

# SPORTS



**Who is...**  
Cody Hallin, Broncos senior wingback/defensive back, is featured

B2

## QUICK HITS

### L-BF spikers win regular-season finale

The Littlefork-Big Falls volleyball team closed out its regular-season schedule Thursday night by winning a road match in four games against Mountain Iron-Buhl, 25-19, 25-12, 19-25, 25-22. “We just kind of slowed downed a little bit in game three,” said L-BF head coach Sarah Bradley. The Vikings’ statistical leaders included: DyAna Imhof, 22 kills; Breann Larson, 13 digs; Taylor Wendt, 36 set assists; and Brooke Miller-bernd, three ace serves.

### Gordon named NFCA scholar-athlete

Sydney Gordon of International Falls, an infielder on the St. Scholastica softball team, has been selected as a National Fastpitch Coaches Association (NFCA) scholar-athlete. Gordon, a 2011 FHS graduate, received the honor for the first time along with three other softball players from the Saints, who have had at least four players named scholar-athletes in every season dating back to 2002. The award is given to any player submitted by a NFCA member coach who achieved a 3.50 grade point average or higher during 2012-13.

## SPORTS SCHEDULE

**Today’s games**  
**Girls swimming/diving**  
I. Falls at IRC/True Team Meet in Hibbing, 9 a.m.  
**Girls volleyball**  
I. Falls at Esko Tournament, TBA  
**Women’s volleyball**  
RRCC at Itasca, Noon  
**Tuesday’s games**  
**Cross country**  
I. Falls at IRC Meet, TBA  
**Girls swimming/diving**  
Northeast Range at I. Falls, 5 p.m.  
**Women’s volleyball**  
Hibbing at RRCC, 6:30 p.m.

## CROSS COUNTRY

# Lexi Erickson tops Hial Pike

## FHS girls 3rd

BY KEVIN BONESKE  
Sports Editor

International Falls freshman Lexi Erickson took an early lead and stayed in front Thursday when she placed first in the Hial Pike Cross Country Meet at the Falls Country Club. Her time on the 4,000-meter course of 15 minutes, 37.96 seconds, in unseasonably warm weather was more than 10 seconds ahead of her nearest competitor, Dryden’s Andie Wood. “It was hot, it was hard, but it wasn’t too bad,” Erickson said. “It’s a great course.” Compared to last year’s race when she finished third in chilly weather, Erickson improved her time by close to 15 seconds. “It was nicer (this year),” she said. “There was more people here.” One other Falls girl also finished in the top 10 when senior Sydney Raboin came in fourth in 16:10.53. The Broncos ended up placing third out of 10 teams with at least five finishers to count in the standings. Falls’ three other runners who counted toward the team score included: Lexi Owen, 24th in 18:02.71; Amy Auran, 28th in 18:16.3; and Faith Black, 29th in 18:16.92. “The girls looked like they ran more as a pack (Thursday)...,” said Broncos head coach Paul Hjelle. “I thought the girls put forth a good effort.” The girls team title went to Grand Rapids, which had its five top runners stay together in

a pack throughout the race and finish within 1.59 seconds of each other with the Thunderhawks’ top finish coming from Kaitlin Garrison, who placed eighth in 16:36.96. Rapids’ top score was 50 points, followed by Dryden (81), the Falls (84), Warroad (109) and Greenway/Nashwauk-Keewatin (131) rounding out the top five. **FHS BOYS 6TH** In the boys competition, the Broncos had 148 points and placed sixth out of 10 teams with at least five finishers. Dryden came in first at 53, followed by Rapids (59), Mesabi East (81), Hibbing (109) and Ely (109) in the top five. Mesabi East’s Sam Johnson was the top individual finisher after completing the 5,000-meter course in 17:06.43. Two Bronco boys finished in the top 20 with junior Cole Tatsak placing 18th with the team’s top time of 19:15.06. “It was a little warm out there,” Tatsak said. “I didn’t kick it out quite as well as I wanted to in the second mile, but punched it in the last mile. We all did really good as a team.” Falls senior Wyatt Ulrich led Tatsak in the early stages of the race, but ended up finishing 20th in 19:27.81. The three other Bronco boys who finished among the team’s top five included: John Cowman, 37th in 20:29.24; Billy Brokaw, 43rd in 20:45.18; and Ben Erickson, 50th in 21:05.81. The Falls will be competing in the Iron Range Conference meet next Tuesday in Hoyt Lakes, prior to the Section 7A meet in Cloquet on Oct. 24.



**In front, the Broncos’ Wyatt Ulrich rounds a corner with Cole Tatsak behind him in Thursday’s Hial Pike Cross Country Meet. Tatsak ended up in 18th place, while Ulrich finished 20th.**

**Hial Pike Invitational GIRLS**  
**Team scores:** Grand Rapids 50, Dryden 81, International Falls 84, Warroad 109, Greenway/Nashwauk-Keewatin 131, Hibbing 153, Ely 160, Eveleth-Gilbert 174, Fort Frances 247, Virginia 258.  
**Top 10 individuals:** 1. Lexi Erickson, International Falls, 15:37.96; 2. Andie Wood, Dryden, 15:48.63; 3. Elyssa Peterson, Greenway/Nashwauk-Keewatin, 16:03.49; 4. Sydney Raboin, International Falls, 16:10.53; 5. Johanna Wyrick, Eveleth-Gilbert, 16:15.77; 6. Emma Brunelle, Warroad, 16:18.93; 7. Lindsay Fast, Warroad, 16:26.05; 8. Kaitlin Garrison, Grand Rapids, 16:36.96; 9. Jaylynn Lauer, Grand Rapids, 16:37.27; 10. Maddi Peart, Grand Rapids, 16:37.37.  
**International Falls runners:** 1. Lexi Erickson, 15:37.96; 4. Sydney Raboin, 16:10.53; 24. Lexi Owen, 18:02.71; 28. Amy Auran, 18:16.3; 29. Faith Black, 18:16.92; 36. Jenna Anderson, 18:33.23; 38. Lexi Edwards, 18:42.79.



STAFF PHOTOS BY KEVIN BONESKE

**The Broncos’ Lexi Erickson approaches the finish line to place first in Thursday’s Hial Pike Cross Country Meet at the Falls Country Club.**

**BOYS**  
**Team scores:** Dryden 53, Grand Rapids 59, Mesabi East 81, Hibbing 109, Ely 135, International Falls 148, Virginia 155, Warroad 226, Lake of the Woods/Indus 237, Trek North 274.  
**Top 10 individuals:** 1. Sam Johnson, Mesabi East, 17:06.43; 2. Reed Melicher, Eveleth-Gilbert, 17:37.74; 3. Wil Maki, Hibbing, 17:46.36; 4. Kirk Markowski, Dryden, 17:53.80; 5. Danny Ratdke, Mesabi East, 18:16.10; 6. Jacob Benson, Dryden, 18:26.95; 7. Andy Rudberg, Hibbing, 18:28.52; 8. Alex Urquhart, Dryden, 18:29.17; 9. Eddie Cease, Grand Rapids, 18:50.12; 10. Jake Avenson, Grand Rapids, 18:52.19. International Falls runners: 18. Cole Tatsak, 19:15.06; 20. Wyatt Ulrich, 19:27.81; 37. John Cowman, 20:29.24; 43. Billy Brokaw, 20:45.18; 50. Ben Erickson, 21:05.81; 58. Chase Howdahl, 21:41.49; 59. Ben Glowack, 21:44.81.

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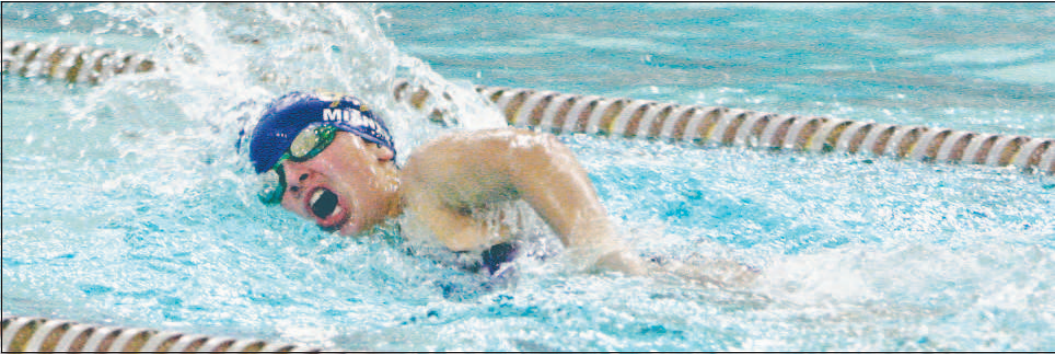
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## GIRLS SWIMMING AND DIVING



STAFF PHOTO BY KEVIN BONESKE

**The Broncos’ Emma Misner swims on the winning 400-yard freestyle relay team in Thursday’s home dual meet against Warroad/Roseau.**

# Broncos swim past Warroad/Roseau

BY KEVIN BONESKE  
Sports Editor

Coming in first in 11 of 12 events and picking up six runner-up finishes paced the International Falls girls swimming and diving team Thursday to a 129-57 dual meet victory over Warroad/Roseau in the FHS pool. “(Thursday night) was really fun meet,” said Broncos head coach Jill Herzig. “I put a lot of the girls in different events they haven’t swum before — events they wanted to try or I wanted to see them swim — and we had some great success and we had some great surprises.” The Falls finished first in every event except the 200-yard individual medley, had 1-2-3 sweeps in two events and went 1-2 in three others. The Broncos’ top short-distance freestyle swimmer, senior Breanna Shofner, won the 50-yard freestyle (26.99 seconds) and also the 200

freestyle (2:16.71). Shofner was also part of two winning relay teams. She joined Blair Johnson, Claire Herzig and Courtney Klow to win the 200 freestyle relay (1:54.36). Shofner and Johnson teamed up with Abby Kostiuik and Emma Misner to win the 400 freestyle relay (4:12.25). Falls’ 400 freestyle relay team of Abby Auran, Tayler Hebner, Carolann Stone and Josie Bates placed second in 4:34.42. Kostiuik, Misner, Claire Herzig and Emily Saari won the 200 medley relay (2:06.6). Kostiuik won the 100 backstroke (1:06.64) and added a runner-up finish in the 50 freestyle (27.87). Misner placed first in the 100 butterfly (1:10.06) and came in second in the 200 freestyle (2:19.91). Saari won one of the dual meet’s closest races when she edged out Erin Thompson of Warroad/Roseau by 32 hun-

dredths of a second in the 100 breaststroke (1:17.98). Klow won the 500 freestyle (6:39.68), while Hebner placed first in the 100 freestyle (1:04.56). The Broncos’ Jessie Hell won the diving competition with 150.7 points. Auran placed runner-up in both the 200 individual medley (2:45.89) and 100 butterfly (1:17.79), while Claire Herzig added a second-place finish in the 100 freestyle (1:09.72). The Falls is back in action today at the Iron Range Conference/True Team Meet in Hibbing. “(In the) IRC we’re hoping to be top three,” Jill Herzig said. “It’s going to be a tall order there with Two Harbors (and) Mesabi East. We have (a meet that includes Grand) Rapids (and) Hibbing — which are going to be really strong — and Two Harbors, and we’d like to knock one of them off so we can be at least third.”