this week and keep that going, so that's why we kind of got away from the passing," Homan said. "Obviously, towards the end, we had to throw it a little bit more. We know we have (passing) there if we need it."

Kratz and Ouellette connected for four receptions for 122 yards, including the 15-yard touchdown pass.

Noah Walker carried the ball 15 times for 70 yards, and Rylan Pratt had 50 yards on 11 carries.

Defensively, Walker recorded 16 total tackles and one sack. Mitchell Sand also had a sack and 13.5 tackles.

"We played better defensively, but, again, it's just little things that we need to keep working on to fix, not giving up big plays and finishing drives," Homan said.

The Tanagers look for the first win of the season when they take on Parkston next Friday, Sept. 11, at the DakotaDome. Kickoff is set for 7 p.m.



ELYSE BRIGHTMAN/ FOR THE PLAIN TALK

Vermillion High School's Gabe DeJong in the Tanagers 36-6 loss to Dell Rapids last Friday at the DakotaDome.

Junior Varsity Starts Season 1-1

The junior varsity football team at Vermillion High School defeated South Sioux City 14-8 in South Sioux City, Nebraska Tuesday afternoon.

Matt Bierle scored on a touchdown run in the first quarter and ran in the two point conversion to give the Tanagers an 8-0 lead.

In the third, Vermillion's defense held off South Sioux City on a fourth and goal late in the quarter.

With less than two minutes in the game, Andrew Pietrzak scored on a long touchdown run to give Vermillion the final lead.

In the season opening game in Canton, the Vermillion junior varsity team lost to Canton 50-6.

The Tanagers touchdown came from Mitchell Dougherty on a touchdown run in the first quarter.

The team plays its first home game on Monday, Sept. 14, with a 4:30 kick off.



ELYSE BRIGHTMAN/ FOR THE PLAIN TALK

Sam Ward keeps the ball in bounds during Vermillion High School boys' soccer's 2-0 win over Hot Springs last Friday afternoon at Cotton Park.

Soccer

From Page 9

The Tanagers then took on league leaders Sioux Falls Christian in a tough match that ended 11-1 in favor of the Chargers.

The Tanagers played 15 scoreless minutes against Sioux Falls Christian when the first goal came directly off a corner kick that bent into the net without being touched by another player. The Chargers would add another seven goals before the half ended.

Vermillion avoided the shutout with a goal from Loftus with 15 minutes to play in the first half with an assist by Callahan.

Callahan was dribbling towards the net when Loftus took over the ball at the top of the 18 yard box and got a shot off that went into the back of the net.

Sioux Falls added another three in the second half and the referee blew the whistle with 20 minutes on the clock to end the game due to goal differential.

Vermillion goalkeeper Tristan Meadows recorded 11 saves in the game.

"The simple mistakes cost us today, our opponents were able to capitalize on little issues we had defensively," Nelson said. "We need to work on winning areal balls and keeping possession for our last home game Friday."

Vermillion will face Freeman Academy for senior night the last home game of the season on Friday, Sept. 11 at Cotton Park. Kickoff is set for 4:30 p.m.

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