

SPORTS



RRCC women's hockey

Taylor Durocher scores twice in Voyageurs' victory

B2

QUICK HITS

Christianson scores game-winner at UW-Superior

Concordia-Moorhead freshman forward Jordan Christianson of International Falls scored the game-winning goal and added an assist Saturday in the Cobbers' 3-2 road victory against the University of Wisconsin-Superior men's hockey team.



Jordan Christianson

Christianson's fourth goal of the year at 7:25 of the third period improved Concordia's season record to 3-1.

He scored the final goal of the game on the Cobbers' third shot of the final period that was assisted by Dan Hrabowych and Jordie Bancroft.

Christianson also scored a goal in Friday's 3-2 road loss against UW-River Falls.

Concordia returns to action this coming Friday and Saturday in a two-game series at Gustavus Adolphus.

Drew Fisher scores shootout game-winner vs. Chill

Tulsa Oilers forward Drew Fisher of International Falls scored the game-winning goal in Saturday's 3-2 shootout victory in Central Hockey League action at Tulsa over the St. Charles Chill.

Fisher's goal came in the sixth round of the shootout, in which another Oilers player from the Falls, Ben Gordon, made a goal in the fourth round.



Drew Fisher

Gordon recorded a goal and an assist Friday when Tulsa won at home over the Chill, 6-4.

Last weekend's two-game sweep over St. Charles improved the Oilers' season record to 4-5-2 going into Tuesday's home game against Wichita.

Plate named to MCAC North second team

Tali Plate, a setter on the Rainy River Community College women's volleyball team, has been named to the Minnesota College Athletic Conference Northern All-Division second team.

In 2013, Plate, a freshman from Deer River, had 435 set assists in 83 games for an average of 5.24 assists per game, fourth highest in the MCAC North.

The Voyageurs ended up fifth in their eight-team division at 5-9 in the MCAC North and 7-21 overall.

SPORTS SCHEDULE

Friday's games
Women's/men's basketball
RRCC at Mesabi Tourney in Virginia, TBA
Girls hockey
Silver Bay at I. Falls, 7:30 p.m.

Saturday's games
Women's/men's basketball
RRCC at Mesabi Tourney in Virginia, TBA

Tuesday's games
Girls swimming
I. Falls in State Class A preliminaries at U of M, noon
Girls hockey
Park Rapids Area at I. Falls, 7:30 p.m.

GIRLS SWIMMING AND DIVING

Broncos send relay, two individuals to state

JOURNAL STAFF REPORT

For the first time since 2005, members of the International Falls girls swimming and diving team have qualified for the state meet.

In Saturday's Section 7A finals at the Lincoln Park pool in Duluth, the Broncos finished in the top two in a relay and two individual events to earn a trip to next week's State Class A Meet at the University of Minnesota's Aquatic Center in Minneapolis.

"The girls had a great weekend," said Falls head coach Jill Herzig, who also noted the team members believed they could qualify for state after breaking three school records in Thursday's Section preliminaries when they debuted new swimsuits for less resistance in the water and faster times.

"The suits were a great addition," Herzig said.

Sara Lindberg had been the last Bronco girls swimmer to qualify for state when she placed second at the 2005 Section meet in the 100-yard breaststroke. The last relay team to qualify for state was the 200 medley relay team in 1981 comprised of Val Beach, Janis Gust, Brenda Roche and Julie Larson.

In Saturday's Section finals, Falls' 200 medley relay team of freshman Emily Saari, sophomore



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

The International Falls girls swimming and diving team medalists at Saturday's Section 7A Meet include, from left, front row, Tayler Hebner, Emma Misner, Claire Herzig, Courtney Klow, Jessie Hell. Back row, Blair Johnson, Breanna Shofner, Emily Saari, Abby Kostiuk. Johnson, Shofner, Saari and Kostiuk qualified for the Class A State Meet in the 200-yard medley relay, while Saari is an individual state qualifier in the 100 breaststroke and Kostiuk qualified for state in the 100 backstroke.

Abby Kostiuk and seniors Breanna Shofner and Blair Johnson broke the FHS record in that event for the second time in three days and also set a pool record when they placed first in 1 minute, 56.57 seconds, 58 hundredths of a second ahead of Grand Rapids' runner-up time.

Herzig said beating Grand Rapids in the fi-

nals to start the meet boosted the team's confidence.

Kostiuk and Saari also ended up as individual state qualifiers.

In the 100 backstroke, Kostiuk, who set the school record in Thursday's preliminaries in 1:04.09, placed first in the finals in 1:04.26, 1.49 seconds ahead of the runner-up, Mesabi East eighth-

grader Isabelle Kalb. Broncos senior Courtney Klow finished fourth in 1:09.14.

In the 100 breaststroke, Saari broke the school record for the second time in three days by placing second in the finals in 1:12.28, 1.61 seconds behind the winning time of Mesabi East junior Hailee Jofs. Falls freshman Claire Herzig added

an eighth-place finish in 1:18.3.

The Broncos advanced to the Section finals in eight of 11 swimming events by finishing in the top eight during the preliminary heats and also had two divers make the finals for the opportunity to qualify for state.

Shofner picked up a

Swimming to B2 ►

WOMEN'S BASKETBALL PREVIEW

Voyageurs seek to build success with new players

BY KEVIN BONESKE
Sports Editor

Only two players return from last season's Rainy River Community College women's basketball team that went 20-8 overall, placed runner-up in the Minnesota College Athletic Conference's Northern Division and just missed out on advancing to the NJCAA Division III National Tournament after losing the Region 13B title game in double overtime to nationally-ranked Northland.

Dieter Humbert enters his 22nd season as RRCC's head coach with the key losses from last season including post player Teaira Martin, forward Mariah Childs and guards Naila Kai Washington and Jessica and Joscelynn Alvarez.

Martin and Washington were named to the MCAC North's and All-State first team, while Childs was an honorable mention All-Northern Division selection.

Washington, a 5-9 guard from Charlottesville, Va., ranked second among Northern Division players during the regular season in free-throw shooting percentage (80.7), making 96 of 119 attempts, and rebounds per game (10.6). Her scoring average of 15.4 points per game was third-highest in the division.

Martin, a 5-8 center from Milwaukee, had the divi-



STAFF PHOTO BY KEVIN BONESKE

From left, Roneisha Jordan looks to inbound the ball around Voyageurs head coach Dieter Humbert during a practice last week in the RRCC gym.

sion's highest rebounding average (10.9) and was second in field-goal percentage (52.2), making 118 of 226 attempts.

Childs, a 5-8 forward from Chicago, led the division in steals per game (3.9). She was also third in rebounds per game (10.5) and fourth in points per game (15.2).

The Voyageurs return a pair of forwards from last season - team captains CaseyLynn Fulton

from St. Cloud and Alisha Brinker from Holdingford. Fulton averaged 4 points per game and 2 rebounds per game, while Brinker averaged 5 points per game and 3 rebounds per game last season.

Though the 2013-14 team has only nine players on the roster with seven newcomers this season, Brinker and Fulton said RRCC has what it takes to return

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MEN'S BASKETBALL PREVIEW



STAFF PHOTO BY KEVIN BONESKE

From left, Will Anderson dribbles past Deion Miley during a practice last week in the RRCC gym.

Voyageurs seek top four in MCAC North

BY KEVIN BONESKE
Sports Editor

Only one player returns from last season's Rainy River Community College men's basketball team that went 7-16 overall and 6-8 in the Minnesota College Athletic Conference's Northern Division, where the Voyageurs placed fifth and missed out on advancing to the Region tournament.

Jack Cook enters his third season as RRCC's head coach with the key losses from last season including Jeff Romeus, an MCAC North All-Division selection who was named the division's "Player of the

Week" five times.

Romeus, a 6-2 guard from Coconut Creek, Fla., led the MCAC North in points per game (19.6) and free-throw percentage (77.2), making 95 of 123 attempts. He also ranked fifth in steals per game (2.2).

He used his sophomore year of eligibility last season and has moved on to a four-year college to play at Valley City State University.

Also gone is another MCAC North All-Division selection, Josh Pierre. A 6-8 post player from Coral Springs, Fla., Pierre ranked fourth in the divi-

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