

73's coaches face year-long suspensions

BY DANIEL SCHWAB

Essex 73's head coach/general manager Tony Piroski and assistant coach Lee Jones are facing year-long suspension for a verbal confrontation with a referee in November.

Following a 4-3 overtime loss to the Wallaceburg Lakers Nov. 14, the coaches were involved in a "shouting match" with referee Ryan Renaud in the hallway, Jones said.

Jones said the confrontation was the result of a number of penalty calls Renaud made against the 73's that they felt were unwarranted.

Jones said the coaches became involved "in the



Essex 73's coach Tony Piroski, left, and assistant coach Lee Jones, right, were issued one-year suspensions by the Ontario Hockey Association Jan. 7.



heat of the moment," but maintains that the argument didn't get physical.

Following the incident, the coaches were each handed seven game suspensions.

"What we did was wrong," Jones said. "That's why we didn't appeal the

first suspension."

On Friday, the Ontario Hockey Association handed down a supplementary one-year suspension to both coaches. They have filed appeals and will soon meet with an OHA appeal committee that will decide

whether to vary or uphold the suspensions.

They are being charged with gross misconduct and abuse of an official.

OHA president Brent Ladds said a decision on the suspension term was reached after consultations with Piroski, Jones, Renaud and the game's two linesmen, Mike Aubin and Jeff Weglarz.

Ladds said the suspension would carry over into next season and be in effect until November 14, 2007.

Jones said he considers the suspension "very harsh" and that he was expecting it to last only a few games.

Piroski was unavailable for comment.



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Petrolia took the lead again making the game 4-3. As the third period came in Essex fought hard to get a goal but just couldn't find one. With a second loss the tournament was over for the team.

Jan. 5th the LaSalle Sabres visited Essex. LaSalle got on the board first with a goal at three minutes into the game. Essex tied it up at the eight minute mark with a goal by Brad Quinlan and made it 2-1 with two minutes left in the period on a nice goal by Spencer Woltz. LaSalle tied it up two minutes into the second.

Then a steady stream of players on both teams went to the box. The boys settled down in the third. LaSalle made it 3-2 at the six-minute mark. Essex kept the pressure on with Mike Ouellette tying it up at three on a mad scramble in front of the net. But Essex team ran out of time. Final score 3-3. Good job boys.

Jan. 6th the Ravens visited

Amherstburg. Essex got into early penalty trouble allowing A'burg to open the scoring. The Essex penalties continued to mount. Nick Diemer scored on a powerplay with 36 seconds left in the first period. A'burg scored on a power play at the 11-minute mark of the second to take a 2-1 lead. Essex came out hustling in the third frame but just could not put one in. A'burg scored with one minute left in the game to put the game away. Final score 3-1 for the Stars.

Jan. 7 Tecumseh Eagles vs Essex. The Eagles scored eight minutes into the first period. Essex started the second period with a powerplay for three minutes and 25 seconds but Tecumseh's defence was able to keep us off the board. Tecumseh scored at the 10 minute mark to take a 2-0 lead into the third period. Two more goals by the Eagles made it a 4-0 final score.



Midget Major CAW Club 200

On December 27 our boys made the trip to to Petrolia for the annual Midget "A" Silverstick.

Our first game was against Southeast London. Essex came out fast and throughout the first period outplayed London. In the second period London tried to make a comeback but Essex's offence was too much of a factor. The third period was no different as Essex finished off Southeast London by a score of 7-2. Goals by Nick Diemer, Tyler Montcalm and a hat trick by Spencer Woltz.

Our next game was on Friday against the home team of Petrolia. Both teams were scoreless heading into the second. Petrolia was first to strike with an unlucky bounce scoring the first goal. Minutes later Spencer Woltz found the back of the net to tie the game. Essex started to pick up the pace as Tyler Campbell scored with a shot from the point. In the third period Essex kept up the pressure and hard work by Kyle McCamon resulted in a third goal. Petrolia was not planning on giving up in front of their home crowd and scored soon after making the game 3-2 for Essex. The team held off Petrolia's offence with great goaltending by Chris Zelko and put the game away with an empty net goal by Dan Bacon with 29 seconds left.

Early Sunday morning the

boys faced North London. The first goal was scored by N. London halfway through the first, but with 40 seconds left in the first Lucas Gallant beat the goalie. Essex man-



Pee Wee A Tim Hortons

We had a chance to play an exhibition game against the Grosse Pointe Bruins on Friday, December 29, 2006. The game started with a quick drive to the net by Johnston Armstrong rebounding to Tyler Bellaire for the first goal. The boys saw that this was a team we could play. This period saw some good end to end hockey with a comparable team. Eric Lee skated the puck to bluff the goalie to put it 2-0. A short time later Johnathan Spidaleri's rebound is fired in by Mitchell Carswell, 3-0. They went out of the period short handed but still dominating.

Starting the second period short handed, which was how most of it was on both sides, with three on five, four on three. Then short handed Carswell rebounds with Evan Bechard shooting it in, 4-0. Grosse Pointe comes back and pops one in, 4-1. Brady Heil was right on his game between the pipes tonight.

The third period was filled with more penalties which

aged to hold off N. London's powerplay until halfway through the third when N. London scored. Essex fought hard to answer back but time ran out. With the loss the team would have to play a second game against Petrolia the same day.

The game was sure to be a hard one with both teams facing elimination. Essex

made Brady's job harder. He had help from his defensemen. At the other end there was a heated scuffle with more penalties. The penalty box didn't get a chance to cool down on both sides. There was no tiring tonight. The boys kept playing. The period wound down being short handed and the final score was 4-1. Good game boys

The boys were in Chatham Sunday, January 7, 2007 and Brady Heil and Dustin Ridley shared the game in net.

The first period saw good action but they could not get on the scoreboard.

The second period was exciting with some four on four end to end hockey. Near the end of the second the boys had their chance. Five on three, a pass from Colin Ellis to Kyle Tremblay who slap shot one to the net, rebounded to Evan Bechard who nets one in.

The Chatham boys kept on coming and with penalties in the third the game ends with a loss.

was first to strike with a goal from Nick Diemer. Soon after Petrolia responded with two goals in the first. Essex kept working hard and tied the game early in the second with a goal by Spencer Woltz. Petrolia would score again in the period as Woltz tied it up again. Soon after

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