

# SPORTS



**Track and field**  
Falls Elementary School meet held at FHS track  
**B2**

## QUICK HITS

### Tuesday's softball results are online

Tuesday's opening section softball tournament games involving International Falls hosting Eveleth-Gilbert and Littlefork-Big Falls hosting Chisholm took place after the production deadline for today's newspaper.

Results from those games are posted on the ifallsjournal.com website and will also be published in Saturday's edition of The Journal.

### New head football coaches selected

New head football coaches have been selected for next fall at International Falls and Littlefork-Big Falls.

The International Falls school board on Monday approved the hiring of Tony Casareto, a science teacher at FHS who previously was an assistant varsity football coach.

Casareto replaces Glen Anderson, who resigned after one season. The Broncos went 0-9 in 2014.

Dave Westerman, who recently accepted a physical education/health position at L-BF, has been offered and accepted the school's head football coaching position, said Vikings athletic director Dan Beste.

Westerman, who was the head boys basketball coach this past season at Northome/Kelliher, takes over L-BF's head football coaching position from Derek Bilben, who returned to the position last season after having last coached in 2011. The Vikings had a 3-6 record in 2014.

### FHS boys golfers ninth at Virginia

The International Falls boys golf team tied for ninth Friday when the Broncos competed among the 18 teams at the 18-hole Virginia Invitational.

The Falls tied with Eveleth-Gilbert at 329 in ninth place. Grand Rapids had the top team score of 295, followed by Duluth Marshall (302), Hermantown (312), Greenway (312) and Duluth East (321) rounding out the top five.

Moose Lake/Willow River senior Gabe Douglas was the top individual medalist with a 67, three strokes ahead of the runner-up, Duluth Marshall's Jon Espe, at 70.

The Broncos' top individual score came from junior Eric Cann with an 80.

Falls' three other golfers whose scores counted toward the team total included sophomores Brock O'Loughlin (81), Brady Wright (82) and Austin Van Heel (86).

SPORTS SCHEDULE

**Today's games**  
**Track and field**  
I. Falls in Sub-Section Meet at Hibbing, 10 a.m.  
**Boys baseball**  
North Woods at I. Falls, 4:30 p.m.  
L-BF at MI-B, 4:30 p.m.

**Thursday's games**  
**Girls softball**  
I. Falls/Eveleth-Gilbert winner vs. Mora/Cloquet winner in Section 7AA Tournament in Cloquet, noon  
L-BF/ Chisholm winner vs. South Ridge/Cook County winner in Section 7A Tournament in Grand Rapids, 4 p.m.  
**Boys baseball**  
I. Falls at Ely, 4:30 p.m.

**Friday's games**  
**Girls golf**  
I. Falls at Pokegama Invitational, 9 a.m.

## TRACK AND FIELD

# Bronco girls win Hibbing Invitational

## FHS boys 6th

### JOURNAL STAFF REPORT

After having a meet they planned to compete in at Warroad canceled a day earlier because of the rainy weather, some members of the International Falls varsity track and field teams were able to participate in Friday's Hibbing Invitational.

The Bronco girls finished first out of 11 teams with 148.5 points, followed by Hibbing (138.5), Eveleth-Gilbert (120), Greenway/Nashwauk-Keewatin (88.5) and Virginia (70) rounding out the top five.

Falls sophomore Lexi Erickson won both the 800-meter run (2 minutes, 29.67 seconds) and 3200 run (11:39.97) and placed runner-up in the high jump (5 feet).

She cleared the same height in the high jump as the top finisher, Greenway/Nashwauk-Keewatin's Sofia Rajala, but came in second based on tiebreaker criteria that include the number of missed attempts.

"We had a great day and with only 15 girls competing for the team; we didn't have much depth in our running events," Erickson said. "This was our last-chance meet to see if we could drop our times or improve distances in field events."

The Broncos recorded three 1-2 finishes in the field events.

Falls senior Savannah Olson won both the shot put (37-1) and discus (105-5) with freshman Emma Gilbert placing runner-up in those events with respective distances of



CONTRIBUTED PHOTOS

The Broncos' Lexi Erickson competes in the high jump at Friday's Hibbing Invitational. Erickson placed second after clearing 5 feet.

37-1 and 94-10.

"(Friday) went very well for the team with everyone doing good individually," Olson said. "It was nice to get another chance to throw in Hibbing's circles before the sub-section meet (today)."

The Broncos' other 1-2 finish came in the pole vault, which was won by sophomore Emily Saari at 8-6 with sophomore Lexi Edwards coming in second at 7-6.

Saari added a fourth-place finish in the 100 hurdles (18.01) and came in eighth in the long jump (13-5).

The Falls also picked up fourth-place finishes from Valandre Butler in the long jump (14-3), Taylor Hebner in the 1600 run (5:57.52), Abby Kostiuik in

the 400 dash (1:05.65) and Taylor Busch in the shot put (31-2).

Other Bronco girls placing in the top eight, by name, place, event and time or distance, include: Anna Earley, fifth in 400 dash (1:08.97); Grace Gilbert, sixth in the 200 dash (29.29); Paige Wold, seventh in the high jump (4-6); Jena Sullivan, seventh in the discus (86-2); and Bailey Milette, eighth in the 100 hurdles (18.88).

In the four relay events, the Falls finished runner-up in two of them with Milette, Butler, Grace Gilbert and Emma Gilbert in the 4X100 (54.16) and Hebner, Kostiuik, Carolann Stone and Emma Gilbert in the 4X800 (10:22.17).

Bronco to B2 ➤



Falls senior Cole Tatsak clears a hurdle while competing in the 300-meter hurdles at Friday's Hibbing Invitational. Tatsak placed second in 45.88 seconds.

## BOYS BASEBALL

# Broncos hold off Raiders, but can't stop Hilltoppers

### JOURNAL STAFF REPORT

After not having played a game in 10 days, the International Falls baseball team was able to take the field twice on the road late last week.

On Friday, the Broncos scored twice in the opening inning and ended up winning against Greenway, 5-3.

Of the Falls' seven hits, Clay Bergstrom accounted for three of them. Jack Bartkowski tallied the Broncos' only multiple-base hit with a double that drove in a run. Kevin Kilbride added a single with 2 RBI. Ben Humbert and Tyler Coffield also singled.

Falls' Cole Miggins pitched the first six innings and recorded the victory, allowing three runs, one earned, on seven hits with three walks and a hit batter while striking out two. Bartkowski closed out the seventh inning without giving up a run or a hit and struck out a batter.

The Raiders' Austin Finke pitched the first five innings and picked up the loss, allowing four runs, one earned, on six hits with three walks while striking out five. Greenway's Patrick Shea closed out the last two innings, giving up an earned run on a hit with two walks while striking out three.

**DM 5, IF 4**

The Broncos also scored



Jack Bartkowski



Cole Miggins

two runs in the first inning Saturday at Wade Stadium, where they ended up losing to Duluth Marshall, 5-4.

The Falls pulled in front 2-0 in the opening inning on a 2 RBI single by Bartkowski off of Hilltoppers starting pitcher Tyler Pedersen. The two-run advantage remained until the fifth inning.

The Broncos' Lane Skallman led off the top of the fifth with a single and then scored on a sacrifice fly by Humbert to extend the lead to 3-0.

Duluth Marshall scored twice in the bottom of the fifth when Pedersen tripled to drive in a run and then reached home himself on one of four wild pitches by Humbert, who threw the first 5 2/3 innings in a no-decision.

Humbert was responsible for allowing three runs, two earned, on two hits with eight walks and a hit batter while striking out 12.

The Falls went back in front by two runs in the top of the sixth when Jackson

Vollom walked and scored on Skallman's third single of the game, before the Hilltoppers cut the Broncos' lead to 4-3 in the bottom of the inning by scoring another run on a wild pitch.

Bartkowski pitched with a lead when he relieved Humbert on the mound and gave up two runs on three consecutive singles in the seventh inning to record the loss.

Pedersen pitched the first five innings in a no-decision for Duluth Marshall, allowing three earned runs on five hits with five walks while striking out two. The Hilltoppers' Jordan Fralich closed out the final two innings to pick up the victory, giving up an earned run on a hit with three walks while striking out one.

Following the Falls' two games late last week, the Broncos' season record stood at 11-4 going into Tuesday's road game against nearby rival Littlefork-Big Falls.

**Friday's games**  
**Int'l Falls 5, Greenway 3**  
**Int'l Falls 2-0-1 0-1-0 1-5 72**  
**Greenway 1-0-1 0-0-0 1-3 74**  
**WP-Cole Miggins; LP-Austin Finke**

**Saturday's game**  
**Marshall 5, Int'l Falls 4**  
**Int'l Falls 2-0-0 0-1-1 0-4 62**  
**Marshall 0-0-0 0-2-1 2-5 50**  
**WP-Jordan Fralich; LP-Jack Bartkowski**

## MEN'S BASEBALL

# Kunkel, Deviney on MCAC All-Northern Division 2015 Team

### JOURNAL STAFF REPORT

Two sophomores on this season's Rainy River Community College baseball team have been named to the Minnesota College Athletic Conference's All-Northern Division Team.

Talon Kunkel, a pitcher-first baseman from Saskatoon, Saskatchewan, earned All-Division honors after playing in all 42 games for RRCC this season. He batted .315 (41-130) with seven doubles and a home run. His 23 RBI ranked third on the team.

Kunkel also pitched in nine games this season with a 4-3 record and one save. In 35 2/3 innings pitched, Kunkel allowed 25 runs, 15 earned, on 30 hits with 16 walks and seven hit batters while striking out 38. His ERA was 3.32, the best on the team among players with more than 15 innings pitched.

Sean Deviney, a catcher-utility fielder from Fort Myers, Fla., earned All-Division honors after playing in 41 games for 2015. He batted .320 (41-128) with eight doubles, three triples and a home run. His 29 RBI ranked second on the team.

Deviney, Kunkel and sophomore teammate Tanner Helms have each signed a National Letter of

Intent to play NCAA Division II baseball next season at Salem International University in West Virginia.

The Voyageurs ended the 2015 season 18-24 overall for the most victories in a year during the baseball program's six seasons of existence.

**RRCC AWARDS**

The Voyageurs' team awards for this season have been announced by RRCC head coach Josh Koenig.

Deviney has been named the team's Most Valuable Player. Kunkel received the Golden Glove Award. Helms, who batted .333 (41-123) with 15 doubles, three triples and three home runs with a team-high 32 RBI, received the Big Bat Award.

The Voyageurs' "Cy Young Award" went to Jaymon Cervantes, who pitched 52 innings, allowing 31 runs, 27 earned, on 46 hits with 32 walks and 11 hit batters while striking out 70, the most strikeouts on the team.

Sam Pelechaty, who batted .371 (43-116), was named the Most Improved Player, while Jake Kulig received the Hustle Award.

The team captains named for next season include J.D. Knutson, Landon Freeman, T.J. Trifoli and Victor Rodriguez.