

SPORTS



Ending up with a win
Bridgewater, Vikings get past Bears 13-9
B2-3

QUICK HITS

Bronco boys hockey team falls to Osseo

After taking a 1-0 lead Monday night on a power-play goal by Jakob Eide, the International Falls boys hockey team gave up five consecutive goals and ended up losing to Osseo, 7-3, to open the Hockeytown Holiday Classic in Warroad.

The Broncos picked up third-period goals from Clay Bergstrom and Jackson Volloom to cut the deficit to 5-3, then gave up a pair of goals scored by the Orioles' Ben Christofferson to close out the game.

Falls goalie Lane Skallman stopped 31 of 38 shots in a losing effort in net.

The loss dropped the Broncos' season record to 3-7 going into Tuesday night's tournament game against Grafton/Park River, N.D. The Falls closes out the tournament at 1 p.m. today against the host school, Warroad.

Fisher tallies 2 goals, 3 assists in 2 games

Tulsa Oilers forward Drew Fisher of International Falls recorded two goals and three assists last weekend in two East Coast Hockey League games against the Allen Americans.

Fisher had a hand in all three Tulsa goals Friday when he scored twice on the power play and added an assist in the Oilers' 5-3 loss at Allen. That evening he also recorded his 100th career point as a pro hockey player.

In Sunday's 4-3 home victory over the Americans, Fisher had two assists.

Going into Tuesday's home game against Rapid City, Fisher recorded nine goals and 20 assists this season for 29 points.

MINNESOTA

Minnesota dismisses WR Donovan Jones

ORLANDO, Fla. (AP) — Minnesota wide receiver Donovan Jones has been dismissed from the program for what the school called an unspecified violation of team policy.

The move was announced Sunday by the Gophers, who play Missouri on Thursday in the Citrus Bowl.

Jones, a sophomore, had 11 catches for 253 yards and two touchdowns and four carries for 42 yards this season.

He was recruited out of his high school near Atlanta as a quarterback, but the Gophers moved him to wide receiver during fall camp of his freshman year. He had 10 receptions for 157 yards last season plus 16 rushes for 73 yards.

SPORTS SCHEDULE

Today's games

Boys hockey

I. Falls vs. Warroad at Warroad Tournament, 1 p.m.

Thursday's games

Girls hockey

I. Falls vs. South St. Paul at Kaposia Classic, 7:15 p.m.

Friday's games

Girls hockey

I. Falls at Kaposia Classic, TBD

Boys basketball

Virginia at I. Falls, 7:15 p.m.
MI-B at L-BF, 7:15 p.m.

Saturday's games

Girls hockey

I. Falls at Kaposia Classic, TBD

Boys hockey

I. Falls at Hermantown, 3 p.m.

Monday's games

Women's/men's basketball
Leech Lake at RRCC, 6/8 p.m.

Girls basketball

Mesabi East at L-BF, 7:15 p.m.

BOYS SWIMMING AND DIVING

FHS opens season, 5th at Bronco Invite

Hailey Silvers back to coach

BY KEVIN BONESKE

Sports Editor

The International Falls boys swimming and diving team competed in its first meet of the season Saturday when the Falls hosted the Bronco Invitational.

Chisholm won the five-team meet with the top score of 276 points, followed by Mesabi East (241), Virginia (229), Eveleth-Gilbert (216) and the Falls (113).

Each team was allowed up to four entries in the individual swimming events with the top-12 finishes scoring from 16-1 points, while relays counted double with the top relay from each team scoring from 32-20 points.

The Broncos got a pair of third-place individual finishes from Alex Belanger in the 200-yard individual medley (2 minutes, 33.7 seconds) and 100 butterfly (1:11.24) that counted for 12 points each.

Other top-eight individual finishes from the Falls included Jared Hunter and John Cowman finishing seventh and eighth, respectively, in the 100 breaststroke in times of 1:27.05 and 1:27.41. Ben Keeney picked up a point for the Broncos in the 100 breaststroke with a 12th-place finish in 1:52.22.

Three Falls swimmers — Colin Hebner, Cowman and Alex Bissonnette — finished 10-12 in the 200 freestyle in respective times of 2:50.31, 2:54.21 and 3:01.7.

Broncos senior Cole Tatsak finished 10th in the 50 freestyle (28.07).

The Falls also scored points in the 100 freestyle



STAFF PHOTOS BY KEVIN BONESKE

The Broncos' Alex Belanger, shown swimming the butterfly in the 200-yard individual medley, placed third in that event and also in the 100 butterfly in Saturday's Bronco Invitational.



The Broncos' John Cowman swims the breaststroke as part of the team's 200-yard medley relay in Saturday's Bronco Invitational.

with Hunter and Joey Griffith placing 11th and 12th, respectively, in times of 1:03.52 and 1:07.18.

The Broncos scored more than half of their points in the three relay events with fifth-place finishes for 20 points apiece.

SILVERS RETURNS

After having resigned after two seasons as head coach following the 2012-13 season, Hailey Silvers has returned to coach Falls'

boys swimming and diving team. She was on hand at Saturday's meet to coach the Broncos along with assistant coach Michelle Hebner.

"The boys just need some meets, period," Silvers said. "They haven't had any meets yet, and they just need to get comfortable with being around other swimmers. That happened (Saturday), so they're feeling good."

The Broncos had initially been scheduled to open the

season Dec. 16, but that home dual meet against Eveleth-Gilbert was postponed until next month following the departure of head coach Dawnn Taylor because of the school administration objecting to the number of days she planned to be away from coaching during the season.

A special school board meeting to conduct a coach's hearing and adopt a resolution to formally terminate

Taylor's coaching contract is set for Jan. 7 at 5:30 p.m.

The Falls' next meet is set for Jan. 6 when the Broncos are scheduled to travel to Grand Rapids for a quadrangular.

Bronco Invitational

Team scores: Chisholm 276, Mesabi East 241, Virginia 229, Eveleth-Gilbert 216, International Falls 113.

International Falls finishers

200-yard medley relay — 5. Jared Hunter, John Cowman, Alex Belanger, Cole Tatsak, 2:08.19.

200 freestyle — 10. Colin Hebner, 2:50.31; 11. Cowman, 2:54.21; 12. Alex Bissonnette, 3:01.7.

200 individual medley — 3. Belanger, 2:33.7.

50 freestyle — 10. Tatsak, 28.07; 16. Joey Griffith, 30.33; 18. Kevin Joslyn, 34.34; 19. Jordan Johnson, 38.82.

100 butterfly — 3. Belanger, 1:11.24.

100 freestyle — 11. Hunter, 1:03.52; 12. Griffith, 1:07.18; 17. Tanner Sether, 1:12.89; 19. Hebner, 1:15.72.

200 freestyle relay — 5. Tatsak, Griffith, Hunter, Belanger, 1:56.59.

100 breaststroke — 7. Hunter, 1:27.05; 8. Cowman, 1:27.41; 12. Ben Keeney, 1:52.22.

400 freestyle relay — 5. Johnson, Robert Sweney, Joslyn, Bissonnette, 5:45.4.

GIRLS BASKETBALL

Broncos lose first game, end up in second at Esko

FHS now 8-1

JOURNAL STAFF REPORT

The International Falls girls basketball team lost for the first time this season after closing out the Esko Coaches Classic last weekend by placing second.

The Broncos advanced to Saturday's championship game when they won Friday's semifinal contest over Eveleth-Gilbert, 46-42.

The lead changed hands throughout the game with the Golden Bears holding a 26-25 advantage at halftime.

Eveleth-Gilbert trailed by two points and had possession of the ball with about 11 seconds to play when the in-bound pass was intercepted by Falls' Maddie Filipiak.

The Broncos' Shelby Wolden then extended the lead to four points when she made two free throws and closed out the scoring with about 6 seconds remaining.

Filipiak led three Falls players scoring in double figures with 14 points, which included two 3-pointers. Teagan Anderson added 13 points, which also included a pair of 3-pointers, while Janet Humbert scored 10 more.

The Broncos lost their first game to the team they defeated to open the season when the Falls fell 68-55 in Saturday's championship game to the host school,

Esko, which won its fifth consecutive tournament title.

The Eskomos, who pulled out to a 32-24 lead at halftime and stayed in front for the final 18 minutes, were led in scoring by Molly Trapp with a game-high 20 points. Esko's Bailey Mudek, who was named the tournament's Most Valuable Player, added 13 points, while Ashley Bergerson scored 12 more.

Filipiak led three Broncos players scoring in double figures with 16 points, which included four 3-pointers. Anderson added 12 points with three 3-pointers, while Emma Gilbert scored 11 more. Filipiak and Anderson were Falls' two players named to the All-Tournament Team.

The Broncos, whose season record now stands at 8-1, return to action Jan. 6 when they host Warroad.

Friday's game

IF 46, E-G 42

IF 25 21 — 46

E-G 26 16 — 42

IF: Maddie Filipiak 14, Shelby Wolden 2, Cassie Tomczak 2, Teagan Anderson 13, Janet Humbert 10, Jena Sullivan 4, Emma Gilbert 1. 3-pointers: Filipiak 2, Anderson 2. Free throws: 6-11 Fouls: 14.

Saturday's game

Esko 68, IF 55

IF

Esko

24 31 — 55
32 36 — 68
IF: Maddie Filipiak 16, Shelby Wolden 2, Teagan Anderson 12, Janet Humbert 6, Jena Sullivan 8, Emma Gilbert 11. 3-pointers: Filipiak 4, Anderson 3, Gilbert. Free throws: 7-9. Fouls: 18.

BOYS BASKETBALL

Broncos crush Agates, snap losing streak at two games

BY KEVIN BONESKE

Sports Editor

The International Falls boys basketball team got back on the winning track Monday night when the Broncos snapped a two-game losing streak with a 67-49 home victory over Two Harbors.

"I thought we came ready to play (Monday night) and did a good job of doing what we're supposed to do," said Falls head coach Derek Dowty. "Coming off two losses I was a little bit worried — Christmas break, practice schedules are a little messed up — but I thought we did a good job of coming out to play."

The Broncos jumped out to a 9-3 lead capped off with a field goal by Ben Humbert. However, the Agates regrouped after calling their second timeout with just over 3 minutes having elapsed into the game and went on an 8-0 scoring run to take the lead on a jump shot by Alex Lemke.

The Falls then called timeout with 12:40 left in the first half and regained the lead, which expanded to double digits with less than 2 minutes before intermission on a layup by Humbert. The first half ended with the Broncos in front, 42-29.

The Falls broke open the lead in the second half, which started with the Broncos scoring eight unanswered points. The Falls also utilized a zone defense in the final 18 minutes and led by 20 or more points for



STAFF PHOTO BY KEVIN BONESKE

In front from left, the Broncos' Ben Humbert steals the ball from Two Harbors' Derek Blair while the Broncos' Max Vergeldt (24) and Two Harbors' Derek Peters (41) look on in back during Monday night's game in the Falls High School gym.

much of the second half, in which the reserves saw several minutes of playing time.

"The second half we already had a little bit of a lead, and I think our good start kind of put them away," Dowty said.

The Broncos, who had already lost senior guard Cole Miggins to an injury before the start of the season, played all of the second half without another senior guard, Connor Ward, who limped off the court with 7:54 left in the first half after being down on the floor for a few minutes.

"We're hoping for the best," Dowty said. "Guard-wise, we're just going to

have to have some other guys step up."

Humbert led the Falls with 26 points, while Lemke, who played much of the second half with four fouls, also scored 26 points and made four 3-point shots to lead the Agates.

The Broncos, who improved their season record to 7-4, return to action Friday when they host Virginia.

IF 67, TH 49

TH

29 20 — 49

IF

42 25 — 67

IF: Ben Everson 9, Jack Bartkowski 4, Wyatt Helgeson 4, Ethan Phung 4, Max Vergeldt 6, Greg Harris 5, Clay Tomczak 9, Ben Humbert 26. 3-pointers: Everson, Harris, Tomczak. Free throws: 6-8. Fouls: 14.