

Weekender

Sports

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Uxbridge Bruins move from cellar to second in OHL

By KELLY CONNELLY
The Uxbridge Bruins have finally traded in their basement apartment for a penthouse position in the Ontario Hockey League.

The Junior "C" team has made a tremendous leap from the OHA cellar where ex-coach Wayne Redshaw put it in '84, to second place this season under new skipper Randy Hall. The reborn-again Bruins share second spot with Cobourg at 25 points apiece—five wins behind defending champion Bowmanville.

Early in the season, Hall remarked that his Bruin bench professed no real scoring leaders and that team punch would have to come from fast skaters and corner-diggers. Nine weeks later, his perception hasn't changed.

"Nobody has really led the way for us, or suddenly come out of their shell to lead the team," said Hall, who coached Centennial College last year. "If I had to pick anybody, maybe Brian Beddows was starting to come along until he got hurt."

A banged up knee against Bowmanville put the talented forward on the sidelines a couple weeks ago. Since then, Uxbridge has been juggling its lines—with little success, according to Hall—to compensate for Beddows' absence.

Aquatic Club members train in Florida

While many athletes take time off during the Holiday Season, the opposite is true for the swimmers of the Town of Markham Aquatic Club.

Each year all except the newest swimmers participate in an intensive training camp involving five to six hours a day of heavy workouts.

This year is no exception to that rule of hard work, but the venue has changed for most of the members of the Gold, Silver and Bronze Groups as they have headed south to Florida for 10 days to train at the 50-metre facility of the Sheridan Aquatic Club in Longwood.

Thirty-five swimmers have struggled to save or earn money toward their trip which is no mean feat given their normal routine of two-hour workouts per day plus a full day at school which does not leave much time left for their paper routes, or the like.

The swimmers who were not able to make the trip are training at home together with those athletes from the Red Group who will be swimming in the 6th Annual Lions Clubs of Markham Invitational Swim Meet at Centennial Pool in Markham from Jan. 10 to 12.

This meet, now in its 10th year, is one of the older established invitational meets in the province and is sponsored by the Lions Club of Markham, Victoria Square, Unionville and Thornhill as part of their Youth Program.

To aggravate the situation, team captain Todd LaRoche is having an off-year. The '84 team scoring leader hasn't produced much in the way of points this season.

Still, despite Beddows' misfortune and LaRoche's misfiring, the Bruins must have something going for them to shake five other teams for second place.

"This season we've come up with the right nucleus of new talent plus the maturity of the nine guys that were on the team last year," Hall explained. "Our penalty killing has improved a lot and our powerplay has done pretty well too."

The signing deadline for recruiting extra muscle for the playoffs is Jan. 10. The Bruin coach admitted he's in the process of "snooping" around Junior "B" games in search of an extra attacker or two.

And though Hall might have something in common with the likes of Orval Tessier and Mike Keenan—both have won NHL Coach of the Year honors—the season isn't over yet. And the Uxbridge benchmaster isn't about to predict a Bowmanville upset for the league title.

"Bowmanville is a strong team. Realistically, our philosophy's gonna be second place. That will give us the home ice advantage for the first two rounds in the playoffs. That's what we want."

NOTE: The Bruins defeated Lakefield 8-3 last Friday. Defenceman Scott Harper, who moved from forward back to the blueline, blasted four goals. With five games remaining before playoffs, Uxbridge travels to Little Britton tonight for a 7:30 p.m. tangle.



John Edwards of Meat Shoppe (front) battles with J.P. Vitale of Aandow York Glass (right) for control of the puck while Joseph Maiorana (back) waits for a pass during play in the Unionville House League

Hockey Tournament last Monday. The tournament, held at Crosby Memorial Arena, ended yesterday. Results were not available at press time.
—Sjoerd Witteveen

Annual ringette tournament

Markham defeated in final

Kim Harding led the scoring with 11 goals and three assists for Markham Camerica Petite B ringettes but her performance wasn't enough to gain victory over the Scarborough team.

The 4th Annual Christmas Ringette tournament was held Dec. 27 to 29 at Milliken and Clatworthy Arenas. Six divisions participated in the competition. Tournament chairperson was Pam Hough.

The Camerica team played the first game against Scarborough and was defeated 11-1. Two subsequent games showed Camerica victorious over Mariposa 14-2 and St. Catherines 12-5. In the final game Scarborough squeaked by Markham with a score of 4-3.

Other Camerica team members who scored in the tournament included, Kira Andrews (7), Jamie McDowell (2), Bobbi Leigh Bentham (4), Leanne Zedner (3), Debbie Stewart (1) and Carrie Stewart (2).

Assists came from McDowell (5), Zedner (4), Debbie Stewart (4), Andrews (3), Bentham (3), Ashley Hallinen (3), Kristi Miller (1), Carrie Stewart (1) and Joely Dercola (1).

Scarborough carried the Tween B series as well beating Markham Kid Line in the final game 5-0 and in the first game 7-0. Kid Line was also defeated by Mariposa 4-3 but beat Barrie 8-2.

Goals came from Simone Van Gelder (5), Cindy Bradburn (2), Alexa Watson (1), Michelle Chouinard (1), Brittney Ineson (1) and Kaylee Burnett (1). Assisting were Van Gelder (1), Bradburn (1), Watson (1), Kaylee Burnett (2), Sarah Yanchyk (2) and Alice Goldthorpe (2).

Allison Jeapes led Markham Kwik Kopy with 10 goals and one assist in the Tween C tournament.

Kwik Kopy played two close games with Richmond Hill. The score in the final game was 5-4 while the two teams tied at six

goals each in the third game.

In the two other games Kwik Kopy defeated Markham Aloette Cosmetics 4-3 and Whitby 7-1.

Scorers in this series included, Michelle Chouinard (7), Marianne Payne (4), Lisa Stevenson (4) and Cheryl Goodier (1). Payne and Stevenson led the assists with four each, Chouinard, Goodier and Lisa Rotman all assisted twice. Singles came from Alice Goldthorpe, Jenny McMillan and Airlie McHale.

Jackie Rooney, Elizabeth Epstein and Carolyn Nemni also played in the tournament. The girls were coached by Pat Rooney with assistants Pauline Ely and Cheryl Colvin.

Markham teams won five of six divisions in the sports-gallop awards. The Petite C category was taken by the Markham Kinettes while Markham Camerica took the Petite B division.

Markham Aloette Cosmetics won the Tween C award. The Tween B division was taken by

Markham Kid Line. The Junior C award was won by the Barrie team while Markham Cheseborough-Pond's was awarded in the Belle B category.

In exhibition play the Markham Bunnies defeated the Scarborough Bunnies 6-1 with good scoring performances from Kristin James (4), Holly Vear (1) and Karen Wolfenden (1). Credit for assists goes to Jane Goldthorpe with three, Elizabeth Popiel with two and a single by Danielle Chouinard.

Other players included Jennifer Mullen, Jennifer Strype, Robin Coursey and Anita Points. Ron Goldthorpe coached with assistance from Kathy Jorgenson, Lisa Kiteley and Fiona McNicoll.

Other final scores in the tournament were Richmond Hill 6, Ajax 5 in the Petite C division and Sunderland 10, Lindsay 9 in the Junior C category. In the Belle C division Oro defeated Oshawa 5-2.