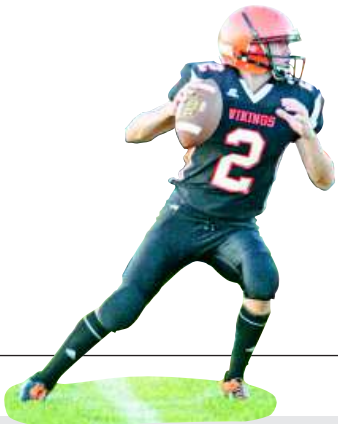


# SPORTS



**Who is...**  
Quinton Vork, L-BF senior quarterback, is featured

**B2**

## QUICK HITS

### FHS spikers sweep E-G, improve to 5-0

The International Falls volleyball team remained undefeated after winning Tuesday night's road match against Eveleth-Gilbert in three straight games, 25-13, 25-22, 25-21.

Falls' statistical leaders included: Lauren Rautio, 19 digs and three ace serves; McKenna Rasmussen, 11 digs, eight kills and four ace serves; Teagan Anderson, eight digs and 27 set assists; Maddie Filipiak, 10 kills; and Tessa Walls, 12 kills.

The Broncos, whose season match record now stands at 5-0, return to action Monday at Ely.



**McKenna Rasmussen**

### L-BF spikers sweep Ely, improve to 4-3

The Littlefork-Big Falls volleyball team won its fourth match in a row after winning Tuesday night at Ely in three straight games, 25-10, 25-22, 29-27.

L-BF's statistical leaders included: Emily Knaeble, 14 digs, four ace serves and five kills; Amanda Nelson, 11 kills, four ace serves and four blocks; Karly Swenson, eight kills and 13 digs; and Ellie Julson, nine digs.

The Vikings, who improved their season match record to 4-3, return to action today at the Sauk Rapids-Rice Tournament.

L-BF's junior varsity and "C" teams also won Tuesday in Ely.



**Amanda Nelson**

### RRCC 'Hire a Hitter'

The Rainy River Community College baseball team will once again be offering its "Hire a Hitter" program to help pay for its annual trip to Florida to play baseball in March.

As a part of this program, the team will be doing its annual window washing for businesses and homes on Sept. 28. To sign up, call Shelly Koenig at 283-3380.

The Voyageurs presently are holding their "fall ball" practice and will host a doubleheader scrimmage today at Scheela Field against the Brandon Cardinals at 10 a.m. and Lakehead University at 4 p.m.

## SPORTS SCHEDULE

**Today's games**  
**Girls swimming/diving**  
I. Falls at Hibbing Invitational, 9 a.m.  
**Girls volleyball**  
L-BF at Sauk Rapids-Rice Tournament, 9 a.m.  
**Women's volleyball**  
RRCC at Anoka-Ramsey Tourney, 10 a.m.

**Monday's games**  
**Girls volleyball**  
I. Falls at Ely, 3 p.m.

**Tuesday's games**  
**Cross country**  
I. Falls at Bagley, 4 p.m.  
**Girls volleyball**  
LOW at I. Falls, 7 p.m.  
Northeast Range at L-BF, 7 p.m.

**Thursday's games**  
**Girls swimming/diving**  
I. Falls at Mesabi East, 4:30 p.m.  
**Girls volleyball**  
I. Falls at Duluth Marshall, 5:45 p.m.  
North Woods at L-BF, 7 p.m.

## GIRLS SWIMMING AND DIVING

# FHS Broncos fly past Bluestreaks

**BY KEVIN BONESKE**  
Sports Editor

The International Falls girls swimming and diving team recorded first-place finishes in 11 of 12 events Tuesday when the Broncos cruised to a 119-56 dual meet victory over Chisholm in the Falls High School pool.

"(Tuesday's) meet went really well," said Broncos head coach Jill Herzig. "We tried a lot of different things and the girls really rose to the occasion."

"I don't know if in the first half of the meet if anybody had their regular events, so we had a few surprises and a few 'I'm never going to swim that again.'"

The first half of the meet included the 50-yard freestyle, in which the Falls went 1-2-3 with sophomore Emma Misner winning in 28.21 seconds, followed by senior Tayler Hebner in 29.27 and sophomore Carolann Stone in 29.79.

The Broncos also went 1-2 in the 100 breaststroke with sophomore Emily Saari winning in 1:16.86 and sophomore Claire Herzig placing runner-up in 1:20.59.

In the diving competition, senior Jessica Hell set a personal best and became one of Falls' top-10 career girls divers for six dives by placing first with 171.25 points.

"I have a new diving coach, so it's a lot of learning of new stuff and different techniques that are really working for



STAFF PHOTOS BY KEVIN BONESKE

**The Broncos' Emma Misner anchors the 400-yard freestyle relay to a first-place finish in Tuesday's home dual meet against Chisholm.**



**The Broncos' Abby Auran swims to a first-place finish in the 100-yard butterfly and also won the 200 freestyle in Tuesday's home dual meet against Chisholm.**

me," Hell said. "It's been nice to try out new stuff and see how well I can execute it."

Falls sophomore Abby Kostiuk, who holds the school records in the 100 backstroke and 100 butterfly, swam to a first-place finish in the 200 individual medley (2:34.15) and also won the 100 backstroke (1:06.18).

Broncos junior Abby Auran was a double individual winner in the 200 freestyle (2:26.91) and 100 butterfly (1:14.52).

Falls' other top individual finish came from Claire Herzig in the 100 freestyle (1:06.08).

The Broncos finished first in all three relay events with Claire Herzig, Kostiuk, Saari and Mis-



**The Broncos' Emily Saari swims to a first-place finish in the 100-yard breaststroke in Tuesday's home dual meet against Chisholm.**

ner winning the 200 medley relay (2:04.13), Claire Herzig, Hebner, Saari and Kostiuk winning the 200 freestyle relay (1:54.76) and Stone, Auran, Heb-

ner and Misner winning the 400 freestyle relay (4:25.35).

The Falls returns to action today at an invitational in Hibbing.

## WOMEN'S VOLLEYBALL

# RRCC falls in four at home to Hibbing

**BY KEVIN BONESKE**  
Sports Editor

After winning the first game Wednesday night, the Rainy River Community College volleyball team dropped the next three games and lost its home match to Hibbing, 25-19, 22-25, 23-25, 15-25.

"I just felt from the beginning we weren't fired up, ready to play," said Voyageurs head coach Mel Millerbernd. "I don't know why. We've had a couple of really good practices, but we just couldn't get that fire (Wednesday night), so that was disappointing."

Wednesday's match was the second time this season RRCC faced Hibbing. The Voyageurs had swept the Cardinals in two straight games to open the season Aug. 23 at a tournament in Fergus Falls.

"We played them a long time ago, so that (tournament match) was early in the season," Millerbernd said. "(The Cardinals) hustle. They don't let the ball drop. They worked hard, so lots of credit to them."

Hibbing led for much of game one, before RRCC broke an 18-18 tie and went on a 7-1 scoring run for the win.

The Voyageurs were in front for the majority of



STAFF PHOTO BY KEVIN BONESKE

**At right, the Voyageurs' Brooke Millerbernd (13) hits the ball while facing blocking opposition from Hibbing's Kailey Wirtanen (16) with Voyageurs Libero Jasmine Draper (3) looking on in Wednesday night's match in the RRCC gym.**

game two, taking a 21-18 advantage on a service ace by Tali Plate. The Cardinals then called timeout and outscored RRCC 7-1 to even the match.

The lead switched hands throughout game three, which was tied at 23-23 before Hibbing called timeout and scored the final two points for the win.

Following an early lead by the Voyageurs in game four, the Cardinals began to pull away at the midway point

before winning by 10 points. RRCC's statistical leaders included: DyAna Imhof, 12 kills; Plate, 36 set assists; Jasmine Draper, 18 digs; Brooke Millerbernd, 12 digs; and Katie Langaas, four blocks.

The Voyageurs, whose season record fell to 1-2 in the Minnesota College Athletic Conference Northern Division and 4-5 overall, return to action today for four matches at the Anoka-Ramsey Tournament.

## CROSS COUNTRY

# Bronco girls fourth at Eveleth-Gilbert Meet

### Lexi Erickson finishes second

**JOURNAL STAFF REPORT**

The toughest competition International Falls faced so far this season was on hand Thursday at the Eveleth-Gilbert Cross Country Meet.

"This was a good meet for us," said Falls head coach Paul Hjelle. "We now have a pretty good idea of where we are in the section."

In the girls competition, the Broncos placed fourth out of 15 teams with at least five finishers to score in the team standings. Ely placed first with 95 points, followed by South Ridge (106), Pequot Lakes (120), the Falls (153) and Moose Lake/Willow River (164) rounding out the top five.

The Broncos' top individual finish came from sophomore Lexi Erickson, who placed second on the 4,000-meter course in 16 minutes, 2 seconds. It was her third runner-up finish out of the four meets the Falls has competed in this season.

"(Thursday) was a good day for the girls team," Erickson said. "We all ran well and we ran against some of the teams we will see at sections. We have some work to do, but I'm very proud of the team."

The other four Bronco girls whose finishes counted toward the team

total included: Jenna Anderson, 29th in 18:06; A very Sivonen, 32nd in 18:09; Faith Black, 34th in 18:19; and Lexi Edwards, 60th in 19:31.

### FHS BOYS 13TH

In the boys competition, the Falls finished 13th out of 14 teams with at least five finishers. Eveleth-Gilbert had the top score of 88, followed by Proctor (91), Mesabi East (104), Ely (141) and Moose Lake/Willow River and Hermantown, both at 156 to round out the top-five scores.

Two Bronco boys finished in the top 40 and in under 20 minutes on the 5,000-meter course. Freshman John Cowman placed 31st in 19:14 with senior Cole Tatsak coming in 35th in 19:27.

"It was a good day other than it was a little cold," Tatsak said. "The hills made everyone's time slower than normal. Everyone tried their best and I'm proud of everyone."

The three other Falls boys whose finishes counted toward the team score included: Chase Howdahl, 70th in 21:06; Brock O'Loughlin, 73rd in 21:21; and Jared Hunter, 74th in 21:29.

The Broncos' next meet is Tuesday at Bagley.



**Lexi Erickson**