

# SPORTS



**AP 10K in Minn. win**  
Vikings top Bears 23-20 in overtime  
**B2, B10**

## QUICK HITS

### L-BF girls hoops team wins opener at Bigfork 72-37

After scoring 22 unanswered points to open Monday night's game, the Littlefork-Big Falls girls basketball team won its season opener at Bigfork, 72-37.

"Bigfork is young, and we came out and played hard," said Vikings head coach John Larson.

L-BF held the Huskies scoreless for about the first 9 minutes of the first half and then led 45-16 at intermission.

The Vikings had two players record a double-double with Brooke Millerbernd leading the team with 25 points and 17 rebounds, while Abby Thompson added 20 points and 15 rebounds.

L-BF returns to action Thursday night at Northland Remer.

### Oilers' Ben Gordon on six-game point streak with 13 points

Tulsa Oilers forward Ben Gordon of International Falls is on a six-game point streak and has posted 13 points (5 goals, 8 assists) in his last six outings for the Central Hockey League team.

Gordon, 28, had a six-game point streak earlier this season and ranks second on the squad with 25 points.

In Tulsa's three road games last week, Gordon scored the game-winning goal in Wednesday's 4-3 shootout victory at St. Charles, recorded a power-play goal in Friday's 4-3 loss at Missouri and had a goal and two assists in Saturday's 9-3 loss at Quad City.

The Oilers return to action Friday night when they host Arizona.

### Jake Youso records assist in upset of BC

Holy Cross men's hockey junior forward Jake Youso of International Falls recorded his second assist of the year Friday when the Crusaders upset No. 7-ranked Boston College, 5-4.

Youso's assist came on the first Holy Cross goal of the game scored by Mike Barrett.

The Crusaders won despite being outshot by Boston College, 38-18.

Holy Cross, which improved its season record to 4-9 overall, opens a two-game home series this coming Friday against Air Force.

## BOYS HOCKEY



STAFF PHOTOS BY EMILY GEDDE

The Broncos' Jakob Eide (12) controls the puck while being pursued by Little Falls' Mark Anez (19) in Friday's game at Bronco Arena.

# Broncos win season opener in OT

## Vollom scores game-winner

### JOURNAL STAFF REPORT

It took an extra period Friday night before Ross Johnson won his first game in his first season as the International Falls boys hockey team's head coach.

Junior forward Jackson Vollom tied the game in the third period and then scored the game-winning goal 4:23 into the overtime session to lift the Broncos to a 4-3 victory over Little Falls in the season opener at Bronco Arena.

International Falls scored first less than 5 minutes into the first period on a goal from junior forward Clay

Bergstrom assisted by Wyatt Boyum and Christopher Kostiuik. However, the Flyers tied the game less than 2 minutes later on an unassisted goal from Alec Zack.

Little Falls then pulled in front by two in the second period on goals from Mack Anez and Landon Atkinson, before the Broncos' Jakob Eide scored assisted by Luke Spilde to cut the Flyers' lead to 3-2 going into the third period.

After Little Falls was penalized for having too many players on the ice, Vollom's goal in the third period came on the power play assisted by Boyum and Spilde. Vollom

accounted for the only third-period goal as the game went into overtime tied 3-3.

Vollom's winning goal in overtime was assisted by Jordan Tilander and Nathan Hauke.

International Falls senior goalie Wyatt Ulrich stopped more than 30 shots in recording the victory, while Gunnar Boser made 25 saves in a losing effort for Little Falls.

The Broncos' home game originally scheduled for Tuesday night against Eveleth-Gilbert was postponed because of the snowy weather. No make-up day has yet been scheduled.

<b>Broncos 4, Flyers 3</b>
<b>Flyers 1 2 0 0 - 3</b>
<b>Broncos 1 1 1 1 - 4</b>



At right, Little Falls' Jack Schulte (26) controls the puck while the Broncos' Wyatt Boyum sets up on defense in Friday's game at Bronco Arena.

## FUNDAMENTALS IN THE FALLS



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

At right, former Minnesota Timberwolves and Duke University basketball player Christian Laettner teaches fundamentals of the game to elementary students on hand Saturday in the Falls High School gym. Laettner was in the Falls last weekend to work with local basketball players at the elementary, high school and collegiate levels.

## NHL

### Wild break deadlock in 3rd, beat Flyers 2-0

ST. PAUL (AP) — Someone has to score first and for the first time in eight games the Minnesota Wild beat their opponent to the punch.

Jason Pominville and Charlie Coyle scored goals 57 seconds apart early in the third period to break open a defensive standoff and lift the Wild to a 2-0 victory over the Philadelphia Flyers on Monday night.

"We'd been giving up the

first goal so many times lately," Wild coach Mike Yeo said. "I figure if we're not going to score it, don't let them."

Josh Harding made 21 saves for this third shutout of the season.

"Better start," Yeo said. "And again, that's something we've talked about."

In their previous seven games, the Wild had immediately fallen behind

and were outscored 15-4 in the first two periods. They were 2-4-1 in those games.

Although it took a while for the Wild to get anything going offensively, they effectively kept the Flyers locked down. Playing without leading goal scorer Vincent Lecavalier (back spasms), Philadelphia had only six shots on goal and no real scoring chances in the first 33 minutes.

## SIJHL HOCKEY

# Lakers extend their winning streak to five

## DeBenedet scores game-winner; Meyer named co-player of week

### JOURNAL STAFF REPORT

The Fort Frances Lakers are on a five-game winning streak going into Thursday night's home contest against the Minnesota Iron Rangers after winning a pair of home games last weekend.

Lakers forward and 2013 Falls High School graduate Lucas DeBenedet scored 24 seconds into overtime Saturday to lift Fort Frances to a 4-3, come-from-behind victory over the Dryden Ice Dogs at Ice for Kids Arena.

Dryden jumped out to an early 2-0 lead with Tim Kavanaugh and Derek McPhail scoring 49 seconds apart midway through the opening period on newly-acquired Lakers goalie Ethan Wood.

Special teams allowed Fort Frances to trim the deficit when 2012 FHS graduate Mason Meyer scored on the power play at 13:47 of the first period.

The second period saw Lakers goals from DeBenedet and Billy Grillo and another one by Dryden's Dane Feeney to tie the game after 40 minutes.

After a scoreless third period, DeBenedet won it early in overtime as he notched his league-leading 23rd goal of the season.

Wood finished with 16 saves to win in his debut



**Lucas DeBenedet**



**Mason Meyer**

in goal, while Shayne Dietl faced 40 shots in a contest that saw his side earn a point with the overtime setback.

### LAKERS 6, WILDERNESS 1

The Lakers scored twice in each period Friday when they defeated the Wisconsin Wilderness, 6-1, at Ice for Kids Arena.

Meyer, who has been named a Pizza Hut co-player of the week for the period ending Dec. 1, scored once and dished out four assists in the win.

DeBenedet and Lyndon Lipinski sandwiched goals around one by Wisconsin's Justin Gregory to account for the first-period scoring.

Meyer and Cody Wickstrom then added goals in the middle period to make it a 4-1 game after 40 minutes.

The Lakers then finished things off in the third period by getting goals from Miles Nolan and Lipinski to round out the scoring.

## SPORTS SCHEDULE

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

**Friday's games**  
**Women's/men's basketball**  
RRCC at Fergus Falls, 6/8 p.m.  
**Girls basketball**  
Eveleth-Gilbert at I. Falls, 7:15 p.m.  
**Boys basketball**  
Chisholm at L-BF, 7:15 p.m.  
**Boys hockey**  
Hibbing at I. Falls, 7:30 p.m.

**Saturday's games**  
**Women's basketball**  
RRCC vs. Central Minnesota All Stars at St. Cloud, 1 p.m.  
**Men's basketball**  
RRCC at St. Cloud Tech, 3 p.m.  
**Girls hockey**  
Proctor at I. Falls, 3 p.m.  
**Boys hockey**  
Proctor at I. Falls, 7 p.m.  
**Women's hockey**  
UMD vs. RRCC at Kerry Park Arena, 7 p.m.