

SPORTS



Emo Speedway

Matt DePiero finishes among feature winners

B3

QUICK HITS

Falls VFW baseball swept at Rapids

The International Falls VFW baseball team dropped both games of a road doubleheader last Wednesday against the Grand Rapids Grey.

In game one that counted for tournament seeding purposes, the Falls fell to Rapids, 13-2, in five innings.

“We had a bad day in the field,” said Falls VFW head coach Mike Coffield, who noted the team committed four errors.

Riley Nemec pitched the first 1 2/3 innings for the Falls, allowing 10 runs, three earned. Walker Ulrich pitched the final 2 1/3 innings, giving up three runs, one earned.

At the plate, Nemec doubled for the Falls, while Lane Skallman, Brett Lindvall and Tate Promersberger each singled. Promersberger and Dallas Pearson accounted for both of Falls’ runs.

The Falls dropped the second game to Rapids, 15-1, in five innings.

Ulrich pitched the first 2 2/3 innings with Pearson and Darian Erickson also seeing time on the mound for the Falls, which gave up 15 hits.

The Falls tallied only four hits with Erickson, Lindvall, Promersberger and Peter Franz having one hit apiece.

The Falls returned to action at home Tuesday and lost the first game of a doubleheader against Hibbing, 7-2. Full details of both games will be in Saturday’s paper.

Florida recruit to play men’s hoops at RRCC

Rainy River Community College men’s basketball head coach Kristofer Babler has announced the signing of Jammere Carlisle, a 6-6 forward from Fort Pierce Central High School in Fort Pierce, Fla., for the 2014-15 season.

“We’re very excited to have Jammere with us up at Rainy River Community College,” Babler said. “He is a big kid who has a lot of versatility to his game and can play multiple positions. He’s physical and fills positions of need for us.

“I think he can step in and contribute to our program immediately as a freshman. I found Jammere pretty late in the recruiting process, but he immediately became a guy that was a priority for us to sign.”

Babler is entering his first season as RRCC’s head coach in 2014-15. He replaces Jack Cook, who coached the Voyageurs the past three seasons.



STAFF PHOTOS BY KEVIN BONESKE

Runners at the front of the pack approach the corner behind Falls High School as they begin Friday’s Bronco 5K Run/Walk. This year’s race, which ended on the FHS track, had 240 finishers ranging in age from 5-76.

Josh LaBlanc wins Bronco 5K

Brandy Erholtz breaks women’s course record

BY KEVIN BONESKE
Sports Editor

A former International Falls resident who excelled in cross country and track at Falls High School and now lives in Duluth was the overall winner of Friday morning’s Bronco 5K Run/Walk.

Josh LaBlanc, 26, reached the finish line first on the FHS track in 17 minutes, 10.84 seconds.

“I haven’t been training much, it didn’t feel good, but it turned out better than I thought, I guess,” LaBlanc said. “I started the race way in the back and just kind of ran a consistent pace.”

LaBlanc, who also bested the age group record for males 19-29 that he set six years ago, finished 50.09 seconds ahead of the next-fastest competitor,

Bronco 5K – Overall Results – Top 25

Place	Name	Sex/Age	Time
1	LaBlanc, Josh	M26	17:10.84
2	Erholtz, Brandy	F36	18:00.93
3	Sobczynski, John	M21	19:08.43
4	Erickson, Lexi	F15	19:20.84
5	Cowman, John	M14	19:34.43
6	Johnson, Bret	M24	19:54.84
7	McCafferty, Scott	M34	20:37.30
8	Hayes, Andrew	M39	20:48.90
9	Larsen, Scott	M44	21:01.74
10	Brenengen, Matt	M46	21:05.43
11	Friend, Nicole	F29	21:06.08
12	Bacon, Corey	M43	21:37.68
13	Belanger, Linda	F46	21:40.71
14	Hunter, Jared	M15	22:00.71
15	Silvers, Hailey	F26	22:02.21
16	Larson, Bruce	M59	22:07.08
17	Johnson, Ryan	M34	22:16.68
18	Kilbride, Ryan	M19	22:22.65
19	Aili, Kirk	M45	22:27.81
20	Nemec, Riley	M15	22:44.71
21	Harala, Gary	M18	22:49.90
22	Hummel, Becky	F23	22:54.46
23	Agar, Kelly	F34	22:58.08
24	Milford, Tyler	M14	22:59.34
25	Harris, Stacy	F34	22:59.99

Brandy Erholtz, 36, the top female who shattered the women’s course record she set last year by

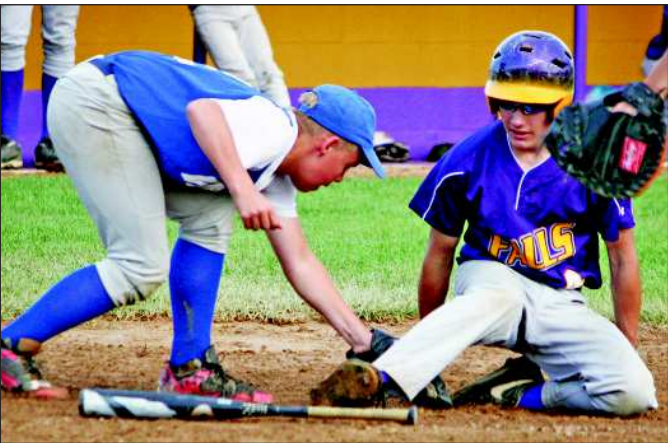
over a minute with a time of 18:00.93.

Bronoc 5K to B2 ➤



Josh LaBlanc approaches the finish line at the Falls High School track to place first overall in Friday’s Bronco 5K Run/Walk. LaBlanc’s winning time of 17 minutes, 10.84 seconds, was more than 50 seconds faster than his nearest competitor.

JUNIOR LEAGUE BASEBALL



STAFF PHOTO BY KEVIN BONESKE

At right, the Falls Junior League’s Gage Wherley (4) slides into the plate to score in Monday’s home game against Virginia’s No. 1 team.

Falls dries off field, then soaks Virginia No. 1 team

Juniors now 16-2 overall

BY KEVIN BONESKE
Sports Editor

Isolated heavy rain that soaked Scheela Field on Monday afternoon couldn’t stop the International Falls Junior League baseball team from winning at home over Virginia’s No. 1 team.

After Quick Dry was worked into the infield to dry off the dirt, which delayed the first pitch by over an hour, both teams were able to get in one of two games originally scheduled.

“I took a straw poll after

the game and asked my kids how many of them thought, after the rain, if they thought we were going to play, and not a single one raised their hand,” said Falls Junior League head coach Josh Koenig. “I told them, ‘This field takes water pretty well, and if you’re determined enough, you can get a field turned over and still play, but it takes a lot of hard work.’”

After both teams agreed to play one seven-inning game following the delay, the Falls ended the game early via the 10-run rule by defeating Virginia, 16-3, in five innings.

Junior League to B3 ➤

LEGION BASEBALL

Post 66 Broncos sweep BBE, Hibbing

JOURNAL STAFF REPORT

The International Falls Legion baseball team has improved its overall season record to 12-3 after sweeping two road doubleheaders in three days.

The Falls played Saturday in St. Martin and won both games of a non-conference twin bill over BBE.

In game one, the Post 66 Broncos shut out BBE, 10-0, in six innings.

Ben Humbert pitched the complete-game shutout for the Falls, allowing only two hits and striking out 11.

The Post 66 Broncos tallied nine hits with two apiece from Clay Bergstrom and Riley Nemec. Nemec, Cole Miggins and Wyatt Ulrich each had 2 RBI.

FALLS 10, BBE 5

In game two, the Post 66 Broncos trailed by three runs after five innings before scoring four times in the top of the sixth and adding four more runs in the seventh inning to defeat BBE, 10-5.

The Falls tallied 14 hits, including three from Ulrich. Nemec and Gunnar

Anderson added two hits apiece. Anderson also drove in three runs with Humbert and Nemec each adding 2 RBI.

BBE recorded six hits over seven innings. Ulrich pitched four innings for the Post 66 Broncos and recorded seven strikeouts. Jack Bartkowski took the mound for the other three innings for the Falls.

FALLS 17, HIBBING 7

The rain held off Monday afternoon in Hibbing for the Post 66 Broncos to win both games of a non-conference doubleheader by double digits.

In game one, the Falls defeated Hibbing, 17-7, with Cole Miggins picking up the pitching victory.

The Falls tallied 10 hits with Bergstrom and Bartkowski having two hits apiece. Bartkowski also drove in three runs with Jackson Vollom adding 2 RBI.

FALLS 14, HIBBING 2

In game two, the Post



Ben Humbert

Gunnar Anderson

Wyatt Ulrich

66 Broncos erupted for 15 hits and ended up winning over Hibbing, 14-2.

Miggins and Ulrich had three hits apiece with Tyler Coffield adding two hits for the Falls.

Anderson, who ending up “hitting for the cycle” in Monday’s doubleheader with a single, double, triple and home run, led the Post 66 Broncos in game two with 4 RBI. Humbert and Ulrich drove in two runs apiece.

The Falls, which had a home conference game that was scheduled for today canceled because of Ely not having enough players available, will be in Ely this weekend for a three-day tournament with the Post 66 Broncos playing their first game at 3 p.m. Friday against Cloquet.

SPORTS SCHEDULE

Today’s games

18U softball

I. Falls at Pequot Lakes (DH), 4 p.m.

VFW baseball

I. Falls at Greenway (DH), 4 p.m.

Juniors baseball

I. Falls at Mesabi East (DH), 5 p.m.

Friday’s games

Legion baseball

I. Falls vs. Cloquet at Ely Classic, 3 p.m.

Saturday’s games

Legion baseball

I. Falls vs. Ely/Proctor at Ely Classic, 1/5:30 p.m.

Sunday’s games

Legion baseball

I. Falls vs. Pine City at Ely Classic, 11:45 a.m.

Monday’s games

VFW baseball

Ely at I. Falls (DH), 4 p.m.

18U softball

I. Falls at Bemidji (DH), 4 p.m.

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