

SPORTS

GIRLS SWIMMING AND DIVING



The Broncos' Emma Misner swims to a second-place finish in the 100-yard butterfly during Tuesday's dual meet against Grand Rapids in the Falls High School pool.

Thunderhawks
roar past Broncos

Three records
set in FHS pool

BY KEVIN BONESKE
Sports Editor

Three girls pool records were shattered Tuesday at Falls High School when Grand Rapids dominated the Broncos in a dual meet and won 10 of 12 events.

The Thunderhawks, who have one of the state's top short-distance swimmers in Class A, defeated the Falls, 123-65.

"They are the Section champions and you saw why (Tuesday) with the three pool records....," said Broncos head coach Jill Herzig.

"We decided to go for it. I put out girls in basically the same events as the last meet against Hibbing with definitely a different result.

"We swam our hearts out. (It was) the first day of school, the girls were tired, everybody was just off the time they had before, but I was pretty proud of them."

Falls' two top finishes came from sophomore Abby Kostiuk, who won the 100-yard backstroke (1 minute, 7.38 seconds), and freshman Emily Saari, who placed first in the 100 breaststroke (1:18.48).

Grand Rapids senior Solveig Viren, last year's Class A state champion in the 100 freestyle and runner-up in the 50 freestyle, set

pool records in both events when she won the 50 freestyle (24.95) and 100 freestyle (54.7).

Falls' top short-distance swimmer, senior Breanna Shofner, was more than two seconds behind Viren to place second in the 50 freestyle (26.99) and ended up third in the 100 freestyle (1:00.03) after being edged out for second by 5 hundredths of a second by Rapids sophomore Madison Bernard.

The Thunderhawks also set the FHS girls pool record in the 200 freestyle relay (1:46.32), almost 5.5 seconds faster than the Broncos' runner-up time.

Rapids also won the 200 medley relay (2:01.62) by 2.8 seconds faster than Falls'



The Broncos' Emily Saari swims to a first-place finish in the 100-yard breaststroke in Tuesday's dual meet against Grand Rapids in the Falls High School pool.

runner-up team, while the Thunderhawks went 1-2 in the 400 freestyle relay in 4:16.64 and 4:18.07, respectively, with Falls' top team coming in third in 4:18.82.

The Broncos' other individual runner-up finish came from freshman Emma Misner in the 100 butterfly (1:11.13).

"The times were not bad —

we're way ahead of where we were last year," Herzig said.

"It's a loss, but it was a pretty darn good loss. We had some good times (Tuesday), even though we were tired."

GIRLS VOLLEYBALL



At right, the Broncos' Hillary Fox (17) digs out the ball while Lauren Rautio (20) looks on in Tuesday's match against North Woods in the Falls High School gym.

Grizzlies devour Broncos in three straight

BY KEVIN BONESKE
Sports Editor

The International Falls volleyball team played one close game and lost two others by wide margins for the second match in a row when the Broncos were swept at home Tuesday by North Woods, 9-25, 18-25, 23-25.

"I thought we had some bright spots in our match (Tuesday night), just not enough of them," said Falls head coach Erin Shikowsky. "I think we had too many errors and we had a really slow start, so we're

going to have to work on mentally preparing and coming out strong."

The Broncos' statistical leaders included: Lauren Rautio, eight digs; Teagan Anderson, five set assists; Savanna Stratton, six set assists; McKenna Rasmussen, five kills, six digs; Tessa Walls, two kills, two ace serves, three ace blocks; Maddie Filipiak, four kills, one ace block; and Hailey Femtem, three kills, six ace blocks.

The Grizzlies scored multiple points spiking the ball and were also able to record kills working the

side of the court as three hitters ended up with nine or more kills.

"I thought that we probably could have made some adjustments (against North Woods) a little quicker, and I think that's just going to come with experience and growing as a team," Shikowsky said.

North Woods' statistical leaders included: Darby Youngstrom, 11 kills, five digs; Tessa Mankus, nine kills, four ace serves; Destinie Villebrun, nine kills, four ace serves; and Emily LaPatka, eight set assists, perfect serving percentage.

The Broncos had been swept in similar fashion last week by Littlefork-Big Falls.

L-BF SWEEPS BIGFORK

The Littlefork-Big Falls volleyball team swept three games Tuesday at Bigfork, 25-11, 25-15, 25-9.

Three Viking players recorded double-digit kills. DyAna Imhof led the team with 12 kills, while Abby Thompson and Brooke Millerbernd each added 10 kills.

Breann Larson made five ace serves for the Vikings.

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