

Bid for top eludes Kings

The Penetanguishene Kings had 65 chances to move into a first-place tie in the Georgian Bay Junior C Hockey League during their game against host Parry Sound Shamrocks Tuesday night.

But Parry Sound goaltender Cec Gosse thwarted all 65 chances, plus three more, as the Shamrocks came up with a 3-1 victory and left the Kings scratching their helmets. Penetanguishene

goaltender Ken Dunlop allowed only three of 27 shots past.

Brian Forget scored the lone Kings goal with assistance from Blair McReynolds and Dave Robillard.

The Kings are now two points back of the leading Bracebridge Bears with each club having nine games remaining.

The Kings were missing league-leading scorer Carl Cowan, who received a gross misconduct in Sunday's game against the Midland Centennials. Cowan will also be out for tonight's game, a home-ice encounter with the third-place Huntsville Huskies.

Game time is 8:30 p.m.

The Centennials will also be playing host tonight against the Huskies of Haliburton. That one also starts at 8:30.

Both clubs will be on the road Sunday -- the Kings will take on the Indians in Gravenhurst and the Cents will travel to Parry Sound.

Wednesday's scheduled Centennials matchup in Oro against the 77's was snowed out.

MCC wins playdown

Midland Curling Club advanced to the Southern Ontario Ladies Curling Association Division 3 Tankard playdowns after defeating seven contenders in the District 10 playdowns early this week at the Barrie Essa Rd. Curling Club.

The two-rink Midland combination hammered Stroud with a combined score of 19-13 in Tuesday's final.

They'll now advance to the Division playdowns in Parry Sound March 4, and, if successful there, will go

on to the Southern Ontario Tankard Championships.

Leading the Midland attack in this week's action was the rink of Lynn Morton, which recently placed fourth in the Southern Ontario Ladies' Curling Championship in St. Catharines.

The other rink, led by skip Gwenn Milley -- who was competing in an SOLCA event for the first time -- had not competed together before the playdowns.

Others in the Morton rink are Vivian Shaw,

Marg Bourgeois and Diane Vollick. Rounding out the Milley rink are vice Doreen McCurry, second Jackie Gyte and lead Marylynne Beauvais.

The two rinks combined to dump Base Borden 20-12 in their opening matchup on Monday (Morton won 8-5, Milley 12-7).

Tuesday morning they defeated Barrie Country Club 21-11 (Morton 8-5, Milley 13-6), and finished things off with the victory over Stroud (Morton 15-5, Milley 4-7).



Sure step

A young member of the Hurons Gymnastics Club's developmental program takes a few careful steps along the balance beam with a little help from her instructor during a recent practice session at Parkview School in Midland. The club's com-

petitive section trains out of Corpus Christi School in Penetanguishene, and several members were successful in last weekend's Metro-West Regional qualifying meet in Toronto. For more, see page 10. (Photo by Bruce Finlayson).

Schmidt off to Oslo for shot at Worlds

Angela Schmidt is off for Norway and the World Cross-Country Ski Championships.

The Honey Harbour native, now a resident of Midland, skied to third-place finishes in the 5 km. and 10 km. events at the recent Canadian Championships in Edmonton. And, despite missing the 20 km. event due to illness, was named to the four-woman, three-man Canadian National entry in the World Championship event.

The Worlds are slated to begin with a 10 km. womens' race Feb. 19, a 5 km. event on the 22nd, a four-by-five km. relay on the 24th, and cap off with a gruelling 20 km. race on the 26th.

The team was scheduled to leave last night for Vaja, Sweden, where they'll compete against the U.S.A. team on Wednesday and Thursday, and warmup for the big one with an international meet next Saturday before setting out for Oslo.

Joining Schmidt on the womens' team are Sharon and Shirley Firth of Banff, Alta., and Esther Miller of B.C.

The twin sisters finished 1-2 ahead of Schmidt in both the 5 and 10 km. events in Edmonton.

One of the World Championship races will count as a points race in the World Cup series.

Schmidt is currently ranked 21st in the World Cup standings.



Schmidt

Athletics still in good shape

The Barrie Flyers' 8-4 victory over the Orillia Terriers Wednesday in Barrie didn't help the Midland Athletics' chances of making the OHA Major Intermediate Hockey League playoffs.

Then again, there's no reason for the A's to panic yet.

The Midlanders, who finished on rock bottom last year with only two wins and a tie all season, will get an opportunity to pick up their 11th win of the season tonight with a shot at the backpeddling Terriers in Orillia.

A win tonight will lift the A's into a three-way tie for fifth, only two points back of fourth-place Owen Sound Greys.

The A's only have three games left after that, and if they're tied for a playoff position when the smoke clears a week from Sunday, they're almost sure to get into the playoffs on the basis of the league's

tiebreaking formula (goals for plus goals against divided by goals for).

The Athletics will continue their stretch-

drive campaign Sunday, when the powerhouse defending champion Georgetown Raiders stop by for an 8 p.m. visit.

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