

# SPORTS



## Emo Speedway

Gavin Paull wins third feature for this season

B2

### QUICK HITS

#### Silvers resigns as boys swim coach

Hailey Silvers is stepping down as International Falls' head boys swimming and diving coach after two seasons.

Silvers, who was an assistant coach for four years before becoming the head coach and also operates Snap Fitness in the Falls, submitted her resignation letter last week and cited family commitments for leaving coaching.

"I have enjoyed coaching the boys swimming and diving teams for the past six years," Silvers said. "However, I have had to make some difficult decisions in order to stay happily committed to my other obligations."

"My growing family is my main priority at this point in my life and at this time I feel I am not able to coach to the best of my ability, what the team deserves."

Silvers said she has "no hard feelings toward the Bronco swimming and diving teams, FHS or Section 4A" and has enjoyed coaching, which she hopes to be able to return to in the future.

She replaced Beth Reed as the head coach for the 2011-12 boys swimming and diving season.

The Falls school district now faces filling two winter head coaching positions with the head boys hockey coaching position also being vacant.



Hailey Silvers

#### Jeff Shermoen wins Holm-Francis tourney

Jeff Shermoen of International Falls won the 45th annual Holm-Francis Tournament held last weekend at the Vermilion Fairways.

Shermoen, a 2011 Falls High School graduate who has also golfed in college the past two seasons at Bellevue University in Nebraska, shot a 141 after 36 holes — 18 holes Saturday and 18 holes Sunday — and won the tournament for the first time.

This year's tournament had 52 golfers participate. Shermoen will be able to enter the tournament next year without paying an entry fee after winning last weekend.



Jeff Shermoen

#### Fort Frances Lakers re-sign Mason Meyer

The Fort Frances Lakers have announced they have re-signed 2012 International Falls High School graduate Mason Meyer for the 2013-14 Superior International Junior Hockey League season.

Meyer, a forward, was the Lakers' "Rookie of the Year" last season, even though he missed some time with a broken hand.

Fort Frances head coach Wayne Strachan said he will be looking to Meyer to be a top-six forward who can produce consistently for the team.

Strachan also said Meyer looked very good next to the Lakers' latest signee, and fellow Falls product Lucas DeBenedet, at last weekend's summer camp.



Mason Meyer

### VFW BASEBALL



STAFF PHOTOS BY KEVIN BONESKE

From left, the Falls VFW's Jack Mellstrom tags out the Grand Rapid Grey's Noah Johnson in Saturday afternoon's Sub-District Tournament game at Ely.

## Falls wins sub-district tourney

### Team advances to district tournament seeded No. 1

BY KEVIN BONESKE  
Sports Editor

The International Falls VFW baseball team has earned a No. 1 seed in the Eighth District Tournament that begins Saturday in Grand Rapids after winning last weekend's North Sub-District Tournament held in Ely and Soudan.

The Falls won all three games it played last weekend and capped off the tournament Sunday evening in Ely with a 4-3, come-from-behind victory over Hibbing to win the top seed.

"Overall, I think we played pretty good," said Falls VFW head coach Eric Walls. "We had one inning (against Hibbing) where we made a couple of key mistakes that cost us two runs — simple mistakes that I think we can correct in practice this week."

The Falls took an early 1-0 lead in the bottom of the second when Jackson Vollom singled and then scored on a sacrifice fly by Jake Kulig.

Hibbing then took a 3-1 lead by scoring all of its runs in the top of the third.

The Falls continued to

trail by a pair of runs until the bottom of the fifth when Wyatt Ulrich led off the inning with a walk and Hibbing pulled its starting pitcher, Dennis Saatoff, and placed Logan Radovich on the mound.

After Jack Mellstrom singled and advanced Ulrich to second, Radovich threw a wild pitch to place both of Falls' runners in scoring position for Ben Humbert, who singled to drive in two runs and tie the game at 3-3.

Kevin Kilbride had a bunt single to move Humbert to second and Jack Bartkowski followed that up with a sacrifice bunt to move both runners in scoring position.

Humbert then scored what turned out to be the winning run when Vollom grounded out to first.

"Jack Bartkowski had a great bunt — moved a couple of runners around," Walls said. "I don't think (Hibbing is) as deep as we are in the pitching."

Ulrich started on the mound for the Falls and recorded the win after pitching the first six innings, allowing three unearned runs on eight hits with



At left, the Falls VFW's Clay Bergstrom catches the ball thrown by Ben Humbert (44) to force out Hibbing's Jeff Courneya (21) at second base.

two walks while striking out five. Humbert pitched the seventh to pick up a save, allowing a hit with no runs.

"Wyatt pitched very well, Hibbing swings the bat obviously very well, but Benny came in and shut them down in the seventh," Walls said.

Of the Falls' seven hits, Humbert and Kilbride

each ended up with two.

The Falls, which improved its overall season record to 16-5, opens the eight-team, double-elimination District Tournament at noon on Saturday in Grand Rapids against the South's No. 4 seed.

Hibbing advances to the District Tournament as the North's No. 2 seed, while the Grand Rapids

Grey and Greenway also advance to the tournament of out the North Sub-District.

#### I. FALLS 2, R. GREY 0

Humbert threw a complete-game shutout and had a no-hitter going for 5 1/3 innings Saturday afternoon when the Falls

VFW baseball to B3 ►

## Sports Stadium scoreboard blown over

### Replacement expected before football season starts this fall

BY KEVIN BONESKE  
Sports Editor

The football scoreboard at Sports Stadium in International Falls is being replaced after apparently being blown over early Monday morning by localized strong wind, said Falls Superintendent Nurdy Nelson.

"We'll have to replace it," said Nelson, who also noted the scoreboard was looked at Monday morning by an insurance adjuster and the scoreboard panels were found to have sustained damage to the extent in which they cannot be repaired.



STAFF PHOTO BY KEVIN BONESKE

The Sports Stadium football scoreboard lies on the ground in front of bent support poles Monday morning. Strong, localized wind is believed to have blown over the scoreboard that had been up since 2006.

He said the school district will have to pay a \$2,500 insurance deductible to replace the scoreboard, which should be in place before the football season begins this fall.

The metal poles to which the scoreboard had been attached were bent over toward the east when the scoreboard was damaged. Workers on Monday removed both the scoreboard

panels and the poles.

Though the nearby fence that surrounds the stadium near the scoreboard remained intact, Nelson said it appears the scoreboard was damaged by a "local-

ized, narrow margin of wind that just caught that area."

The scoreboard had been in place for seven years after being installed prior to the 2006 football season.