

SPORTS



Falls Summer Hockey Camps

Two-week camps begin Monday

B2

QUICK HITS

Bronco 5K results to be published July 10

Due to the early publication deadline with Independence Day falling on Thursday, results from the Bronco 5K Run/Walk will be included in the July 10 edition of The Journal and are also available on the ifallsjournal.com website.

Clover Cruise 10K/5K races set for July 14

The fifth annual Clover Cruise 10K Run and 5K Run/Walk will be held July 14 in conjunction with the Northern Minnesota District Fair in Littlefork.

Both races start at 9 a.m. and begin and end at the Northern District Fairgrounds. Race-day registration begins at 8 a.m. The cost to enter on the day of the race is \$20 without a T-shirt. A limited number of T-shirts will be available on race day for \$8 per shirt.

Awards will be presented to the overall top male and female finishers in both races as well as to the top males and females in seven age categories.

Following the Clover Cruise races, a free 1K Kids Run will be held at the fairgrounds with all the participants receiving a ribbon.

For more information, e-mail Jeff Eibler at derdo.eibler@gmail.com.

Up North Volleyball Camp July 15-18

The annual Up North Volleyball Camp for grades 8-12 will be held at Rainy River Community College from July 15-18.

The sessions will run from 9 a.m.-noon and from 1-3 p.m. with the camp concluding at noon on the final day. Various awards will be given out.

The cost of the camp is \$95, which includes a camp T-shirt. Checks should be made payable and sent to: Mel Millerbernd, P.O. Box 291, Littlefork, MN 56653.

For more information, call (218) 278-4563 or e-mail mel.millerbernd@rainyriver.edu.

Backus Rainy Lake Triathlon Aug. 17

The second “Backus Rainy Lake Triathlon” will be held Aug. 17 when the annual swimming, running and biking event will start and end at City Beach.

The event, which is sponsored by the Backus Community Center, begins with a quarter-mile swim on Rainy Lake at City Beach, followed by biking 11 miles from City Beach to Jackfish Bay and back and then a 5-kilometer run starting and ending at City Beach on County Road 20.

The triathlon is open to ages 13 and older with the entrants able to compete as an individual, team of two or team of three.

The registration fee by Aug. 9 is \$50 per person, \$95 for a two-person team and \$120 for a three-person team.

After Aug. 9, the registration fee increases to \$60 per person, \$110 for a two-person team and \$145 for a three-person team.

The registration forms, which are available online at www.rainylakeraces.com or www.backusab.org, may be mailed with the fee to: Backus Community Center, 900 5th St., International Falls, MN 56649; or email: hoasobczynski@backusab.org.

VFW BASEBALL



STAFF PHOTOS BY KEVIN BONESKE

At left, the Falls VFW’s Jackson Vollom (7) slides into home plate to score in the first game of Tuesday’s home doubleheader against Hibbing.

Falls hammers Hibbing in five

Hibbing edges the Falls in game two

BY KEVIN BONESKE
Sports Editor

Offense was aplenty Tuesday afternoon when the International Falls VFW baseball team tallied 20 hits and defeated Hibbing, 19-9, in five innings in the first game of a doubleheader at Scheela Field.

Wyatt Ulrich led the Falls players with multiple hits by batting 4-5 with 3 RBI and two runs scored. Cole Miggins and Jack Bartkowski each added three hits, while Ben Humbert, Jack Mellstrom and Jackson Vollom tallied two hits apiece.

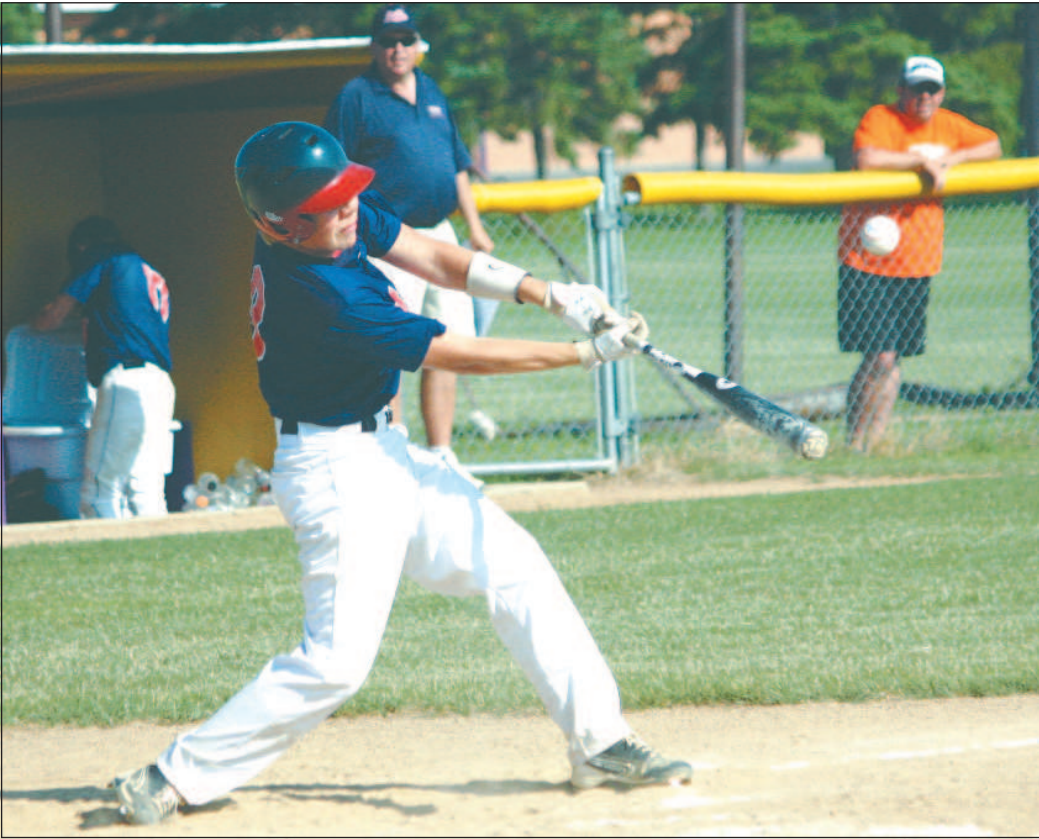
“In the game that counted (for tournament seeding purposes) in game one, we hit the ball extremely well,” said Falls VFW head coach Eric Walls. “We pitched it very, very poor. We had 13 walks, which against a good team — they’re going to beat you pretty good.

“To score 19 runs was definitely a testament to our bats (Tuesday). We hit the ball good, but we need to pitch it a lot better.”

The Falls started Humbert on the mound and pulled out to a 7-1 lead after the opening inning.

However, Miggins ended up taking over the pitching in the second inning for Humbert, who was charged for three earned runs while allowing five walks and striking out a batter.

Hibbing pulled within two runs before the Falls batted again in the bottom of the



The Falls VFW’s Clay Bergstrom (9) swings away in Tuesday’s home doubleheader against Hibbing.

second. The Falls then added six more runs with Humbert doubling to open the inning when 10 batters went to the plate.

Bartkowski doubled to drive in Humbert for the first run in the second, while the final three runs came in on Jack Mellstrom’s hit that cleared the loaded bases.

Hibbing got back three runs in the top of the third when Miggins left the mound with one out and the bases loaded as Ulrich took over the pitching.

Miggins ended up being charged for five earned runs on three hits with three walks while striking out two.

Hibbing cut Falls’ lead to 13-9 with another run in the top of the fourth, but left the bases loaded and could score no more.

The Falls finished the game via the 10-run rule by scoring six times in the bottom of the fifth when Humbert plated the winning run on a single by Kevin Kilbride.

Ulrich recorded the victory pitching the final 2 2/3 innings, allowing a run on two hits with five walks while striking out a batter.

HIBBING 3, I. FALLS 2

In game two, the Falls was only able to muster three hits

with several reserve players in the game and lost to Hibbing, 3-2.

Max Vergeldt started on the mound for the Falls and didn’t allow a run pitching the first three innings.

Vergeldt ended up walking the bases loaded to start the fourth inning when he was relieved by Jakob Eide, who got out of the inning after getting the first batter he faced to hit into a double play and the second batter to ground out.

The Falls scored both of its runs in the bottom of the fourth. Kilbride led off the inning with a single and scored on an errant throw to third.

Vergeldt walked and plated the other run when the bases were loaded with no one out and Walker Ulrich grounded into a double play.

Hibbing pulled within a run after scoring in the top of the sixth when Bartkowski relieved Eide on the mound.

Six batters reached base in the top of the seventh on two hits, two walks and a pair of fielder’s choices when Hibbing scored two runs to take a 3-2 lead. The game ended when the Falls was retired in order in the bottom of the inning as Bartkowski recorded the pitching loss.

The doubleheader split gave the Falls an 11-5 season record overall with the team having won all its games that count for tournament seeding purposes.

“Our team’s fine, they’re relaxed, they play very well,” Walls said. “I think probably come before playoff time, we’ll have a few more practices and really sharpen things up before (the district tournament games).”

The Falls returns to action Monday with a home doubleheader starting at 4 p.m. against Greenway. Both of those games will count for tournament seeding purposes after a doubleheader Greenway was supposed to host earlier this summer was rained out.

Game one
I. Falls 19, Hibbing 9
Hibbing 1-4-3 1-0 — 9 5
I. Falls 7-6-0 0-6 — 19 20

Game two
Hibbing 3, I. Falls 2
Hibbing 0-0-0 0-0-1 2 — 3 6
I. Falls 0-0-0 2-0-0 0 — 2 3

Fusion 12U sweeps Greenway 14U

JOURNAL STAFF REPORT



The International Falls Fusion 12U softball team swept a doubleheader it hosted Tuesday against the Greenway 14U team, winning the first game, 7-4, and then scoring the winning run in the final inning of the second game for a 7-6 victory.

Left: The Falls Fusion 12U’s Taylor Sears hits a fly ball toward left field in Tuesday’s home doubleheader against the Greenway 14U team.

Right: At right, the Falls Fusion 12U’s Holly Wold (22) beats the throw to the plate to score in Tuesday’s home doubleheader against Greenway.



STAFF PHOTOS BY KEVIN BONESKE