

# SPORTS



**Who is...**  
Lexi Owen, Bronco girls basketball senior guard, is featured

B2

## QUICK HITS

### FHS boys hockey team edges LOW

The International Falls boys hockey team scored all three of its goals in the final period Tuesday night when Brady Walls recorded the game-winner with 8 seconds remaining to lift the Broncos to a 3-2 victory at Lake of the Woods.

Jakob Ettestad and Jackson Vollom also had third-period goals for the Falls, which trailed by a goal going into the final 17 minutes.

After a scoreless first period, a goal by the Bears' Blake Olson with 3:12 to play in the second put Lake of the Woods in front, 1-0.

Following the goals by Ettestad and Vollom early in the final period to give the Broncos a 2-1 lead, the Bears' Carter Chorney scored to tie the game with 6:16 left to play.

### L-BF boys hoops team beats LOW

The Littlefork-Big Falls boys basketball team picked up its first victory of the season Tuesday night when the Vikings won big at home over Lake of the Woods, 91-29.

"We did what we were expected to do," said L-BF head coach Jeff Maish. "Lake of the Woods is a young team that is continuing to get better."

The Vikings led 65-9 at halftime and had several reserve players see action. L-BF also shot 8-10 from the free-throw line.

Jacob Franz, Rylan Henriksson and Tommy Manninen led the Vikings in scoring with 16 points apiece. Chandon Street added 12 points and Taylor DeLack scored 10 more.

Monte Gubbels was the only Bear player to score in double figures with 11 points.

### Silver medalist to have book signing

One of the players on the silver medal-winning 1972 U.S. Olympic hockey team, which included three players from International Falls, will be at The Sports Shop from 3-7 p.m. Thursday for a book signing.

Henry Boucha of Warroad, who also played in the National Hockey League and was inducted into the U.S. Hockey Hall of Fame, will be on hand to sign his book titled *Henry Boucha, Ojibwa Native American Olympian*.

## GIRLS BASKETBALL

# Rangers shoot down Vikings

### L-BF drops to 3-1

BY KEVIN BONESKE  
Sports Editor

After starting off the season with three lopsided road victories, the Littlefork-Big Falls girls basketball team tasted double-digit defeat at home Thursday night.

The Vikings faced the full-court pressure defense and outside shooting of Mountain Iron-Buhl and ended up losing to the Rangers, 70-37.

"They're the preseason No. 2 (ranked team in Class A) in the state for a reason – they're good," said L-BF head coach John Larson. "They hit outside shots when they have them, and they're not afraid to pull the trigger, but I think we kind of let up on the defensive end a little bit and (that) gave them some extra open shots."

Behind the 3-point arc, MI-B made 12 baskets, compared to one for the Vikings.

Both teams had shooting woes early in the game. The Rangers didn't pull away by double digits until late in the first half when they began making more outside shots.

L-BF was outscored 16-7 in the final 5:23 of the first half when MI-B made four 3-point shots and took a 35-19 lead at intermission. The second half had more of the same with the Rangers outscoring the Vikings, 35-18.

"Shooters are going to find their shot, and we were



From left, the Vikings' DyAna Imhof (11) shoots inside the lane next to Mountain Iron-Buhl's Cora Peterson (00).

not contesting very well," Larson said. "We have stuff that we need to work on. The season's still young – it's only four games into the season – we'll get better as time goes on."

Vikings freshman guard Kaylee Kennedy made the team's only 3-point basket and was L-BF's only player to score in double figures with 14 points.

The Rangers were led in scoring by freshman guard Chelsea Mason with a game-high 23 points, which included four 3-pointers. Another freshman MI-B guard, Mya Buffetta, also



STAFF PHOTOS BY KEVIN BONESKE

In front, the Vikings' Kaylee Kennedy ends up on the floor with the ball while Mountain Iron-Buhl's Allie Knuti (4) looks on in Thursday night's game in the Littlefork-Big Falls High School gym.

made four 3-pointers and ended up with 14 points, while Allie Knuti scored 12 more.

The Vikings, who dropped to 3-1 on the season, returned to action Tuesday at Lake of the Woods.

**MI-B 70, L-BF 37**  
**MI-B 35 35 - 70**  
**L-BF 19 18 - 37**

**MI-B:** Cora Peterson 2, Mary Burke 2, Allie Knuti 12, Patty Overbye 3, Chelsea Mason 23, Kianna Martinson 3, Austyn Dagen 1, Charity Aultman 2, Mya Buffetta 14, Lissy McCulloch

8. 3-pointers: Mason 4, Buffetta 4, McCulloch 2, Overbye, Martinson. Free throws: 6-13. Fouls: 20.

**L-BF:** Ellie Julson 2, Kaylee Kennedy 14, DyAna Imhof 7, Karly Swenson 1, Abby Thompson 8, Brooke Millerbernd 5. 3-pointers: Kennedy. Free throws: 12-20. Fouls: 13.

## BOYS BASKETBALL

# Broncos blow double-digit halftime lead, lose to Chisholm

BY KEVIN BONESKE  
Sports Editor

After leading by 14 points at halftime, turnovers plagued the International Falls boys basketball team in the second half Tuesday night when the Broncos ended up losing at home to Chisholm, 61-55.

"A tough loss," said Falls head coach Derek Dowty. "I thought we played a pretty good first half – I didn't have too much negative to say about it."

"In the second half we kind of laid an egg. We ran into a team that seemed to want it a little more than we did. They put some pressure on and we had trouble with the pressure."

It took a Broncos about 5 minutes to take their first double-digit lead of the game when junior forward Ben Humbert made a layup for a 12-2 advantage.

The Bluestreaks had been behind since early in the first half before they tied the game at 45-45 just past the midway point of the second half.

A 3-point play completed at the free-throw line by Aaron Musberger with 7:50 remaining gave Chisholm its first lead at 48-47.

After a free throw Humbert tied the game at 55-55 with 4:10 to play, Chisholm took advantage of the Broncos' turnovers and scored the final 6 points to close out the game.

"That's an area we need to improve on – handling the pressure," Dowty said. "A lot of teams that have beaten us so far have put the pressure on."

Musberger led three Bluestreak players scor-



STAFF PHOTO BY KEVIN BONESKE

From right, the Broncos' Allen Johnson (4) guards Chisholm's Austin Campbell (21) in Tuesday's game in the Falls High School gym. For more photos, see B3.

ing in double figures with a game-high 29 points. Austin Campbell added 11 points and Mitch Rusten put in 10 more.

Humbert led the Broncos in scoring with 21 points, followed by Cole Miggins with 11.

The Falls, which returned to action Friday at

Ely, hosts Esko this afternoon at 2:30 p.m.

**Chisholm 61, I. Falls 55**  
**Chisholm 20 41 - 61**  
**I. Falls 34 21 - 55**

**I. Falls:** Cody Hallin 1, Cole Miggins 11, Cory Netland 6, Jack Bartkowski 6, Max Vergeldt 6, Ben Humbert 21. 3-pointers: Miggins. Free throws: 10-16. Fouls: 18.

## GIRLS HOCKEY

# Broncos edged out by Bluejackets

BY KEVIN BONESKE  
Sports Editor

The International Falls girls hockey team scored the first and last goals at home Tuesday night, but the Broncos didn't score enough and lost to Hibbing/Chisholm, 4-3.

"We got three goals – usually that's enough, probably, to win a hockey game," said Broncos head coach Gerald Bolstad. "We got behind, 3-1, early in the second period, so we were playing catch-up all night."

"I thought the kids battled back hard and got it to (a one-goal deficit) and had some chances to tie it early, and then that fourth goal hurt. But then we kept fighting and got it to (a one-goal deficit) again."

Falls sophomore defensive player Abby Auran gave the Broncos a 1-0 lead 1:58 into the opening period on a goal assisted by Lexi Edwards and Jenna Anderson.

The Bluejackets' Sarah Fairbanks, who ended up with a hat trick, scored two first-period goals, the second one coming on the power play, to give Hibbing/Chisholm a 2-1 lead after the first 17 minutes.

Nichole DeBoom gave the Bluejackets a 3-1 lead on a goal at 2:33 of the second period. The Broncos then

made a goalie switch when senior starter Keanna Carlson left the net and was replaced by sophomore Taylor Fish.

"Right now I'm going to play the best (goalie) – whoever is playing better," Bolstad said.

Falls senior forward Hillary Fox cut the deficit to a goal when she scored on the power play assisted by Katie West and Anderson with 10:54 to play in the second period. The score remained 3-2 going into the final 17 minutes.

Fairbanks completed the hat trick on a goal with 5:18 left in the final period.

Edwards put in the Broncos' final goal with less than a minute to play assisted by Auran and Fox.

Abby Auran, Hillary Fox and Lexi Edwards each scored for the Broncos.

Bluejackets goalie Megan Frider made 30 saves in recording the victory, while Carlson and Fish combined for 18 saves as they split time in goal for the Falls.

The Broncos are playing a pair of road games this weekend with the second game scheduled for this afternoon against Wadena-Deer Creek.

**Bluejackets 4, Broncos 3**  
**Bluejackets 2 1 1 - 4**  
**Broncos 1 1 1 - 3**

## SPORTS SCHEDULE

### Today's games

**Women's/men's basketball**  
Anoka-Ramsey at RRCC, 1/3 p.m.

**Boys basketball**  
Esko at I. Falls, 2:30 p.m.

**Boys hockey**  
I. Falls at Duluth Marshall, 3 p.m.

**Girls hockey**  
I. Falls vs. Wadena-Deer Creek at Long Prairie, 2 p.m.

**Women's hockey**  
Minot State vs. RRCC at Bronco Arena, 7 p.m.

### Sunday's games

**Women's hockey**  
Minot State vs. RRCC at Bronco Arena, noon

### Monday's games

**Boys swimming/diving**  
I. Falls at Chisholm, 4:30 p.m.

**Boys basketball**  
L-BF at I. Falls, 7:15 p.m.

**Girls basketball**  
I. Falls at Bigfork, 7:15 p.m.

### Tuesday's games

**Boys swimming/diving**  
I. Falls at Eveleth-Gilbert, 4:30 p.m.

**Girls basketball**  
L-BF at Lake of the Woods, 7:15 p.m.

Bee Informed.



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