

# SPORTS



**RRCC women's hockey team**  
Rhinehart gets winning goal to split with MSU

B2

## QUICK HITS

### Tuesday sports results online

Tuesday night's games involving the International Falls girls hockey team playing Hibbing/Chisholm in the Section 7A semifinals, the Bronco boys hockey team hosting Roseau, FHS hosting Littlefork-Big Falls in girls basketball and the Bronco boys basketball team playing at Mountain Iron-Buhl took place after the production deadline for today's edition. Results from those game are posted on the [www.ifallsjournal.com](http://www.ifallsjournal.com) website and will also be published in Saturday's paper.

### L-BF boys hoops win three in a row

The Littlefork-Big Falls boys basketball team is on a three-game winning streak after two more lopsided victories.

At home Friday night, the Vikings led by 38 points at halftime en route to winning 85-43 over Mesabi East.

"We shot the ball well," said L-BF head coach Jeff Maish, who also noted the team had a good transition game and scored several fast-break points.

Four Vikings scored in double figures led by Jordan Franz and Rylan Henrickson with 21 points apiece. Tommy Manninen added 17 points and Taylor DeLack scored 14 more.

On Monday night at Mesabi Academy, the Vikings held a 29-point halftime lead and went on to an 87-48 victory.

DeLack led four L-BF players scoring in double figures with 26 points and is now three points shy of reaching 1,000 points for his high school career. Franz added 22 points and also hauled in 12 rebounds to record a double-double. Henrickson scored 16 points and Zach Simon put in 15 more.

### Falls Recreation Basketball Camp

The International Falls Recreation Department will be holding a basketball camp June 3-6 in the Falls High School gym for boys and girls in grades 1-8.

This basketball camp, for which Charlie Anderson, Don Rolando and Luke Zika will be the camp directors, is designed to develop individual skills and reinforce the fundamentals of team basketball.

To register, send a check for \$60 with the enrollment form to: Recreation Department, c/o Basketball Camp, 1515 11th St., International Falls, MN 56649.

## SPORTS SCHEDULE

**Thursday's games**  
**Girls basketball**  
Bigfork at L-BF, 7:15 p.m.  
**Boys hockey**  
I. Falls at Ely, 7:30 p.m.

**Friday's games**  
**Girls hockey**  
Semifinal winners in Section 7A finals at Cloquet, 6 p.m.  
**Women's/men's basketball**  
RRCC at Vermilion, 6/8 p.m.  
**Boys basketball**  
I. Falls vs. Aitkin in North/South Challenge at Virginia, 6 p.m.  
North Woods at L-BF, 7:15 p.m.  
**Girls basketball**  
Duluth Marshall at I. Falls, 7:15 p.m.

**Saturday's games**  
**Women's/men's basketball**  
Mesabi Range at RRCC, 1/3 p.m.  
**Boys basketball**  
I. Falls vs. Hinkley-Finlayson in North/South Challenge at Virginia, 1 p.m.

## GIRLS BASKETBALL

# Broncos beat Virginia, win IRC title

### JOURNAL STAFF REPORT

Beating Virginia for the third time this season has resulted in the International Falls girls basketball team winning the Iron Range Conference championship for the first time since the late 1980s.

The Broncos led by 15 points at halftime Friday night and went on to a 77-66 road victory over the Blue Devils.

"Virginia always plays us tough," said Falls head coach Shawn Gilbert. "It's sure nice to get that win and (IRC title)."

The Broncos scored close to half of their points outside the arc



Teagan Anderson

with 12 3-pointers.

Teagan Anderson led four Falls players scoring in double figures with 23 points, which included six 3-pointers. Maddie Filipiak added 19 points, including three 3-pointers. Cassie Tomczak scored 13 points and Lexi Owen put in 11 more.

Virginia made four 3-pointers with three players scoring in double figures. Maria Stokes-Cerkvenik led the Blue

Devils with a game-high 25 points, followed by Emily Sipola with 14 points and Morgan Deutsch-Woods with 13.

The Broncos improved their season record to 16-4 overall and 7-0 in conference play going into Tuesday night's home game against nearby rival Littlefork-Big Falls.

**Int'l Falls 77, Virginia 66**  
**Int'l Falls 40 37 - 77**  
**Virginia 25 41 - 66**

**Virginia:** Kaylie Pucel 5, Morgan Deutsch-Woods 13, Brylee Seitz 7, Emily Sipola 14, Mickey Woodside 2, Maria Stokes-Cerkvenik 25. 3-pointers: Pucel, Deutsch-Woods, Seitz, Stokes-Cerkvenik. Free throws: 18-31. Fouls: 17. Fouled out: Stokes-Cerkvenik.

**Int'l Falls:** Maddie Filipiak 19, Shelby Wolden 5, Lexi Owen 11, Cassie Tomczak 13, Teagan Anderson 23, Janet Humbert 2, Emma Gilbert 4. 3-pointers: Anderson 6, Filipiak 3, Tomczak 2, Owen. Free throws: 13-18. Fouls: 20.

## BOYS HOCKEY

# Broncos fall to Grand Rapids, North Shore

### JOURNAL STAFF REPORT

Friday night's boys hockey game at Bronco Arena between longtime rivals International Falls and Grand Rapids remained competitive until the final period.

The Thunderhawks scored three unanswered third-period goals and defeated the Broncos, 6-2.

Brady Walls, who accounted for both Falls goals, gave the Broncos a 1-0 lead when he scored on a power play assisted by Nathan Hauke and Jakob Eide at 7:42 of the opening period.

Rapids tied the game with 1:21 left in the first period on a goal by Jonah Bischoff.

Avery Peterson scored the first of his four goals for the Thunderhawks when gave Rapids a 2-1 lead at 1:24 of the second period. Alex Adams then scored shorthanded on what turned out to be the Thunderhawks' game-winning goal with 7:04 to play in the period.

Walls made it a one-goal game when he scored again assisted by Luke Spilde and Eide with 1:42 left in the second period.

Rapids outshot the Falls, 14-3, in the final period as Peterson accounted for all three of the Thunderhawks' goals to seal the victory.

Hunter Sheppard made

14 saves to record the win in goal for Rapids, while Wyatt Ulrich stopped 33 of 39 shots as he picked up the loss in net for the Broncos.

### NORTH SHORE 8, INT'L FALLS 2

The Broncos scored first Monday night, but then gave up seven consecutive goals and lost on the road to North Shore, 8-2.

Jordan Tilander scored on the power play assisted by Clay Bergstrom to give the Falls a 1-0 lead, before North Shore tied the game after the first period on a goal by Quaid Cavallin.

North Shore added three second-period goals and three more in the final period before Spilde scored assisted by Tilander with 2:45 to play.

Tyler Schramm became the seventh separate North Shore player to score when he put in the final goal with 1:15 to play. Johah Koehler was the only player who ended up with two goals for the game.

Zach Duresky stopped 12 of 14 shots to pick up the win in goal for North Shore, while Ulrich made 23 saves in a losing effort for the Broncos.

The Falls' season record stood at 6-16-1 going into Tuesday night's home game against Roseau.

The Broncos close out their regular season schedule Thursday night in a road game at Ely.



STAFF PHOTOS BY KEVIN BONESKE

From left, the Broncos' Jakob Etestad (15) advances the puck while being pursued by the Thunderhawks' Mitchell Mattson (21) in Friday night's game at Bronco Arena.

**Friday's game**  
**Grand Rapids 6, Int'l Falls 2**  
**Grand Rapids 1 2 3 - 6**  
**Int'l Falls 1 1 0 - 2**

**Monday's game**  
**North Shore 8, Int'l Falls 2**  
**Int'l Falls 1 0 1 - 2**  
**North Shore 1 3 4 - 8**

From left, the Broncos' Jordan Tilander (27) battles for the puck behind the net with the Thunderhawks' Connor LaRoque (10) on Friday night at Bronco Arena.



## SIJHL HOCKEY

# Lakers roar past Thunder Bay, lose to Minnesota in OT

### JOURNAL STAFF REPORT

The Fort Frances Lakers won big on the road and lost in overtime at home last weekend when they split two Superior International Junior Hockey League games.

On Friday night at the Fort William Gardens, the league-leading Lakers erupted for four first-period goals and triumphed at Thunder Bay, 7-1.

The Lakers chased North Stars starting goalie Eric Mann out of the net with goals from Lyndon Lipinski, Bryce Lipinski and Donovan Cousineau before the 13-minute mark of the opening period.

Cam Gobeil then made it 4-0 at 17:13 when he put the puck past Nathaniel Dupuis, who had come in to replace Mann.

The lone bright spot for Thunder Bay came early in the second period when Daniel Del Paggio scored on the power play at 2:24 and extended a consecutive game point streak to 23 straight outings.

Fort Frances restored its

four-goal lead with 6 seconds left in the second period when Cody Wickstrom scored on the power play.

The Lakers then put the game away in the final period by getting two more goals from Lyndon Lipinski as he capped off his second-straight hat trick.

The two International Falls High School graduates who play for Fort Frances accounted for six assists. Lucas DeBenedet chipped in with four assists, while Mason Meyer had a pair of helpers.

Devin Tappenden made 23 saves in picking up the win in goal for the Lakers.

### MINNESOTA 4, FORT FRANCES 3 (OT)

On Saturday night at Ice for Kids Arena, Minnesota's Noah Anderson tied the game with 1:18 left in regulation and Jay Routheau won it 3:33 into overtime as the Iron Rangers rallied to defeat first-place Fort Frances, 3-2.

The Lakers had a 2-0 lead after one period of play by getting goals 34 seconds apart from Brent Aiken and Patrick Sofer.



STAFF PHOTO BY KEVIN BONESKE

From left, the Lakers' Lucas DeBenedet (16) controls the puck while being pursued by the Iron Rangers' Austin Frank (21) in Saturday night's game at Ice for Kids Arena in Fort Frances.

A.J. Rupert scored shorthanded to get Minnesota on the board at 8:32 of the second period, only to see Cousineau put Fort Frances back in front by two goals on the power play less than 2 minutes later.

Minnesota pulled back to within one at 12:34 of the second period when Jonathon Losurdo scored to make it 3-2 heading into the third period.

The score stayed that way

until late in regulation when Anderson put in the equalizer to force overtime, where Routheau completed the comeback as the visiting Iron Rangers gained the extra point in the standings. Minnesota goalie Alex Reichle was pelted with 54 shots en route to earning the win.

Jordan Cartney only had 25 shots sent his way in the overtime defeat for the Lakers.

Fort Frances returns to action at 7:30 p.m. today when the Lakers face the Ice Dogs at Dryden Memorial Arena.

**Friday's game**  
**Fort Frances 7, Thunder Bay 1**  
**Fort Frances 4 1 2 - 7**  
**Thunder Bay 0 1 0 - 1**

**Saturday's game**  
**Minnesota 4, Fort Frances 3 (OT)**  
**Minnesota 0 2 1 1 - 4**  
**Fort Frances 2 1 0 0 - 3**