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Empire Junior Report: Friday, October 5, 2012

Volume 2 Issue 2 (Week ending September 30, 2012)

Upcoming Weekend Games:

A total of 44 league games are on tap for this weekend including 16 league games at the Monarchs Showcase.

For a complete schedule make sure to visit us on line at: www.empirehockey.com



PLAYERS OF THE WEEK

This section will be used to promote our **Players of the Week**. Each week the League will select a Forward, Defense and Goaltender as Players of the Week.

Teams are to make nominations no later than Tuesday of each week by 6pm. Players of the Week will be announced on Friday's.

This week's Players are:

Forward: Jeremy Wilson (Hampton)

Defense: Jonas Toupal (Applecore)

Goalie: Marc Terriault (Florida Eels)

Congratulations to these fine players.

Make submissions, along with picture to Pete Preteroti at: SportsNiag@aol.com

Editor: Pete Preteroti

Design: Casey Mackert

PLAYERS OF THE WEEK (Week ending 09/30/12)



Forward: Jeremy Wilson (Hampton) 1993

Wilson had a huge weekend for the Whalers, registering 5 goals and 2 assists as they took two games from the Potomac Patriots to improve to 5-1 on the season. On Saturday, Wilson notched 2 goals and an assist in the Whalers 6-5 OT win including a power play assist and a shorthanded goal. On Sunday Wilson was even better, as he registered a hat trick and an assist in a 6-5 win, including a power play goal and a power play assist. Wilson has registered 7 goals and 2 assists in 6 games this season.



Defense: Jonas Toupal (Applecore) 1995 Vcelna, Czech

This season is Toupal's first with Apple Core and first in the US, and it has been a pretty easy transition for him so far. The Czech '95 leads all Apple Core defensemen in goals and points, and had a solid weekend against Frederick this weekend. On Saturday night, Toupal picked a corner with two minutes left to tie the game and steal a point from Frederick. On Sunday, he led the defense to its second shutout of the season. For the weekend, Jonas was +3, and he is a +13 on the season.



Goaltender: Marc Terriault (Florida Eels) 1994 Montreal, QB

Newcomer Marc Terriault grabbed both wins in games from Palm Beach this weekend. After playing the first game the Eels coaching staff was going to let him rest on Sunday, however when Palm beach battled back to tie the game Terriault was put back in between the pipes to finish off the win. Marc ended up making 49 saves and now has a .925 SV%

Weekend Recap: Jr. Blades Sweep Space Coast



*Estero, FL— The **Florida Jr. Blades** completed the month of September with a weekend sweep of the Space Coast Hurricanes.*

The teams two victories, 5-1 and 7-0 showcased a talented rookie class.

A frustrated Jr. Blades team headed to the locker room after the first period of Saturday's game. The Blades were excellent in the circle and retained possession on the puck in the Space Coast end for the majority of the period, peppering Wayland with 21 shots. Florida goaltender Jake Carter faced two shots in the scoreless first period.

The Jr. Blades wasted no time in the second, scoring 52 seconds into the period. Team captain Joshua Koerner had a breakaway opportunity and scored unassisted. Less than 27 seconds later the power line of Adam Fowler, Chris Lepore and Dan Thompson made it 2-0 for the Jr. Blades. Space Coast scored their lone tally at the 12:15 mark of the second period off the stick of Wathey. The power-play marker would be the only goal allowed by the Jr. Blades in the series. Chaise Howard fell just short of a hat-trick scoring a short-handed goal and an even strength marker to close out the second stanza. Howard's goals were both assisted by line mates Troy Degler and Koerner.

Rookie Brant Takmajian recorded his first point in a Jr. Blades sweater. The 6-foot-3 forward from Granite City, Ill., took a feed from Trevor Tenner at 1:40 of the third. The Jr. Blades maintained their lead for the remainder of the third period, ending the game 5-1 in front of a record crowd.

Sunday dawned brightly for the Jr. Blades team as they took a commanding 3-0 lead in the first period. The Jr. Blades quickly pulled Carter to gain the extra man, but the Space Coast goaltender held onto the puck and forced a whistle.

The Jr. Blades power-play unit went to work and defenseman Jake Leonard scored his first tally of the season. The Space Coast penalty killers were no match for the Jr. Blades

allowing three unanswered goals. Leonard, Dan Thompson and Degler all recorded goals in the first period. Koerner continued his point streak in the second period. With just seven seconds elapsed in the power play, Koerner let loose a one timer to make the score 4-0. Koerner's goal was assisted by Degler and Jon Davidson.

The Jr. Blades started the third period with the man advantage. The team continued to apply pressure and scored their fifth goal. However, the goal was waived off and Space Coast was sent to the box for cross checking. Chris Lepore scored the true fifth goal off of a beautiful cross ice feed. The goaltender didn't move as Lepore's shot went home. Rookie defenseman Kilian McNamara sent a bomb in from the blue line, alternate captain Dan Thompson tipped it in and the Jr. Blades led 6-0. The Jr. Blades pulled Jake Carter from the net, but he barely had time to make it to the bench before the whistle blew. With 9:46 remaining in the third the Jr. Blades continued to press the Hurricanes.

The seventh and final goal was scored by Michael Haskins with assists to work horse Adam Fowler and Trevor Mullaly. The shut out was Jake Carters second in six games with the Jr. Blades. The rookie net-minder has allowed only seven goals in six games.

The Jr. Blades head up to New Hampshire for the Junior Monarchs showcase, October 6-8.

Junior whalers sweep weekend



Saturday 5-4 OT WIN

The Whalers continued their winning streak this weekend against the Potomac Patriots. The Whalers built a 2-0 1st period advantage on goals by Brandon Large on the PP from Jeremy Wilson and Phoenix Dreer and Jeremy Wilson Shorthanded from Grant Phillips. Potomac responded with 4 unanswered goals to lead 4-2 late in the 3rd period as the Whalers struggled with penalties. Late in the 3rd Michael Addison made it 4-3 at 15:46 from Trent Carter and Kyle Buchanan. Then with 16:51 remaining Jeremy Wilson found the back of the net on a loose puck to tie the game at 4-4 and send it to OT. In overtime Michael Addison took a Interference penalty. Taylor Brost weathered the storm and Addison emerge from the penalty box, took a feed from Nathan Kanter, and

delivered the game winner for the Whalers at the 3:37 mark. Brost finished the game with 36 saves. The Whalers went 1 for 3 on the PP while Potomac finished 2 for 10.

Sunday 6-5 WIN

Game two of the weekend was an up and down contest and the Whalers found themselves behind 2-0 just :49 seconds into the game. By the end of the 1st period the Whalers were up 3-2 on goals by Wilson from Carter and Buchanan, Wilson from Large and Kanter, and Buchanan from Addison. In the 2nd period the Whalers went up 5-2 on goals by Jeremy Wilson on the PP at 1:13 from Michael Addison and at 10:10 on the PP it was Brandon Large from Jeremy Wilson. The Patriots stormed back again with 3 straight PP goals as the Whalers again found penalty trouble and it was a 5-5 game at intermission. In the 3rd it would be team captain Michael Addison as the hero again as he converted at 2:23 from Thomas Gallo to seal the win. Chris Diaz picked up the win in net with 26 saves in relief. The Whalers PP went 2 for 7 while Potomac was 3 for 12. With the win the Whalers improve to 5-1 on the season and remaining in 2nd place behind the Florida Jr. Blades.

Florida Eels squeaks by Palm Beach, 6-4



Fort Myers Skatium Sat, Sep 29, 2012

Florida Eels gutted out a close 6-4 win against the Palm Beach Hawks.

No lead was more than two goals during the contest, and the winning goal was scored by MICHAEL VIERA at 7:19 of the third period. With three goals and two assists between them, Keanu Gallegos and MICHAEL VIERA teamed up to power Florida Eels' offense. Gallegos finished with two goals and one assist and MICHAEL VIERA also notched one goal and one assist.

Florida Eels pulled out the victory even though it was hit with 18 penalty minutes. Florida Eels forced Palm Beach goalie Adam Silverstein to work between the pipes, taking 46 shots. Florida Eels' defensemen played an important role in the offense, chipping in two goals. Florida Eels additionally got points from Brian Dennerlein, who also tallied one goal and one assist and MICHAEL VIERA, who also registered one goal and one assist. Jonathan Carlson also scored for Florida Eels. Other players who recorded assists for Florida Eels were Joshua DeLezenne, Nick Cormier, and Brandon

Hotaling, who each chipped in one.

The Hawks' offense rang up 47 shots on Florida Eels' net. Palm Beach struggled to stay out of the sin bin throughout the game as it finished the game with 16 penalty minutes for eight opposing power plays. The Hawks were ineffective while on the power play, as they were held to one goal off of nine man advantages.

Palm Beach was helped by Brett Yochum, who racked up two goals. Yochum scored the first of his two goals at 3:13 into the first period to make the score 1-0 Palm Beach. Yochum's next tally made the score 4-2 Palm Beach with 2:41 left in the second period. Kyle Kohlhorst assisted on the tally. Palm Beach also got points from Kohlhorst, who also had one goal and one assist. Palm Beach also got a goal from Shane Visnick as well. More assists for Palm Beach came via Mason Brinich, who had one. Marc Terriault rejected 43 shots on goal for Florida Eels. Silverstein recorded 40 saves for the Hawks.

Florida Eels' Gallegos deadly on offense in 9-6 win against Palm Beach

Palm Beach Ice & Skate Zone Sun, Sep 30, 2012

Keanu Gallegos was all over the ice for Florida Eels, as he tallied two goals in Florida Eels' 9-6 win over the Palm Beach Hawks.

Gallegos found the back of the net 2:54 into the first period to make the score 1-0 Florida Eels and again while 10:45 into the first to make the score 2-0 Florida Eels. Referees had their hands full with a major incident at 17:39 into the third period. Four fighting penalties were dished out along with two game misconducts.

Florida Eels racked up the penalties in the contest, and ended with seven minors and one major for 29 minutes in penalty time. Florida Eels had been averaging 22.0 minutes in penalties per game. Florida Eels made Palm Beach's goalies to work all game long, ripping 44 shots and forcing 35 saves. Adam Silverstein made 23 stops and Stephen Sundberg made 12. Florida Eels' goal total was higher than its season average. Florida Eels averages 6.3 goals per game.

Florida Eels additionally got points from Brian Dennerlein, who also finished with one goal and two assists and Brandon Hotaling, who also registered two goals and two assists to lead the team in points. Florida Eels also had goals scored by Joshua DeLezenne, who had two and Patrick Daniels and Jonathan Carlson, who each put in one. In addition, Florida Eels received assists from Ryan Deese, Nick Cormier, Ryan Frank, Max Mazzullo, and Christian Johansen, who contributed one a piece.

The Hawks forced Florida Eels' netminders to work in net, launching 35 shots and forcing 29 saves. Marc Terriault made six stops and Ryley Hynes made 23. Palm Beach excelled on the penalty kill, not giving up a single goal in five chances. The Hawks bested their season scoring average. Palm Beach has scored at the pace of 3.8 goals per game during the current campaign.

The Hawks were led by James Leicht, who grabbed three goals and one assist. Palm Beach also got points from Shane Visnick, who also had two goals and one assist. Palm Beach also got a goal from Kyle Kohlhorst as well. Other players who recorded assists for Palm Beach were Brett Yochum, who had two and Mason Brinich and Joseph Lokken, who each chipped in one.

Hitmen sink Pirates



The **Jersey Hitmen** traveled to Maine this past weekend to take on the Portland Jr Pirates in a two game set at the MHG Ice Center. The trip marked the first time this season that Jersey would have to face the same opponent on back to back days and the Hitmen were up for the challenge.

After a long bus ride on Saturday the Hitmen came out a with a bit of bus legs in the first period, but still managed to tally the only score off the stick of Eddie Coxe, just 1:28 into the contest. Despite being a little on the sluggish side the Hitmen managed to keep Portland at bay.

In the second period Jersey began to show its dominance that became a theme throughout the weekend. The Hitmen would outshoot the Pirates 22-2 in the second period and posted two power play goals. The first goal came off the stick of Sean Murphy Johnson just over halfway through the frame when he collected a pass from Robby Marsanico before unleashing a shot off the pipe and in. Cory Sala also picked up an assist on the Johnson goal. Jersey's second goal came from the stick of newcomer Vinny Addeo, with the help of Joe Masonius and David Kearns at 16:03. As time ran out on the second period Jersey looked to be in full command of the contest holding a 3-0 lead and a 32-10 advantage in shots.

In the third period the Hitmen looked to put the game away early and Matt Langlois did just that. Jersey's third power play goal of the game came when Dylan Stephanik worked the puck from the half wall up to Will Hoeft at the point. Hoeft fired at the net where Langlois was there to deflect the puck past Portland goaltender Max Boucher at 4:11 into the period. As the Hitmen continued to put heavy pressure on the Pirates Zach Morrison iced the game at 13:38 with the help of Langlois to put Jersey up 5-0. The game would remain that way until the final buzzer as the Hitmen took game one 5-0. The shutout, earned by Tanner Creel, was the first of the season for the Hitmen. Creel turned away 18 shots on the way to victory.

On Sunday the Hitmen faced a much more energized Pirates club. Sean Murphy Johnson tallied his second goal of the weekend at 3:16 of the first to put Jersey ahead, but the Pirates answered just over ten minutes later with two goals in less than three minutes. Justin Munck got Portland on the board at 14:11, before Greg Lodge gave the Pirates a 2-1 lead at 17:04. Despite playing a solid period of hockey the Hitmen entered the intermission down a goal.

In the second period the Pirates added to their lead early when Robert Downing scored 3:16 into the frame. From there on out it was all Hitmen. Brendan Riley answered the Portland tally just over two minutes later with the help of Matt Langlois and Joe Masonius. Then Corey Leskanic knotted the game at 3 when he put home a rebound at 7:55. Sean Murphy Johnson and Eddie Coxe picked up assists on the Leskanic goal. Robbie Marsanico put the Hitmen up for good at 15:55 when he unleashed a laser past Cam Riddle. Leskanic would add to the Hitmen lead with his second of the game at 17:26. Lucas Luppino would cap Jersey's five goal second less than a minute later to send the Hitmen to the locker room with a commanding 6-3 lead.

In the third period it was more Hitmen as Marsanico and Riley both doubled up their goal totals on the day. Marsanico struck at 14:19, shortly after he had a goal disallowed because of a Hitmen penalty, and Riley put the finishing touches on the rout at 17:09. In total seven Hitmen produced multi-point games, lead by the line of Marsanico, Riley and

Langlois who each collected three points on the day. Ryan Glander earned the win in net, turning aside 30 of Portland's 33 shots.

Notes: The Hitmen return home on Wednesday night to take on their biggest rival the New York Apple Core at 5:30, before traveling to Connecticut Thursday to take on the Oilers. Jersey will round out its week on Sunday when they will seek revenge on the Boston Jr Bruins. That game will be at the Ice Vault at 1:30pm. You can follow the Hitmen on Twitter and Facebook, and as always you can watch live game action at www.fasthockey.com.

Brewster Bulldogs Breakout for 8 Goals in win over Jersey Wildcats



If there was one thing the **Brewster Bulldogs** needed to improve on in the early going, it was their ability to put some pucks in the net. The Bulldogs broke out in a big way vs the Jersey Wildcats, putting up 8 goals in their Sunday contest against their conference rival. With the return of Captain Frank Sherding from a nagging injury, their defense was solidified. Sherding led the back line with 3 assists. The scoring was led by 96 born Sean Henderson, who scored two goals and added two assists for four points. The four points tied Michael Benincasa for the team lead with 7 points on the season. Kevin McGee also added two goals and an assist, while Co-Captain Lukas Znosko scored his first goal of the season and added two assists.

The Wildcats came out flying as they grabbed a 2-1 lead after the first intermission. The Bulldogs took over in the second period scoring the only 3 goals of the period. The start of the third was much of the same as the Bulldogs scored the first 2 goals to take a 6-2 lead. The Wildcats came on strong and took advantage of some sloppy defensive play by Brewster to make it a 6-4 game with just over 12 minutes to play. The Bulldogs regained their focus and took a three goal lead on Henderson's second goal of the game a minute and a half later. The Wildcats would respond and make it a two goal game again 40 seconds later. It would stay a 2 goal game, thanks to stellar play by goaltender Conor Bunyan, until McGee would tally his second goal of the game. An empty netter with 7 seconds to play.

Goaltender Conor Bunyan continued his solid play between the pipes. Bunyan registered 41 saves in the win. With the win, the net minder improved his season record to 3 wins and 1 loss. His GAA stands at a solid 3.48 with a save percentage of .923.

The schedule doesn't get any easier for the Bulldogs as they travel to the NH Monarch Showcase this weekend for league games vs the Islanders on Friday at 7:00 pm and then Saturday at 8:10 am vs last season's Regular Season Champion Florida Jr Blades. The Bulldogs will then play their first home game of the season on Monday October 8 vs the Jr. Bruins.

Here are the deadline dates. Please adhere to them.

Submission for Forward, Defense, Goalie PLAYER OF THE WEEK

Submit your player information AND a head/shoulder photo. Give a short write up about why he has been selected.

Submit these NO LATER THAN Wednesday mornings at 10am.

You can submit one, two or all 3 positions.

We will not accept a nomination without an attached picture.

Players of the Week will be selected by: George Kelly, Dave Smolynicki and Pete Preteroti

Articles, Stories, News...

Submit in article format. Please be conscious of spelling, grammar, etc...

Submit photos where possible

Submit these NO LATER THAN Wednesday evening at 7pm.

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