

SPORTS

WOMEN'S HOCKEY

Voyageurs split with North Dakota State

Durocher gets 6 points in series

JOURNAL STAFF REPORT

On a weekend in which two home games were split at different arenas in International Falls, the Rainy River Community College women's hockey team split with North Dakota State University, the top-ranked Division 2 team in the American Collegiate Hockey Association's Western Division.

On Saturday night at Bronco Arena, the Voyageurs lost to the Bisons, 5-3.

RRCC gave up unassisted goals to NDSU's Taylor Dwyer and Kacie Johnson before getting on the scoreboard with 9:30 left in the opening period when Rebecca Dilley scored assisted by Taylor Durocher.

The Bisons then added a power-play goal from Kaylee Lothspeich to lead 3-1 after the first 17 minutes.

Dwyer scored again for NDSU with 13:54 left in the second period and Johnson added another goal 54 seconds later, after which Voyageurs goalie Victoria Taylor left the net and was replaced by Kristen Andrews for the rest of the game.

Taylor stopped 11 of 16 shots, while Andrews made 12 saves without giving up another goal.

The Voyageurs cut the deficit to three goals with

9:09 left in the second period when Shania Rhinehart scored assisted by Durocher.

RRCC's final goal came with 9:50 left in the final period when Delaney Peters scored assisted by Rebekah Ford and Durocher.

NDSU goalie Jordan Salwei made 23 saves over three periods to record the win in the net.

RRCC 6, NDSU 5

On Sunday afternoon at Kerry Park Arena, Durocher capped off a hat trick by scoring the game-winning goal with 32 second to play to lift the Voyageurs to a 6-5 victory over the Bisons.

"She played a heck of a weekend," said RRCC head coach Evan Amdahl, who noted Durocher's six points—three goals Sunday and three assists Saturday—in the two-game series.

After Johnson and Durocher matched unassisted goals, NDSU took a 2-1 lead after the opening period of the series finale when Megan Ostrand scored 8 seconds into a power.

The Voyageurs then did all the scoring in the second period with four goals—two from Jaylene Anderson and single scores from Rhinehart and Durocher.

"We played a really good second period to put us in a

good position," Amdahl said.

However, RRCC's three-goal lead disappeared in the third period after goals by Ostrand, Johnson and Dwyer tied the game at 5-5 with 3:18 to play.

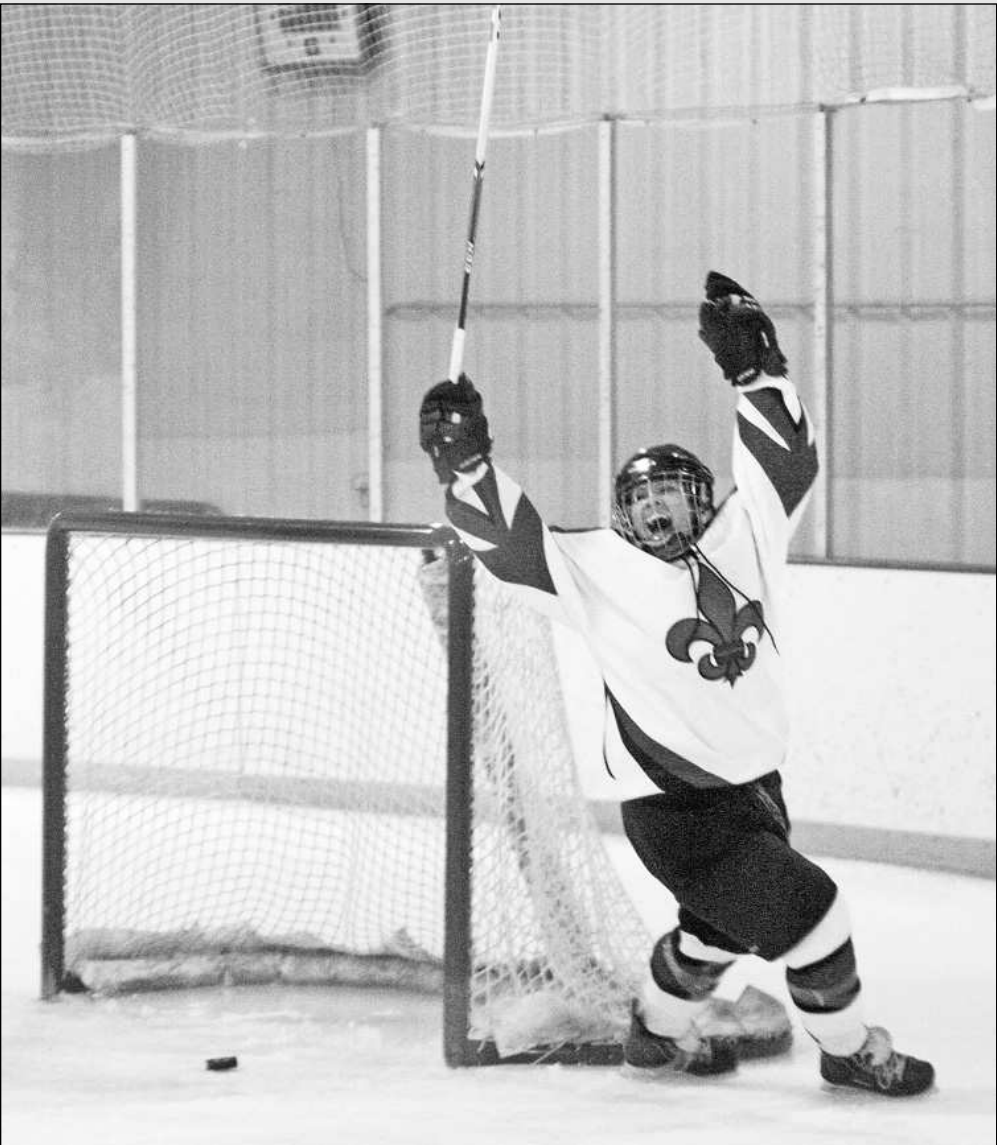
The Bisons then called timeout late in period to plan for a possible game-winning goal, but Amdahl said that timeout helped the Voyageurs plan for an opportunity to win as Durocher intercepted the puck and skated for a breakaway goal.

Shay Perry stopped 33 of 38 shots to record the win in goal for RRCC, while Salwei made 22 saves in picking up the loss for NDSU.

The Voyageurs' season record now stands at 4-7-1 in ACHA games and 4-10-1 overall.

Amdahl said RRCC's two-game road series that was scheduled for Feb. 1-2 at South Dakota State University has been canceled because the SDSU women's club hockey team has discontinued playing after being winless on the season.

With only two more games presently remaining on the Voyageurs' schedule Feb. 8-9 at Minot State, Amdahl said RRCC is trying to find a fill-in series, possibly against the University of Wisconsin-La



STAFF PHOTO BY KEVIN BONESKE

The Voyageurs' Taylor Durocher celebrates scoring the goal that turned out to be the game-winner with 32 second to play Sunday afternoon when Rainy River defeated North Dakota State, 6-5, at Kerry Park Arena.

Saturday's game

NDSU 5, RRCC 3
NDSU 3 2 0 - 5
RRCC 1 1 1 - 3

Sunday's game

RRCC 6, NDSU 5
NDSU 2 0 3 - 5
RRCC 1 4 1 - 6

MEN'S BASKETBALL

Voyageurs win first MCAC game, defeat Itasca

JOURNAL STAFF REPORT

Three games into the Minnesota College Athletic Conference season, the Rainy River Community College men's basketball team finally made it into the win column Saturday afternoon with an 83-72 victory at Itasca.

The Voyageurs led by eight points at halftime before taking their largest lead of the game at 46-34 early in the second half.

RRCC head coach Jack Cook said the Voyageurs played good team basketball, out-rebounding Itasca, 47-42, and also out-shooting the home team from the field overall, 30-66 (45.5 percent) to 26-74 (35.1 percent).



Ahmad Poche

Five RRCC players scored in double figures led by Ahmad Poche with 18 points. James Sausser Denesia and Demetrius Murphy added 12 points apiece, while Harold Jenkins and Deion Miley both scored 10 more.

Quenton Housely led four Itasca players scoring in double figures with a game-high 20 points.

The win improved the Voyageurs' season record to 1-2 in the MCAC North and

3-12 overall going into tonight's make-up home game against Northland.

RRCC 83, Itasca 72
RRCC 40 43 - 83
Itasca 32 40 - 72

RRCC: Ahmad Poche 18, Fedner Fleurant 2, Jimson Clerveus 8, Bryan Hasbargen 6, Harold Jenkins 10, Deion Miley 10, Andrew Nichols 5, James Sausser Denesia 12, Demetrius Murphy 12. 3-pointers: Hasbargen 2, Miley 2, Sausser Denesia 2, Murphy 2. Free throws: 15-24. Fouls: 19.

WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

RRCC Voyageurs lead at halftime, lose to Itasca

JOURNAL STAFF REPORT

After leading by as much as 12 points in the second half, the Rainy River Community College women's basketball team was unable to pick up its first Minnesota College Athletic Conference victory of the season Saturday afternoon and ended up losing at Itasca, 45-41.

"It was a tough loss," said RRCC head coach Dieter Humbert. "We played really good defense."

Humbert said the Voyageurs' turnovers (27) and shooting less than 28 percent from the field (16-58) turned out to be key in the loss, noting the team needs to work on its ball handling and management.

Roneisha Jordan recorded a double-double for RRCC with a team-high 13 points

and 11 rebounds. Kurstyn Gordon, who is now playing at point guard for the Voyageurs, also scored in double figures with 11 points.

Taylor Gulseth recorded a double-double for Itasca with a game-high 15 points and 13 rebounds, while Jordan Haggberg also scored in double figures with 11 points.

The loss dropped RRCC to 0-3 in the MCAC North and 6-9 overall going into tonight's make-up home game against Northland.

Itasca 45, RRCC 41
RRCC 22 19 - 41
Itasca 16 29 - 45

RRCC: Sarina Phrathep 2, Kurstyn Gordon 11, Roneisha Jordan 13, Nikeyia Jones 4, Tali Plate 2, Reggie Krickeberg 3, Alisha Brinker 6. 3-pointers: Gordon 2, Krickeberg. Free throws: 6-18. Fouls: 24. Fouled out: CaseyLynn Fulton.

GIRLS BASKETBALL

International Falls Broncos defeat Two Harbors Agates

JOURNAL STAFF REPORT

The International Falls girls basketball team recorded its 10th win of the season Saturday afternoon with a 65-51 victory at Two

Harbors.

The Broncos, who pulled out to a 35-21 lead at halftime, were led by Teagan Anderson, who scored 14 of her 19 points in the first 18 minutes and ended up with

five 3-pointers. Jena Sullivan also scored in double figures for the Falls with 13 points.

The Agates were led is scoring by senior center Lane Schraufnagel with a

game-high 21 points.

The Broncos returned to action Tuesday night with a home game against Lake of the Woods, prior to Thursday's local rivalry game at Littlefork-Big Falls.

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