

SPORTS



Still in goal

Bob Mason assists another Wild season

B2

QUICK HITS

I. Falls Legion baseball season opens June 17

When International Falls returns to playing Legion baseball this summer after a hiatus of several years, only three of its games will be scheduled at home.

The Falls, which will play in a nine-team conference, as well as play non-conference games and participate in tournaments, opens its season June 17 with a conference doubleheader that afternoon against Brookston at the South Ridge field.

The Falls' first tournament will be June 20-22 at Virginia. After playing a conference doubleheader June 24 at Esko, the Falls' first home game of the season is set for June 30 at 6 p.m. against conference opponent Deer River.

Following a series of road doubleheaders in early July, the Falls plays at Ely on July 11 with tournament games also taking place there July 12-13.

After a non-conference doubleheader July 15 at Grand Rapids, the Falls' final scheduled home games will be a conference doubleheader starting at 3 p.m. July 17 against Greenway to close out the regular season.

The Legion playoffs are scheduled to begin July 22.

I. Falls trap team wraps up season

The International Falls School Trap Team closed out its season May 31 competing in the Novice division at a tournament in Bemidji and finishing third out of six teams.

Falls' top-five shooters in the four rounds of 25 shots apiece included:

- Nathan McRoberts, 89-100, (22.2 per-round average).
- Sidney Norstad, 73-100, (18.2 per-round average).
- Colton Hasbargen, 69-100, (17.2 per-round average).
- Brady Mathews, 64-100, (16 per-round average).
- Ben Keeney, 60-100, (15 per-round average).

Falls' Trap Team, which completed its first season with 35 boys and girls participating in grades 6-10, also recently presented awards to team members with the top regular-season scores.

The High Gun award for the highest round of the season went to Cole Mann, who hit 19 out of 25 targets.

The male with highest season average was Shane Thraemer at 13.4 per round, while the female with the highest season average was Taylor Sears at 10.2.

The Most Improved award went to Megan Herry.

Blair on Academic All-NSIC Team

Kelly Blair of International Falls, who completed her sophomore season this spring on the Bemidji State University women's golf team, was recently named to the 2014 Spring Academic All-Northern Sun Intercollegiate Conference Team.

SPORTS SCHEDULE

Today's games

Girls track and field

I. Falls in State Class A Meet at Hamline University, 3:30 p.m.

Tuesday's games

Boys and girls golf

I. Falls in State Class AA Meet at Sand Creek in Jordan, 7:30 a.m.

Wednesday's games

Boys and girls golf

I. Falls in State Class AA Meet at Sand Creek in Jordan, 7:30 a.m.

BOYS BASEBALL



STAFF PHOTOS BY KEVIN BONESKE

From right, Vikings first baseman Evan Wimmer (23) catches the ball on a relay throw after an infield line drive to put out South Ridge's Trey Karpinnen (30) diving back to the base in Tuesday evening's Section 7A Tournament game at Hibbing.

Vikings' season ends after two tourney losses

L-BF finishes 10-12 overall

JOURNAL STAFF REPORT

After opening the Section 7A Tournament with four wins in a row, the No. 7-seeded Littlefork-Big Falls baseball team was knocked out of the double-elimination portion of the tournament Tuesday in Hibbing.

"It's not the way we wanted it to end, but like I told those guys, 'When you walk away, keep your heads held high for the run that (you) had,'" said Vikings head coach Dan Beste. "It's about the journey, not the destination. We had a lot of fun this last couple of weeks."

L-BF lost its first tournament game to top-seeded Ely, 13-2, in five innings.

After a scoreless opening inning, errors plagued the Vikings when they gave up seven runs to the Timberwolves in the top of the second with Rylan Henrickson pitching for L-BF.

Henrickson left the mound after the second inning. Of the seven runs he gave up, two were earned on five hits with

two walks.

"If you give a team like Ely, or a team like South Ridge, extra outs in an inning because of errors, they're going to make you pay, and that's what happened (Tuesday)," Beste said.

Evan Wimmer pitched the final three innings for L-BF when he gave up four runs in the third and two more in the fifth. Of those six runs, three were earned on seven hits with two walks. He struck out two batters.

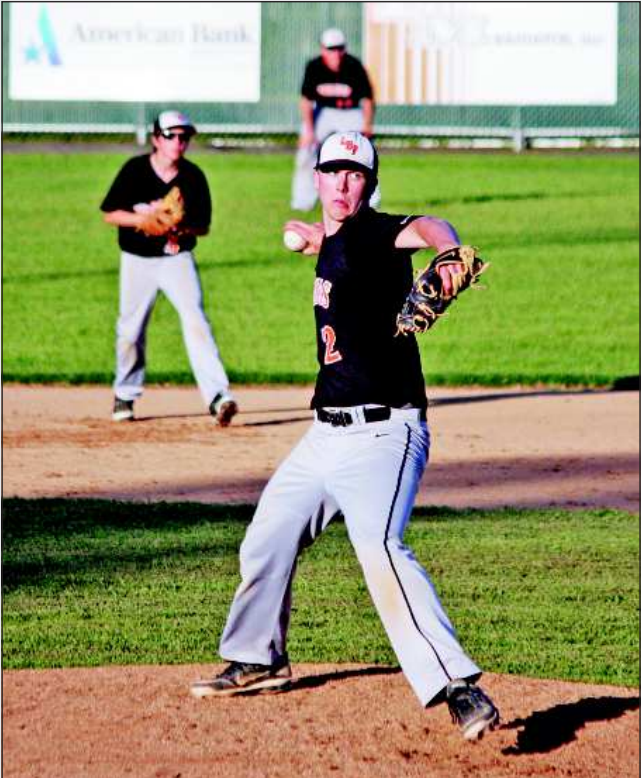
Ely's starting pitcher, Louis Gerzin, kept the Vikings scoreless in his three innings on the mound.

The Timberwolves brought Pat Huisman in to pitch in the fourth inning when L-BF scored both of its runs, which Wimmer drove in with a single after Taylor DeLack doubled and Darian Erickson singled.

The Vikings ended up with only four hits as DeLack added a single in the bottom of the fifth.

SR 13, L-BF 0

L-BF then played an elimination game Tuesday evening against No. 3-seeded South Ridge, which scored 10 runs in the bottom of the first



The Vikings' Taylor DeLack (2) delivers a pitch in Tuesday evening's Section 7A Tournament game against South Ridge.

and ended up shutting out the Vikings, 13-0, in five innings.

Henrickson once again started on the mound for L-BF, but lasted only two-thirds of an inning. He was charged for 10 runs, four earned, on seven hits with a walk.

DeLack relieved Henrickson and pitched the

rest of the game, allowing three runs, one earned, on four hits with two walks while striking out five.

The Vikings could only muster two hits over five innings off Panthers pitcher Spencer Otis, who also walked two and hit a batter while striking out seven.

DeLack and Jacob Franz each singled for L-BF.

The Vikings' season ended at 10-12, while South Ridge advanced to play against Ely for the Section 7A championship in Hibbing.

L-BF's graduation losses include three players who saw significant playing time this season — Delack and outfielders Eric Thydean and Jacob Franz.

"We're losing three seniors, a couple of key pieces to our team this year, but they're leaving this program on a positive note in the right direction," said Beste, who finished his second year as the Vikings' head coach. "We've got to improve next year. (After) being a .500 team this year, we're going to shoot for being over .500, getting to this (tournament) game and winning this game, and so on."

Game 1

Ely 13, L-BF 2 (5 innings)

Ely 0-7-4 0-2 - 13 12 3

L-BF 0-0-0 2-0 - 2 4 7

Game 2

SR 13, L-BF 0 (5 innings)

L-BF 0-0-0 0-0 - 0 2 1

SR 10-3-0 0-X - 13 11 2

Junior Golf Clinic features hole-in-one

JOURNAL STAFF REPORT

The first of three, three-day Junior Golf Clinics scheduled for this summer at the Falls Country Club wrapped up this week.

Boys and girls from ages 5-12 received instruction

from PGA professional Tom O'Connell and others, including Falls head golf coach Kelly Blair and present members of the Bronco boys and girls golf teams.

While golfing on the course Tuesday, one of the participants, Mitchell Nemec, 11,

shot a hole-in-one on hole No. 14 from 101 yards away with an 8 iron. He is one of the youngest players to have ever shot a hole-in-one at FCC.

The next two Junior Golf Clinics are scheduled for June 23-25 and July 14-16 from 8-11 a.m.



Right: Ethan Hanover, 9, putts on the green of hole No. 10 while participating Wednesday in the Junior Golf Clinic at the Falls Country Club.

Left: Matt Wherley, 9, follows through on a tee shot on hole No. 10 while participating Wednesday in the Junior Golf Clinic at the Falls Country Club.



STAFF PHOTOS BY KEVIN BONESKE

Mitchell Nemec, 11, stands next to the pin on hole No. 14 at the Falls Country Club where he shot a hole-in-one Tuesday from 101 yards away with an 8 iron while participating in this week's Junior Golf Clinic.