

SPORTS



SENATHLETES

Who is...
Eric Thydean

The 17-year-old Littlefork-Big Falls High School senior is an outfielder on the Viking boys baseball team.

Birthday:
June 12, 1996

Future plans:
Attend Itasca Community College and transfer to a university to major in software engineering.

What's on TV:
Big Bang Theory

Favorite music:
Rap/Pop

Favorite movies:
Transformers

What do you drive:
1987 Chevy Camaro

Favorite Web sites:
YouTube

Favorite meal:
Mashed potatoes

Biggest superstition:
Finding a penny heads up

Worst habit:
Drinking a lot of pop

Dream date:
Katy Perry

Favorite team as a kid:
Oakland Raiders

Favorite city to visit:
Detroit

Favorite attribute about yourself:
My 17's

Least favorite attribute:
My height

Top three things on your bucket list:
Own a McLaren.
Travel to Italy.
Go skydiving.

Your motto:
The only thing that counts is not the size of your burden, but how you carry it.

Favorite memory about your high school career:
2013 baseball season

Favorite thing to do that has nothing to do with sports:
Taking joy rides in my Camaro.

Dream job:
Stunt driver

Love to trade places for a day with...
Rob Dyrdek

Favorite person to follow on Twitter:
Gamer Humor

TRACK AND FIELD

Bronco girls win Section 8A True Team meet

FHS boys fourth

JOURNAL STAFF REPORT

The International Falls girls track and field team has qualified for the State True Team meet May 17 in Stillwater after placing first at Tuesday's Section 8A True Team meet in Warren.

The Section 8A True Team meet had 13 teams with each team allowed up to two entries in the 14 individual events and one relay team in the four relays.

Every entry counted toward the team score. First place in the individual events was good for 26 points with each subsequent place counting a point less. Relays counted 39 points for first place with each place after that being three points less.

The Broncos topped the team standings with 762, followed by Park Rapids Area (742), West Marshall (657.5), Norman County (647.5) and Crookston (547) rounding out the top five.

"Park Rapids was on our heels right from the start, sometimes falling only three or five points behind us," said Falls head coach Jen Erickson. "We had some ups and downs during the meet but the girls kept fighting through their aches and pains, knowing they couldn't quit because the team was counting on them.

"The true team meets give the girls a chance to see what they can accomplish as a team with everyone pulling in points regardless of the place they take in an event."

The Broncos had the top finish in nine of 18 events and also placed runner-up in six events.

Falls senior Breanna Shofner accounted for 102 points when she won the 100-meter dash (12.72 seconds) and the 200 dash (26.45) and placed second in the 400 dash (1:02.05)

and triple jump (30 feet, 4.5 inches).

Other Broncos finishing in the top 10 in those events included freshman Valandre Butler placing fourth in the 100 dash (13.62), sophomore Madeline Dahle 10th in the 200 dash (29.28) and sophomore Abby Kostiuk sixth in the 400 dash (1:08.74).

"I am very excited that our team made it to True Team State and we are looking forward to competing next week," Shofner said.

Broncos senior Hailey Fentem tallied 96 points when she won the 100 hurdles (16.07), placed third in the 300 hurdles (51.01) and long jump (14-8) and finished fourth in the high jump (5-0).

"I am so happy to be part of such an amazing and talented team and I am also proud of how well everyone performed (Tuesday)," Fentem said. "I think everyone stepped up and the whole meet was a team effort. I'm glad we could pull out a win."

Others in the top 10 in those events included Broncos senior Lexi Owen winning the 300 hurdles (50.1), freshman Claire Herzig coming in fourth in the long jump (14-5.5) and freshman Emily Saari placing sixth in the 100 hurdles (18.65).

"It was a great day for a meet, not too cold, although it was windy in Warren," Owen said. "Our team came out on top with all the hard work we have put into the season paying off (Tuesday). I'm am so proud of my teammates and especially proud to be a 'Bronco.'"

Herzig also won the pole vault (8-9) with Falls senior Amy Auran placing third at 8-0, good for 50 points.

Auran added a pair of top-10 finishes in the distance running events. Broncos freshman Lexi Erickson won the 3200 run (12:27.23) with Auran placing fifth in



CONTRIBUTED PHOTOS

The Bronco girls track and field team poses for a picture Tuesday after winning the Section 8A True Team meet in Warren. The Falls has qualified for the State True Team meet May 17 in Stillwater.

13:31.04. Lexi Erickson also finished runner-up in the 1600 run (5:42.49) with Auran placing ninth in 6:17.81.

"It was all about the team (Tuesday)," Auran said. "Everybody worked hard and pushed themselves to reach our goal. We are state-bound!"

The Falls went 1-2 in the shot put with junior Savannah Olson winning with a throw of 37-6.5 and eighth-grader Emma Gilbert finishing runner-up at 36-7, good for 51 team points.

Olson also won the discus (99-10) with Gilbert placing ninth at 87-11 for another 44 points.

The Broncos had top-four finishes in all four relays.

Herzig, Dahle, Gilbert and Butler won the 4X200 (1:56.54), while the same four team members placed

second in the 4X100 (55.02).

Owen, Kostiuk, Lexi Erickson and freshman Anna Earley finished runner-up in the 4X400 (4:31), while Kostiuk, Owen, seventh-grader Grace Gilbert and junior Tayler Hebner placed fourth in the 4X800 (10:59.3)

Hebner added a 10th-place finish in the 800 run (2:48.35).

FHS BOYS FOURTH

In the boys competition, the Broncos placed fourth out of the 13 teams.

West Marshall topped the team standings at 700 points, followed by Park Rapids Area (661.5), Crookston (632) the Falls (600.5) and Fertile-Beltrami (509.5) in the top five.

"The boys had a very good day," said Broncos head



In front, the Broncos' Abby Kostiuk runs with the baton in the girls 4X800-meter relay during Tuesday's Section 8A True Team meet at Warren. The Falls finished fourth in 10 minutes, 59.3 seconds.