MVC BASKETBALL SPLIT DOUBLEHEADER WITH WILLIAM WOODS MONDAY

Marshall, Mo. (November 4, 2013)- The Missouri Valley College men’s and women’s basketball teams welcomed in William Woods University for a non-conference doubleheader Monday evening at the Burns Athletic Complex. The MVC women’s team led early, but fell late to No. 19 William Woods 74-59, while the men’s team outlasted William Woods for an 89-81 victory.

The MVC women’s team stormed out early against William Woods, scoring the first seven points of the game in under one minute. William Woods eventually crept back to within two points at 7-5, but the Vikings put together a 10-0 run. Capping off the run at the 13:30 mark was a three-point field goal by Sophomore Guard Julia Vasquez (Earth, Texas) to give MVC a 17-5 lead. William Woods then began to chip away at the Viking lead, eventually taking a 23-22 lead with just under five minutes remaining in the first half. The Vikings briefly retook the lead at 24-23 thanks to a field goal by Junior Guard Talaya Earls (Indianapolis, Ind.), but William Woods eventually led at the halftime break 33-24 after scoring six points in the final four seconds of the half.

The Vikings forced 13 turnovers in the first half, and limited William Woods to just 33-percent shooting. The difference was at the free throw line where William Woods went 12 of 13, while the Vikings finished the half just 3 of 4 from the line.

To start the second half the Vikings worked the deficit down from 11 points, to a seven point margin after a made field goal by Junior Guard DeVaughna Jenkins (Fresno, Calif.) with just under 18-minutes left in the game. Unfortunately that seven point deficit was as close as the Vikings would get in the second half, as William Woods maintained a double-digit lead through the rest of the half. The Vikings cut the William Woods lead to as little as 12 at times in the half, but William Woods eventually came away with a 74-59 victory.
Leading the way for MVC was Jenkins who finished with 14 points, three rebounds and two steals. Earls added 10 points and four rebounds for MVC while Senior Forward Gabi Morales (Bakersfield, Calif.) added eight points, five rebounds and three blocked shots. The Vikings forced William Woods to turn the ball over 24 times, and edged out the Owls in rebounding by a 39-36 margin.

The loss drops MVC to 0-2 on the season and William Woods improves to 1-0.

The Vikings will next be in action Friday on the road at Stephens College in a matchup that tips off at 7:00 p.m.

The Viking men’s basketball team grabbed control of the game early on. The Vikings built up a quick six-point lead in the first four minutes of the game when Junior Brad Hamilton (Pittsfield, Ill.) hit a three-pointer to give MVC a 9-3 lead. William Woods chipped away at the MVC advantage, eventually making it an 11-10 game with just under 12-minutes left in the first half. The Vikings then went on a 19-4 run over the next six minutes, and capped off the run with two made free throws by Freshman Rogerick Amos (St. Louis, Mo.) to take a 30-14 advantage. The Vikings eventually built up as big as a 17-point lead late in the first half, before eventually going in to the halftime break with a 48-34 lead.

The Vikings forced 12 William Woods turnovers and kept William Woods to under 40-percent shooting. The Vikings grabbed 23 total rebounds in the first half, including 11 offensive rebounds.

After briefly extending their lead to 16 points early in the second half, the Vikings saw their lead slip away. In the span of four minutes, William Woods turned the 16 point deficit into a one point lead at 53-52 with 15-minutes left in the game. Both teams traded baskets over the next eight minutes, but William Woods was able to build its lead to 72-67 with just over seven minutes remaining in regulation. The Vikings eventually pulled back and took the lead for good when Sophomore Raviel Burton (St. Johns, Antigua) sank a free throw to complete a three-point play giving MVC a 77-76 lead with 4:30 left. The Vikings gradually built on their lead and eventually pulled away from William Woods for the 89-81 victory.
The Vikings were led by Hamilton who finished with a game-high 25 points on 7 of 14 shooting and 6 of 13 from three-point range. Also in double-figures were Senior Jim Thomas (St. Louis, Mo.) with 18 points and four assists, Burton with a double-double of 12 points and 13 rebounds and Sophomore Jacob Powell (Marshfield, Mo.) who had 15 points and six rebounds. The Vikings forced William Woods into 20 turnovers that resulted in 23 points. The Vikings also finished with 36 second-chance points and 31 points from their bench.

The win improves MVC to 2-0 on the season while William Woods drops to 0-1.

The Viking will be in action this weekend at the Mt. Mercy Classic in Cedar Rapids, Iowa. The Vikings will play Mt. Mercy College Friday at 8:00 p.m.

ABOUT MISSOURI VALLEY COLLEGE
Known for its dynamic, richly diverse, and friendly educational environment, Missouri Valley College offers many opportunities to grow in mind, body, and spirit. Grounded in the liberal arts, undergraduate studies empower students to master interdisciplinary skills needed to succeed in a knowledge-based global society. MVC offers over 40 academic programs, study abroad program, honors program, extracurricular activities, and 13 sports. The most popular majors include education and business, and some new majors are ag-business, nursing, graphic design, and health information systems (associate degree). Above all, Valley is committed to student success. For more information, call (660) 831-4000 or visit www.moval.edu.