

SPORTS

GIRLS SWIMMING AND DIVING



STAFF PHOTOS BY KEVIN BONESKE

The Broncos’ Emma Misner swims to a first-place finish in the 100-yard butterfly during Tuesday’s dual meet against Chisholm in the Falls High School pool.

Broncos fly past Bluestreaks

BY KEVIN BONESKE
Sports Editor

Placing first in 11 of 12 events and adding four runner-up finishes contributed to a big dual meet victory Tuesday for the International Falls girls swimming and diving team over Chisholm in the FHS pool.

The Broncos flew past the Bluestreaks, 122-60.

“We swam very well,” said Falls head coach Jill Herzig. “Chisholm beat us in a four-lane pool a year ago, so we weren’t taking them lightly.

“We had some great surprise first places. ... Our divers won, too, which is a very nice surprise.”

The Broncos had a pair of double individual winners. Senior Breanna Shofner won both the 50-yard freestyle (27.59 seconds) and 100 freestyle (1:02.14), while freshman Abby Kostiuik won the 200 freestyle (2:21.02) and 100 backstroke

(1:07.14).

The Falls won all three relay races with Shofner and Kostiuik each being on two winning teams.

Shofner and Kostiuik joined senior Blair Johnson and freshman Emily Saari to win the 200 medley relay (2:05.46).

Saari added a first-place individual finish in the 100 breaststroke (1:20.66).

Johnson and Shofner teamed with freshmen Claire Herzig and Emma Misner to win the 200 freestyle relay (1:52.86).

Kostiuik and Misner joined senior Courtney Klow and junior Tayler Hebner for a first-place finish in the 400 freestyle relay (4:20.01).

Misner added a first-place finish in the 100 butterfly (1:10.95) and also combined with Claire Herzig, Klow and Hebner to finish runner-up in the 200 medley relay (2:10.56).

Falls freshman Carolann

Stone won the 500 freestyle (6:31.09) and placed runner-up in the 200 freestyle (2:24.84).

The Broncos’ other second-place finish in the swimming events came from Claire Herzig in the 100 breaststroke (1:22.73).

In the diving competition, the Falls picked up the top-two places with juniors Jessie Hell and Kylie Skallman going 1-2, respectively, with 133.4 and 122.65 points.

The Broncos, whose dual meet record now stands at 3-1, have their first meet away from the FHS pool today at an invitational in Hibbing.

“The Hibbing Invitational will have Cambridge and Bemidji...so we will see some great teams that we won’t face any other time,” Jill Herzig said. “Grand Rapids isn’t there, but Hibbing, Virginia and rest of our Section will be, so we’ll see how we stack up.”



The Broncos’ Abby Kostiuik swims to a first-place finish in the 100-yard backstroke and also won the 200 freestyle in Tuesday’s dual meet against Chisholm in the Falls High School pool.

Jay Boyle recommended for assistant girls hoops coach

Dawnn Taylor backed for boys swimming coach

BY KEVIN BONESKE
Sports Editor

After having been tabled three months ago, a recommendation to rehire Jay Boyle as the Bronco girls assistant basketball coach will be back on the International Falls School Board’s agenda for Monday’s meeting.

Boyle’s rehiring had been put on hold this summer when a committee comprised of three board members as well as school ad-

ministrators was formed to look into the situation with teachers being out of the classroom to coach and substitutes having to fill in for them.

Board members voted in June to rehire Shawn Gilbert as the head girls basketball coach when they held off making a decision on the assistant coaching position, which was then posted for anyone to apply.

Boyle, who is a math teacher at International

Falls High School, has been coaching all three seasons during the school year as the head football coach, assistant girls basketball coach and an assistant track and field coach.

The board will also consider a recommendation to hire someone with coaching experience north of the border as the Broncos’ next boys head swimming and diving coach.

If approved, Dawnn Taylor, whose background in-



Jay Boyle

cludes being the head coach of the Fort Frances Aquanauts and also being associated with Swim Ontario, would replace Hailey Silvers, who resigned after two seasons.

Taylor’s son, Donovan Taylor, is a sophomore on the Indiana University men’s swimming team and competes in the butterfly and individual medley.

Following last month’s approval of former assistant coach Ross Johnson as the head boys hockey coach, the board will consider rehiring Tom Biondich as an assistant coach.

Athletic director Kevin Grover said interviews will be conducted next week in the process to fill the other assistant boys hockey coaching position.

Another coaching recommendation on the board’s agenda Monday is to give formal approval of Ryan Puncohar as an assistant football coach.

The head coach of the Littlefork-Big Falls volleyball team has been recommended for a full-time physical education position at International Falls.

Grover said Sarah Bradley would be filling the vacancy created by Bruce Elson receiving board approval of an unpaid leave of absence for up to five years.

He said Bradley is allowed to coach in another school district as long as those coaching responsibilities don’t conflict with her duties as a physical education teacher.

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