



Looking for big improvement

Penetanguishene Kings coach Ron Marchildon and his troops were given a jolt in the first game of their Georgian Bay Junior C championship series Sunday in Bracebridge as the Bears jumped all over the Kings to the tune of 17-1. That's a hard

thing to forget, but Marchildon and the Kings will be trying to do just that and start from scratch as they prepare for tonight's second game of the best-of-seven set. Game time is 8:15 p.m. at Penetanguishene Arena.

Gals' effort surpasses OFSSA goal

St. T's bronzed

The St. Theresa's High School Senior Girls' volleyball team came up with a bronze medal at last weekend's Ontario Federation of School Athletic Association championships in London after coming within two points at a direct shot at the provincial crown.

The Georgian Bay Secondary School Athletic Association champs swatted Clarkson Secondary School of Toronto 15-13, 15-5 in for the bronze medal in the 20-school competition, but despite the ease of that match it was somewhat anticlimatic for the reps from the little Midland school.

In the previous semi-final encounter against Stratford Central, the STHS ladies won the first game 15-10 and held a 13-11 edge in the second before Stratford's height advantage took over and the team battled back for a 15-13 victory.

Stratford then won the deciding game 15-8 and advanced to the final against Clarke

Secondary School of Newcastle. They won that one easily, 15-5, 15-6.

According to St. T's coach Bruce Finlayson, many observers described the STHS-Stratford clash as "the finals." STHS entered the tournament ranked fifth in the province and three of the top four ranked clubs were eliminated earlier.

In preliminary round-robin play, St. T's got off on the wrong foot with a 15-12, 14-16, 14-16 loss to Stratford Northwestern before blasting Kingston 15-5, 15-6 and Kapuskasing 15-4, 15-5.

Due to their opening loss, STHS had to win their final round-robin match against Malvern of Toronto to earn a berth in the quarter-finals.

Malvern had beaten the STHS girls in a major early-season tournament clash at York University, but this time St. T's was ready. Coach Jean Goordrow had the squad up at 6:30 a.m. Saturday morning for a mile run and a 45-minute warm-up before the match. Malvern struggled in virtually unprepared.

It was all over in a half-hour, with 15-4, 15-

12 STHS victories and advancement to the quarter-finals with a second-place round-robin finish behind Stratford Northwestern.

They then knocked off Windsor's Vicent Massey Collegiate 15-7, 9-15, 15-9 before meeting the Stratford Central stoppers.

Coach Finlayson was pleased with the performance, and looks forward to a bright future for the STHS girls' volleyball program.

"We made out goal of semi-finals and went even further by winning the bronze," Finlayson said. "Each girl played well, had a good attitude and never quit."

The team has held a four-year reign over the area, a reign which comes to an end this year. But the potent STHS Midgets, winners of the GBSSA this year, are a pretty good indication that STHS is far from through terrorizing area and provincial opponents.

"Our programme," says Finlayson, "is alive and well."



17-1 ?!!

Kings get the treatment in opening game

There's something about Bracebridge Arena that doesn't sit well with the Penetanguishene Kings.

In four trips there this season, the Kings have found themselves picking the puck out of their net 51 times, including pucks from the latest bombardment, Sunday's 17-1 unloading by the Bracebridge Bears in the first game of the Georgian Bay Junior C Hockey League best-of-seven championship series.

The Kings know, though, that whatever it is about the Bracebridge building, whatever it is that makes them drowsy and lifeless and listless enough to allow 9, 10 and 15 goals during regular season games and 17 in a championship playoff game, whatever it is will have to be cured -- and fast.

The second game goes tonight (8:15 p.m.) in more familiar surroundings, at Penetanguishene Arena, a place where the Kings beat the Bears two of their three times this season.

The teams tied for the regular-season championship, though the Bears got the nod for playoff advantages because of their 4-2 record against the Kings. Up to Sunday, however, the Kings seemed to hold the power, eliminating two opponents in six straight games while the Bears had trouble disposing of the Huntsville Huskies in five games of their best-of-seven test.

The Kings' roll even extended into the final games of the regular-season. They won their last four games to grab the tie with Bracebridge for top total points, and one of those wins was against the Bears.

Last Friday, the Kings were in form, when they finished off the Parry Sound Shamrocks with a 7-5 victory. Doug Gillespie notched four in that one and singles were had by Carl Cowan, Blair McReynolds and Gary Beausoleil.

Sunday, though, you'd have thought the Kings were a brand new franchise just starting out their inaugural season instead of a league powerhouse embroiled in a championship war.

The game started out innocently enough -- it

was 2-1 after 12 minutes of play with the Kings' goal coming off the stick of Dave Robillard, who sailed in, and broke the Bears defense and slipped one past Bears goalie Pat Thompson.

Then the curse struck. There was no more sailing by the Kings and the Bears turned on the jets.

"We were just waving at them as they went by," said Kings coach Ron Marchildon. "I don't think there was a good body check in the whole game. We stunk the joint out."

Marchildon says to win in either building, they're going to have to stop the Bracebridge attack before it gets organized. And they'll have to hit to do it.

"They can be dangerous when they're allowed to freewheel," says Marchildon. "We just can't let them do it. We have to hit them before they get started."

The Kings won't be pulling any punches throughout the rest of the series, says Marchildon, "but we may be giving a few."

The Bears didn't hold back a bit after tasting blood, and that's perfectly understandable to Marchildon. "I would do exactly the same thing if I had the opportunity."

Grant Knox and Ray

Reuger each slapped five past the Kings' award-winning goaltending duo of Ken Dunlop and Kevin Steele. Jeff Epps, the regular-season scoring leader (one point ahead of the Kings' Carl Cowan) came away with only three assists.

Holding back, says Bears manager Keith Peacock, never occurred to anyone, on the club.

"When you're in the playoffs, you don't get any points for easing up," Peacock says. "I think scoring that many goals looks bad and may be bad for the team in the long run, but when you get the opportunity you have to do it. You can't ease up or players might start thinking that's the way to do it."

Peacock says his squad will be going full tilt again tonight (third game will be Friday in Bracebridge and fourth Sunday afternoon, 1:30 p.m. at Penetanguishene Arena), but will expect a lot more from the Kings.

"They're a better hockey club than that," he said. "They were better than that all year and I think they just had one of those games."

It was, says Peacock, a simple matter of "they didn't do anything right, and we did everything right."

Tonight's lineups



Bears

1. Pat Thompson
2. Allan Brown
3. Mike Jones
4. Tim Lefler
6. Ian Brown
7. Barry Hammond
8. Grant Knox
10. Ray Reuger
11. Ray Mycks
12. Jeff Epps
14. Paul Klingbeil
16. Greg Cravorkas
17. Ron Guy
19. Rob Borne
30. David Finch



Kings

1. Ken Dunlop
2. Greg St. Amant
3. Gary Beausoleil
4. Peter Roi
6. Glen Lesperance
7. Carl Cowan "A"
8. Frank Hall "A"
9. Dave Robillard
10. Doug Kirton
11. Doug Gillespie
12. Phil Cinq-Mars
14. Brian McReynolds
15. Blair McReynolds
16. Brian Norwood
17. Chris Anderson
18. Al Melnyk
19. Terry King "C"
20. Brian Forget
30. Kevin Steele