

SPORTS

QUICK HITS

Ettestad to play football at BSU

Jakob Ettestad plans to continue playing football after graduating this spring from International Falls High School.

Ettestad was among the 24 roster additions announced Wednesday by Bemidji State University, an NCAA Division II football program.

The Beavers have listed Ettestad as a running back and one of 14 incoming offensive players.

Ettestad, who played both running back and linebacker for the Broncos, received all-conference and all-section honors his senior season and was an all-conference honorable mention selection in 2012.

He averaged around 110 yards per game rushing in 2013 and also scored nine rushing touchdowns as a senior.

Viking boys hoops team wins at N-K

The Littlefork-Big Falls boys basketball team snapped a two-game losing streak Thursday night when the Vikings won a road game against Nashwauk-Keewatin, 73-57.

“We played well in the first half,” said L-BF head coach Jeff Maish, who also noted the Spartans are “an entirely new team” from the one the Vikings defeated at the buzzer last season in the Section 7A playoffs.

Three L-BF players scored in double figures led by Jacob Franz with 22 points, followed by Rylan Henrikson with 20 and Taylor DeLack with 15.

FHS boys swimmers host Mesabi in dual

The International Falls boys swimming and diving team closed out its home varsity schedule Tuesday afternoon by hosting a dual meet against Mesabi East.

Both teams contested the first five events into the diving competition, before the Giants swam the final seven events for exhibition purposes only, which resulted in the Broncos ending up with a 60-29 advantage in the dual meet score.

Falls junior Cole Tatsak won the diving competition with 150.4 points. Broncos junior Ian Ducharme came in second in the 50-yard freestyle (27.51 seconds), while Falls’ 200 medley relay team of Alex Belanger, John Cowman, Levi Lucy and Tatsak placed runner-up in 2:12.02.

GIRLS HOCKEY

Broncos sink Mariners, 4-0

FHS to face Bluejackets in Section 7A semifinals

BY KEVIN BONESKE
Sports Editor

Defeating Silver Bay Area for the third time this season has brought the International Falls girls hockey team within two wins of advancing to the Class A State Tournament.

The No. 3-seeded Broncos opened the Section 7A playoffs Thursday night by shutting out the No. 6-seeded Mariners, 4-0, in the quarterfinals at Bronco Arena.

The game remained scoreless after the first period. The Falls’ first goal came with just under 10 minutes left in the second period on a power play when senior defensive player Katie West scored assisted by Hillary Fox and Amy Auran. The Broncos’ lead stayed at 1-0 going into the final 17 minutes.

“I think we were lacking a little puck luck – I think we hit four pipes in the first two periods – but the kids played hard,” said Falls head coach Gerald Bolstad. “I thought we were a little tight, but that’s OK. It’s playoffs. That’s understandable.

Now we get ready for Tuesday.”

The Broncos put in three goals in the final period when they outshot Silver Bay, 22-4.

Fox gave the Falls a 2-0 lead when she scored assisted by Lexi Erickson at 3:26 of the third period. Less than 2 minutes later, the Broncos pulled in front by three on a goal from Amber Tilander assisted by Ashley Jonson and Tessa Walls. The Falls’ final goal came with 1:58 to play when Kaitlin Van Heel scored assisted by Tilander and Abby Auran.

For the game, the Falls outshot Silver Bay, 47-18, with Keanna Carlson recording the shutout victory in goal. Sara Carman picked up the loss in net for the Mariners.

The win improved the Broncos’ overall record to 15-8-3 going in next Tuesday’s Section 7A semifinal at 8 p.m. in Cloquet against No. 2-seeded Hibbing/Chisholm, a team the Falls has lost to once and tied once this season.

“We’re on top of our game, which is where we want to be,” Bolstad said. “I think we’re clicking – the kids are working



STAFF PHOTO BY KEVIN BONESKE

From right, the Broncos’ Kaitlin Van Heel celebrates scoring the final goal of Thursday night’s game while skating behind the net past Silver Bay Area’s Samantha Anderson at Bronco Arena.

hard – and that’s all you can ask.”

The other semifinal next Tuesday at 6 p.m. in Cloquet has top-seeded Proctor/Hermantown fac-

ing No. 4-seeded Moose Lake Area, which won its quarterfinal game Thursday over No. 5-seeded Eveleth-Gilbert, 5-2. The Section 7A title

game is set for 6 p.m. Feb. 14 in Cloquet.

Int'l Falls 4, Silver Bay 0	
Silver Bay	0 0 0 - 0
Int'l Falls	0 1 3 - 4

BOYS HOCKEY



STAFF PHOTOS BY KEVIN BONESKE

From right, the Broncos’ Luke Spilde (22) has a breakaway play on Lake of the Woods goalie Cody Nelson (39) to score the first of his four goals in Tuesday afternoon’s game at Bronco Arena.

Broncos tame LOW Bears, 5-1

Spilde scores 4 goals in win

BY KEVIN BONESKE
Sports Editor

Luke Spilde scored four goals Tuesday afternoon to lift the International Falls boys hockey team to a 5-1 victory over Lake of the Woods at Bronco Arena.

“When it rains, it pours,” Spilde said. “Sometimes when I’m on, I’m on.”

After a scoreless first 17 minutes, Spilde put in a pair of unassisted goals at 2:55 and 5:36 of the second period to give the Falls a 2-0 lead.

Brady Walls put the Broncos up by three goals when he scored assisted by Jakob Eide with 3:33 left in the second period.

The Falls pulled in front 4-0 when Spilde scored assisted by Walls at 3:21 of the third period.

The Bears’ only goal came with 6:45 to play when Carter Chorney scored assisted by John Schell.

Spilde added a short-handed goal assisted by Eide with 5:25 left in the



From right, the Broncos’ Clay Bergstrom (9) battles along the boards for the puck with Lake of the Woods’ Kenton Peters (2) in Tuesday afternoon’s game at Bronco Arena.

game to close out the scoring.

“I pushed it in somehow,” Spilde said. “Eide did a great job of drawing the defenseman over, so that’s how we draw it up.”

The Broncos outshot Lake of the Woods, 25-20, with Wyatt Ulrich recording the win in goal.

GIRLS BASKETBALL

Broncos start out slow, win big over Greenway

L-BF loses by 4 at Chisholm

BY KEVIN BONESKE
Sports Editor

A double-digit deficit early ended up as a 35-point victory Thursday night for the International Falls girls basketball team.

The Broncos clinched a share of the Iron Range Conference title by defeating Greenway, 83-48.

“We started out slow (Thursday night) for whatever reason,” said Falls head coach Shawn Gilbert. “I mean, sometimes we see who we’re playing and we take it for granted, I guess, so we’ve got to make sure we come out a lot harder from here on out. That’s what we definitely talked about at halftime.”

The Broncos trailed for most of the first half before taking the lead at 27-25 with about 5 minutes left before intermission on a 3-point basket by Maddie Filipiak. The half ended with the Falls in front, 32-26.

The final 18 minutes turned the game into the proverbial “tale of two halves” as the Broncos outscored Greenway, 51-22, to close out the game.

“We’ve just got to play with energy and, right now, sometimes we don’t always do that,” Gilbert said. “It was nice to do that in the second half and put the game away.”

Filiapiak led three Falls players scoring in double figures with a game-high 20 points, which included four 3-pointers. Teagan Anderson added 16 points

with three 3-pointers, while Emma Gilbert scored 13 more. The Broncos ended up with 11 players scoring points.

Greenway had two players score in double figures led by Meghan Foley with 18 points and Kate Kuck with 16 points.

The Falls improved its season record to 15-4 overall and 6-0 in conference play going into Friday night’s IRC game at Virginia.

CHISHOLM 49, L-BF 45

In other girls basketball action Thursday night, Littlefork-Big Falls trailed by six at halftime and ended up losing at Chisholm, 49-45.

“The second half went better than the first,” said L-BF head coach John Larson, who also noted the Vikings struggled with rebounding.

Three L-BF players scored in double figures led by Kaylee Kennedy and Abby Thompson with 14 points apiece. Brooke Millerbernd added 10 points.

The loss dropped the Vikings’ season record to 11-4 going into next Tuesday’s season rematch with the Broncos.

Int'l Falls 83, Greenway 48	
Greenway	26 22 - 48
Int'l Falls	32 51 - 83

Greenway: Seri Geisler 5, Jordan Ranta 5, Karli Rutherford 2, Amanda Borth 2, Meghan Foley 18, Kate Kuck 16. Free throws: 16-29. Fouls: 18. Fouled out: Geisler.

Int'l Falls: Maddie Filipiak 20, Shelby Wolden 9, Lexi Owen 4, Cassie Tomczak 2, Teagan Anderson 16, Janet Humbert 7, Jena Sullivan 2, Emma Gilbert 13, Lauren Rautio 5, Bianca Carlson 2, Teah Goulet 3. 3-pointers: Filipiak 4, Anderson 3, Rautio, Goulet. Free throws: 22-31. Fouls: 24.

SPORTS SCHEDULE

Today's games

Boys swimming/diving

I. Falls in Taconite Invite at Mesabi East, 9:30 a.m.

Women's/men's basketball

RRCC at Northland, 1/3 p.m.

Women's hockey

RRCC at Minot State, 7:30 p.m.

Sunday's games

Women's hockey

RRCC at Minot State, noon

Monday's games

Boys hockey

I. Falls at North Shore, 6 p.m.

Boys basketball

L-BF at Mesabi Academy, 7:15 p.m.

Tuesday's games

Girls basketball

L-BF at I. Falls, 7:15 p.m.

Boys basketball

I. Falls at I. Falls, 7:15 p.m.

Boys hockey

Roseau at I. Falls, 7:30 p.m.

Girls hockey

I. Falls vs. Hibbing/Chisholm in Section 7A semifinals at Cloquet, 8 p.m.