

SPORTS



Who is...
Rylan Henrickson, L-BF football senior running back, is featured

B2

QUICK HITS

L-BF spikers down MI-B in four games

The Littlefork-Big Falls volleyball team won its sixth match in a row Thursday after defeating Mountain Iron-Buhl at home in four close games, 25-23, 26-24, 23-25, 25-22.

L-BF's statistical leaders included: Taylor Wendt, 24 set assists; Karly Swenson, 16 kills; Amanda Nelson, 14 kills and three ace serves; Breann Larson, 12 kills and 15 digs; and Emily Knaeble, 15 digs, five ace serves and 21 serves without an error.

The Vikings, whose season record now stands at 12-10, return to action Monday night for their final regular-season match at Chisholm.

RRCC sweeps OHCC, then loses at Hibbing

The Rainy River Community College volleyball team split two matches it played this week.

In a non-conference home match added to RRCC's schedule, the Voyageurs won Tuesday in three straight games against Oak Hills Christian College, 25-3, 25-9, 25-4.

RRCC's reserve players saw plenty of time on the court. The Voyageurs' Katie Langaas had five kills. Jordan Vezina, who made 29 of 30 serves, had four aces. Megan Johnson had 12 set assists.

In Wednesday night's conference match at Hibbing, RRCC lost in three straight games, 18-25, 18-25, 23-25.

Langaas led the Voyageurs with eight kills and five blocks. Jasmine Draper had 15 digs. Tali Plate dished out 25 set assists and had 12 digs.

RRCC, which dropped to 2-7 in the Minnesota College Athletic Conference's Northern Division, travels to Thief River Falls today for a triangular against Dakota College-Bottineau and Northland. The matches are at noon and 1:30 p.m.

The Voyageurs host their final home match of the season at 6:30 p.m. Tuesday against Vermilion. It will be Sophomore Appreciation and Dig Pink night.

Ice hockey referee clinic set for Oct. 12

A USA Hockey Referee Clinic will be held Sunday starting a 10:00 a.m. at the Kerry Park Arena.

The clinic is available for anyone wishing to referee youth hockey. Participants should bring their skates, whistle and helmet for the on-ice session.

For more information, contact the Recreation Office at 283-2571, ext. 138.

SPORTS SCHEDULE

- Today's games**
Girls swimming/diving
I. Falls in IRC/True Team Invitational at Mesabi East, TBD
Girls volleyball
I. Falls at Esko Tournament, TBD
Women's volleyball
RRCC vs. Bottineau/Northland at Thief River Falls, 12/1:30 p.m.
- Monday's games**
Women's volleyball
RRCC at OHCC, 6:30 p.m.
Girls volleyball
L-BF at Chisholm, 7 p.m.
- Tuesday's games**
Cross country
I. Falls at IRC Meet, 4 p.m.
Girls swimming/diving
I. Falls at Northeast Range, 5 p.m.
Women's volleyball
Vermilion at RRCC, 6:30 p.m.
- Wednesday's games**
Football
I. Falls at G/N-K, 7 p.m.
L-BF at MI-B, 7 p.m.

GIRLS VOLLEYBALL

Broncos sweep Bluejackets

FHS defeats Hibbing for first time since two wins of 1980

BY KEVIN BONESKE
Sports Editor

For the first time in more than 30 years, International Falls has won a volleyball match against Hibbing.

The Broncos swept the Bluejackets on Thursday night in the FHS gym, 25-19, 26-24, 25-17.

The Falls, which had lost its last 46 matches against Hibbing, had last defeated the Bluejackets in 1980 when Laurie Kohler coached the Broncos, who defeated Hibbing twice that year and advanced to the state tournament.

"It feels great to beat Hibbing," said Falls head coach Erin Shikowsky, who previously lost 11 matches to the Bluejackets during her coaching tenure. "I believe that with all the distractions – it being senior night and just lots of emotions flowing – I thought we came out and played a really good game."

In game one, the Broncos broke a 1-1 tie and stayed in front, winning by six points.

The lead in game two shifted hands early on, then the Falls pulled in front, leading by as much as five points, 17-12, before Hibbing waged

a comeback and got to game point at 24-22, only to see the Broncos score four points in a row for the victory.

"We had some errors there in the second game," Shikowsky said. "Otherwise, I thought we kept our run of errors to a minimum."

The Falls dominated the third game from the start, pulling out to a 6-1 lead and then taking a double-digit advantage before winning by eight points.

Maddie Filipiak and Tessa Walls led the Broncos with 12 kills apiece, while McKenna Rasmussen added eight kills. Teagan Anderson recorded 24 set assists and 11 digs. Lauren Rautio added 20 digs.

FHS 3, CHISHOLM 1

The Falls entered the match against Hibbing having won Tuesday in four games at Chisholm, 23-25, 25-23, 25-23, 25-11.

Filiplik recorded 12 kills and eight digs. Anderson dished out 27 set assists. Rasmussen had eight kills, 18 digs and five ace serves. Walls added six kills and five ace blocks, while Rautio picked up 20 digs.

The Broncos' season record now stands at 14-5 going into today's tournament at Esko.



STAFF PHOTO BY KEVIN BONESKE
In front at right, the Broncos' Jena Sullivan hits the ball while facing blocking opposition from Hibbing's Emily Gardeski (7) as McKenna Rasmussen looks on in back in Thursday's match in the Falls High School gym.

CROSS COUNTRY

Bronco girls, Lexi Erickson 4th at Hial Pike

FHS boys 9th

BY KEVIN BONESKE
Sports Editor

The weather was ideal for a cross country meet Thursday at the Falls Country Club when International Falls hosted its only home meet of the season with the Hial Pike Invitational.

The Broncos girls finished fourth out of 10 teams with at least five finishers to score in the standings.

Grand Rapids won the team title with top score of 61, followed by Ely (75), Hibbing (104), the Falls (121) and Dryden (126) rounding out the top five.

Dryden's Andie Wood finished first on the 4,000-meter course in 14 minutes, 43.92 seconds. Elyssa Peterson of Greenway/Nashauk-Keewatin was runner-up in 15:00.33. Erin Bianco of Ely came in third in 15:49.03.

Falls' top finisher, sophomore Lexi Erickson, saw her string of consecutive meet victories snapped at three when she placed fourth in 15:51.15.

The Falls, which has finished runner-up in Section 7A the past three years to qualify for state, had one other runner at the Hial Pike Invitational place in the top 20 out of 90 finishers. Senior captain Jenna Anderson finished 18th in 16:58.25.

The Broncos' other three finishers who counted toward the team total included: seventh-grader Avery Sivonen, 26th in 17:16.81; eighth-grader Faith Black, 37th in 17:48.98; and sophomore Lexi Edwards, 47th in 18:37.56.

FHS BOYS NINTH

In the boys competition,



STAFF PHOTO BY KEVIN BONESKE

From right, the Broncos' Lexi Erickson and Ely's Erin Bianco approach the finish line in Thursday's Hial Pike Invitational at the Falls Country Club. Erickson placed fourth in 15 minutes, 51.15 seconds, while Bianco came in third in 15:49.03.

the Broncos had a score of 197 and came in 9th out of the 10 teams with at least five finishers.

Dryden had the top score of 56, followed by Mesabi East (63), Hibbing (96), Ely (102) and Virginia (124) in the top five.

Mesabi East's Danny Radtke had the top individual finish after completing the 5,000-meter course in 16:52.17.

The Broncos' top finisher was freshman John Cowman, who placed seventh in 18:16.18.

The Falls – which competed without senior Cole Tatsak, one of the team's top runners – didn't have

another runner reach the finish line until almost a minute and a half later when eighth-grader Ben Glowack placed 48th in 19:40.88.

The Broncos' other three runners who counted toward the team score included: senior Ben Erickson, 51st in 19:54.94; sophomore Brock O'Loughlin, 52nd in 19:55.75; and sophomore Jared Hunter, 72nd in 20:43.41.

The cooperative team of Lake of the Woods/Indus, which did not have five finishers to score in the team standings, had its top finish come from Daniel Patch, who placed 23rd in 18:56.78.

GIRLS SWIMMING AND DIVING

Broncos swamp WRGM

JOURNAL STAFF REPORT

The International Falls girls swimming and diving team placed first in nine of 12 events Thursday when the Broncos won a dual meet on the road against Warroad/Roseau/Greenbush-Middle River, 114-72.

The Falls had 1-2-3 sweeps in two events and also went 1-2 in three others as swimmers were shuffled around into different events with none of the current individual school record holders competing in their specialties.

The Broncos' Tayler Hebner, Megan Herrly and Hannah Kruse took the top-three spots in the 200-yard freestyle in respective times of 2:29.05, 2:31.5 and 2:39.95. Falls' sweep in the 500 freestyle included Abby Auran, Rebecca Holm and Reina Goulet finishing in respective times of 6:39.96; 6:49.14 and 7:01.56.

The Broncos' Emma Misner and Abby Kostiuk

took the top-two spots in the 50 freestyle in 28.48 and 28.59, respectively.

Misner also won the 100 butterfly (1:08.41) with teammate Josie Bates finishing runner-up in 1:19.2.

Falls seniors Jessie Hell and Kylie Skallman went 1-2 in the diving competition with respective scores of 170.25 and 146.65 points.

The Broncos' Claire Herzig was a double individual winner by placing first in both the 100 freestyle (1:03.57) and 100 breaststroke (1:19.67).

The Falls also took the top spot in two of the three relays with Herzig, Kostiuk, Carolann Stone and Emily Saari winning the 200 medley relay (2:09.63) and Kostiuk, Misner, Hebner and Herzig finishing first in the 200 freestyle relay (1:54.18).

The Broncos will be back in action today at the Iron Range Conference/True Team Meet being hosted by Mesabi East.

Gunnar Anderson makes his college football debut

JOURNAL STAFF REPORT

St. John's University sophomore quarterback Gunnar Anderson of International Falls made his college football debut last Saturday when the Johnnies won their Homecoming game over Hamline University, 49-28.

Anderson, a 2013 FHS graduate and one of three quarterbacks

to record at least one pass last weekend for St. John's, played in the second half and completed five of 10 attempts for 36 yards with the longest pass going for 14 yards.

The Johnnies, who are 4-1 this season and ranked No. 24 in Division III, return to action Oct. 18 against Gustavus Adolphus College in St. Peter.