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Hydro keeps Cougars from breaking losing streak

By Bill Rea

Head Coach Gary Waldrum called it a case of "Cougars' luck."

The Schomberg Cougars were less than 15 minutes away from ending their four-game losing streak Friday night. The league leading Alliston Hornets seemed unable to stop them, but the hydro people did.

The lights went out after about five minutes of play in the third period, with the visiting Cougars ahead 4-1, and the match had to be halted.

Waldrum wasn't sure what will happen with the incomplete game, stating it will be up to the Ontario Hockey Association (OHA). He said the game sheet would have been sent to them.

"Until they tell us what we're doing, we just don't know," he remarked.

But Waldrum said he expects the outstanding 14 minutes and 53 seconds will be played the next time the Cougars are slated to face off against the Hornets in Alliston. he said it would likely take place before the scheduled match takes place, and that game is not until Jan. 14.

To add to the frustration, the Cougars had just started a power play when the darkness struck.

The team put in a solid effort, which was badly needed after what took place Thursday night when they hosted the Fergus Devils.

Fergus got three quick goals in the middle of the opening period to take a 4-1 lead into the second frame. But the Cougars were solid in that period, outscoring their foes 2-1, and they had a couple of great chances in the last couple of minutes to add to that total. But the home side was flat for the third and the Devils were revved. The result was six unanswered goals, an 11-3 final score and one very annoyed head coach.

He agreed his men spent most of the second frame showing the type of effort it takes to compete against Fergus, or any other team in the loop. "We got away from what we were doing in the second and we paid the price," he remarked.

Goals came from Eddie Wiederer, Thomas Faris and Adrian Dupuis, with Faris, Mike Digirolamo, Blake Elliott, Luke Maw and Matt Steenhoek notching assists.

The coach was at a loss to explain what went wrong, adding if he could, they wouldn't have been in that situation.

But he later observed the players obviously took that experience to heart the following night in Alliston.

"The effort was there," he declared the following day. "They were doing what we asked them to."

Ty Legrow, who faced 44 Fergus shots Thursday night, was between the pipes again Friday, at his request. Waldrum said he was anxious to prove the performance against the Devils was not indicative, and the coach said he did not disappoint. He faced 31 shots and even stopped a penalty shot before the lights went out.

Faris got two of the goals for the side Friday night, with singles notched by Dan Naccarato and Brad Cantelon.

The Cougars play at home twice this week.

They will be hosting the Penetang Kings tomorrow (Thursday) night, starting at 8:15 p.m. The Hornets will be in town Saturday for a match slated to get started at 7:30 p.m.



Cougars' Dan Naccarato was trying to get through the Fergus defence in the second period of Thursday's match in Schomberg.

Wild ends skid in 'ugly win'

By Bill Rea

It wasn't a victory that would put a smile on the coach's face, but a win is a win and in the case of the King Wild, it ended their four-game losing streak.

The Wild bested the Deseronto Thunder 6-4 Sunday in a game which they led 3-1 at one point, only to find themselves trailing 4-3 late in the second period.

"It was an ugly win," Head Coach Paul Hampton remarked after the match.

Kurt Zdrillich, Mark Zanette, Kyle Baulne, Dan Douglas and Jordan Gidaro each contributed a goal and

an assist for the Wild, and Marc Fortin collected the other marker. Matt Marchese, Mike Bodley, John Sturino, Matt Brereton, Piero Petti and Brendon Farrugia each posted single assists.

Hampton wasn't pleased with the way his men let their foes get back in the game.

"We get the lead, and then we take penalties," he remarked, adding the players need to be more disciplined. The team gets enough penalties that he said it doesn't deserve.

He also observed that Bodley will be sitting out

the next two games and Luke Fortin is suspended for one because of fights, and that doesn't help the cause when the next match will be Saturday at home against the league-leading Bradford Rattlers.

"A win is a win, as ugly as it is," he observed.

The Richmond Hill Rams split their two games over the weekend, meaning they're still tied with the Wild for second place in the Greater Metro Junior A standings with 27 points, but King now has a game in hand, giving it the edge. Bradford still has a comfortable 13-point lead over the rest of the pack.

Saturday's match against the Rattlers will start at 8:30 p.m.

Major peewee Knights play in Fort Erie tournament

Submitted by Kevin Burt

The NobleKing Knights major peewee A team, sponsored by Ottawa Motor Express, Saraben Investments and Perry Transport, participated in the Greater Fort Erie 2006 Invitational "A" tournament this past weekend but could only take away one win.

Friday saw the Knights play the Hamilton Hornets in their first game of the tournament, and they ended up being defeated 3-2. This was a tough loss for the Knights, who out shot, out skated and really dominated most of the game. John Salome was sharp in net for their team.

In their second game

Friday, the Knights squared off against Port Perry and took their second loss of the series. Ben Rossetto was sharp in goal, but could not fend off this aggressive team and they ended up being defeated 5-3.

Saturday afternoon, the Knights took on Belle River, who had defeated Port Perry earlier in the tournament 4-0. In the first period, the Knights came out strong and provided the first goal of the game, compliments of forward Michael Noblegreen.

Belle River responded with three goals of their own, putting the Knights behind 3-1. Early in the second, as the game grew

increasingly more physical, one of the Knights defencemen, Adam Else, took a hard hit into the boards and was forced to leave the game.

From that point on, the Knights rallied for their teammate and turned on more heat than Belle River could handle, scoring three more goals by the end of the game.

Hard skating, hard hitting and some fine goals by Matt Baker, Steven Gianfrancesco and the game-winning, short-handed goal by Austin Maggiacomo gave the Knights their only win of the tournament.

A big thanks again to great sponsors.



Piero Petti was on the fly for the Wild in the third period of Sunday's 6-4 victory over the Deseronto Thunder.

Breakfast with Santa at arena

The second annual breakfast with Santa will be hosted this year by Schomberg Minor Hockey.

It will be Dec. 16 at Schomberg Community and Agricultural Arena and will run from 8 a.m. until noon.

The cost will be \$6 for adults and \$4 for children.

For more information, call Marina DiChiara at (905) 939-4077.