

Women's basketball team falls short in Friday action

First-place Algonquin defeats Lancers 81-41

By Andrzej Terrence

Algonquin Thunder dominated the Loyalist Lancers in women's basketball on Friday at Loyalist College, winning 81-41.

In the first quarter, the Thunder players were one step ahead of the Lancers at every turn.

"I felt like we had a strong start in the first quarter. We were playing Algonquin, which is the best team in the league, and we did what we could with a majority rookie team," explained Lancers' player Leticia Lopez.

Algonquin doubled the Lancers' score by the second half of the first quarter, with the score hitting 13-6.

'There is no other team in the OCAA that can match the Algonquin Thunder. They have won provincials in the last three years and they have ranked second in nationals.'

Lancers men's player Muller Kalala

The Lancers made a come back to end the first quarter at 17-12 for the Thunder.

Algonquin pushed back within the first three minutes of the second quarter, gaining 10 more points to 27-12.

"There is no other team in the OCAA that can match the Algonquin Thunder. They have won provincials in the last three years and they have ranked second in nationals," said Loyalist Lancers men's team player Muller Kalala during the women's half-time break.

By then the Thunder maintained a one to two point ratio.

The Lancers were noticeably tired at this stage in the game while the Thunder still had lots of electricity.

The score at the end of the third quarter was a powerful lead by 60-28 for Algonquin.

The Lancers began with a good start in the fourth and final quarter.

A two-point shot by Mikayla Brennan gave them 30 points to Algonquin's 60.

However, the Thunder returned stronger than ever, raising their score by five points with two lay-ups and one free throw.

The Lancers snuck in a lay-up but were quickly diminished by another three-pointer goal by the Thunder's



Photo by James Paddle-Grant

Loyalist Lancers guard Karlie Fairs drives the net with Algonquin's Nyaguande Gathoth playing tight defence. Despite a strong effort by the Lancers, the Thunder were far too strong resulting in an 81-41 Lancers loss.

Lindsay Whittaker.

"Although our shots didn't fall early, I encouraged the team to keep shooting and that ended up paying off as Lindsay Whittaker had 28 points from the perimeter," explained head coach of the Thunder's Laura Bond.

Loyalist's Karlie Fairs, then added six points, making it 70-38.

Loyalist scored one more lay up and one free throw after that, while Algonquin powered up to make a series of foul shots and three-pointers to win the game.

"For us, good defense leads to good offence," commented Bond through an email.

Thunder ranks first in the east division with nine wins and one loss.

The Loyalist Lancers are fifth and have five wins and five losses.

Men's team has successful weekend

By Andrzej Terrence

Loyalist Lancers defeated Algonquin Thunder 82-69 in game action Friday.

"I know they are a very well coached team and I respect their game," said Muller Kalala of the Loyalist Lancers, before the game.

Kalala scored first, but the Thunder doubled back and scored two more baskets.

The first quarter of the game was very tight with Loyalist leading by two points for the first five minutes, with a score of 10-8.

After a free throw, the Lancers jumped ahead to 12-8 and continued to press their offensive.

In the first quarter, the Lancers scored two three-point shot while the Thunders scored none.

At three minutes left in the first quarter the score was 15-10. As a result of great defense by the Lancers, the quarter ended at 23-14.

With great confidence after the first quarter, Loyalist continued to score.

Before Algonquin reached 20 points, Loyalist had nearly doubled to 35 points.

By the end of the second quarter, the head coach of the Algonquin Thunder, Trevor Costello became very aggressive with a call referees were making.

The score at half time was 39-21 for the Lancers, who were just getting started.

At this point in the game, the fans were getting quite rowdy with the prospect of their home team winning.

At the start of the third quarter, the Lancers were making two advances for every one of the Thunder.

By the end of the third quarter, the scoreboard came to life for the Lancers, who were leading 56-39.

At the start of the fourth quarter, Steven Bailey scored another three-point shot.

With the confidence experienced through the success of the last three quarters by the Lancers, they started using increasingly risky plays that got the home team fans going.

By the end of the game, Lancers scored seven three-point baskets, compared to the Thunder's two.

At this point, both teams seemed exhausted and the energy of the game began to diminish although the energy of both teams' coaches increased.

Lancers scored a free shot due to misconduct by the head coach of the Algonquin Thunders, Trevor Costello, making the score 72-58.

The final baskets unfolded with a final three-point shot by the Algonquin Thunder, leaving the final score of 82-69.

"They played well and we played horribly," commented Jim Langis, assistant coach of the Algonquin Thunder at the end of the game.

Following Friday's action, the Loyalist men's basketball team was sitting at eight wins and five losses while the Algonquin Thunder were at six wins and six losses.

Overall it was a good game played by both teams.

The team also played well in a gripping home game against Ottawa's La Cité College on Saturday Jan. 17. With a 95-74 win, the Lancers had an impressive 22 assists with Jordan Marlowe achieving eight of them.

With a three-game winning streak, and another phenomenal win Friday, it seems the Lancers have found their rhythm this season.

Bulls fall short against Niagara Ice Dogs

Hockey team gains four points in weekend action

By James Paddle-Grant

Sunday night concluded a big weekend of hockey for the Belleville Bulls as they won one of three games and recorded four of a possible six points.

Sunday afternoon's game was nail-biting as the Bulls fell just short to the Niagara Ice Dogs in a 4-3 shootout loss on home ice.

The Ice Dogs opened the scoring with a shorthanded goal by Carter Verhaeghe from the slot. The Bulls answered midway through the period with a goal by Justin Lemcke, but the Ice Dogs reacted quickly as they scored two goals shortly before the end of the period.

The Bulls began to put on the pressure as Justin Lemcke scored his second goal of the night from the top of the circle. The Bulls' newly-acquired forward, Trent Fox, and Michael Cramarossa assisted.

Moments after the Bulls' goal, frustrated Ice Dog defender Anthony DiFruscia received a double-minor roughing penalty for sending several punches Brett Gustavsen's way after the whistle.

Later in the period Stephen Harper tied the game up with a wrist shot from the slot with just over a minute to go in the second period.

Despite lots of offensive chances, neither team could put themselves on top as the game went into overtime.



Photo by Joel Watson

Niagara Ice Dogs goalie, Stephen Dhillon denies Belleville Bulls defenceman Jordan Subban, in the third and final round of the shootout. The Bulls lost the Game 4-3.

As Niagara's Billy Jenkins received a slashing penalty with only seven seconds on the clock, his team was able to sweep the puck into the corner, ultimately running the clock. At the end of overtime, neither team could score, bringing the game to a shootout.

After the first two shooters for each team failed to score, Billy Jenkins of the Niagara Ice Dogs put a backhand past the Bulls' Charlie Graham, putting the

pressure on Jordan Subban to score to keep his team alive. Subban was stopped by the left pad of Stephen Dhillon, resulting in a 4-3 shootout Ice Dogs victory over the Bulls.

Belleville Bulls assistant coach Jason Supryka said although they had a bad first period, they couldn't have really asked for much more than they received that weekend.

Beginning the weekend with a 5-3

road win over the Mississauga Steelheads, the Bulls were off to a great start.

Supryka mentioned that the team received four of a possible six points and that he was impressed with the team taking the Ice Dogs as well as the league-leading Oshawa Generals to overtime.

Supryka added Harper was a key player in Sunday afternoon's game. Though he had lost both his linemates

due to injuries, Harper managed to play like a veteran, making strong moves to get toward the net to score.

Trent Fox, one of two rookie players sent to the Bulls in a recent trade, had found himself struggling at first with his new team. This weekend Fox found his place, receiving his first three points with the Bulls, including two assists in Sunday night's shootout loss.

"So far it's been good. The start was hard but I'm getting used to the big ice and all the guys in the room, so it's starting to get better," said Fox.

When asked about the transition from one team to another, Fox noted, "I play a lot more but my game stays the same defensively and when offence comes. I'm a two-way guy, and do the little things right."

Justin Lemcke, a second-year veteran for the Bulls, had good things to say about the new teammates.

"It's good. I mean, they're two young guys coming in. They're both 17-year-olds who are going to develop into good players. It's definitely a good move for the future and a good move for now. I think they've both been playing very well since they've gotten here," said Lemcke.

After the shootout loss, the Bulls' record changed to 19-18-3-3 leaving them in fifth place of the eastern conference with Niagara trailing the Bulls by four points.

The Bulls' have a big weekend of hockey ahead of them as they travel to Ottawa to take on the 67's followed by two back to back home games on Saturday and Sunday against the London Knights and Peterborough Petes.