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(S.D.)- BHSU Hoops Squads Hit The Road

By: Jeremy Anderson Posted at: 02/13/2014 09:45 AM



(Golden, CO)- The Black Hills State University men and women's basketball teams will be on the road this weekend as they make their final playoff push heading into the final five games of the season beginning with Colorado School of Mines on Friday night in Golden, Colo., followed by a trip to Lakewood, Colo. on Saturday night to face Colorado Christian University.

WOMEN

The Yellow Jacket women (11-10, 10-7 RMAC) currently sit in 5th-place in the Rocky Mountain Athletic Conference standings as they fight to remain in the top-8 in the conference in order to secure a playoff berth at season's end.

Their first game of the weekend will come against the conference's 11th-place team in the Colorado School of Mines (7-14, 6-11 RMAC) on Friday, Feb. 14, at 6 p.m. The following night, the Jackets will face a tougher test versus the RMAC's 7th-place team in Colorado Christian University (11-10, 9-8 RMAC) on Saturday at 5 p.m.

In their first match-up versus CSM on Dec. 15, the Jackets took the win by 20 points, 73-53, and they beat CCU the night before on Dec. 14, 66-54.

With their last victory of Western State last weekend, the Jackets snapped a 5-game losing streak, as they will look to carry over the momentum gained from that convincing 66-40 victory into this coming weekend.

In order to do so, BHSU will surely look to junior guard, [Chelsey Biegler](#), to set the pace on both ends of the court. Biegler has averaged 20.8 points per game over the last four games, which was highlighted by a career-best 40-point performance in a 81-75 victory at Regis on Jan. 31. In the last four games, she has shot 50-percent from the field (25-50 FG) and has gone 11-of-25 on 3-pointers

– good for 44-percent shooting in that stretch to go with 11 rebounds and seven steals.

As a team, the Jackets are now scoring an average of 70.5 points per game, while CSM is averaging 61.7 ppg and CCU is averaging 71.2 points per game. CSM will provide a good challenge for the Jackets as CSM owns the conference's fifth-best scoring defense that gives up just 64.8 points per game. Defensively, CCU gives up almost 70 points per game.

CSM is led by leading scorer Courtney Gallo who averages nearly 12 ppg along with Allie Grazulis who is her team's second leading scorer averaging 10.9 ppg. CCU will be lead by Jessica Murdoch who is in the top-10 in the RMAC while scoring 15.4 ppg, just edging the Jackets' Biegler who comes in averaging 15.3 ppg on the season.

MEN

The BHSU men's basketball team is currently on the outside looking in on the RMAC playoff picture while sitting 11th-overall out of 14 teams in the conference with a record of 9-12 overall and 7-10 in the RMAC.

Like the women, the men will need to find a way to get into the top-8 in the standings in order to make the 2013-14 conference playoffs. The Jackets do have a great opportunity to gain ground this weekend versus No. 13 CSM and CCU – who both are in the top-8 overall as they try to improve their 2-7 record on the road.

CSM is 2nd-overall in the conference with a record of 18-3 overall and 14-3 in the conference. In their first game back in December, the Jackets lost to CSM in a close game, 78-69, which came a night after a Dec. 14 double-overtime loss to CCU, 105-101.

CSM's last defeat came last weekend to now No. 1 Metro State, as they now are 7-3 in their last 10 games. CCU meanwhile is 4-6 in their last 10 games and has an overall record of 11-10 and is 9-8 in the RMAC.

BHSU senior, Tommy Earl, continues to lead the Jackets in scoring and is remains in the top 10 in the RMAC in scoring, averaging 16.2 points per game to go with 4.2 rebounds per game. One of the more balanced players leading the rebound attack for the Jackets has been senior, Cameron Anderson, who comes into the weekend averaging 7.2 points and an RMAC fifth-best, 6.8 rebounds per game.

The Yellow Jackets sit 10th-overall in the conference in scoring, averaging 76.4 ppg, while giving up 76.4 ppg defensively – good for third in the conference. CSM is fourth in scoring 86.3 ppg, while surrendering just 66.7 ppg on the defensive end. CCU is averaging 88.5 ppg and gives up an average of 84.6 ppg.

CSM is led by Brian Muller who scores 14 points per game along with Luke Meisch, who comes in

averaging 13.8 ppg and seven rebounds per game. CCU meanwhile has the RMAC's fourth-leading scorer in Kyle Weaver, who averages 19.1 ppg.

Friday's game for the men will tip-off at 8 p.m., as Saturday's game at CCU is scheduled for 7 p.m.