



BY JEREMY HOECK Jeremy.hoeck@yankton.net You've heard the term 'epic collapse' before, right? If not, the University of South Dakota football team introduced you to it with Saturday's fourth-quarter performance in Grand Forks, N.D.

Road Woes Continue To Frustrate USD Football Team

ways to lose road games, especially — frustratingly so — when they have leads. Try this stat on for size: USD is now 2-15 in FCS road games since 2008. Not only that, the Coyotes have lost 7 straight such contests. People will no doubt find ways to defend USD ("they were in transition"...."Look who they played"), but the fact of the matter is that the Coyotes are not a good road team. I make no apologies for saying that.

Branson Powers Huskies Past STM

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JAMES D. CIMBUREK/P&D

Elk Point-Jefferson's Katie Zeller, 12, and Lexie Branson go up to block a St. Thomas More hitter during the consolation championship of the South Dakota State Class A Volleyball Tournament, Saturday at Sioux Falls Arena. Branson set a Class A Tourney record for blocks per game at 1.83 in leading the Huskies to a 3-0 win and a fifth place finish.

SIOUX FALLS — Looking to build momentum for next season, Elk Point-Jefferson looked to the one player who won't be around for next season carried the load. Lexie Branson posted 18 kills and seven blocks, and set a modern state tournament record for blocks per game as the Huskies swept St. Thomas More 25-20, 25-9, 25-19 in the Class A consolation championship match Saturday morning at Sioux Falls Arena.

with 15 assists and two ace serves. Audrey Truhe had 11 assists and two ace serves. Kelsey Abbey had nine digs, and Amy Zeller added two ace serves in the victory. For St. Thomas More, Osborne had seven kills and two ace serves, with Pesicka notching six kills. Samantha Viquain, who earned all-tourney honors, finished with 23 assists and seven digs. Danielle Nielsen had nine digs and two ace serves, and Elizabeth Carreiro had seven digs for the Cavaliers.

injuries and nine lineup changes, they did a lot of work to get through it." Branson, who was joined by Bertram on the all-tournament team, was happy to have played a role in the Huskies' growth. "I feel like we've accomplished so much," she said. "Everyone stepped up. It's great to be a part of that."

After an early 13-6 lead shrunk to 17-15, Branson got the Huskies going with three straight kills in a four-point EPJ run. The Huskies survived a pair of big net plays by Mycalynn Osborne, and ace serves by Karli Bies and Tessa Pesicka to claim the opening stanza.

The second frame was all Huskies. EPJ jumped out to a 13-3 lead then, after St. Thomas More closed the gap to 17-8, ran off six straight points to put the game out of reach. Branson had three kills and a block in that 6-0 run.

In the third game, EPJ jumped out to a 12-7 lead, then traded blows with the Cavaliers to claim the match. Branson finished the tournament with a tourney-best 4.5 kills per game and 1.83 blocks per game. The blocks mark is the best since South Dakota high school volleyball went to rally scoring, breaking the mark set by 2010 Summit League Player of the Year Kelli Fiegen. The Parkston native notched 1.58 blocks per game in 2007.

The Bulldogs, behind their press, took control of the game with a 19-3 run to open the second half.

Kistler had Concordia's lead back to double digits at 39-29 less than a minute into the half as she opened with a pair of free throws and scored on a steal and a lay-in. That lead bulged to 44-29 with 17:44 to play as Kistler knocked down another trey.

Berg answered with a 3-pointer, but the shot was a temporary bandage as Concordia tacked on three easy baskets for a 52-32 lead. "We had a bad six minutes against that press; we knew they were going to do it and we practiced against it," Schlimgen said. "We needed to throw over it more because they doubled up on the basketball."

it wasn't good enough," Schlimgen said. "You can't let someone come in and beat us at home - especially in a conference game."

When it was all said and done, the Lancers committed 26 turnovers and missed 11 free throws. Concordia racked up 15 offensive rebounds as they held a 41-36 edge on the boards. "We knew coming in that they were a good offensive-rebounding team, but we still weren't tough enough on the defensive glass," Schlimgen said.

Kistler led the undefeated Bulldogs with 17 points as Kristen Conahan had 15 points. Laboda finished with 11 points and seven rebounds. Gross was six on 10 inside and led the Lancers (5-4) with 18 points and eight rebounds. Forsch added 12 points and Berg scored 10. The Lancers will host Dordt Tuesday night at 6 p.m.

Lancers

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build a double-digit lead midway through the first half. Lori Laboda gave the Bulldogs an 18-11 lead with a 3-pointer and Kristen Conahan dropped in a downtown shot for a 23-13 Concordia lead with 8:35 to play.

Kistler went downtown again for a 33-25 Bulldog lead, but Berg swished from 3-point land to trim Concordia's halftime lead to 33-29. Mount Marty got into the bonus with 10:19 to play but were unable to take advantage and made just three of nine free throws the rest of the way.

Napel each had four ace serves, as Assam set a modern tournament record with 1.5 ace serves per game, breaking the mark of 1.1 per game set by Milbank's Megan Nedved in 2008. Hayley McCarron had 43 assists and four blocks (two solo), finishing with a tournament-best 10.5 assists per game.

"The girls came ready to play. They came out fired up as a team," said Chargers head coach Darci Wassenaar, who took SFC to its third state title, all under her leadership. "We got off to a good start, but I thought we let up in game three."

to play every match tough, play aggressive and not let up."

Defensively, Assam had 15 digs, with Brooke Van Gorp notching 13 digs and VanderPol recording 12. For Wagner, Cimpr and Brecke each had 12 kills, with Doom recording 27 assists and three ace serves. Weber had a team-best four ace serves. Breen had 12 digs, Brecke 11 digs and Juffer four blocks (1 solo) to lead the Red Raider defense.

Class A

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With their backs to the wall, Wagner made one last stand. Doom had a pair of ace serves as the Red Raiders took an early 8-2 lead. The Red Raiders surged out to a 23-11 edge before taking the game.

In the final game, the Chargers led 10-8 before closing the match on a 15-5 surge, one that included four of the team's 14 ace serves. "I think the big difference was their serving and our serve-receive," Tyler noted. "We didn't pass the ball well. When we did pass well, we got a kill."

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SCOREBOARD

Table with columns for FOOTBALL, NATIONAL FOOTBALL LEAGUE, AMERICAN CONFERENCE, East, South, North, West, and NATIONAL CONFERENCE, East, South, West.

AREA CALENDAR

Table listing events for Monday, November 21 and Tuesday, November 22, including Football, Prep, and Basketball events.

UND Rally Stuns 'Yotes 38-37

GRAND FORKS, N.D. (AP) — Brent Goska threw three touchdown passes in the fourth quarter as North Dakota rallied to beat South Dakota 38-37 on Saturday. The win gave the Fighting Sioux (8-3, 3-1) a share of the Great West Conference title.

Goska threw four touchdown passes in the game and finished with 216 yards passing — 145 in the final period. His 15-yarder to Chris Anderson with 4:07 left, along with Zeb Miller's extra point, won it. Tyhre Ivery caught two of the TD passes and Seth Nichols had the other.

Coyotes

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spent most of our time in the fall and early practices just continually working on that area. "You've got to have great athletes to be a great defensive team, and we're not all the way through with that."

The offense, however, showed more direct signs of progression — compared to the losses at Nebraska and Eastern Washington.

With Hilliard doing most of the point guard duties, Krogman was able to play the off-guard position, which he said could be the plan moving forward. Hilliard posted eight points, four rebounds and three assists in his debut.

Charlie Westbrook scored 15 points and dished out six assists, while Jordan Boots added 11 points off the bench. Fellow reserve Steve Tecker recorded nine points and eight rebounds.

"We had better spacing on the floor," Krogman said. "I think we attacked a lot more on the dribble and guys made better decisions."

MMC's Fly 183rd At NAIA Meet

VANCOUVER, Wash. — Mount Marty junior Kaylee Fly finished 183rd in the women's race at the NAIA Cross Country Championships, held Saturday at Fort Vancouver National Historic Site. Fly, in her first season at Mount Marty, finished in 19:56. She was the first Lancer women's runner to qualify for nationals since Melissa Schmidt in 2004.

Parker

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utive state tournament appearance and a continued progression. Parker finished fifth in 2009, fourth in 2010 and third this year. "I told them we want to make it to Mitchell," Christensen said. Mitchell will host the Class B Tournament in 2012. "Next year, that is our goal."

Edgemont also graduates four seniors: Lacy Stevens, Kristi Porter, Jackie Manke and Cyler Reinhard. "This experience will be good for next year," Coach Stevens noted. "We have big shoes to fill but the shoes are there. We just have to fill them."

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