



Kelsey Hennen celebrated as Minneota took over first place in the Camden Conference with a 3-0 win over previously undefeated Canby.

By Byron Higgin, Mascot Publisher

A year ago undefeated Canby surprised Minneota, took the conference crown and got into the conference championship game.

"We talked about that before the game," said Minneota Coach Steph Hennen.

This time, Minneota left no doubt, beating the Lancers 3-0 in Canby by scores of 25-21; 25-20 and 25-18.

"We knew they were going to be good, and they were. They kept us on our toes," said senior setter Taya Kockelman. "We came out ready to go," she said.

The Vikings did just that, rolling to a 16-9 lead in the first period, then used five serves from Jenna Hennen to drive the lead to 19-10 before winning, 25-21 in the first game.

They had to hold off Canby, as Riley Nordgaard led the Lancers back into the game, but Ashlynn Muhl, who ended with 16 kills, put the game away at the net with a resounding kill.

"We knew they were going to send junk over and we tried, in practice, to get everything off the floor and we did it tonight," said Kockelman.

She also knew, "That during long rallies they'd move back so I figured I'd go up (and plop points in front of the Lancers)."

The second game found the Vikings taking a big 16-11 lead, but again Canby rallied to get within 21-19 before Kockelman, Haylee Davis and Sara Maeyaert took matters into their hands and lifted the Vikings to the 25-20 win.

Canby wasn't quite as pesky in the final game. Maeyaert asserted herself at the net and landed three straight kills as the Vikings handed Canby its first conference loss of the year.

"I think we really wanted this win because they beat us last year," said Coach Hennen. "This was fun," she added.

Statistics:

Serving: (No., good, aces) Kelsey Hennen 17-15-2; Taya Kockelman 14-12-1; Ashlynn Muhl 16-12-3; Jenna Hennen 12-11-1; Haylee Davis 6-2-0; Katelyn Kack 10-8-1.

Digs: K. Hennen 18, Kockelman 11, Rachel Cheadle 3, Muhl 2, Hennen 9, Davis 7, Kack 4.

Blocks: Cheadle 1, Muhl 1.

Sets: Kockelman 29, Cheadle 3.

Kills: K. Hennen 1, Kockelman 5, Sara Maeyaert 5, Cheadle 1, Muhl 16, Hennen 3, Davis 8.