

Coyotes Close Out 2-0 Weekend

Soccer: USD Tops NAIA Opponent 3-0

BY ALAN DALE
The Vermillion Plain Talk

VERMILLION — A not so pleasant performance on Friday had the University of South Dakota women's soccer team in need of a spark.

Junior midfielder Rebecca Sparkman recorded her first ever hat trick with three goals in the Coyotes' Sunday match's first 18 minutes and USD finished a two-win sweep of the weekend with a 4-0 victory over the College of Saint Mary.

USD (2-0-0) bounced back from a poor performance in a 3-0 win over Northern State on Friday with a dominating performance against the visiting Saint Mary squad that

made the trip up from Omaha.

Coyote head coach Mandy Green was pleased with the way the win was carried out especially after a not aesthetically pleasing performance two days earlier.

"Getting two wins a weekend is always good, but I am happier with this win over the one on Friday," Green said. "We played the way I have asked them to play. We did fall off after the three quick goals and wasn't happy that we got sloppy — to get two wins on the first weekend, no USD team has ever done that."

"We need to play quick because every game we have now is against a Division I opponent who is going to be coming at us pretty fast."

Sparkman scored her first two

goals in the first nine minutes and both were contested as being off-sides as Flames' head coaches questioned why the whistle hadn't blown.

"I don't think (they were off-side)," Sparkman said. "They didn't call it, so — I just snuck behind them and a couple of their defenders kept me on. I got some great assists and I was at the right place at the right time. I was focused on my opportunities."

As for her first hat trick?

"Never had one before," Sparkman said. "It feels pretty cool and it was awesome. I am just glad we won with a shutout. This makes the weekend definitely better. We are going to have a dance party in the locker room."



ALAN DALE/VERMILLION PLAIN TALK
South Dakota's Megan Anderson, right, gets to the ball first ahead of College of Saint Mary defender Shannon Landry during their women's soccer game Sunday afternoon in Vermillion.

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High School Girls' Tennis

Gazelles 0-2 In Opener



JAMES D. CIMBUREK/P&D
Yankton senior Sarah Rockne returns a shot during her flight one singles match with Watertown's Rachel Gauger, part of a tennis quadrangular on Saturday in Yankton.



JAMES D. CIMBUREK/P&D
Vermillion's Alex Rosdail serves the ball during flight two doubles action against Rapid City Stevens, part of a tennis quadrangular Saturday in Yankton.

The Yankton Gazelles opened up their tennis season on Saturday with a pair of home losses at a triangular at the YHS/SAC Courts.

Watertown defeated Yankton 7-2 and Rapid City Stevens scored an 8-1 victory over the Gazelles. Yankton was also scheduled to face Vermillion, but that match was canceled because of a weather delay.

In the match against Watertown, the Gazelles got victories from Anne Knoff at flight five singles, and from the flight one doubles tandem of Sarah Rockne and Kaitlyn Frank.

Yankton's lone win against Rapid City Stevens came from Knoff at flight five singles. The Gazelles also got junior varsity victories from Maddie Logue and Josie Krajewski.

The Gazelles will travel to Brookings next weekend, starting with a Friday triangular against Brookings, Aberdeen Central and Marshall, Minnesota. Then on Saturday, Yankton will compete in the Brookings Jamboree.

WATERTOWN 7, YANKTON 2

SINGLES: Rachel Gauger W def. Sarah Rockne 10-3; Rachel Kjetland W def. Kaitlyn Frank 10-1; Allie VanDerWeide W def. Kim Cap 10-1; Ali Cummings W def. Mimi Garcia 10-0; Anne Knoff Y def. Abbey Rieber 10-1; Audrey Moran W def. Anna Kokesh 10-3

DOUBLES: Rockne-Frank Y def. Gauger-Kjetland 10-7; VanDerWeide-Cummings W def. Cap-Kokesh 10-2; Rieber-Moran W def. Knoff-Garcia 10-6

RAPID CITY STEVENS 8, YANKTON 1

SINGLES: Alicia Wiedmeier RCS def. Sarah Rockne 10-3; Tianna Duda RCS def. Kaitlyn Frank 10-2; Sarah Kelly RCS def. Kim Cap 10-1; Kimberly Christopher RCS def. Mimi Garcia 10-1; Anne Knoff Y def. Ingrid Anderson 10-8; Ally Riddle RCS def. Anna Kokesh 10-4

DOUBLES: Duda-Kelly RCS def. Rockne-Frank 10-2; Wiedmeier-Christopher RCS def. Cap-Kokesh 10-0; Riddle-Vanderweil 10-6

Softball: Gazelles Win Two

SIoux FALLS — The Yankton Gazelles rolled past Pipestone, Minnesota, 16-5 and Elkton-Jackson, Minnesota 11-3 in girls' softball action on Sunday at Sherman Park in Sioux Falls.

The Gazelles, 3-1, hosts Sioux Falls Lincoln tonight (Monday) at Sertoma Park. Start time for the twinbill is 6 p.m.

YANKTON 16, PIPESTONE 5: Yankton used a 13-run second inning to roll to a 16-5 victory.

Andi Sprakel had two hits, including a home run, four RBI and two runs scored to lead Yankton. Alix Peterka had two hits, two RBI and two runs scored. Bailey Kortan had two hits, two RBI and three runs scored. Lexi McCorkell had a double, two RBI and two runs scored. Jaclyn Arens posted a double and a run scored. Bailey Peterka and Liz Suing added hits.

Shelly Bloemendal went 3-3 with a double for Pipestone.

Arens picked up the win, allowing one earned run on five hits while striking out five. Tiff Evans took the loss.

YANKTON 11, ELKTON-JACKSON 3: The Gazelles used a seven-

run second inning to pull away on the way to an 11-3 victory over Elkton-Jackson.

Jaclyn Arens went 3-4 with a double, a RBI and a run scored, and Andi Sprakel went 2-4 with a triple, three RBI and a run scored for Yankton. Bailey Kortan had two hits, two runs scored and a RBI. Liz Suing had two hits and a run scored. Alix Peterka doubled, drove in three runs and scored once. Heather Hauer had a hit and a run scored. Lexi McCorkell and Bailey Peterka added hits.

Holly Mines went the distance, allowing two earned runs while striking out six. Ariel Nelson took the loss.

Junior High

GARRETSON 10, YANKTON II 9: Lexi Madson drove in a run, and Paige Gullikson and Bailey Wieseler each scored twice for Yankton. Larkin Mason, Annika Gordon, Sarah Stoddard, Haley Lande and Ella Mulder added runs.

Madson took the loss, striking out two. **TRI-VALLEY 12, YANKTON II 8:** Paige Gullikson had two hits, and Larkin Mason, Katie Heinrich and Ella Mulder had hits for Yankton. Lexi Madsen and Annika Gordon drove in runs for the Gazelles.

Hwang, Choi Beat Chicago As South Korea Wins LLWS

SOUTH WILLIAMSPORT, Pa. (AP) — Jae Yeong Hwang drove in two runs and Hae Chan Choi weathered a late Chicago rally to lead South Korea to an 8-4 win in Sunday's Little League World Series championship game.

Hwang gave up one hit in two-plus innings while striking out four. He also drove in the Asia-Pacific Region champs' first two runs as they built an 8-1 lead before Jackie Robinson West made it close.

Choi, who had a homer and scored twice, pitched the last four innings for South Korea, which won its third title after back-to-back championships in 1985 and '85.

International teams have won the last three and four of the last five titles.

Brandon Green went 5 2-3 innings for Chicago, which had survived four straight knockout games before the final.

Dong Wan Sin scored twice, including a solo homer, for the South Koreans.

After the final out, a force play, the Seoul team's bench emptied and the players dumped cups of water on

their teammates near the mound. The players took a victory lap, waving and laughing.

The game was played in bright sunshine and temperatures in the high 70s before a crowd of 28,671 at Lamade Stadium.

South Korean fans, brightly dressed in flowing satin robes of yellow and electric blue, danced with large fans in the latter innings.

Chicago, the Great Lakes Region champions, came back from 3-0 and 5-4 deficits to beat favored West champ Las Vegas Mountain Ridge 7-5 in the U.S. title game on Saturday. Earlier, South Korea, the Asia-Pacific Region winner, rolled over Japan, 12-3.

But they couldn't come back against the powerful South Koreans, who asserted themselves early.

Leadoff hitter Choi drilled the very first pitch over the wall in right, but a few feet foul. He then flied out deep to right.

Dong Wan Sin followed by

Sloth Highlights 1-1 Tie For Vermillion Boys

BY SCOTT BORMANN
For the Vermillion Plain Talk

VERMILLION — Jonathan Sloth arrived in Vermillion from his native Denmark on Thursday evening and the sophomore jumped right into classes on Friday morning.

Saturday afternoon saw him score the game tying goal for a team that he had not even practiced with.

It was Sloth's goal that would salvage a 1-1 opening day tie for the Vermillion Tanagers against Freeman Academy Saturday afternoon at Cotton Park

"I was put in as a mid-fielder, but I feel that I can play all over the field," Sloth said. "I was all around the field today, even attacking."

"Everyone has been very open to come over to say 'hello' and everybody is nice. Yesterday I felt something (jet-lag), but today is good. I have had a great start at school and here on the team."

In the 37th minute, he received a header from freshman Joe Miller, and one-timed it into the back of the net. The crossing shot stayed on the grass, and out of the goalie's outstretched arms.

The Bulldogs of Freeman Academy opened the scoring when William Janssen launched a lazy, looping shot over the head of the Vermillion goalie.

"It was a bit of a lucky goal that the wind carried," Tanager head coach Curt Nelson said.

Both teams started out a bit slow to feel each other out in the first game of the season for both clubs.

Before long, though, the Tanagers were showing the advantage with better conditioning and a deeper bench.

The Bulldogs best defense late in the game was to simply kick the ball out of bounds.

"It was really frustrating," senior Sam Tigert said, "They were not playing high school soccer, they were playing like a younger team would. They were just in bunches running around the field, which is really hard to get around that."

With only a minute left in the match, senior Jeff Galvin was thwarted by an extra defender for the Bulldogs.

"That was a nice jump in spirit when I saw that," Tigert said about his teammate's shot bouncing off the crossbar of the goal. "Right to the post. It



SCOTT BORMANN/VERMILLION PLAIN TALK
A Vermillion player, left, pushes the ball up field against a Freeman Academy defender during their varsity boys' soccer game Saturday at Cotton Park in Vermillion.

would have been nice if he would have made that in."

Miller had the rebound, but his shot when high and into the trees.

The team's frustration with a tie is balanced out by their desire to win.

Being one of the top teams in the state the last several years and not being sanctioned this year has given them the motivation to improve and give the fans a great show.

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