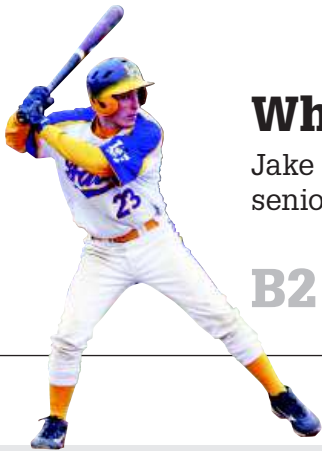


SPORTS



Who is...
Jake Kulig, Bronco baseball senior outfielder, is featured

B2

QUICK HITS

L-BF baseball team wins at Deer River, loses at Hill City

The Littlefork-Big Falls baseball team picked up its first victory of the season Tuesday when the Vikings won at Deer River, 8-2.

Rylan Henrickson recorded the complete-game pitching victory, allowing two earned runs on four hits with two walks while striking out four.

Taylor DeLack led the Vikings at the plate by batting 3-3 with a double, 2 RBI and two runs scored. Brenden Williams added two hits with a double and a run scored. Tommy Manninen went 1-4 with 3 RBI and a run scored, while Tate Promersberger also had a hit with an RBI and two runs scored.

L-BF could only muster a run and five hits over nine innings Thursday when the Vikings lost at Hill City, 2-1.

Manninen, who had two hits, scored the Vikings' only run in the top of the first when he reached home on a passed ball.

DeLack pitched all 8 1/3 innings for L-BF as he allowed eight hits and also struck out eight.

L-BF softball team trounces Chisholm, wins at Blackduck

Four home runs over the fence Tuesday helped propel the Littlefork-Big Falls softball team to a 25-2 victory in five innings at Chisholm.

L-BF senior Brooke Millerbernd connected on four hits with two round-trippers, while senior Dy-Ana Imhof and sophomore Breann Larson also had four hits apiece with a home run and a double.

Viking sophomores Emily Knaeble and Ellie Julson each added three hits.

L-BF limited Chisholm to two hits over five innings. Amanda Nelson pitched three innings, allowing a hit and striking out four. Millerbernd worked two innings and gave up a hit with three strikeouts.

The Vikings allowed only three hits over seven innings Thursday when they won at Blackduck, 7-1.

Millerbernd pitched the first four innings to record the victory, allowing the only run and a hit while striking out a batter. Nelson closed out the final three innings, giving up two hits while striking out one.

BOYS BASEBALL

Broncos sweep Virginia in twin bill

BY KEVIN BONESKE
Sports Editor

The International Falls baseball team picked up its second and third wins of the season Thursday after sweeping a pair of six-inning games over Virginia at Scheela Field.

"We scored some runs when we needed to and we answered when they put up some numbers, but I told the boys, 'We're not going to downplay two wins against Virginia,'" said Broncos head coach Eric Walls. "It's a good thing, but it wasn't a very well-played ballgame on our part."

In game one, both teams only scored three runs between them when the Falls defeated the Blue Devils, 2-1.

Wyatt Ulrich pitched all six innings to record the victory, allowing an unearned run on four hits while striking out seven.

At the plate, the Broncos tallied nine hits. Ulrich batted 3-3 and scored both of Falls' runs, while Jakob Eide added two hits.

The Broncos left eight runners on base in five innings at bat, compared to Virginia stranding six runners in six innings at the plate.

"We ran the bases probably as poorly as I've seen in the time I've been coaching here," Walls said.

I. FALLS 9, VIRGINIA 6

In game two, both

teams combined for 15 runs when the Broncos defeated the Blue Devils, 9-6.

Ben Humbert pitched the opening inning for the Falls, which was on the verge of retiring Virginia without giving up a run when Humbert got Matt McFaul to strike out with two outs and two runners on base.

However, after the ball hit the ground and McFaul headed to first base, Broncos catcher Tyler Coffield overthrew Jack Bartkowski at first and the first of four unearned runs for the Blue Devils scored that inning when Humbert faced all nine batters and gave up three hits and two walks while striking out four.

The Falls tied the game in the top of the second.

After loading the bases on a single by Bartkowski and walks by Jake Kulig and Jackson Vollom, the Broncos scored their first run when Coffield reached base on an in-field error. A single by Ulrich drove in two more runs. The game deadlocked at 4-4 when Humbert reached base with two outs on a fly ball that Virginia's right fielder dropped.

Cole Miggins pitched the final five innings and recorded the win for the Falls, allowing two runs, one earned, on eight hits.

The Blue Devils went back in front in the bot-



STAFF PHOTO BY KEVIN BONESKE

From left, the Broncos' Chase Bernard is tagged out at home by Virginia catcher Matt McFaul in the first game of Thursday's doubleheader at Scheela Field.

tom of the second when they had three hits, but could only generate one run.

The Broncos tied the game in the top of the third after Luke Spilde led off the inning with a single and scored.

Virginia regained the lead with a run in the bottom of the third, but that was the last time the Blue Devils scored.

The Broncos took advantage of free passes on base and wild pitches

when they took the lead for good with two runs in the top of the fourth and added two insurance runs in the sixth inning.

Of the Falls' 10 hits, Ulrich had three of them with 2 RBI and a run scored. Spilde added two hits with an RBI and two runs scored, while Vollom doubled with two runs scored.

The Falls left eight runners on base, compared to nine for Virginia.

The doubleheader

sweep improved the Broncos' season record to 3-0 going into Friday's scheduled game against Mesabi East.

Game 1
I. Falls 2, Virginia 1
Virginia 1-0-0 0-0-0 - 1 4 1
I. Falls 1-0-1 0-0-X - 2 9 2
WP-Wyatt Ulrich

Game 2
I. Falls 9, Virginia 6
I. Falls 0-4-1 2-0-2 - 9 10 2
Virginia 4-1-1 0-0-0 - 6 11 2
WP-Cole Miggins

GIRLS SOFTBALL



STAFF PHOTO BY KEVIN BONESKE

At right, the Broncos' Emily Treat (2) slides into home plate to score in Tuesday's home game against Cherry.

Broncos rally to cut down Cherry, then shut out N-K

JOURNAL STAFF REPORT

After giving up a pair of runs in each of the first two innings Tuesday, the International Falls softball team rallied for five runs in the bottom of the fifth to win 5-4 at home against Cherry.

"We got into a little trouble at the beginning of the game - we didn't make some plays defensively," said Broncos head coach Kevin Gordon. "We had a couple of miscues. You can't do that against Cherry, because they're a very good team and they're very good on the bases. They did a good job of putting some runs up."

"We just hit the ball in the end. The girls were patient. They kept trying to hack away on (Cherry pitcher Kacey Herring). She's a good pitcher. We got some good hits - got some balls through

the infield. (Ashley) Jonson hit a nice shot to the fence. That was a huge hit for us. It's a nice game for us - a nice win for the girls. It's a good confidence builder."

The Falls registered eight hits off of Herring as Jonson doubled, while sophomore Emily Treat and junior Meghan Tomczak both had two hits apiece. Juniors Teagan Anderson and Emma Johnson and sophomore Briana Becvar each added a single.

Anderson also recorded the pitching victory, scattering 11 hits over seven innings.

The win also resulted in the first loss this season for Cherry, which had won its first seven games.

I. Falls 8, N-K 0

Anderson allowed only three hits Thursday when the Broncos won on the road

by shutting out Nashwauk-Keewatin, 8-0.

The Falls hit the ball early and often, taking a 6-0 lead after two innings when Spartans starting pitcher Aubrey Nelson left the game.

The Broncos' leading hitters included junior Meghan Tomczak with three hits and sophomore Cassi Harju with two more.

The win improved Falls' season record to 3-1 going into Friday's local rivalry game at home against Littlefork-Big Falls.

Tuesday's game
I. Falls 5, Cherry 4
Cherry 2-2-0 0-0-0 0 - 4
I. Falls 0-0-0 0-5-0 0 - 5

Thursday's game
I. Falls 8, N-K 0
I. Falls 1-5-1 0-0-0 1 - 8
N-K 0-0-0 0-0-0 0 - 0

SPORTS SCHEDULE

Today's games
Women's softball
RRCC in MCAC North
Tourney at Thief River Falls, TBD

Girls track and field
I. Falls at Nashwauk Mullins Meet, 10 a.m.

Girls softball
L-BF at Hill City, 11:30 a.m.

Boys baseball
L-BF vs. USA/Melrose at Freeport, 12/2 p.m.

Men's baseball
Mesabi Range at RRCC (DH), 1 p.m.

Sunday's game
Women's softball
RRCC in MCAC North
Tourney at Thief River Falls, TBD

Men's baseball
RRCC at Fond du Lac (DH), 1 p.m.

Monday's games
Boys golf
I. Falls at Wilderness Invite, 11 a.m.

Girls softball
Nashwauk-Keewatin at L-BF, 3 p.m.

I. Falls at Ely, 4:30 p.m.
Boys baseball
I. Falls at MI-B, 4:30 p.m.