

SPORTS

MEN’S BASKETBALL

Voyageurs lose twice at Central Lakes Tournament

RRCC now 2-8

JOURNAL STAFF REPORT

The Rainy River Community College men’s basketball team enters the holiday break 2-8 after losing both games at last weekend’s Central Lakes Tourney in Brainerd.

On Friday, the Voyageurs were tied at halftime, but ended up losing to Minnesota State Community and

Technical College-Fergus Falls, 99-91.

The Spartans outshot RRCC from the field overall, 37-80 (46.3 percent) to 34-83 (41 percent), and they also had a 55-41 advantage in total rebounds.

Fergus Falls’ Ja’Vonte Johnson scored a game-high 32 points. Thomas Ford added 16 points and J.J. Morris scored 13 more for the Spartans.

The Voyageurs had five players score in double fig-

ures led by Demetrius Murphy and James Sauser Denesia with 19 points apiece. Jimson Clerveus added 12 points, while Fedner Fleurant and Harold Jenkins each scored 10 more.

**RIDGEWATER 89, RRCC 82**

On Saturday, the Voyageurs were unable overcome a 7-point halftime deficit and lost to Ridgewater, 89-82.

Ridgewater more than doubled RRCC’s points

from the charity stripe, shooting 21-31 (57.7 percent) compared to 10-16 (62.5 percent), and also had a 61-36 advantage in rebounding.

Six Ridgewater players scored in double figures led by Kiree Robinson with 19 points.

The Voyageurs were led in scoring by Devin Washington with a game-high 27 points, followed by Clerveus with 15 and Andrew Nichols with 10.

RRCC isn’t scheduled

to play again until Jan. 3 when the Voyageurs open the two-day Northland Tourney in Thief River Falls.

**Friday’s game**  
**Fergus Falls 99, Rainy River 91**  
**Rainy River 47 44 – 91**  
**Fergus Falls 47 52 – 99**  
**Rainy River:** Fedner Fleurant 10, Jimson Clerveus 12, Devin Washington 7, Harold Jenkins 10, Deion Miley 2, Andrew Nichols 6, James Sauser Denesia 19, Demetrius Murphy 19, Devante Miley 6. 3-pointers: Sau-

ser Denesia 4, Murphy 3, Clerveus, Nichols. Free throws: 14-21. Fouls: 22. Fouled out: Murphy.

**Saturday’s game**  
**Ridgewater 89, Rainy River 82**  
**Ridgewater 45 44 – 89**  
**Rainy River 38 44 – 82**  
**Rainy River:** Fedner Fleurant 8, Jimson Clerveus 15, Devin Washington 27, Harold Jenkins 6, Deion Miley 5, Myron Harris 3, Andrew Nichols 10, James Sauser Denesia 2, Demetrius Murphy 3, Devante Miley 3. 3-pointers: Nichols 2, Clerveus, Deion Miley, Murphy, Devante Miley. Free throws: 10-16. Fouls: 24.

WOMEN’S BASKETBALL

Voyageurs fall to Fergus Falls, Ridgewater

RRCC drops to 6-4 for 2013-14

JOURNAL STAFF REPORT

The Rainy River Community College women’s basketball team headed to Brainerd last weekend for the Central Lakes Tourney and came back with a pair of losses.

“A disappointing weekend,” said RRCC head coach Dieter Humbert. “There’s no other way to put it.”

In Friday’s opening game, the Voyageurs trailed by five at halftime before falling to Minnesota State Community and Technical College-Fergus Falls, 71-65.

“They shot better than we did,” said Humbert, who noted RRCC expected to beat Fergus Falls, which had lost to the Voyageurs earlier this month.

Fergus Falls shot 25-62 (40.3 percent) from the field overall, compared to 28-84 (33.3 percent) for the Voyageurs.

Maria Johnson led the Spartans in scoring with a game-high 22 points. Two Fergus Falls players recorded a double-double with Samantha Zastrow having 16 points and 11 rebounds and Cheyanne O’Neal adding 15 points and 12 rebounds.

RRCC had two players record a double-double as Roneisha Jordan had 19 points and 14 rebounds, while CaseyLynn Fulton scored 14 points and hauled in 10 rebounds for the Voyageurs.



Roneisha Jordan

**RIDGEWATER 73, RRCC 52**

The Voyageurs could only muster 16 first-half points Saturday when they lost to Ridgewater, 73-52.

While Ridgewater had a more balanced offense with three players scoring in double figures led by Courtney Kramer with a game-high 23 points, Humbert noted RRCC depended on two players for most of its scoring as Jordan led the team with 22 points and Ebony Joseph added 16 points.

Jordan and Joseph each recorded a double-double by also hauling in 16 and 13 rebounds, respectively.

Ridgewater outshot the Voyageurs from the field, 25-67 (37.3 percent) to 18-72 (25 percent).

RRCC played without Kurstyn Gordon, who was injured in Friday’s game against Fergus Falls.

The Voyageurs, whose season record dropped to 6-4, don’t play again until Jan. 3 when they open the two-day Northland Tourney at Thief River Falls.

**Friday’s game**  
**Fergus Falls 71, Rainy River 71**  
**Rainy River 27 38 – 65**  
**Fergus Falls 32 39 – 71**  
**Rainy River:** Sarina Phratrep 5, Ebony Joseph 8, Kurstyn Gordon 9, Roneisha Jordan 19, Tali Plate 2, CaseyLynn Fulton 14, Alisha Brinker 8. 3-pointers: Fulton 2. Free throws: 7-16. Fouls: 23. Fouled out: Fulton, Brinker.

**Saturday’s game**  
**Ridgewater 73, Rainy River 52**  
**Ridgewater 34 39 – 73**  
**Rainy River 16 36 – 52**  
**Rainy River:** Sarina Phratrep 2, Ebony Joseph 16, Roneisha Jordan 22, Tali Plate 2, Reggie Krickeberg 5, Alisha Brinker 5. 3-pointers: Krickeberg. Free throws: 15-25. Fouls: 24. Fouled out: Phratrep, CaseyLynn Fulton, Brinker.

Extra security planned for final Metrodome game

MINNEAPOLIS (AP) — The Minnesota Vikings plan extra security for their final game at the Metrodome next weekend to avoid a repeat of the near-riot that broke out 32 years ago when the team played its final game at the old Metropolitan Stadium in Bloomington.

After the Kansas City Chiefs beat the Vikings 10-6 on Dec. 20, 1981, fans swarmed the field at the Met to grab anything they could. They tore down the goal posts, the loudspeakers in the end zone and pieces of the scoreboard. Nine people

were arrested.

Officials say they’re determined it won’t happen again. They held a security summit at the Metrodome on Wednesday.

“There will obviously be a great deal of attention for inside security, just monitoring so that fans can celebrate, but do so safely and responsibly,” said Medaria Arradondo, the police inspector in charge of the First Precinct in downtown Minneapolis.

Nearly twice the number of Minneapolis police will be on hand when the Vikings

play the Detroit Lions in the Metrodome finale Dec. 29 as compared with a typical game. Extra personnel from Whelan Security, the company that provides private security for the Vikings, will also be on hand, Minnesota Public Radio News reported.

“All told, we’re looking at close to 700 security representatives within the building,” Vikings spokesman Jeff Anderson said. “We don’t expect any issues, but we want this to be a memorable game for our fans, and we want to do it in a safe and respectful way.”

Fans won’t be allowed to take any parts of the stadium with them.

“Nobody’s leaving with anything,” said Minnesota Sports Facilities Authority Chair Michele Kelm-Helgen. “We’re putting that rule in place, and we’re going to stick to it from the beginning of the game to the end.”

Kelm-Helgen said the NFL’s new bag policy will help.

“People won’t be able to bring any kind of tools or anything that will allow them to unhook things,” she said.

TEXAS BOWL PREVIEW

Gophers seek second nine-win season in 108 years

(AP) — If Minnesota has bitter memories of last year’s Texas Bowl that ended hopes of a winning season, it will have a chance for redemption in the very same game.

Syracuse, meanwhile, has an opportunity to show the Golden Gophers that it is a much-improved team than the one which lost to them a season ago.

before their first season in the Atlantic Coast Conference.

That’s why last season’s meeting in which Minnesota won 17-10 at home Sept. 22 figures to have little impact in this game. Neither quarterback that started that contest is back.



Jerry Kill

Both teams are known for solid rushing attacks as they get ready for their matchup Friday in the Texas Bowl in Houston.

Minnesota (8-4) finished last season at 6-7 with a 34-31 loss to Texas Tech in this bowl, blowing a seven-point lead in the final 1:10.

“We enjoyed our experience last year and wish we could have come away with a victory,” coach Jerry Kill said. “I know our players, especially the 12 from Texas, welcome the opportunity to represent the University of Minnesota in a state that has great football tradition.”

The Golden Gophers are seeking their second nine-win season in 108 years, and reaching that milestone has created plenty of incentive.

“We have a great opportunity to compete and continue to make history as a team,” Kill said. “Nine games, winning nine games is important to us, winning a bowl game is important to us.”

Syracuse (6-6) endured an uneven first season under new coach Scott Shafer. The Orange lost both coach Doug Marrone and quarterback Ryan Nassib to the NFL

Another difference is that the Golden Gophers didn’t have running back David Cobb in that one. Cobb was sixth in the Big Ten with 1,111 rushing yards along with seven touchdowns in 2013.

“They’ve got a doggone good running back in Cobb,” Shafer told Syracuse’s official website. “He can run the football and he runs it well because they block it well up front. They’re a sound, tough team. They’re going to be a team that doesn’t shoot themselves in the foot.”

Cobb is one of the Texas natives who expects plenty of support from the crowd.

“It’s a great opportunity for us to go back to Texas and for me to play in front of the home crowd and make a good impression and for our team to get nine wins,” he said.

Shafer’s presence also adds an intriguing twist since he was the defensive coordinator at Northern Illinois from 2000-03 when Kill was at the other end of the state coaching Southern Illinois. Kill later became coach at Northern after Shafer moved on.

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