

Viks from 1B

Siuslaw's passing, defense and serving were at their best, with freshman. Makenzie York providing an extra spark on offense with 10 kills for the Vikings.

With 94 percent in serving, Siuslaw had few weak spots on the court, resulting in tough matchup with an equally scrappy Lancers roster — which nabbed a narrow opening-set win, 25-21.

In game two, the work of senior libero Ali Scheer really paid off against the Lancer's hard-hitting front line. In addition to nine digs, Scheer managed 13 perfect passes to help pace Siuslaw's offense.

Meanwhile, Bartlett had 26 assists from the setter's position.

But it was junior Elyssa Rose who did the most damage to the Lancers' defense, hammering 23 kills, along with seven from Waggoner.

After tying the match with a 25-21 win in the second set, the Vikings swept the next two games for the match, 25-18 and 25-15.

The win put the Viks at 4-2 and in sole possession of second, followed by South Umpqua (3-3) and Douglas (2-4).

Marshfield, who the Viks will play this Tuesday, is in first place at 6-0.

First serve for Tuesday's match at Marshfield goes up at 6 p.m.



Siuslaw students shows their spirit as the Vikings rally. Siuslaw enters the second half of league in second place.

View from 1B

because nobody wants to watch that Ty Cobb, drag-bunt stuff from the back row of an upper deck all summer long. And you need a closer. Someone to turn the ball over to at the end of the night.

But there is another theory about life, and it is called the seven stages of grief. There's shock, denial, anger, bargaining, guilt, depression and, in baseball, Jonathan Papelbon.

And nowadays that is almost always followed by regret, a blown save and ejection.

Athletes who play adrenaline sports are going to be a little more on edge than most other types of people in the world.

Take a guy like Papelbon (which, we've already discerned, will lead to certain regret). He doesn't play an adrenaline sport, right? So as a closer, he has to supply his own excitement. He walks out of a bullpen to Metallica's "For Whom the Bell Tolls" and then is expected to strike out the side.

But you really have to question this guy's sanity. The guy makes \$13 million a year for throwing a piece of leather-covered twine, and he just can't

keep it together.

Statistically, he's one of the greatest of all-time ... the all-time leader in saves for both the Red Sox and Phillies, set records for most saves by rookie and all sorts of other statistics. He's won a ring (and his dog ate the game ball. Nice.)

But don't kid yourself ... to say Papelbon is on the downside of his career isn't a hard statement to make. He's losing velocity, but he's also clearly losing his mind.

This guy, who has been fined tens of thousands of real American dollars for failing to throw a first pitch over the plate in a timely manner, got in the

face of Bryce Harper after Harper didn't run out a fly ball.

Then, he didn't just get in his face ... he tried to strangle the kid from the top step of the dugout.

I can't say that I've ever seen anything like that before. Well, that's not true ... there was the whole John Rocker era in the '90s. And there was Billy Martin and Reggie Jackson in the '70s, but at least they had the good sense not actually fight one another on TV.

The last time I saw something like that was that "Star Wars" reboot where Anakin Skywalker thinks he can win the fight when Obi-Wan had

the higher ground.

The only difference there was that Anakin's loss advanced the storyline.

Papelbon's act — grabbing

himself in Philly, grabbing Harper in Washington — is a tired one that nobody needs to see anymore.

Tatum from 1B

Tatum's son KC, a sophomore, is expected to be a member of the Vikings' first varsity golf team in several years,

which will debut in the spring, which Tatum also hopes to be considered for as head coach.

Currently, he has a seven-member club team, all boys, and would like to see girls compete, too.

He said he will have to take his time-management skills to the next level with the additional coaching duties plus the demands of the business he has built the past three years.

"It's going to be big, jug-

gling a business and a basketball team," Tatum agreed. "I know what I'm getting into here."

Tatum replaces Carl Johnson, who left the program to retire.

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