

SPORTS

WOMEN’S HOCKEY

Voyageurs swept by Minot State University

RRCC 3-6-1 in ACHA games

JOURNAL STAFF REPORT

The Rainy River Community College women’s hockey team played its final two-game series before the new year and ended up losing both games at home last weekend to Minot State University by identical 4-3 scores.

“We played OK, but not well enough to win,” said RRCC head coach Evan Amdahl. “We made too many mistakes.”

On Saturday, the Voyageurs overcame a two-goal deficit to force overtime, before MSU’s Ashley Blue scored with 2:41 left in the extra session to defeat RRCC, 4-3.

After a scoreless first 17 minutes, the Beavers took a 2-0 lead before the midway point of the second period on goals from Sheyenne MacIver and MaKayla Sandvold.

Taylor Dixon got the Voyageurs on the scoreboard with 7:37 left in the second period on a power-play goal assisted by Jordan Bright.

MSU went back in front by a pair with 4:02 to play in the second period when Keysha Jansen scored assisted by Sandvold and MacIver.

RRCC then cut the Beavers’ lead to 3-2 when Taina Kaartinen scored the fifth and final goal of the second period assisted by Jacinda Parslow and Rebecca Dilley.

Voyageurs defensive player Rebekah Ford tied the game at 3-3 with 4:07 left in regulation on a goal assisted by Taylor Durocher and Rebecca Dilley.

MSU’s game-winning shot by Blue in overtime also gave the Beavers the edge in shots on goal, 27-26, as RRCC goalie Victoria Taylor and MSU’s Kayla Wakelin each made 23 saves.

MSU 4, RRCC 3

On Sunday, a turnover leading to an unassisted goal by Blue with 1:11 to play turned out to be the game-winner in the Beavers’ 4-3 victory over the Voyageurs.

Blue scored the first of

her two goals of the game less than 3 minutes into the opening period, before Sandvold scored with 11:04 left in the period to give MSU at 2-0 lead.

The Beavers extended their lead to three goals when Jody Goforth scored on the power play 31 seconds into the second period.

Durocher got RRCC on the scoreboard with 10:13 left in the second period on a power-play goal assisted by Parslow.

The Voyageurs cut the deficit to 3-2 with 11 minutes left in the final period when Dixon scored assisted by Shania Rhinehart.

RRCC called timeout after giving up the goal to Blue late in the third period and then pulled Shay Perry out of the goal to put an extra attacker on the ice. Durocher added her second goal of the game assisted by Rhinehart and Dixon with just over 20 seconds to play, but the Voyageurs were unable to add the equalizer before time expired.

Perry stopped 18 of 22 shots in a losing effort, while Wakelin made 30 saves to record another victory in the net.



STAFF PHOTO BY KEVIN BONESKE

From right, the Voyageurs’ Taylor Durocher celebrates scoring her second goal of Sunday’s game next to Minot State goalie Kayla Wakelin (1).

The Voyageurs, whose season record dropped to 3-6-1 in American Collegiate Hockey Association games and 3-9-1 overall, aren’t scheduled to play again until after the new year when they host North Dakota State University on Jan. 18-19. NDSU swept the

two-game series it hosted Nov. 23-24.

RRCC’s schedule includes only six more games, which Amdahl describes as “must wins” for the Voyageurs to be able to get a top-four ranking in the ACHA Division 2’s Western Division and qualify for the National

Tournament.

Saturday’s game

MSU 4, RRCC 3 (OT)
MSU 0 3 0 1 - 4
RRCC 0 2 1 0 - 3

Sunday’s game

MSU 4, RRCC 3
MSU 2 1 1 - 4
RRCC 0 1 2 - 3

WOMEN’S BASKETBALL

Voyageurs split first two home games

RRCC now 6-2

JOURNAL STAFF REPORT

The Rainy River Community College women’s basketball team played at home for the first time this season when the Voyageurs split a pair of games last weekend.

On Friday night, RRCC led by seven at halftime and went on to defeat Riverland, 59-44.

“I was real pleased with our game Friday – not just because we won, but we executed pretty well,” said Voyageurs head coach Dieter Humbert. “We played well defensively, especially in the second half. We shared the ball well, played pretty fundamentally strong.”

Three RRCC players scored in double figures led by Roneisha Jordan and Sarina Phratrep with 12 points apiece. All of Phratrep’s points came on 3-point baskets, while Jordan recorded a double-double by also hauling in 11 rebounds. Kurstyn Gordon added 10 points.

Riverland had two players score in double figures led by Danielle Groepper

with 12 points and Victoria Larson scoring 10 more.

The Voyageurs shot 22-68 (32.4 percent) from the field overall and 9-22 (40.9 percent) from 3-point range, while the Blue Devils went 17-58 (29.3 percent) from the field and only 2-21 (9.52 percent) behind the arc.

ANOKA-RAMSEY 68, RAINY RIVER 34

On Saturday afternoon, the Voyageurs experienced their largest loss of the season after being defeated by Anoka-Ramsey, 68-34.

RRCC saw a 15-15 tie turn into a 9-point deficit with about 7:30 left in the first half when Anoka-Ramsey made three unanswered 3-pointers, after which the game was never close again.

“We got beat by a better team,” Humbert said. “(Anoka-Ramsey is) one of the top teams in the country – a sophomore-dominated team, and they play with that kind of maturity and experience and cohesion.

“Contrarily, we played with a lack of focus, I felt, a lack of determination. We had some growing pains



STAFF PHOTO BY KEVIN BONESKE

The Voyageurs’s Roneisha Jordan (20) shoots between Riverland’s Courtney Rerrin (10) and Danielle Groepper (35) in Friday’s game in the RRCC gym.

Basketball to B3 ➤

MEN’S BASKETBALL

Voyageurs lose home openers

RRCC now 2-6

JOURNAL STAFF REPORT

The Rainy River Community College men’s basketball team played its first home games of the season last weekend, but ended up losing both of them.

On Friday night, the Voyageurs lost to Riverland, 89-73.

“It would have been nice to have a win, but the baskets were not falling,” said RRCC head coach Jack Cook. “(The Blue Devils are) a fundamentally sound team. I knew it was going to be a tough battle for us.”

Riverland shot 33-66 (50 percent) from the field overall, compared to 27-83 (32.5 percent) for the Voyageurs.

Jimson Clerveus led the Voyageurs in scoring with 24 points, followed by Miles Moore with 10.

The Blue Devils had four players score in double figures led by Andrew Lau with a game-high 30 points.

ANOKA-RAMSEY 97, RAINY RIVER 80

On Saturday afternoon, the Voyageurs fell behind by 29 points in the first

half, but then narrowed the deficit in the final 20 minutes by scoring 50 points before losing to Anoka-Ramsey, 97-80.

“(Anoka-Ramsey) really came ready to play,” Cook said. “Again, we couldn’t hit the early buckets. We had a better second half, but it wasn’t enough.”

Anoka-Ramsey shot 35-61 (57.4 percent) from the field overall and 10-20 (50 percent) from 3-point range, compared to RRCC going 28-70 (40 percent) from the field and 7-32 (21.9 percent) behind the arc.

Demetrius Murphy led five Voyageur players scoring in double figures with 18 points. Andrew Nichols added 15 points, while Deion Miley, Devin Washington and Clerveus had 10 points apiece.

Trent Pollard led six Anoka-Ramsey players in double figures with a game-high 24 points, which included five 3-pointers.

RRCC, which dropped to 2-6 on the season, plays its final games before the new year this coming weekend when the Voyageurs open the two-day Central Lakes Tourney in Brainerd on Friday.

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