

NORTH SHORE HOCKEY LEAGUE

Last week-end gave Terrace Bay fans their first taste of N.S.H.L. hockey on home ice when the rejuvenated Superiors staged a whirlwind opening for their 1954-55 campaign, easily defeating former league champion Geraldton Gold Miners Sunday afternoon, and bowing to them Saturday night only in the final minutes of the game. Play was clean and fast with the referees cracking down on minor infringments. The team showed plenty of power and speed throughout. More support from the fans might have made a difference, particularly since, with the exception of a few of last year's players, this is an entirely new team, and their brand of hard, fast hockey would certainly seem to merit a full house on "hockey night".

For the first game, Terrace took the lead mid-way in the opening period - Moro from Osmar, only to have the score tied one minute later by Geraldton's flashy Rusnak. Twelve seconds later the Superiors effective Moro-Osmar combination clicked again, but veteran Petsura of Geraldton tied it up to end the period. In the second, Terrace took the lead with a long hard shot by McEwan from the blue line. which deflected off Stachiw's stick into the net, and Moro counted again from Lang, giving this elusive winger hockey's hattrick. The final period saw two quickies from Bond and Brassard, within twenty seconds of each other.

For Geraldton, Rusnak scored three in a row in the final stanza, the last tying the game on a spectacular break-away at the 57:20 mark, with Fred Petsura making it Geraldton's game 15 seconds later. Terrace pulled their goalie in a final effort in the last minute of play, but time, and the superlative net minding of the Gold Miner's well-known Chic Thompson was

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NORTH SHORE HOCKEY LEAGUE (Cont.) against them, and the game was lost 7-6.

Sunday's game, which the Superiors took 6-3, was a spectacular exhibition of pressure play by Terrace, Chic Thompson in the Geraldton net turning back no fewer than 58 shots, while more effective back-checking on the part of the whole team and Desrosiers and Brassard in particular, resulted in only 21 shots on the Terrace net.

Once again, play was clean, fast and exciting particularly in the second period when Terrace peppered the Gold Miner's net for three full minutes but were unable to beat Thompson, who put on a display of brilliant netminding seldom seen in any league.

Stachiw, Moro and Osmar counted two goals each for Terrace, while Rusnak and Rudiak were Geraldton's marksmen.

The Superiors played both games minus the services of dependable Earl Knight, who suffered an eye injury in practice.

Lineups: Terrace Bay

Goal: B. Weaver, Defence; C. Brassard, R. Payette, J. McEwan, J. Lang, Forwards: M. Osmar, D. Desrosiers, G. Riley, J. Moro, B. Hayes, T. Bond, R. Stachiw, P. Diduch, B. Hanley. Geraldton

Goal: C. Thompson; Defence, Vasiloff, Jennings, Duhaime, McDonald, Abraham, Kelner; Forwards: Rusnak, Petsura, G. MacDonald, Byerley, Jack Duhaime, E. Abraham, Rudiak, Pulak.

Lineups were the same for both games with the exception of goalies, Fraser replacing Weaver in Terrace nets Sunday afternoon.

Terrace Bay takes on Marathon Mercurys at Marathon, Thursday, December 30th, and the next home game will see Schreiber at Terrace, Sunday, January 2nd.

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HOTEL TERRACE

The Beer Parlour and Cocktail Lounge will be closed December 24th and 25th.