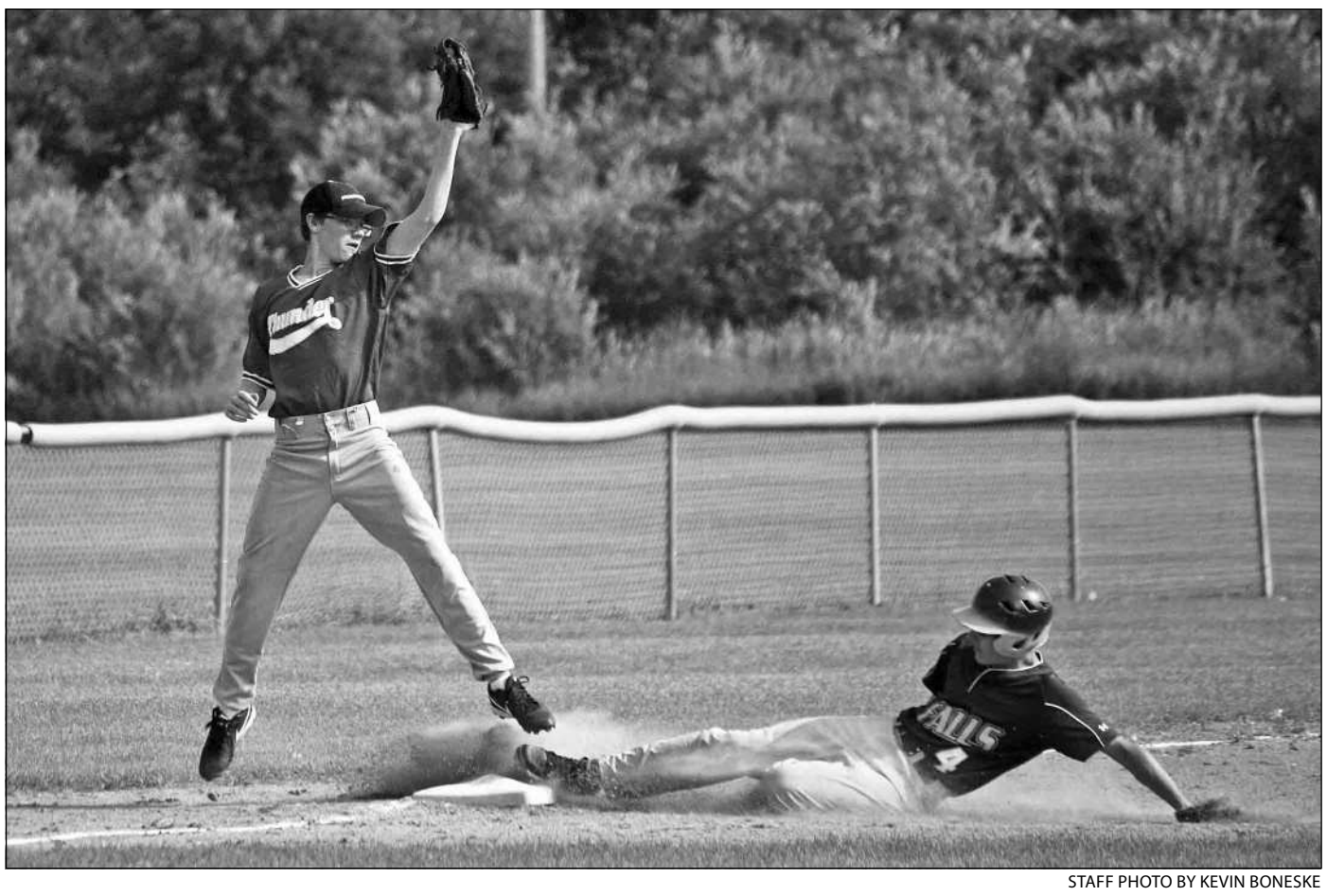
SPORTS

JUNIOR LEAGUE BASEBALL



STAFF PHOTO BY KEVIN BONESKE

At right, the Falls Junior League's Gage Wherley (4) slides safely into third base in the first game of Monday's home doubleheader against Fort Frances.

Falls sweeps Fort to wrap up regular season

JOURNAL STAFF REPORT

The International Falls Junior League baseball team closed out its regular-season schedule Monday by sweeping Fort Frances in a non-league home doubleheader.

"It was a good finish to a great season...," said Falls head coach Josh Koenig. "Most of our pitchers, for the most part, got a chance to pitch and get some quality innings in leading up to the playoffs."

In game one, the Falls shut out the Fort, 18-0, in five innings.

Trimble Butler recorded the pitching victory working the first four innings, allowing a hit with two walks while striking out 12. Gage Wherley gave up a walk closing out the fifth inning.

Of Falls' seven hits, Garrett Koenig and Casey Maruk had two apiece with Riley Beck, Blaine Humbert and Butler each adding a hit. Garrett Koenig, Beck, Butler and Humbert each recorded 2 RBI.

FALLS 18, FORT 1

In game two, the Falls had another shutout going before giving up a run in the final inning and then defeating the Fort, 18-1, in five innings.

Humbert pitched three innings to record the victory, allowing a hit and a walk while striking out four. Willie Harala struck out a batter pitching an inning. Garrett Koenig gave up an earned run on a hit with two walks while striking out a batter closing out the fifth inning.

Of Falls' eight hits, Nathan McRoberts, Butler and Maruk had two apiece with Beck and Wherley each adding a hit. McRoberts and Butler each recorded 3 RBI. Maruk, Beck and Wherley drove in two runs apiece.

The Falls, which finished the regular season 13-1 in the Iron Range Baseball League and 24-3-1 overall, opens the Iron Range Baseball League tournament on Friday as the No. 1 seed at Nyberg Field in Hibbing.

The league tournament, in which the Falls will play in its final games for this summer, runs through Sunday.

Game 1
Int'l Falls 18, Ft. Frances 0
Ft. Frances 0-0-0 0-0 – 0 1 3
Int'l Falls 1-0-6 11-X – 18 7 0
WP–Trimble Butler

Game 2
Int'l Falls 18, Ft. Frances 1
Ft. Frances 0-0-0 0-1 – 1 2 5
Int'l Falls 5-0-8 5-X – 18 8 2
WP–Blaine Humbert

LEGION

➤ continued from B1

opted to get him out of there early and save some innings for Sunday."

The district tournament rules restricted pitchers to 12 innings over a three-day period.

Humbert started on the mound and pitched four scoreless innings to record the victory, allowing only one hit with a walk while striking out nine.

Two Harbors starting pitcher Tim Bott left the mound with the bases loaded and no outs in the fourth inning, when the first batter reliever Mark Pearson faced, Dahlin, doubled to drive in three runs and give the Falls an 8-0 lead.

Ulrich pitched the final three innings for the Post 66 Broncos, giving up four runs on five hits with two hit batters while striking out three.

"One thing that was key for us was to give Wyatt some innings," Walls said. "He was gone for about a week. He was at a hockey camp, so he hasn't been playing very much and he hasn't been throwing for quite a while."

The Falls ended up in a rematch with Two Harbors in Sunday evening's district title game after Two Harbors eliminated Ely, 5-4, in Sunday afternoon's losers' bracket game, which had been postponed Saturday evening because of rainy weather.

I. Falls 5, Milaca 1
Milaca 0-0-0 0-0-1 0 – 1 5 2
I. Falls 0-1-1 0-3-0 X – 5 10 0
WP–Caleb Dahlin; LP–Brian Kiel

Int'l Falls 9, Two Harbors 4
Two Harbors 0-0-0 0-0-4 0 – 4 6 0
Int'l Falls 5-0-0 3-0-1 X – 9 11 1
WP–Ben Humbert; LP–Tim Bott

STAFF PHOTO BY KEVIN BONESKE

From right, the Falls Legion's Wyatt Ulrich (8) slides to beat the throw to Milaca's third baseman in Friday afternoon's district tournament game at Ely.

STAFF PHOTO BY KEVIN BONESKE

From right, the Falls Legion's Cole Miggins dives back to first base as he beats the throw to Two Harbors' Tim Luoma (24) in Sunday's district title game at Ely.

STATE

➤ continued from B1

several years and also has many of the players who were part of last year's VFW baseball team that qualified for the state tournament, now advances to the Division II State Tournament being held Aug. 1-3 in Luverne.

"Our whole junior class (at Falls High School) – they were too old to play VFW (baseball)," Walls said. "The whole junior class is the majority of our varsity baseball program, so we needed to get this (Legion) program started back up and get them playing in the summer."

The Falls opens the eight-team, single-elimination state tournament at 4 p.m. Friday against St. James from District Two.

"You have to win your first two games (to qualify for the championship game)," Walls said. "With our pitching, I like our chances to get through a couple of games."

The winner between the Falls and St. James advances to Saturday's semifinal game set for 7:30 p.m. against the winner between La Crescent from District One and the host team, Luverne.

Int'l Falls 9, Two Harbors 3
Two Harbors 0-0-3 0-0-0 0 – 3 6 2
Int'l Falls 0-0-0 7-0-2 X – 9 12 1
WP–Ben Humbert;
LP–Kyle Omtvedt

Eric Cann wins Coca-Cola Junior Tournament

86 players participate

JOURNAL STAFF REPORT

The Coca-Cola Junior Tournament was held July 17 at the Falls Country Club with 86 players participating.

The tournament included players involved in this summer's Junior Golf Clinics at the FCC as well as competitive players age 18 and under. In addition to the high school and junior high players from the Falls, the tournament also had some high school players from out of town.

Eric Cann, an individual state qualifier this past season for the Broncos, won the boys 16-18 age division in a sudden-death playoff over fellow Bronco golfer Brady Wright. Each player had carded a two-under-par round of 70 for 18 holes.

Earlier this summer, Cann finished in the top 10 at the FCC's Smokey Bear Invitational, while Wright was coming off a win in a junior tournament at Eagle Ridge.

A lunch and raffle drawing followed the Coca-Cola Junior Tournament with each golfer walking away with some sort of prize.

Coca Cola Junior Results
July 17, 2014
86 players
Boys 16-18:
1. Eric Cann – 70 (won playoff)
2. Brady Wright – 70
Girls 16-18:
1. Jenna Anderson – 88
Boys 14-15:
1. Josh Cann – 83
Girls 14-15:
1. Olivia Besch – 93
2. Kaitlin Stallard – 97
Girls 12-13:
1. Olivia Wright – 108
2. Maggie Roeder – 112
Boys 10-11 (18 holes):
1. Saizsha Norwegian
2. Kaleb Bruyere
Boys 10-11 (9 holes):
1. Mitchell Nemec
2. Myles Mason

After playing nine holes July 17 in the Coca-Cola Junior Tournament at the Falls Country Club, 11-year-old Myles Mason decided to play another nine holes and ended up with a hole-in-one on hole No. 14. He shot the ace from 101 yards away with a 7 iron.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

10 YEAR Anniversary
2014 International Falls Bass Championship
Come for the Fishing...Stay for the Fun!
Thursday, August 21st • 7:30 p.m.
CASTING CALL
Deadline to enter is August 18 th
Entry Fee:
$25/person
$35/2 persons
$40/4 persons
1st Place: $500
2nd Place: $400
3rd Place: $300
People's Choice: $500
Rehearsal Thursday afternoon at 12:00-3:00
Entry forms available online at www.ifallsbass.com
Deadlines are coming up fast, so get your entries in today for these musical talent shows!
International Falls Teen Idol
Thursday, August 21st • 3:00 p.m.
In Smokey Bear Park under the Big Tent
1st Place - $150 • 2nd Place - $100 • 3rd Place - $75
4th Place - $50 • 5th Place - $25
Entries open until Aug. 18, 2014
$20 entry fee
Applications can be found online. Contestants 8 - 15 years of age are eligible to enter.
Submit entry form & entry fee for either event to:
Casting Call, c/o Carol Pullar
P.O. Box 906, Int'l Falls, MN 56649
Weekend Entertainment Pass • $10 Adults • $5 Children
WWW.IFALLSBASS.COM