

SPORTS

VFW BASEBALL

Falls splits with Greenway before rain arrives

BY KEVIN BONESKE
Sports Editor

The rain held off long enough Sunday afternoon at Scheela Field for the International Falls VFW baseball team to finish both games of a doubleheader against Greenway.

In game one, which counted for tournament seeding purposes, the Falls fell behind by four runs in the top of the first before coming back to defeat Greenway, 8-7.

“It was a good win the first game,” said Falls VFW head coach Mike Coffield. “It was important for us for the seeding. We kind of got in a hole right away and we came back to win, which is nice to see.”

The Falls drove in its first run in the bottom of the first on a single by Tyler Coffield. Greenway then added two runs in the top of the second to lead 6-1, after which Riley Nemec relieved Walker Ulrich on the mound to pitch the final five innings from the Falls.

After Greenway plated its final run in the top of the fourth, the Falls scored four times in the bottom of the inning when Tyler Coffield and Peter Franz recorded hits and Greenway committed multiple errors.

The Falls tied the game at 7-7 with two runs in the bottom of the fifth after Promersberger and Franz both singled.

Lane Skallman scored



STAFF PHOTOS BY KEVIN BONESKE

At right, the Falls VFW’s Brett Lindvall dives toward home plate before being tagged out by Greenway’s catcher in the first game of Sunday’s doubleheader at Scheela Field.



Below at right, the Falls VFW’s Darian Erickson dives back to first base in the second game of Sunday’s home doubleheader against Greenway.

GREENWAY 9, FALLS 2

In the second game that didn’t count for tournament seeding purposes, the Falls lost to Greenway, 9-2.

The Falls scored its only two runs in the bottom of the third when Darian Erickson and Skallman both singled and scored.

Erickson pitched the majority of the second game with Brett Lindvall closing out the seventh inning for the Falls.

Game 1
Int’l Falls 8, Greenway 7
Greenway 4-2-0 1-0-0 0-7
Int’l Falls 1-0-0 4-2-1 0-8
WP-Riley Nemec

Game 2
Greenway 9, Int’l Falls 2
Greenway 2-0-0 2-4-0 1-9
Int’l Falls 0-0-2 0-0-0 0-2
LP-Darian Erickson

JUNIOR

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The Falls pulled within one by scoring three times in the second inning when McRoberts singled to drive in two runs and then scored himself.

The Fort responded with three runs of its own in the third inning when the ball got away from Koenig behind the plate on a third strike that would have ended the inning without a run, before a subsequent double and single brought in the runs.

That was the last time the Fort would score. Harala left the mound after three innings, allowing all seven runs, six earned, on five hits with five walks while striking out three.

Humbert then pitched the final four innings to record the victory, giving up a hit with two walks while striking out six.

The Falls’ comeback included plating a run without a hit in the fourth inning, scoring twice without

a hit in the top of the sixth and then picking up two runs on two hits in the seventh when Wherley and Kalar both singled to each drive in a run with two outs.

FALLS 16, DRYDEN 3

In another non-conference game Friday afternoon at Scheela Field, the Falls defeated Dryden, 16-3, in five innings.

The Falls tallied 13 hits, including four from Harala with a double, three from Wherley with two doubles and 4 RBI and a pair of singles from Beck.

Maruk recorded the pitching victory working the first 3 2/3 innings, allowing an earned run on eight walks and two hit batters while striking out seven. Koenig threw the final 1 1/3 innings, allowing two runs, one earned, on a hit with two walks while striking out two.

FALLS 7, HIBBING 2

The Falls was only able to get in one game of a road doubleheader scheduled Monday, winning a rain-shortened contest in four innings at Hibbing, 7-2.



STAFF PHOTO BY KEVIN BONESKE

At left, the Falls Junior League’s Riley Beck (1) avoids the tag at home plate to score in the first game of Thursday’s home doubleheader against Fort Frances.

McRoberts recorded the pitching victory, allowing two earned runs on two hits with three walks while striking out five.

Of Falls’ eight hits, Kalar, Beck and Butler had two apiece.

The Falls’ season record stands at 6-1 in the Iron

Range League and 15-2 overall going into league play next Monday when the Falls will host Virginia’s No. 1 team starting at 5 p.m.

VFW

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Wegner and Skallman each had a single.

The Falls added five runs in the fourth inning when Peter Franz, Pearson and Lindvall each singled and Deer River replaced Gogglye on the mound with Jaxson Willis.

After not scoring a run in the bottom of the fifth to end the game via the 10-run rule, the Falls did so in the sixth inning when Tyler Coffield singled to plate Skallman.

The Falls returns to action this afternoon in a doubleheader at Grand Rapids.

Int’l Falls 17, Deer River 7
Deer River 6-0-0 1-0-0 - 7
Int’l Falls 4-4-3 5-0-1 - 17
WP-Brett Lindvall

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