

SPORTS



Voyageurs baseball
Parrish pitches in first 2014 victory
B2

QUICK HITS

Fort Frances Lakers end regular season

The Fort Frances Lakers got goals from six different skaters Saturday night when they defeated the Wisconsin Wilderness, 6-2, in Superior International Junior Hockey League action at Ice for Kids Arena.

The Lakers' Riley Daly scored the only goal of the opening period when he put the puck past Wisconsin goalie Griffin Strain at 6:36.

Fort Frances then jumped out to a 3-0 lead after 40 minutes on second-period goals from Lyndon Lipinski and Donovan Cousineau.

Alex Rezansoff got the Wilderness on the scoreboard 3:10 into the final frame, only to see the Lakers answer back with goals from Cam Gobeil and International Falls native Lucas DeBenedet to make it 5-1 with half a period to go.

The two sides then exchanged late goals to round out the scoring with Shane Billings scoring for Wisconsin and Kyle Lipinski connecting for the Lakers.

DeBenedet and Lyndon Lipinski also added two assists apiece for Fort Frances while Kevin Kurm supplied a couple of helpers of his own in the victory.

The Lakers, who enter the SIJHL playoffs as the league's top seed, open a two-game, total-goal series this coming Saturday at No. 2-seeded Thunder Bay. Game 2 is set for March 21 at Ice for Kids Arena.

Gordon's point streak snapped at 8 games

Tulsa Oilers forward Ben Gordon's eight-game point streak came to an end Saturday.

Gordon, the Central Hockey League's Player of the Month for February, recorded 10 goals and 11 assists during his eight-game run and helped the Oilers to a 6-2 record in that span.

The 29-year-old from International Falls presently ranks second in the CHL with 35 goals and third in the league scoring race with 79 points.

Jake Youso records assist in playoff win

Holy Cross men's hockey junior forward Jake Youso of International Falls recorded an assist on what turned out to be the tying goal Sunday in the Crusaders' 3-2 overtime victory over RIT in the third and deciding game of the Atlantic Hockey Tournament's opening-round series.

Youso picked up his eighth assist of the season on a goal by Tommy Dwyer that tied the game at 2-2 at 8:37 of the second period.

GIRLS BASKETBALL

Broncos defeat Blue Devils... again

FHS next faces Barnum in the 7AA semifinals

BY KEVIN BONESKE
Sports Editor

For the fourth time this season, the International Falls girls basketball team has defeated Virginia.

The top-seeded Broncos won their Section 7AA quarterfinal game Saturday afternoon over the No. 4-seeded Blue Devils, 60-43, at Duluth Denfeld High School.

"I knew it was probably going to be a tough game - I thought we could break through - but they kept it close the whole game," said Falls head coach Shawn Gilbert.

The Broncos, who also won the three regular-season games against Virginia, led by seven points at halftime, 26-19, when both teams ended up in the double bonus with more than 10 fouls apiece.

"This (playoff game) was a lot more difficult," Gilbert said. "They were playing for their last game of the season - whoever lost that game - so it's probably the hardest they played against us so far, and they played really well."

Fouls continued to mount up for the Blues Devils in the second half as three Virginia played ended up fouling out with the Falls staying front until the final buzzer. The Blue Devils cut the lead to four points early in the second half, but could come no closer before time expired.

"I was really worried, if

we happen to get behind or something, what might happen," Gilbert said. "But we were able to keep the lead the whole game, and that was the most important part."

The Broncos scored half of their points from the free-throw line, shooting 30-46 from the charity stripe, while Virginia made 10 of 29 free throws.

Four Falls players scored in double figures led by Cassie Tomczak with 16 points. Maddie Filipiak, Shelby Wolden and Emma Gilbert added 10 points apiece.

Maria Stokes-Cerkvenik led Virginia with 14 points, followed by Morgan Deutsch-Woods with 13 points.

The Broncos, who improved their season record to 21-7, next face No. 2-seeded Barnum in the Section 7AA semifinals at 5:45 p.m. Thursday at the University of Minnesota Duluth.

"After playing Virginia four times, it's going to be nice to play a team that maybe doesn't know quite a bit about us," Gilbert said. "We really didn't show too much (Saturday afternoon), mainly because we had to play Virginia man-to-man, so hopefully we'll be able to play some of our trapping defense next game."

The Falls, which has advanced to the Section 7AA semifinals for the fourth year in a row, lost the last three semifinal games to Braham, which is now is Section 5AA. The Broncos have yet this season to play Barnum, which won its quarterfinal game over Moose Lake/Willow River, 63-61, and has a



STAFF PHOTO BY KEVIN BONESKE

From left, the Broncos' Teagan Anderson (23) dribbles past Virginia's Kaylie Pucel (2) in Saturday afternoon's Section 7AA quarterfinal game at Duluth Denfeld High School.

record of 18-8.

The winner of the semifinal game between the Falls and Barnum advances to Saturday night's Section 7AA finals at UMD to play the winner of the other semifinal game between Esko and Mesabi East.

Int'l Falls 60, Virginia 43
Virginia 19 24 - 43
Int'l Falls 26 34 - 60

Virginia: Kaylie Purcel 2, Morgan Deutsch-Woods 13, Brylee Seitz 5, Emily Sipola 8, Mickey White-side 1, Maria Stokes-Cerkvenik 14. 3-pointers: Deutsch-Woods 2, Stokes-Cerkvenik 2, Seitz. Free

throws: 10-29. Fouls: 31. Fouled out: Pucel, Seitz, Sipola.

Int'l Falls: Maddie Filipiak 10, Shelby Wolden 10, Cassie Tomczak 16, Teagan Anderson 9, Janet Humbert 5, Emma Gilbert 10. 3-pointers: Tomczak 2, Anderson, Humbert. Free throws: 30-46. Fouls: 22. Fouled out: Filipiak.

GIRLS BASKETBALL

Rangers down Vikings in Section 7A quarterfinals

L-BF season ends at 16-7

BY KEVIN BONESKE
Sports Editor

The season came to an end Saturday afternoon for the Littlefork-Big Falls girls basketball team.

The No. 4-seeded Vikings lost their Section 7A quarterfinal game against top-seeded Mountain Iron-Buhl, 57-37, at the University of Minnesota Duluth.

"Defensively, we played really well," said L-BF head coach John Larson. "Offensively, we missed some close shots and that didn't help."

The Vikings, who had been trounced by the Rangers, 70-37, when the two teams faced each other Dec. 12 during the regular season in the L-BF High School gym, stayed close to MI-B early in the playoff game's first half.

The Rangers didn't take their first double-digit lead until around the midway point of the first half when Chelsea Mason sank a 3-pointer to pull in front, 18-8. The half ended with MI-B holding a 26-14 lead.

The Vikings, who didn't put the Rangers in the bonus during the first 18 minutes after committing just six fouls, found themselves putting MI-B in the double bonus for the second half when all five starters had at least four fouls and DyAna Imhof ended up fouling out of the game.

The Rangers shot 18-25



STAFF PHOTO BY KEVIN BONESKE

From right, the Vikings' DyAna Imhof (11) drives inside while being guarded by Mountain Iron-Buhl's Chelsea Mason (14) in Saturday afternoon's Section 7A quarterfinal game at the University of Minnesota Duluth.

from the free-throw line in the second half when freshman guard Mya Bufetta scored all 11 of her points from the charity stripe.

Lissy McColloch led MI-B in scoring with 18 points, followed by Bufetta with 11.

Kaylee Kennedy led L-BF with 14 points, while Brooke Millerbernd also scored in double figures

with 10.

The Vikings, who ended the season at 16-7, are losing three front-court players - Abby Thompson, Millerbernd and Imhof - to graduation.

"The young girls have some big shoes to fill," said Larson, who noted the three seniors have been with the team in his four

MEN'S HOCKEY



STAFF PHOTO BY KEVIN BONESKE

From left, the Bulldogs' Willie Corrin (5) and the Mavericks' Matt Youso (6), both 2010 International Falls High School graduates, battle for the puck in Saturday night's game at AMSOIL Arena.

Foes from the Falls split at AMSOIL Arena

UMD takes season series over UNO, 3-1

BY KEVIN BONESKE
Sports Editor

The men's hockey rivalry between 2010 International Falls High School graduates and defensemen Willie Corrin and Matt Youso being on opposing Division I teams - as well as Corrin opposing his head-coaching uncle from the Falls, Dean Blais - ended up as a 1-1 split last weekend at AMSOIL Arena in Duluth.

The University of Minnesota Duluth, for which Corrin is in his sophomore

season, won Friday night's game 8-2 over the University of Nebraska Omaha, for which Blais is in his fifth year of coaching and Youso is a freshman.

On Saturday night, however, UNO picked up a 4-1 win over UMD.

"It was a good series - valry between 2010 International Falls High School graduates and defensemen Willie Corrin and Matt Youso being on opposing Division I teams - as well as Corrin opposing his head-coaching uncle from the Falls, Dean Blais - ended up as a 1-1 split last weekend at AMSOIL Arena in Duluth.

"I think we had more jump on Saturday," Blais said.

"It was really a good effort on our part, especially

SPORTS SCHEDULE

Today's games

Men's baseball

RRCC vs. St. Lawrence/Erie Community College in St. Petersburg, Fla., 12/3 p.m.

Thursday's games

Girls basketball

I. Falls vs. Barnum in Section 7AA semifinals at UMD, 5:45 p.m.

Friday's games

Men's baseball

RRCC vs. Ontario Outlaws/North Delta Blue Jays in St. Petersburg, Fla., 10 a.m./1 p.m.

Saturday's games

Men's baseball

RRCC vs. Northern Essex Community College in St. Petersburg, Fla. (DH), 12 p.m.

Girls basketball

I. Falls/Barnum winner vs. Esko/Mesabi East winner in Section 7AA finals at UMD, 7 p.m.