

SPORTS



Who is...
Brady Walls, Bronco boys senior golfer, is featured

B2

QUICK HITS

RRCC baseball team drops twin bill to A-R

The Rainy River Community College baseball team went scoreless over 14 innings Tuesday when the Voyageurs lost a double-header to Anoka-Ramsey, 12-0 and 9-0, at Veterans Field in Minnetonka.

“Our main issue (Tuesday) was that our pitching gave up too many free passes and Anoka-Ramsey took advantage by hitting the ball well,” said RRCC head coach Josh Koenig, who also noted the Voyageurs overall played better defensively. “If we are going to play the way I know we can play, our pitchers need to go right at batters and trust our defense to stay solid.

“We are hitting the ball and putting it in play, but right at people. We need to find a way to hit the holes and gaps in the defense and come up with some timely hitting.”

Of RRCC’s five hits in game one, Makana Canda and Sean Deviney had two hits apiece with Deviney doubling and Canda picking up a stolen base. Wes Gunnerson singled.

Anoka-Ramsey tallied 13 hits over seven innings. Talon Kunkel recorded the pitching loss for the Voyageurs.

RRCC could only muster two hits in game two with Colten Boudreau and Tanner Helms both doubling.

Anoka-Ramsey had 11 hits. Robert Parrish III recorded the pitching loss for RRCC.

The Voyageurs, whose season record now stands at 6-12, will be in LaCrescent this weekend to play a pair of doubleheaders.

Gordon gets goal, Fisher adds assist in Oilers’ OT loss

Two Tulsa Oilers players from International Falls each had a hand in Tulsa’s two goals in game 3 of the Oilers’ Central Hockey League best-of-seven playoff series against the Denver Cutthroats.

Ben Gordon scored Tulsa’s first goal and Drew Fisher had an assist on the second, but it wasn’t enough as the Oilers ended up losing to the Cutthroats in overtime, 3-2.

Jean-Philipp Chabot scored the game-winner at 12:18 in overtime for Denver, which took a 2-1 lead in the series.

Game 4 was slated for Friday evening in Denver with game 5 taking place there tonight.

SPORTS SCHEDULE

- Today’s games**
Men’s baseball
RRCC vs. Vermilion/Fond du Lac at LaCrescent, 10 a.m./12:30 p.m.
Women’s softball
RRCC vs. Mesabi Range at Grand Rapids (DH), 12/2 p.m.
- Sunday’s games**
Men’s baseball
RRCC vs. Vermilion/Western Tech at LaCrescent, 12:30/3 p.m.
- Monday’s games**
Girls softball
LOW at I. Falls, 4:30 p.m.
L-BF at Nashauk-Keewatin, 4:30 p.m.
- Tuesday’s games**
Girls softball
I. Falls at Hibbing, 4:30 p.m.
North Woods at L-BF, 4:30 p.m.
- Wednesday’s games**
Girls softball
Eveleth-Gilbert at L-BF, 4:30 p.m.
Women’s softball
RRCC vs. Hibbing at Grand Rapids, 5:30/7:30 p.m.
- Thursday’s game**
Track and field
I. Falls at BSU Beaver Relays, 11 a.m.
Girls golf
I. Falls vs. Northeast Range at Babbitt Golf Course, 4:15 p.m.
Girls softball
I. Falls at Greenway, 4:30 p.m.
Boys baseball
I. Falls at Warroad, 4:30 p.m.

TRACK AND FIELD

Bronco girls 2nd in Aurora Borealis

FHS boys take 12th

JOURNAL STAFF REPORT

A point separated the top-two girls track and field teams in Tuesday’s Aurora Borealis meet at Bemidji State University where International Falls finished runner-up.

Pequot Lakes had the top team score with 86 points, followed by the Falls (85), Grand Rapids (75) Bagley/Fosston (38) and Thief River Falls (36) rounding out the top five out of 24 teams that scored points.

The meet took place primarily indoors with the 1600- and 3200-meter runs being the only events out of 15 to take place outdoors as the Broncos have yet to compete in an entirely outdoor meet this season.

One of Falls’ top finishes took place outside as freshman Lexi Erickson won the 3200 run (12:19.58), 5.11 seconds in front of the runner-up, Grand Rapids sophomore Kaytlin Garrison.

Erickson added a runner-up finish in the 1600 run (5:47.81), 13.35 seconds behind the top time of Roseau junior Madeline Huglen.

The Broncos went 1-2 in the shot put with junior Savannah Olson having the winning toss of 38 feet. Eighth-grader Emma Gilbert’s runner-up throw of 37-3 placed her ninth on Falls’ top-10 list of career-best girls shot putters. The school record of 42-9.5 was set by Brenda Pierce in 1980.

“Savanah and I like competing against each other, especially since our throws are so close in range,” Gilbert said. “We had a great meet (Tuesday) as a team.”

Broncos senior sprinter Breanna Shofner picked up a pair of individual runner-up finishes in the 60 dash (8.2) and 200 dash (27.38). She also joined Gilbert and freshmen Claire Herzig and Valandre Butler to place runner-up in the 4x200 relay (1:54.91).

Shofner added a third-place finish in the triple jump (32-2). At the first indoor meet of the season March 25 at BSU, her triple jump leap of 32-5 placed her seventh on Falls’ career top-10 list in that event. The school record of 35-3.5 was set by Becky Hoffman in 1995.

Broncos senior Hailey Fentem came in second in both the 60 hurdles (10.05) and high jump (4-10). She added a seventh-place finish in the long jump (15-7.25).

The Falls picked up another team point when Erickson, sophomore Abby Kostiuk, eighth-grader Jena Sullivan and seventh-grader Grace Gilbert placed eighth in the 4X400 relay (4:39.36).



CONTRIBUTED PHOTOS

The Broncos’ Savannah Olson get ready to throw the shot put in Tuesday’s Aurora Borealis meet at Bemidji State University. Olson won the event with a throw of 38 feet.

FHS BOYS 12TH

In the boys competition, the Broncos had 16 points and ended up in 12th place.

Pequot Lakes also won the boys team title at 77.5, followed by Grand Rapids (69), Hibbing (54) Bagley/Fosston (47) and Northome/Kelliher/Blackduck (45) in the top five out of 24 teams.

Falls’ best individual finish came from senior Jakob Ettestad, who tied for second in the pole vault (11-0).

“We have been continuously showing improvement in all areas, and we can’t wait to start competing outdoors,” Ettestad said.

Broncos sophomore Ethan Phung placed third in the high jump (6-0).

“Coming into this meet, we knew it would be tough with a large amount of teams,” Phung said. “This was a very good opportunity to push ourselves and each other.”

The Falls added a trio of eighth-place finishes for a point apiece from junior Austin Ruport in the shot put (40-10), eighth-grader John Cowman in the 3200 run (12:09.68) and Ettestad, senior Paul Skoglund, junior Cole Tatsak and sophomore Peter Griffith in the 4X400 relay (4:05.96).

“This meet was good for us to try different events and find the event where we can push ourselves,” Skoglund said. “We had a lot of teammates try different events, which is good.”



At right, the Broncos’ Lexi Erickson runs next to Grand Rapids’ Kaytlin Garrison during the 3200-meter run in Tuesday’s Aurora Borealis meet at Bemidji State University. Erickson won in 12 minutes, 19.58 seconds, 5.11 seconds ahead of Garrison in second place.



In front, the Broncos’ Cole Tatsak reaches back to receive the baton from Ethan Phung during the boys 4X200-meter relay in Tuesday’s Aurora Borealis meet at Bemidji State University.

The Bronco boys and girls aren’t scheduled to compete again until April 17 when they’ll be back at BSU for the Beaver Relays. Their first home meet of the season, weather permitting, is the Falls Invite on April 22.

Track to B2 ►

BRONCO ATHLETIC HALL OF FAME

2014 inductees to be honored April 26

Tina (Bahr) Ostroot to be first female inductee



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Keith “Huffer” Christiansen, shown in the locker room while playing for the University of Minnesota Duluth men’s hockey team during the 1960s, will be one of four individuals to be inducted April 26 into the Bronco Athletic Hall of Fame.

BY KEVIN BONESKE
Sports Editor

Four individuals, including the first female inductee, and a state championship football team will be honored two weeks from tonight as the next class of inductees into the Bronco Athletic Hall of Fame.

This year’s induction banquet is being held April 26 at the AmericInn in International Falls. The social hour begins at 4:30 p.m. with the dinner starting at 5:30 p.m. and the induction ceremony getting underway at 7 p.m.

The Hall of Fame’s Class of 2014 includes distance runner Tina (Bahr) Ostroot, hockey coach Dean Blais, hockey players Keith “Huffer” Christiansen and Oscar Mahle and the 1954 International Falls football team.

TINA (BAHR) OSTROOT
Ostroot, who is the first female to be inducted in the Hall of Fame’s three years of existence, still holds the



Dean Blais



Tina (Bahr) Ostroot

school records she set at FHS more than 30 years ago in the girls 1600-meter run (5 minutes, 7.5 seconds) and 3200 run (11:06).

A 1980 FHS graduate, Ostroot participated in cross country, basketball and track and field and was a six-time state qualifier.

When girls cross country runners in Minnesota competed on a 3200-meter course in the late 1970s, Ostroot was the state champion in Class AA her junior and senior years.

She also finished sixth as a sophomore when girls cross country runners competed in a single class on a 2-mile course.

Ostroot’s top track and field finishes at state include being second in the 3200 run her senior year and a fourth- and third-place finish in the 1600 run in her sophomore and junior years, respectively.

She continued to compete in running after high school and was named to the Idaho State University Hall of Fame in 1993. Her various achievements while running for ISU from 1980-83 included setting the outdoor school record in the 5000 run in 1982.

She now resides in Elk River, where she has been a teacher for nearly 30 years.

Ostroot, who is the daughter-in-law of former longtime FHS track and field coach Dick Ostroot, continues to run in various distance events, including having been in last year’s Boston Marathon, where she completed the 26.2-mile route minutes before the explosions near the finish.

Hall to B2 ►