

SPORTS

WOMEN’S SOFTBALL

Voyageurs sweep Itasca, Central Lakes Raiders

JOURNAL STAFF REPORT

The Rainy River Community College softball team won all four Minnesota College Athletic Conference Northern Division games the Voyageurs played last weekend.

On Saturday, RRCC traveled to Grand Rapids and swept a doubleheader against Itasca.

In game one, the Voyageurs defeated Itasca, 10-2, in six innings.

Oashaja Dobie pitched the entire game to record the victory, allowing two unearned runs on three hits with three walks while striking out 11.

Two of RRCC’s nine hits were home runs with Lynsi Emery and Rachel Clark each hitting a round-tripper with 2 RBI and two runs scored. Alexis Fancy added two singles with 3 RBI and a run scored, while Courtney Branham singled and doubled with three runs scored.

RRCC 8, ITASCA 0

In game two, the Voyageurs shut out Itasca, 8-0, in six innings.

Dobie scattered two hits with three walks and a hit batter while striking out 11 to record the shutout pitching victory.

All six of RRCC’s hits

were singles coming from six different players. Rebecca Dilley and Fancy both singled with 2 RBI apiece. Alisha Brinker, who was walked twice, had 3 RBI.

RRCC 10, CENTRAL LAKES 4

For the first time in two seasons, the Voyageurs played on their home field behind the college and swept a doubleheader in Sunday’s cold and windy weather against Central Lakes.

“(In 2013) we never got it dried out in time, so we never did get to play or practice on our home field last year with the new dugouts and new fencing,” said RRCC head coach Dieter Humbert. “It’s exciting to get out there. Obviously, temperature wise, it could be more comfortable, but I was proud of the way the girls played through it.”

In game one, the Voyageurs defeated Central Lakes, 10-4.

Beth Austad recorded the complete-game pitching victory for RRCC, allowing all four runs, two earned, on six hits with three walks while striking out seven over seven innings.

“I’m particularly proud of Beth Austad,” Humbert said. “She’s always

prepared, always working hard. I haven’t gotten her as many innings as I’d like, and I’m sure she would like more, but she’s always had a great attitude, and when we needed her (Sunday), she stepped in there and pitched a gem of a game in the first game and got us a big win.”

Of the Voyageurs’ 12 hits, Sam Cantu had four of them with three singles and a double and 3 RBI. Emery and Clark each added a double.

“I think the key was just hitting – timing the pitcher and getting on it,” said Clark, who noted RRCC’s hitters hadn’t been accustomed to the slower speed of pitching they faced against Central Lakes. “In the first game (and) first half of the second game we were having trouble with timing the pitcher, and once we got it, we were on.”

RRCC 14, CENTRAL LAKES 6

In game two, RRCC defeated Central Lakes, 14-6, in five innings.

Dobie pitched all five innings to record the victory, allowing six unearned runs on two hits with four four walks while striking out nine.

In the field, the Voyageurs committed six errors.



STAFF PHOTO BY KEVIN BONESKE

In front at left, the Voyageurs’ Charley Garmaker collides with Central Lakes’ first baseman as the ball gets away in Sunday’s doubleheader behind Rainy River Community College.

Of RRCC’s 11 hits, Fancy had two singles and a double with 3 RBI and three runs scored. Cantu singled

and doubled with 5 RBI, while Clark also singled and doubled with four runs scored. Charley Garmaker

added two singles with 2 RBI and two runs scored. Brinker singled with 3 RBI and two runs scored.

WOMEN’S SOFTBALL

Voyageurs split with Mesabi Range, tie for 1st

RRCC 12-2 in MCAC North

JOURNAL STAFF REPORT

The Rainy River Community College women’s softball team has ended its Minnesota College Athletic Conference Northern Division regular season schedule tied for first with Mesabi Range after the two teams split a doubleheader Monday afternoon amid the cold and windy weather on RRCC’s home field.

The Voyageurs won game one, 5-2.

“We played really well in the first game,” said RRCC head coach Dieter Humbert. “Oashaja (Dobie) pitched a fantastic game.”

Dobie, who had a no-hitter going into the seventh inning, allowed two unearned runs on two hits with two walks while striking out seven to record the complete-game pitching victory.

The Voyageurs were led at the plate by Alexis Fancy, who batted 2-3 with a home run and 2 RBI. Lynsi Emery added a double with an RBI.

MESABI RANGE 5, RRCC 4

The Voyageurs had an op-



STAFF PHOTO BY KEVIN BONESKE

From left, Voyageurs catcher Marina Johnson tags out Mesabi Range’s Vicky Fossland (15) at home plate in the second game of Monday’s doubleheader behind Rainy River Community College.

portunity to win the MCAC North regular season title outright with a doubleheader sweep, but Mesabi Range ended up winning game two in nine innings, 5-4.

Elizabeth Anderson pitched in relief to record the extra-inning win for the Lady Norse.

RRCC had an opportunity to score a lead run in extra innings on an infield ground ball with runners on second

and third and less than two outs, but an interference call with a runner colliding with the shortstop added an out with the lead runner having to stay at third and then being stranded there.

“We had some opportunities to rally for the win there, but we just couldn’t get the big hit when we needed it,” Humbert said. “A tough interference call there. It was the right call. It was just at a bad

time. That would have scored the potentially winning run.”

Mesabi Range put the winning run on base with one out in the bottom of the ninth when Shaina Novak reached first on a pop fly that landed safely in the infield amid a collision of Voyageur players. Novak then reached home on a walk-off double by Vicky Fossland.

Dobie pitched 8 1/3 innings in recording the loss, allowing all five runs, three earned, on seven hits with seven walks while striking out 13.

At the plate for RRCC, Andrea Barylski, batted 3-4, Fancy hit 3-5 with a double and Rachel Clark went 2-5 with a double and 2 RBI.

The Voyageurs, whose season record stands at 22-6 overall and 12-2 in the MCAC North, could face having a playoff game against Mesabi Range to determine the outright league title and which team will host the region tournament, if the Lady Norse end up sweeping Central Lakes in today’s scheduled doubleheader.

RRCC is next scheduled to return to action at home this afternoon in a non-conference doubleheader against Northland.

HOF

➤ continued from B1

Minnesota under a full athletic scholarship in hockey and played on the U.S. National Team.

He also played semi-pro hockey for the Rochester Mustangs.

The Minnesota Hockey Hall ranked Mahle in 2011 as the 79th greatest player in the state’s high school history.

1954 FOOTBALL TEAM

Jim Glowack, who played quarterback and in the defensive secondary for the 1954 Bronco football team that went 8-0 that year, was voted the state champions and also won the Iron Range Conference title, spoke on behalf of the team.

“(International Falls) was a great place to be raised in,” he said. “The fans were there. That stadium was full every game. It was just a pleasure to play for you people.”

Glowack said he appreciated that the team was selected for the Hall of Fame last fall in the 100th season of Bronco football.

“It doesn’t get any better than that,” he said.

The team’s head coach, Frank “Butch” Larson, and two players, Bronko K. Nagurski and Jim Crotty,

were previously inducted into the Bronco Athletic Hall of Fame.

In addition to Nagurski and Crotty playing pro football, Glowack noted that nine of the 1954 team’s starting 11 also played college football.

More than a dozen of the surviving players were on hand for the banquet, along with several representatives of those who have passed away.

Going into the 1954 season, the team had won the final six games the previous year. The Broncos then had perfect 8-0 records two years in a row with the 1955 team also winning the IRC championship.

While all of the 1954 team’s victories were by 20 or more points with the closest game being a 33-13 win over Grand Rapids, the team the Broncos scored the fewest points against, Glowack noted the Grand Rapids game was the only one that season in which the starters were still playing into the fourth quarter.

To motivate the team in the dressing room at half-time of the Grand Rapids game, Glowack noted the head coach told them, “OK girls, let’s go play football.”

“We stormed out of that room and onto the field and played like we were possessed,” Glowack said.

PULL TABS

PULL TABS AVAILABLE • PULL TABS AVAILABLE •

PULL TABS

PLAY PULL TABS • PLAY PULL TABS •

VFW Post

Members & Guests

Friday & Saturday

May 2 & 3

Karaoke

with

Larry Stringer

RENT OUR BANQUET ROOM FOR A GREAT RATE!

Last Sunday Bingo May 4th

\$750 and 54#’s

Tues. Bingo Starts May 6th at 7pm

Now Play

Electronic Pull tabs & Bingo!

Reg. games still available

Mon. 6:30 pm - Whist

Wed. 6:30 pm - Gin

Sat. 2:00 pm - Cribbage

Play Pull Tabs • VFW 2948 Gambling Lic. #A-00071

Mon. 6:30 pm - Whist

Wed. 6:30 pm - Gin

Sat. 2:00 pm - Cribbage

PLAY PULL TABS • PLAY PULL TABS •

PULL TABS AVAILABLE • PULL TABS AVAILABLE •

PULL TABS

For All Your Propane Needs

Remember...

Northern Star

Cooperative Services

Appliance Service and Repair

Whether you are installing a new appliance or need service on your existing equipment, our trained and certified staff can meet your needs. Give them a call for information on our appliance service programs.

Call us for Prompt and dependable delivery

PROANE

EXCEPTIONAL ENERGY®

Littlefork, MN 218-278-6682

DON'T MISS THIS PUBLIC SESSION TO HEAR A LOCAL TOURISM ASSESSMENT of the Gateway Communities to VNP

Presented by John Bennett 6 - 7:30 pm

UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA, COMMUNITY ECONOMICS

6-8 p.m. Tuesday, May 6

Lenard's at AmericInn

\$10 Inclusive Dinner Buffet

RSVP: 283-9400

Also: NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC 7:30p.m. Heart of the Continent Website Initiation

Guidance on nominating your business or organization for the site that draws visitors from around the world.

Presented by Joe Mershon and Eric Johnson

EVENING FEATURES:

Discover Opportunities to Increase Tourism

Get Visible at a Global Level

Dinner \$10 ~ Cash Bar Available

International Falls Chamber

283-9400