

SPORTS



Who is...
Tessa Walls, Bronco girls hockey senior forward/captain, is featured

B2

QUICK HITS

Lakers win in OT over Iron Rangers

A goal by Bowen Alcock 3:57 into overtime lifted the Fort Frances Lakers to a 5-4 victory over the Minnesota Iron Rangers in Wednesday evening’s Superior International Junior Hockey League game at Couchiching First Nation Arena.

Minnesota took a 1-0 lead after one period when Thomas Fazio put the puck past Fort Frances goalie Devin Tappenden for a shorthanded goal.

The Lakers rallied with four goals in the second period, when the Iron Rangers scored twice, to go up 4-3 after 40 minutes.



Lucas DeBenedet

Miles Nolan got Fort Frances on the scoreboard with his league-leading eighth power-play goal of the season 58 seconds into the second period. Less than a minute later, Sam Schultz scored to give the Lakers a 2-1 advantage. Then a goal from Bryson Jasper added to the lead at 3:39.

Evan Erickson pulled Minnesota to within a goal when he scored at 10:53, only to see Carter Chorney score for Fort Frances 11 seconds later. Then Hunter Routheau scored for the Iron Rangers to cut the deficit to a goal after two periods.

Minnesota forced overtime on Erickson’s second goal of the game with 2:47 left in regulation, before the Lakers ended the contest on Alcock’s winning goal in the extra session.

The Iron Rangers held the edge in shots on goal, 31-27, with Tappenden picking up the win. Minnesota goalie Kyle Carignan helped his team salvage a point by stopping 22 shots in the overtime loss.

Fort Frances forward Lucas DeBenedet of International Falls recorded an assist in the victory.

The Lakers return to action at 7 tonight when they face the English River Miners at Ear Falls Arena.

Women’s volleyball four-on-four league

Registration for a four-on-four women’s volleyball league taking place this winter at Rainy River Community College will be held at 6:30 p.m. Nov. 24 in the RRCC gym.

The cost for the league, which begins Dec. 1 and ends Feb. 2, is \$25 per person.

For more information, contact Mel Millerbernd at (218) 285-2240 or (320) 333-3491 or e-mail mel.millerbernd@rainyriver.edu.

SPORTS SCHEDULE

Today’s games
Women’s/men’s basketball
RRCC at Mesabi Range
Tourney, TBA
Women’s hockey
RRCC at UW-Stout, 4 p.m.

Sunday’s games
Women’s hockey
RRCC at UW-Stout, 10 a.m.

Tuesday’s games
Girls hockey
I. Falls at Park Rapids Area, 7 p.m.

Thursday’s games
Girls hockey
Bemidji at I. Falls, 7:30 p.m.

Friday’s games
Women’s/men’s basketball
RRCC at Vermilion Tourney, 2/4 p.m
Boys basketball
Northome at L-BF, 7:15 p.m.
I. Falls at Deer River, 7:15 p.m.

GIRLS HOCKEY

Broncos run over by Rams, then still Storm

BY KEVIN BONESKE
Sports Editor

The 2014-15 girls hockey season has begun with International Falls now 1-1 following two home games this week.

After trailing by only a goal after the first period Tuesday, the Falls ended up losing 9-0 in its season opener against Roseau.

Tianna Gunderson gave the Rams a 1-0 lead when she scored 10:53 into the first period en route to recording a hat trick.

Gunderson added two goals in the second period, while Roseau’s Madeline Huglen also scored twice with single goals coming from Kenzie Rugland and Jenna Byfuglien to extend the lead to 7-0 going into the final 17 minutes and put the game on running time when Emily Pahlen and Bailey Holter added third-period goals.

“I thought (the Rams) kind of kicked it up a notch (after the first period),” said Broncos head coach Gerald Bolstad. “We didn’t react very well.... (Roseau is) a very good club. I thought they kind of skated us into the ice.”

Roseau outshot the Broncos, 48-7, with Jenna Baumgartner recording the shutout victory in goal and Taylor Fish picking up the loss.

The Falls, which had been preparing for the hockey season without its players who are also swimmers until after this past weekend when

the Bronco girls swimming and diving season came to an end, went deep into its lineup for minutes on the ice from reserve players on defense.

“We were using some of our fifth and sixth defensemen,” Bolstad said. “(Experienced defensive players Abby Auran and Emily Saari, who are swimmers and didn’t play Tuesday with the varsity,) have played a lot of varsity hockey, so that was a big thing. There’s a lot of things we need to work on, but it’s a long season, so I think we’ll be fine.”

BRONCOS 7, STORM 3

A hat trick by Lexi Erickson and two goals by Lexi Edwards on Thursday night helped propel the International Falls girls hockey team to a 7-3 home victory over the North Shore Storm.

“I thought we played pretty good at times,” Bolstad said. “We played hard, but mentally we had a lot of breakdowns.

“We weren’t really sharp mentally, and I think part of is just not having school (Thursday). It kind of throws the routine off, but we played hard. I liked their effort.”

Auran and Saari were back playing a varsity hockey game for the first time this season and started on defense after having wrapped up the Bronco girls swimming and diving season last Saturday.

North Shore – which is a cooperative girls hockey team comprised of Silver Bay, Two Harbors, Northeast Range



STAFF PHOTOS BY KEVIN BONESKE

The Broncos’ Margaret Harler (22) battles for the puck between two North Shore players in Thursday night’s game at Bronco Arena.



From right, the Broncos’ Amber Tilander is hooked from behind by Roseau’s Sapphire Moser (11) in Tuesday night’s game at Bronco Arena.

and Cook County high schools – scored first 3:40 into the first period on a goal from Cora Carter assisted by Sarah Fjeran.

The Falls tied the game with 8:41 left in the first period when Erickson scored an unassisted goal.

The Broncos took the lead with 7:00 to play the opening period when Edwards scored a power-play goal assisted by Ashley Jonson and Erickson.

Both teams then accounted for five goals between them in the

second period.

A power-play goal by Erickson assisted by Edwards 15 seconds into the second period extended the Falls’ lead to 3-1, before Fjeran scored unassisted for the Storm to cut the lead back to a goal at 3:33.

Edwards then scored her second goal of the game on the power play with an assist by Jenna Anderson, before North Shore pulled back within a goal when Madison Roy scored on the power play assisted by Everly Bauck.

The Broncos closed

out the second-period scoring with an unassisted shorthanded goal by Anderson.

Both third-period goals were scored by the Falls with Amber Tilander getting an unassisted goal with 3:28 left to play and Erickson being assisted by Tilander and Saari to complete a hat trick in the final minute.

“We got some goals, which is good,” Bolstad said. “That’s always my concern is the goal scoring. We got seven goals (Thursday night), so I’m happy about that.”

Shots on goal favored the Broncos, 27-17, with Fish recording the win in net and Lilka Mojowski picking up the loss.

The Broncos return to action next Tuesday for their first road game of the season against Park Rapids Area.

Tuesday’s game		
Roseau 9, Int’l Falls 0		
Roseau	1	6 2 - 9
Int’l Falls	0	0 0 - 0

Thursday’s game		
Int’l Falls 7, North Shore 3		
North Shore	1	2 0 - 3
Int’l Falls	2	3 2 - 7

Ben Humbert to play baseball at U of M

Bronco senior signs Division I letter of intent

BY KEVIN BONESKE
Sports Editor

Ben Humbert has committed to become a Division I college pitcher.

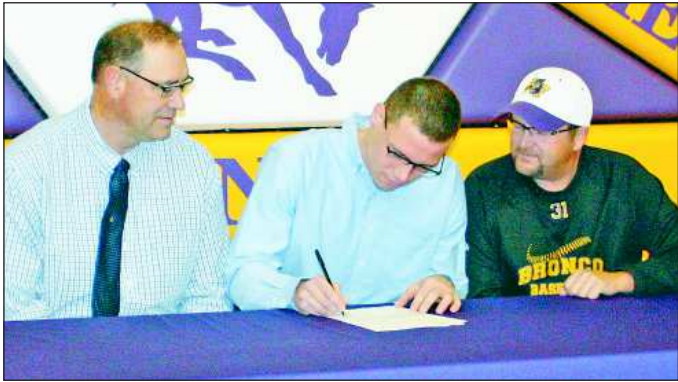
Humbert, a senior at International Falls High School, signed a letter of intent Wednesday to play baseball at the University of Minnesota during a signing ceremony in the FHS gym.

“The field down there is just a great place to play, (Minnesota has) great coaches and it’s a great atmosphere be in,” he said. “(The Gophers will have) a lot of pitchers in my upcoming freshman year, so I’ll have a big task ahead of me to work for, but I’m looking forward to the challenge.”

Humbert, who has been a three-sport athlete for the Broncos in baseball, basketball and football, said he received a lot of offers to play college baseball, but not very many offers in the other two sports.

“It’s hard to beat pitching a baseball,” he said about his decision to attend Minnesota on a baseball scholarship.

Upon enrolling at Minnesota next fall, Humbert



STAFF PHOTO BY KEVIN BONESKE

At center, Falls High School senior Ben Humbert signs a letter of intent Wednesday to play college baseball at the University of Minnesota while his father at left, Dieter Humbert, and the Broncos’ head baseball coach at right, Eric Walls, look on during a signing ceremony in the FHS gym.

said he plans on pursuing a major in sports management and will probably minor in business.

While playing high school baseball last spring for the Falls, Humbert threw 10 or more strikeouts in four games. In seven pitching appearances, he compiled a 3-1 record with 65 strikeouts.

Humbert also pitched last summer for the Post 66 Broncos Legion baseball team that qualified for the Division II State Tournament.

Falls head baseball coach Eric Walls said the scholarship awarded to Humbert gives the Bronco baseball program “a nice boost.”

“This doesn’t happen

very often around here for you to have a Division I athlete, but we knew long ago that Ben had the capability and the desire to do this,” he said.

Walls said he hopes Humbert will have several opportunities to pitch next spring in his final season of high school baseball.

“We hope for nice weather, so that we can run him out there a bunch of times and give him 10 or 12 starts,” he said. “That would be ideal, but with the weather we’ve had the last couple of years, we’ll just wait and see.

“Either way, we’ll bring him along (and) make sure we take care of his arm, because he’s got a bright future.”

Vikings prepare for cold late-season games

EDEN PRAIRIE (AP) — Though the label will only last for two years, the Minnesota Vikings are an outdoor team again.

Their winter-weather mettle is about to be tested.

The high on Sunday at Chicago has been predicted at 34 degrees, and then the Vikings have three straight games at their temporary home stadium on the University of Minnesota campus.

The long-range forecast for the Twin Cities area is for mostly below-freezing temperatures in the coming weeks. The first snowfall of the season already hit the Twin Cities this week.

Well, a certain Miami-raised rookie claims to be ready, at least.

“I’m feeling very confident,” quarterback Teddy Bridgewater said. “I’ve been able to experience some cold games in college, but none like what I’m going to face on this level. I know it’s going to be different, but it’s all going to be a mental thing. Our coaches are doing a great job of preparing us for these next couple of games down the stretch. I think we’ll do pretty good.”

The first-round draft pick from Louisville pointed to a game at Connecticut

he played in college in the 20s, but warm weather was much more the norm. Bridgewater, for his part, has devised a post-practice drill called “Wet Ball Wednesdays.”

Exactly like it sounds, he soaks a ball in cold water before starting to throw it.

“If the field is wet from the snow or anything in these upcoming weeks, I think I’ve prepared myself well to know what to expect,” Bridgewater said. “We’ll just continue to just get comfortable, whether we’re practicing outside or indoors.”

During their 32 seasons at the cozy, climate-controlled Metrodome, the Vikings didn’t have much reason to take their work outside in November and December unless they faced a wintry road game at Green Bay or Chicago.

But now they do, while their new domed stadium is being built downtown. If they’re not ready for the elements themselves, that ever-important home-field advantage won’t be as great.



Teddy Bridgewater