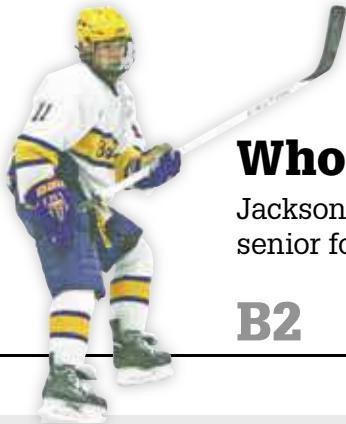


SPORTS



Who is...
Jackson Vollom, Bronco boys hockey senior forward/captain, is featured

B2

QUICK HITS

L-BF boys hoops team falls at Bigfork 72-65

After trailing by three points at halftime Tuesday night, the Littlefork-Big Falls boys basketball team had a scoring drought for about 5-6 minutes in the second half and ended up losing at Bigfork, 72-65.

“We were on a dry spell and couldn’t knock down a shot,” said Vikings head coach Jeff Maish, who noted the game was tied at 41-41 in the second half when L-BF had trouble scoring and fell behind by double digits.

The Vikings had three players score in double figures led by Zach Simon with 21 points. Ryan Bobst added 12 points with Evan Wimmer scoring 11 more.

L-BF, which has lost four games in a row since the first of the year, dropped to 3-9 for the season. The Vikings return to action next Tuesday with a road game against Northeast Range.

SPORTS SCHEDULE

Today’s games
Boys swimming/diving
I. Falls in True Team Meet at Hibbing, 9 a.m.
Women’s/men’s basketball
RRCC at Itasca, 1/3 p.m.
Girls basketball
I. Falls at Two Harbors, 3 p.m.
Women’s hockey
NDSU vs. RRCC at Bronco Arena, 7 p.m.

Sunday’s games
Women’s hockey
NDSU vs. RRCC at Kerry Park, 10 a.m.

Monday’s games
Girls basketball
L-BF at Hill City, 7:15 p.m.

Tuesday’s games
Boys swimming/diving
Eveleth-Gilbert at I. Falls, 4:30 p.m.
Boys basketball
Eveleth-Gilbert at I. Falls, 7:15 p.m.
L-BF at Northeast Range, 7:15 p.m.

GIRLS BASKETBALL

Broncos beat Golden Bears a 3rd time

L-BF Vikings cut down by Cherry Tigers

BY KEVIN BONESKE
Sports Editor

In the third matchup between the two teams this season, the International Falls girls basketball team won for the third time Thursday night.

The Broncos won at home over Eveleth-Gilbert, 61-49.

“It seems like we’re playing them all the time,” said Falls head coach Shawn Gilbert. “They got to know us pretty well, so it’s one of the toughest teams that we’ve played just because we do know each other so well.”

In their previous two contests this season, the Broncos won the first game Dec. 5 at Eveleth, 77-55, and then defeated the Golden Bears on Dec. 26 at the holiday tournament in Esko, 46-42.

Thursday’s game in the Falls High School gym remained close in the first half when Maddie Filipiak scored 11 of her game-high 21 points and Emma Gilbert picked up seven of her 11 points. The half ended with the Broncos in front, 29-26.

The Falls took control



STAFF PHOTO BY KEVIN BONESKE
From left, the Broncos’ Jena Sullivan and Eveleth-Gilbert’s Cora Delich battle for the ball inside the lane in Thursday night’s game in the Falls High School gym.

in the second half by breaking a 34-34 tie with an 11-0 scoring run that included five field goals on layups when the Broncos took advantage of Eveleth-Gilbert committing turnovers.

“It all starts with our defense,” Shawn Gilbert

said. “When we play our man-to-man defense I think we play it pretty well, but we don’t cause the same turnovers that we do when we’re playing our trapping defense.”

The Golden Bears were able to pull withing four points late in the half, but

ternoon’s game at Two Harbors.

CHERRY 78, L-BF 47

Two teams known for their intense rivalry in girls high school sports battled in basketball Thursday night when Littlefork-Big Falls lost at home to Cherry, 78-47.

L-BF head Dan Beste said the Vikings weren’t able to prevent the Tigers from rebounding the basketball.

Cherry, which led 34-21 at halftime, had three players end up scoring in double figures led by Alexis Kudis with 22 points. Joely Roberts added 14 points with Diana Clement scoring 10 more.

L-BF had only one player score in double figures when Kaylee Kennedy put in a game-high 27 points.

The loss leveled the Vikings’ season record to 5-5 going into Monday’s game at Hill City.

IF 61, E-G 49
E-G 26 23 - 49
IF 29 32 - 61
E-G: Majja DePaulis 8, McKenzie Perushek 2, Cora Delich 2, Olivia Bontems 15, Katelyn Rice 18, Avery Slaughter 4. 3-pointers: Rice 3, DePaulis 2. Free throws: 16-21. Fouls: 14.
IF: Maddie Filipiak 21, Shelby Wolden 7, Cassie Tomczak 4, Teagan Anderson 9, Janet Humbert 4, Jena Sullivan 5, Emma Gilbert 11. 3-pointers: Filipiak 2, Anderson, Gilbert. Free throws: 11-18. Fouls: 16.

GIRLS HOCKEY

Broncos trampled on by Warroad

JOURNAL STAFF REPORT

The International Falls girls hockey team wasn’t able to score until the final period Thursday night when the Broncos lost at home to Warroad, 6-1.

“It was a tough night – (Warroad is) a good team,”

said Broncos head coach Gerald Bolstad. “I don’t think we came out very good. We kind of were flat-footed the first period. They took it to us, got up three (goals), and we were kind of down and out, but the kids competed hard after that.”

The Warriors pulled out

to a 3-0 lead after the first period with a goal from Madison Oelkers and two scores from Mariah Gardner.

Gardner then recorded a hat trick when she scored the second period’s only goal.

Warroad picked up its final two goals early in the third period when Francesca Huerd and Brooke Hellquist scored.

Falls’ only goal of the game came with 12:32 left in the third period when Lexi Edwards scored assisted by Amber Tilander.

In the game’s final minutes, the Broncos were on the power play with a five-on-three advantage after multiple penalties were committed by Warroad, which ended up with 11 penalties for the game. However, the Falls was unable to add another goal before time expired.

Shot on goal favored the Warriors, 36-25, with Emma



STAFF PHOTO BY KEVIN BONESKE
In front from left, the Broncos’ Abby Auran (13) clears the puck out of the zone while being pursued by Warroad’s Tanesha Lussier (11) in Thursday night’s game at Bronco Arena.

Brunelle recording the win in net and Kalaya McConnell picking up the loss for the Broncos.

The loss dropped the Falls’ season record to 8-11 going into Friday’s road game against North Shore.

“We’ve got to get better

defensively,” Bolstad said. “I thought we had a lot of breakdowns in our own end, so we’ve got to work on that.”

Warroad 6, Int’l Falls 1
Warroad 3 1 2 - 6
Int’l Falls 0 0 1 - 1

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TROPHIES GIVEN AT ELKS HOOP SHOOT



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
The local Elks Hoops Shoot was held Jan. 11 in the Falls High School gym with trophies presented to the top-two boys and girls in three age categories. Those pictured include, from left, front row, Havyn Pelland, girls 10-11 second place; Casey Alleman, boys 8-9 first place; Aubrey Pavleck, girls 8-9 second place; Kelby Anderson, girls 8-9 first place. Back row, Jett Tomczak, boys 10-11 second place; Bob Anderson, Elks Exalted Ruler; Jack Gilbert, boys 12-13 second place; Jace Hallin, boys 12-13 first place; Lamin Barrow, boys 10-11 first place; Deelyla St. Peter, girls 12-13 first place; Hannah Mark, girls 12-13 second place; Chloe Sullivan, girls 10-11 first place; Max Corrin, Local Director; Charlie Anderson, North District Director. The first-place winners advance to the North District competition Jan. 25 at Mesabi Range College in Virginia.