

SPORTS



Who is...

DyAna Imhof, Viking girls basketball, senior forward, is featured

B2

QUICK HITS

FHS boys hockey team loses at E-G

The International Falls boys hockey team extended a non-winning streak to four games Tuesday night by losing 5-2 at Eveleth-Gilbert.

After Clay Bergstrom scored first for the Broncos to give them the lead, Gus Karkinen recorded a hat trick for the Golden Bears.

Jordan Tilander pulled the Falls within a goal going into the final period, before the Golden Bears scored twice more on goals from Nick Moe and Mitchell Huffman.

Eveleth-Gilbert outshot the Falls, 35-27, with Grant Kokal picking up the win and Wyatt Ulrich recording the loss in goal.

The Broncos' season record dropped to 4-11-1 going into Friday's game at Detroit Lakes.

FHS boys swimmers lose at Mesabi East

The International Falls boys swimming and diving team had its first dual meet of the new year Thursday when the Broncos lost at Mesabi East, 56-38.

Among the contested events, the Falls' top individual finishes included Ian Ducharme winning the 100-yard freestyle (1:00.59) and Cole Tatsak placing first in the diving competition (133 points).

The Broncos' Levi Lucy added a runner-up finish in the 200 individual medley (2:36.77).

The Giants took a large lead early in the dual meet leading up to the diving competition and swam most of the subsequent events for exhibition purposes only.

The Falls is competing today in the Iron Range Conference True Team Meet at Grand Rapids and has a home dual meet next Thursday against Chisholm.

Voyageur women's and men's hoops games rescheduled

The Rainy River Community College women's and men's basketball home games scheduled Jan. 15 against Northland were postponed because of the snowy weather conditions and have been rescheduled for Jan. 22 with the women's game set to tip off at 6 p.m. and the men's game starting at 8 p.m.

SPORTS SCHEDULE

Today's games

Boys swimming/diving
I. Falls in IRC True Team Meet at Grand Rapids, 9:30 a.m.

Women's/men's basketball
RRCC at Itasca, 1/3 p.m.

Girls/boys basketball
I. Falls at Two Harbors, 1/2:30 p.m.

Women's hockey
North Dakota State vs. RRCC at Bronco Arena, 7 p.m.

Sunday's games

Women's hockey
North Dakota State vs. RRCC at Kerry Park, noon

Monday's games

Girls basketball
Hill City at L-BF, 7:15 p.m.

Tuesday's games

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

Boys basketball
I. Falls at Eveleth-Gilbert, 7:15 p.m.

Girls hockey
I. Falls at Grand Rapids, 7:30 p.m.

BOYS BASKETBALL

Broncos hold off Hibbing, 83-80

BY KEVIN BONESKE
Sports Editor

After leading by four points at halftime Tuesday night, the International Falls boys basketball team fell behind late in the second half before battling back to defeat Hibbing, 83-80, in the Falls High School gym.

"It's nice to see our kids fight like that and finish the game off," said Broncos head coach Derek Dowty.

The Falls led 59-50 with 9:37 to play when Ben Humbert made two free throws. However, the Bluejackets came back and tied the game at 63-63 on a field goal by Dylan Takkunen.

The lead shifted hands with Hibbing pulling in front and the Broncos going ahead again as the clock wound down. The Bluejackets were able to stay within one possession of tying the game or going in front going into the final minute.

Cole Miggins made the second of two free throws with 49.8 seconds to play to give the Falls a 79-76 advantage. Then when Hibbing drove down the court for a possible tying basket, Takkunen put up a shot behind the 3-point arc that drew air and went out of bounds, giving the ball back to the Broncos with 30.4 seconds to play.

Humbert then was fouled with 19.1 seconds left and made two free throws as the Broncos went in front by five.



STAFF PHOTO BY KEVIN BONESKE

The Broncos' Cole Miggins' (12) leaps for a layup in front of Hibbing's Dylan Takkunen (20) while the Bluejackets' Tyler Jerkovich (5) looks on in Tuesday night's game in the Falls High School gym.

Hibbing then sank a pair of 2-point field goals in between a layup by Falls' Cody Hallin to close out the game.

Humbert and Hallin

each scored 20 points for the Falls, while Miggins added 17 points and Jack Bartkowski scored 16 more.

The Bluejackets were

led in scoring by Tyler Jerkovich with a game-high 24-points, followed by Takkunen with 19 points.

On defense, the Bron-

cos set up primarily in a 2-3 zone against Hibbing throughout the game.

"(The Bluejackets) are a little bit quicker than we are, so we felt the 2-3 would help us defensively," Dowty said. "We've used it against them in the past, and it's been successful, so we came out with it for the majority of the game (Tuesday) and it worked well."

The win improved Falls' season record to 6-8 overall going into Friday night's game at Proctor. The Broncos have another road game this afternoon at Two Harbors.

BIGFORK 48, L-BF 36

In another boys basketball game Tuesday night, Littlefork-Big Falls lost at home to Bigfork, 48-36.

L-BF returned to action Friday evening at Laporte. The Vikings' home game that was scheduled for this afternoon against Lakeview Christian Academy has been canceled.

I. Falls 83, Hibbing 80

Hibbing 38 42 - 80

I. Falls 42 41 - 83

Hibbing: Corey Nelson 4, Colin Kemp 5, Tyler Jerkovich 24, Andy Rudberg 6, Dylan Takkunen 19, Andy Kolden 8, Travis Carruth 9. 3-pointers: Carruth 3, Takkunen 2, Kolden 2, Kemp, Jerkovich. Free throws: 13-19. Fouls: 22.

I. Falls: Allen Johnson 2, Ben Humbert 20, Cody Hallin 20, Cole Miggins 17, Connor Ward 4, Jack Bartkowski 16, Max Vergeldt 4. 3-pointers: Hallin 2. Free throws: 23-31. Fouls: 19.

GIRLS HOCKEY

Warriors edge Broncos, snap winning streak

FHS now 10-7-2

BY KEVIN BONESKE
Sports Editor

The International Falls girls hockey team picked up its first loss of the new year and snapped a 5-game winning streak Thursday night when the Broncos lost at home to Warroad, 3-2.

Both teams exchanged goals in the first two periods when shots of goal were even at 13-13. The Warriors then matched their shots on goal for the first 34 minutes in the final period - outshooting the Falls 13-5 - when Lynn Astrup scored the game-winner with 2:28 to play.

"I think (the Warriors) stepped it up a little bit (in the final period)," said Broncos head coach Gerald Bolstad. "I think our girls got a little tired. We're fighting some flu bugs, but the kids played hard. I'm really proud of the way they played. Warroad's a very good team."

The Falls played without

one of its top scorers, senior Hillary Fox.

The Warriors scored first 10:16 into the opening period on a shorthanded goal from Kimmy Schaible. Then with less than a minute left in the period, Broncos eighth-grader Amber Tilander tied the game on an assist by Lexi Erickson.

The Falls pulled in front 2:55 into the second period on a goal from Sydney Raboin assisted by Lexi Edwards and Jenna Anderson, only to see Warroad tie the game 31 seconds later on Astrup's first goal of the game.

Following Astrup's second goal late in the final period, the Broncos pulled goaltender Taylor Fish out of the net to get an extra attacker on the ice and also went on the power play with 38.1 seconds remaining, but were unable to score again before time expired.

The Warriors' Dani Knott made 16 saves to pick up the win in goal, while Fish stopped 23 shots in recording the loss.

I. FALLS 10, LOW 2

On Tuesday night at Bronco Arena, the Falls led by only a goal after the first period before trouncing Lake of the Woods, 10-2.

Bolstad said the Broncos "played down to the competition" to start the game against a team they had shut out 10-0 earlier in the season.

"We weren't real intense and that showed," he said. "But the kids played OK - they did some good things - it wasn't like a real bad game."

Edwards recorded a hat trick for the Broncos with Fox and Katie West adding two goals apiece. Tilander, Tessa Walls and Kaitlin Van Heel also scored for the Falls, which outshot the Bears, 55-12.

Keanna Carlson made 10 saves to record the win in goal.

The Broncos' season record stood at 10-7-2 going into Friday's game at Silver Bay.

The Falls then play Tuesday at Grand Rapids.



STAFF PHOTO BY KEVIN BONESKE

The Broncos' Sydney Raboin (16) goes after the puck in the crease behind Warroad goalie Dani Knott (33) while Danika Huerd (3) looks on in Thursday night's game at Bronco Arena.

Thursday's game
Warroad 3, I. Falls 2
Warroad 1 1 1 - 3
I. Falls 1 1 0 - 2

Tuesday's game
I. Falls 10, LOW 2
LOW 1 1 0 - 2
I. Falls 2 4 4 - 10

GIRLS BASKETBALL

I. Falls Broncos win at Eveleth-Gilbert, lose at Warroad

FHS now 9-3

JOURNAL STAFF REPORT

The International Falls girls basketball team won the second of three road games the Broncos have scheduled for this week with a 58-50 victory Thursday

night at Eveleth-Gilbert.

Cassie Tomczak led three Falls players scoring in double figures with 14 points, while Teagan Anderson and Maddie Filipiak added 10 points apiece.

The Golden Bears were led by Olivia Bontems with a game-high 16 points and Majia DePaulis with 10

points.

In another girls basketball game Thursday night, Littlefork-Big Falls lost at Cherry, 48-29.

WARROAD 70, I. FALLS 62

The Broncos opened the week with a 70-62 loss Tuesday night at Warroad.

Anderson led the Falls

with a game-high 21 points, which included six 3-pointers, with Filipiak also scoring in double figures with 10 points.

Four Warriors scored in double figures led by Molly McDonald with 20 points, followed by Lindsay Fast and Alyssa Culleton with 13 apiece and Talia Kham-

many with 10.

The Broncos, whose season record now stands at 9-3, play at 1 this afternoon at Two Harbors.



Cassie Tomczak