

SPORTS



Vikings-Bucs
Bridgewater leads Minnesota
past struggling Tampa Bay

B2

QUICK HITS

RRCC spikers finish season 14-18 overall

The Rainy River Community College volleyball team closed out its season last weekend after losing a pair of Minnesota College Athletic Conference Northern Division road matches.

On Friday, the Voyageurs lost to Central Lakes in three straight games, 15-25, 17-25, 11-25. Brooke Millerbernd led RRCC with six kills and 17 digs, while Katie Langaas recorded four ace blocks and Tali Plate had 16 set assists.

On Saturday, the Voyageurs were swept by Northland, 17-25, 19-25, 22-25. DyAna Imhof led RRCC with 10 kills. Jasmine Draper picked up 14 digs with Millerbernd adding 13. Langaas once again had four ace blocks, while Tali Plate recorded 24 set assists.

The Voyageurs—who will be losing Plate, another setter, Megan Johnson, and two hitters, Roneisha Jordan and Jordan Vezina, after they used their sophomore year of eligibility—ended their season with a match record of 14-18 overall and 3-9 in the MCAC North for sixth place in the division.

Drew Fisher scores goal to open season

The only remaining forward from International Falls on the Tulsa Oilers scored a goal Friday night when the Oilers opened East Coast Hockey League action with a 9-6 road victory over the Allen Americans.

Drew Fisher's goal midway in the first period gave Tulsa a 2-0 lead. Fisher, who began his fourth pro regular season with the Oilers after Falls natives Ben Gordon retired and Ryan Cramer was released from the team, started on the ice and ended up with four shots on goal.

Fisher also tallied an assist Saturday when Tulsa won its home opener in overtime over the Wichita Thunder, 6-5.

The 2-0 Oilers return to action tonight when they play at Wichita.

Mighty Mustangs host Dave Zuniga's 'A Day of Wrestling'

The Mighty Mustang Youth Wrestling Club hosted Zuniga Country Wrestling's "A Day of Wrestling" last Saturday featuring Olympian Dave Zuniga.

Zuniga, who wrestled in college at the University of Minnesota, spent five hours teaching the wrestlers new moves and other technical aspects of wrestling when more than 20 wrestlers participated in the one-day camp.

Zuniga's international wrestling background includes being a 1996 Greco-Roman Olympian and a 1999 Pan American Games silver medalist.

His visit to the Falls came weeks before the Bronco wrestling program for boys and girls in the Falls School District in grades 7-12 returns next month for 2014-15 after an absence of more than 20 years.

The Mighty Mustang program, which is open to boys and girls from pre-kindergarten through the eighth grade in the Falls, Littlefork and other surrounding communities, including Fort Frances, is slated to begin in early December.

Pete Benedix, Dan Shermerhorn, Mike Holden and Nathan Nelson will again be the volunteer coaches for the Mighty Mustangs.

Broncos fall in the 7AA quarterfinals

FHS spikers end season at 17-8

BY KEVIN BONESKE
Sports Editor

The season came to an end Friday night in the Section 7AA quarterfinals for the International Falls volleyball team.

The No. 4-seeded Broncos lost their road match in three straight games to top-seeded Greenway, 20-25, 23-25, 16-25.

"We gave a great effort here (Friday night)," said Falls head coach Erin Shikowsky. "We had some leads—we just couldn't hang onto them."

"They served tough. They picked up a little bit and (we committed) too many errors."

The Broncos, who had also lost to the Raiders in three straight games during the regular season after having won their first eight matches of the season, held leads in all three playoffs games.

The Falls led from the start until the midway point in game one. A kill by McKenna Rasmussen gave the Broncos a 12-10 lead, before Greenway responded with five points in a row and never trailed again en route to winning

by five points.

In game two, the Falls broke an 11-11 tie with five straight points capped off by a pair of kills by Maddie Filipiak. However, Greenway battled back and then broke a 23-23 tie with two straight points to win the second game.

Greenway took an early lead in game three, before the Broncos pulled in front by five at 11-6 on a block by Rasmussen. After a serving error by the Raiders gave the Falls a 14-11 lead, Greenway scored 12 straight points before winning the game and match.

Shikowsky said the Broncos were more prepared in the playoffs to face the Raiders than during the regular season.

"We knew what to expect," she said. "We knew what they had offensively.... We tried to pick apart their weaknesses, but we just fell a little short."

The Falls' statistical leaders included: Teagan Anderson, 19 set assists; Filipiak, 11 kills; Rasmussen, five kills and four ace blocks; Tessa Walls, five kills; and Lauren Rautio, 14 digs.

The Raiders were led statistically by: Sofie Rajala, 15 kills and 10 blocks; Seri Geisler, 10 kills and seven digs; Ashleigh Troumbly,

10 digs; Jordan Ranta, 30 set assists and three ace serves; and Taylor Gram, three ace serves.

The Broncos—who will be losing three hitters, Filipiak, Rasmussen and Walls; a setter, Anderson; and a defensive specialist, Stephanie Christianson; to graduation—closed out the season with a match record of 17-8, while Greenway advanced to Tuesday's Section 7AA semifinal match at Duluth Denfeld to face No. 2-seeded Mora.

"It's going to be quite an adjustment to lose those tall, front-row players that brought some great offense," Shikowsky said. "But you know what, we've got some good talent that's young and coming up, and we're looking forward to working with them as well."

From right, the Broncos' McKenna Rasmussen (3) hits the ball into blocking opposition from the Raiders' Seri Geisler (5) in Friday night's Section 7AA quarterfinal match at Greenway High School.

STAFF PHOTO BY KEVIN BONESKE



WOMEN'S HOCKEY

Voyageurs 2-2 at CAN-AM Tournament

RRCC wins consolation prize trophy

JOURNAL STAFF REPORT

The Rainy River Community College women's hockey team opened its season last weekend at Bronco Arena, where the Voyageurs went 2-2 in the seven-team CAN-AM Tournament and received the consolation trophy.

Both of RRCC's wins were against American Collegiate Hockey Association teams and will count for ranking purposes related to a possible bid to the ACHA Division 2 National Tournament in early March. The two losses against teams from Canada are considered exhibition games and don't affect the team's ACHA ranking.

"We're very happy with



STAFF PHOTO BY KEVIN BONESKE

From right, the Voyageurs' Shelby Tymkin battles at the net with Northern Michigan's goalie in Sunday morning's game at Bronco Arena.

(the wins against ACHA teams)," said Voyageurs head coach Jeff Wickstrom. "We played out hearts out (against the teams from Canada)."

RRCC opened the tournament Friday by being shut out by the eventual CAN-

AM runner-up, Confederation College, 4-0 **RRCC 3, MSU 1**

On Saturday, the Voyageurs got a hat trick from Shelby Tymkin, who scored the first three goals of her college career, and defeated Minot State University, 3-1.

SIJHL HOCKEY

Lakers defeat Iron Rangers, then lose to Ice Dogs

JOURNAL STAFF REPORT

The Fort Frances Lakers split the two games they played last weekend, winning on the road and then losing at home.

On Friday night, the Lakers scored two of their three power-play goals in the game's final 3 minutes to pull out a 4-2 victory over the Minnesota Iron Rangers in a Superior International Junior Hockey League matchup at Hoyt Lakes Arena.

Miles Nolan scored the first of two man-advantage goals for the Lakers with the lone tally of the opening period when he found the back of the net 2:31 into the contest.

It stayed that way until the 15:24 mark of the second period when Minnesota's Jason Reynolds tied the game to send the two teams into the final 20 minutes knotted at 1-1.

After Bowen Alcock put Fort Frances back on top 9:04 into the final period, Noah Anderson tied the game for the Iron Rangers on the power play with 5:59 left in regulation.

Up a man, Bryson Jasper scored the game-winner at 17:16, assisted by Mason Meyer of International Falls and Colton Spicer, before Nolan tallied his second goal of the evening with 5 seconds left to close out the night's scoring.

Fort Frances goalie

Ryan Ferguson made 49 saves to record the win in goal, while Kyle Carignan made 23 stops in a losing effort for Minnesota.

ICE DOGS 5, LAKERS 3
On Saturday night, Cole Golka scored twice while Jonathon Philley had a goal and two assists to help the Dryden Ice Dogs defeat the Lakers, 5-3, in SIJHL action at Ice for Kids Arena.

Philley's 10th goal of the season 15:01 into the contest gave Dryden the lead as the Ice Dogs forward extended a consecutive-game point streak to six.

Jasper tied the game for the Lakers early in the sec-



STAFF PHOTO BY KEVIN BONESKE

From left, Lakers forward Mason Meyer (9) of International Falls controls the puck while Dryden's Cole Golka (22) sets up on defense in Saturday night's game at Ice for Kids Arena in Fort Frances.

Hockey to B2 ►