

SPORTS

GIRLS SOFTBALL

Falls Fusion 14U win USSSA state tournament

JOURNAL STAFF REPORT

The International Falls Fusion 14U softball team won four games Sunday at Braun Park in Cloquet to end up as the USSSA North State Tournament champion for girls 14 and under in Class B.

“The whole team contributed,” said Fusion 14U head coach Jeff Kerry. “If the top of the order didn’t score, the bottom of the order came through. The hitters were very disciplined swinging at strikes.

“Solid team defense. Every player played well defensively.”

The Falls opened the tournament on Saturday by going 1-1 in pool play to advance to Sunday’s championship bracket as the No. 2 seed in its pool.

The Fusion 14U won the first game of pool play with a 12-3 victory over the Proctor Crush.

Janet Humbert, Amber Tilander, Kerry Meyers and Marissa Kerry had two hits apiece for the Falls with Humbert and

Tilander each having a triple.

Marissa Kerry recorded the pitching victory.

WHITECAPS 4, FUSION 3

The Fusion 14U lost the final game of Saturday’s pool play to the Duluth Whitecaps, 4-3.

Tilander, Humbert and Grace Braggeach had a hit for the Falls with Tilander picking up a triple.

Mariah Leahy picked up the pitching loss.

FUSION 9, FURY 3

The Fusion 14U opened the single-elimination championship bracket Sunday by defeating the Esko Fury, 9-3.

Libby Miggins had a pair of hits with a home run, while Humbert added two doubles.

Leahy recorded the pitching victory for the Falls.

FUSION 11, RAPIDS 4

The Fusion 18U defeated Grand Rapids in Sunday’s quarterfinals, 11-4.

Miggins, Humbert and Meyers had two hits apiece for the Falls.

Marissa Kerry recorded

the pitching victory working the first three innings. Leahy pitched three innings in relief.

FUSION 18, BLAST 0

The Fusion 14U won Sunday’s semifinal by shutting out the Minnesota Blast 13’s from Cloquet, 18-0.

Humbert, Leahy and Sara Coffield each had three hits with Humbert picking up a double and a home run. Taylor Sears added two hits for the Falls.

Marissa Kerry picked up the pitching victory allowing only two hits while facing 13 batters over four innings.

FUSION 10, BLIZZARD 7

The Fusion 14U won Sunday’s championship game with a 10-7 victory over the Chanhassen Blizzard.

Miggins had three hits, while Sears and Morgan Rasmussen added two hits apiece for the Falls.

Leahy recorded the pitching victory.

The Fusion 14U are scheduled to be in an ASA state tournament in the Twin Cities this coming weekend.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

The International Falls Fusion 14U softball team poses for a picture after winning last weekend’s USSSA North State Tournament for girls 14 and under in Class B. Team members shown include, from left, front row, Amber Tilander, Kerry Meyers, Marissa Kerry. Middle row, Mariah Leahy, Janet Humbert, Morgan Rasmussen, Taylor Sears, Sara Coffield, Libby Miggins. Back row, coach Mike Leahy, coach Jeff Kerry. Missing, Grace Bragg.

GOLF

continued from A1

Christensen, who was three strokes off the lead after the first 36 holes, stayed stroke-for-stroke with Walls on the final nine before recording a bogey on the par-three hole No. 6, but then picked up a birdie on the par-four hole No. 8 to remain at even par and also recorded a par on hole No. 9.

“Dave is a great player and it was awesome playing with him (Sunday),” Walls said. “I learned a lot from the way he handles himself out there.”

Zach Ziemann placed eight strokes off the lead in third place at 186, while Jeff Shermoen, another 2011 FHS graduate, finished fourth with a 187.

Though the Falls Country Club in recent weeks has experienced high water on the Rainy River along holes No. 8 and 9, the water level dropped enough before last weekend’s tournament to still be able play those holes and also hold the final nine holes of the championship and senior flights on the front nine.

SENIORS CHAMPIONSHIP

In the seniors championship, which was part of the Smokey Bear Golf Invitational for the third year in a row and open to golfers age 50 and older, Falls native Bob Mason, who is presently a goalie coach for the Minnesota Wild, finished on top with a 45-hole score 190, six strokes ahead of Tony Zika



Terry O’Loughlin tees off Sunday from hole No. 8 during the Smokey Bear Golf Invitational at the Falls Country Club.

and Bart Vollmer at 196.

“Coming back and getting a trophy is great,” Mason said. “It’s a honor to be a Smokey Bear champ and a senior champ now.”

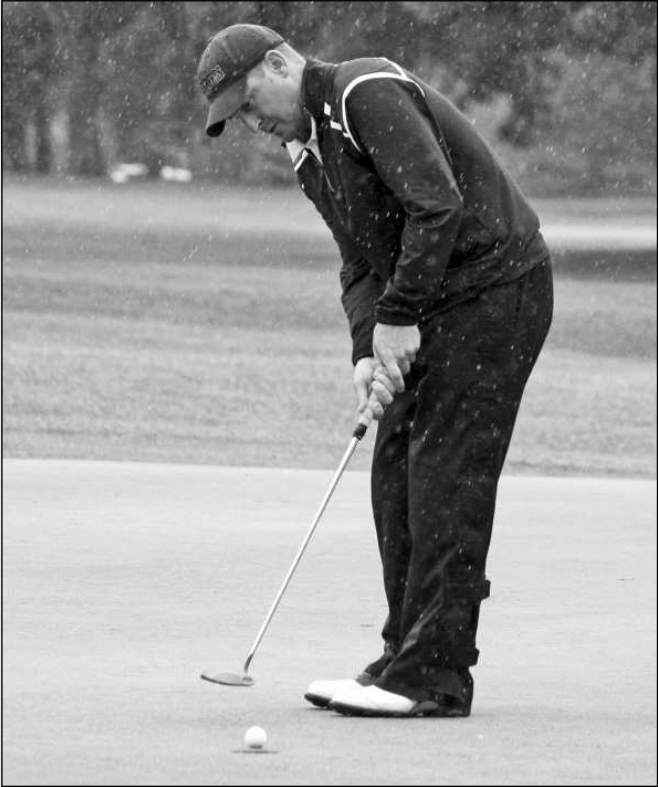
Mason held a one-stroke lead after the first 18 holes Saturday when he carded a 74. He then picked up a 75 for the best 18-hole round among the seniors to start day two and extend his lead by six strokes before recording a 41 on the final nine.

“I think I just held it together on the first 18 (Sunday),” Mason said. “It was blowing like crazy. It was windy....

“Conditions were very tough. You had pick the right club, and you had to swing it at the right tempo,

2014 Smokey Bear Golf Invitational

Final results: Top seven in championship flight, top six in senior flight, top four in flights 1-8 and director’s flight	
Championship Flight	
1. Glenn Walls	71-70-37 178
2. Dave Christensen...	70-74-37 181
3. Zach Ziemann	71-77-38 186
4. Jeff Shermoen	75-72-40 187
5. Dan Cavanagh ...	73-80-35 188
6. Pat McBride	73-77-40 190
7. Bob Cavanagh	72-77-41 190
Seniors Championship	
1. Bob Mason	74-75-41 190
2. Tony Zika	75-81-40 196
3. Bart Vollmer	79-76-41 196
4. Bill Hughes	75-84-41 200
5. Tom Ziemann	80-82-39 201
6. Greg Ross	79-78-46 203
First Flight	
1. Jayme Steele	77-80 157
2. Matt Rasmussen	78-81 159
3. Dan Richter	76-84 160
4. Brett Hughes	78-86 164
Second Flight	
1. Derek Riley	80-77 157
2. Ben Ziemann	79-79 158
3. Kevin Graham	81-78 159
4. Brian Thompson	82-83 165
Third Flight	
1. Charlie Ross	83-78 161
2. Erik Anderson	84-82 166
3. Bill Mason	85-82 167
4. Mike Katrin	83-85 168
Fourth Flight	
1. Shawn Mitchell	86-80 166
2. Steve Chown	86-83 169
3. Doug Dault	85-85 170
4. Brian McBride	85-86 171
Fifth Flight	
1. Rob Badiuk	88-80 168
2. Pat Auran	88-83 171
3. Jim Mason	88-84 172
4. Poncho Krantz	88-92 180
Sixth Flight	
1. Mike Canfield	90-85 175
2. Joe Fulton	90-85 175
3. Brian Youso	89-86 175
4. Ralph Sobkowicz	89-87 176
Seventh Flight	
1. Len Olson	92-85 177
2. Doug Moss	91-88 179
3. Craig Hunter	92-93 185
4. Jordan Walls	92-94 186
Eight Flight	
1. Justin Morgan	94-89 183
2. Tim Anderson	95-89 184
3. Jeff Christensen	92-92 184
4. Todd Bourquin	94-92 186
Director’s Flight	
1. Cam Hardwig	96-96 192
2. Tony Jaksa	96-98 194
3. Jerry Karsnia	101-96 197
4. Brian Brown	99-101 200



STAFF PHOTOS BY KEVIN BONESKE

Dave Christensen sinks a putt in the rain Sunday on hole No. 5 during the Smokey Bear Golf Invitational at the Falls Country Club. Christensen finished runner-up in the championship flight with a 45-hole score of 181.



High water along the Rainy River behind the green on hole No. 8 at the Falls Country Club didn’t prevent last weekend’s Smokey Bear Golf Invitational from taking place as scheduled.

top finishers in each flight that goes along with this are included in the chart story.

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**NOTICE OF FILING DATES FOR ELECTION TO THE SCHOOL BOARD
INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 363
(South Koochiching/Rainy River)
STATE OF MINNESOTA**

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the period for filing affidavits of candidacy for the office of school board member of Independent School District No. 363 shall begin on July 29, 2014, and shall close at 5:00 o’clock p.m. on August 12, 2014.

The general election shall be held on Tuesday, November 4, 2014. At that election, three (3) members will be elected to the School Board for terms of four (4) years each.

Affidavits of Candidacy are available from the school district clerk, 8560 Highway 11, Birchdale MN or 11731 Highway 1, Northome MN. The filing fee for this office is \$2. A candidate for this office must be an eligible voter, must be 21 years of age or more on assuming office, must have been a resident of the school district from which the candidate seeks election for thirty (30) days before the general election, and must have no other affidavit on file for any other office at the same primary or general election.

The affidavits of candidacy must be filed in the office of the school district clerk and the filing fee paid prior to 5:00 o’clock p.m. on August 12, 2014.

Dated: July 11, 2014

BY ORDER OF THE SCHOOL BOARD
Florence Hervey, School District Clerk
Independent School District No. 363
(South Koochiching/Rainy River)
State of Minnesota