

# SPORTS



**UMD-UNO Hockey**  
Nephew-uncle rivalry and more at stake in series  
**B2**

## QUICK HITS

### Ben Gordon tallies 22 points for February

Ben Gordon, one of three Tulsa Oiler players from International Falls, finished the month of February with 14 goals, eight assists and back-to-back Central Hockey League Player of the Week awards.

In his first game in March, Gordon chipped in four assists in the win over St. Charles to extend his point streak to seven games.

Gordon has 26 points (14 goals, 12 assists) in his last 10 games. The 29-year-old center is third in the league with a career-best 78 points and ranks second in the CHL with 35 goals scored.

### Three Mighty Mustangs win medals at Superior

Three members of the local Mighty Mustangs youth wrestling team won medals Saturday at a meet in Superior.

Hudson Mann ended up in a three-way tie for first in the 95-pound, 3-4 grade bracket. After losing his first match 4-2, he was able to earn two victories, winning 10-4 and pinning his final opponent.

Diego Christianson earned a second-place medal in an 85-pound, 3-4 grade bracket. After being pinned in the final seconds of the first round in his first match, he won his next two matches, a come-from-behind 14-8 victory and then a third-round win by a technical fall in his final match.

Pablo Christianson took third place in a 42-pound, Kindergarten bracket.

This coming weekend, the Mighty Mustangs will wrestle Saturday and Sunday as they team up with North Woods for a team tournament in Cloquet. There has been interest shown in International Falls for a potential co-op with North Woods to bring wrestling back to Falls High School.

### Church Bonspiel curling wraps up

Twelve teams representing area churches competed Saturday at the Fort Frances Curling Club to determine curling supremacy for the region.

The team of Todd and Laurie Moxham, Wayne Jewell and Dave Gregory from Zion Lutheran Church came out on top in the annual “Bonspiel.”

Knox United Church’s Rev. Barb Miller and her family team of husband Brent, daughter Myan and son Ben curled into second place.

The curling competition among area churches was introduced to the area in 1967 by R.V. “Rusty” Green and Rev. Harvey Moats and has continued to promote fellowship among area churches for the past 47 years.

The winning teams were presented with awards provided by the Green Funeral Home in Fort Frances.

SPORTS SCHEDULE

**Today’s games**  
**Girls basketball**  
Greenway at I. Falls in Section 7AA Tournament, 7 p.m.

**Thursday’s games**  
**Girls basketball**  
L-BF vs. Chisholm at Greenway in Section 7A Tournament, 5:45 p.m.

**Saturday’s games**  
**Girls basketball**  
Section 7AA quarterfinals at UMD, 2:45 p.m.  
Section 7AA quarterfinals at Duluth Denfeld, 2:45 p.m.

## BOYS BASKETBALL

# Broncos derailed outside by Proctor

### FHS ends season at 13-14 overall

BY KEVIN BONESKE  
Sports Editor

For the third year in a row, the season has come to an end in the Section 7AA quarterfinals for the International Falls boys basketball team.

The No. 2-seeded Broncos lost their second-round playoff game Saturday night to No. 3-seeded Proctor, 84-65, in the University of Minnesota Duluth’s Romano Gymnasium.

“They shot the ball well, we didn’t,” said Falls head coach Derek Dowty. “It seemed like every time we tried to make a run, they had an answer for it, and we just couldn’t get anything going.”

The game stayed competitive in the first half as the lead see-sawed on alternating possessions, before the Rails went on a roll late in the half.

The Broncos’ Clay Tomczak sank a 3-pointer to pull in front, 17-15, before Proctor scored 13 unanswered points to lead by double digits with less than 3 minutes left before halftime. The half ended with the Falls trailing, 33-26.

The Rails, who found multiple scoring opportunities outside and made 10 3-pointers for the game, were led by Travis Carlson with a game-high 25 points, 17 of which came in the first half with four baskets from behind the arc.

“They shot the ball ex-



STAFF PHOTO BY KEVIN BONESKE

From left, the Broncos’ Ben Humbert (44) dribbles the ball in the lane while being guarded by Proctor’s Jacob Wick (33) in Saturday night’s Section 7AA quarterfinal game in the University of Minnesota Duluth’s Romano Gymnasium. For more photos, see Page B8.

tremely well, mostly from behind the 3-point line,” Dowty said. “We missed a couple of shots early. They got a little lead and they just kept building off of it.”

Proctor’s Jordan Bergquist scored 18 of his 21 points in the second half, Henry Habermann added 19 points and Bryden Urie scored 12 more.

The Falls could come no closer than within five points in the second half when the Rails began to pull away late in the half.

The Broncos also had four players score in dou-

ble figures led by Ben Humbert with 20 points, 16 of which came in the second half. Tomczak added 15 points on five 3-pointers and Jack Bartkowski and Max Vergeldt each scored 10 points.

The playoff game’s outcome was the opposite of the regular-season contest when the Falls won Jan. 17 at Proctor, 68-48.

“When we played them they first time they shot very poorly,” Dowty said. “(Saturday night), they were on. I don’t know what it is. I thought defensively we played a pretty good defensive game. They were just making their shots.”

The Broncos, who ended the season 13-14 overall, are graduating six seniors with guard Cody Hallin being the only departing starter.

“I think the future is bright,” Dowty said. “I think we’ve got a lot of guys returning. Hopefully, we get a lot taken care of in the offseason – a lot of building.”

The Rails advanced to Tuesday’s Section 7AA semifinals to face top-seeded Esko.

**Proctor 84, I. Falls 65**  
**Proctor 33 51 – 84**  
**I. Falls 26 39 – 65**  
**Proctor:** Henry Habermann 19, Bryden Urie 12, Travis Carlson 25, Chase Urie 4, Jordan Bergquist 21, Jacob Wick 1, Steve Fremling 2. 3-pointers: Habermann 4, Carlson 4, B. Urie 2. Free throws: 18-23. Fouls: 11.  
**I. Falls:** Ben Humbert 20, Clay Tomczak 15, Cody Hallin 2, Cole Miggins 8, Jack Bartkowski 10, Max Vergeldt 10. 3-pointers: Tomczak 5, Miggins. Free throws: 5-12. Fouls: 14. Technical foul: Humbert.

## GIRLS BASKETBALL

# Broncos conquer Warriors in the regular-season finale

### Falls enters playoffs 19-7

BY KEVIN BONESKE  
Sports Editor

After losing three homes games in a row to Section 7A teams, the International Falls girls basketball closed out the regular season Friday night with a 70-36 victory over Deer River in the Falls High School gym.

“We got the win (Friday night), we go undefeated in the (Iron Range Conference) this year, so both of those are really nice to accomplish this year,” said Broncos head coach Gilbert said. “Hopefully we can keep it going in the playoffs.”

With the win, the Falls enters the Section 7AA Tournament at 19-7 overall, 7-0 in the IRC and 12-0 in games against Section 7AA opponents. The Broncos have received a No. 1 seed and host No. 8-seeded Greenway at 7 p.m. today to open the playoffs.

The Falls took its first double-digit lead in the regular-season finale with 10:21 left in the first half when Maddie Filipiak made a pair of free throws for a 12-2 advantage.

However, the Warriors then tied the game with a 10-0 scoring run capped off by Kelsey Fairbanks making the front end of a one-and-bonus from the



STAFF PHOTO BY KEVIN BONESKE

At center, the Broncos’ Madeline Dahle (11) battles on the floor for a loose ball with Deer River’s Angelina Villeneuve, left, and Gina Schimek, right, in Friday night’s game in the Falls High School gym.

charity stripe with 6:47 to play before halftime.

The Broncos went back in front by double digits on an 11-0 scoring run capped off with a free throw by Filipiak with 1:43 left before intermission. The half ended with the Falls in front, 31-19.

“I still thought we played pretty tight in the first half,” Gilbert said. “The second half we played a little bit looser and I think we started to play a lot better in the second half. ...

“I think we were a little bit worried, especially after the (68-63 home loss Feb. 25 in the) Ely game, but we played a lot better in the second half.”

The second half turned into a rout for the Broncos as they outscored the Warriors, 39-17, in the final 18 minutes.

Filipiak led the Broncos with a game-high 17 points, while Lexi Owen also scored in double figures with 13 points.

Fairbanks led the Warriors in scoring with 11 points.

The Falls will seek its second win in row in today’s playoff to advance to the Section 7AA quarterfinal game at 2:45 p.m. Saturday at Duluth Denfeld against the winner between No. 4-seeded Virginia and No. 5-seeded Eveleth-Gilbert.

## WOMEN’S BASKETBALL

# Voyageurs’ season ends in the region semifinals

### JOURNAL STAFF REPORT

The Rainy River Community College women’s basketball team couldn’t keep up with Northland on the Pioneers’ home court Saturday afternoon.

The Voyageurs’ season came to an end when they lost their Region 13 North semifinal game at Northland, 68-35.

“(The Pioneers have) got just got too many offensive weapons,” said RRCC head coach Dieter Humbert. “Their (aggressive man-to-man) defense made it tough for us to score.”

The Voyageurs, who entered the region tournament as the No. 4 seed, had previously lost twice in Minnesota College Athletic Conference play to top-seeded Northland.

Though the Pioneers’ region semifinal score was 13 points below their season average, Humbert also noted RRCC scored 20 fewer points than its season average.

Northland led 37-19 at halftime and limited the Voyageurs to 16 second-half points. The Pioneers outshot RRCC from the field overall, 29-66 (43.9 percent) to 16-46 (34.8 percent), as well as having a 40-30 advantage in total rebounds. Northland also committed 12 fewer turnovers (11) than the Voyageurs (23).

The Pioneers had three players score in double figures led by Danielle Her-

nandez with 20 points, which included four 3-pointers, followed by Crystal Amundson with 14 and Jenna Lundon with 13.

Kurstyn Gordon was RRCC’s only player to score in double figures with 17 points.

The Voyageurs’ season ended at 10-15 overall, while the Pioneers went on to defeat No. 3-seeded Vermilion, 78-37, in the region finals and advance to the NJCAA Division III National Tournament being held March 13-15 in Rochester.

Though two RRCC front-court players, CaseyLynn Fulton and Alisha Brinker, have used their sophomore year of eligibility and won’t be returning next season, Humbert said he hopes all the freshmen will return for 2014-15 to join the incoming players he is recruiting.

**Northland 68, Rainy River 35**  
**Rainy River 19 16 – 35**  
**Northland 37 31 – 68**  
**Rainy River:** Roneisha Jordan 8, CaseyLynn Fulton 4, Alisha Brinker 2, Kurstyn Gordon 17, Tali Plate 2, Sarina Phattheep 2. 3-pointers: Gordon. Free throws: 2-7. Fouls: 14.  
**Northland:** Crystal Amundson 14, Sarah Durand 8, Jenna Lundon 13, Shammara Christian 9, Ashley Lindgren 4, Danielle Hernandez 20. 3-pointers: Hernandez 4, Christian. Free throws: 5-7. Fouls: 14.



Kurstyn Gordon