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Empire Junior Report: Friday, January 20, 2012

Volume 1 Issue 16 Week ending Sunday, January 15, 2012

Upcoming Weekend Games:

The Empire League will have 23 games on tap this Friday, Saturday and Sunday.

A complete schedule of league games can be found on line at:

<http://www.pointstreak.com/stats/pro/league/schedule.html?leagueid=362&seasonid=7391>

Visit the Empire Junior Hockey League 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:

Goaltender: Alan Johnson - Hampton
Forward: Peter Vasaturo - Maksymum
Defense: James Hyatt - Florida Blades

See their write up's next page.

Congratulations to these fine players.

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

PLAYERS OF THE WEEK (Week ending January 15, 2012)



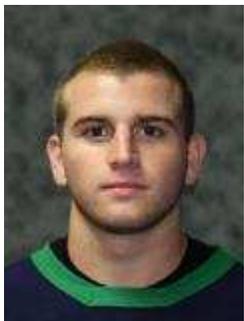
Goaltender: Alan Johnson - Hampton - 1994 (Chicago, IL)

Young Alan Johnson out his 6'6 frame to good use this weekend earning a 6-3 win over the Fredrick Freeze on Sunday. Alan turned away 33 of 36 Freeze shots and put up a .917 SV%. Alan is looking sharp in the net and is looking to be the future of the Whalers.



Forward: Peter Vasaturo - Maksymum - 1993 (Pittsford, NY)

Peter had a goal in all 3 games this weekend. A 6-2 win against Valley. A 10-2 loss against NH and a 2-1 loss again to NH.



Defense: James Hyatt - Florida Jr Blades - 1992 (Coral Springs, FL)

James Hyatt is a leader on and off the ice for the Florida Jr Blades and he continued to show this through his actions this past week. James underwent a rigorous January schedule which saw him play in 6 games in 5 nights. James squared off against Tampa Bay Juniors on Thursday evening where he had a goal and 2 assists and followed it up Friday and Saturday in Rockledge, FL where he helped the Jr Blades defeat the Space Coast Hurricanes. James added another four points over those two games to end the three games with 7 pts and three wins to advance the Jr Blades record to 28-1-1.

PLAYERS OF THE WEEK (Week ending January 8, 2012)



Forward: Alex Erban - South Shore Kings (93 Attleboro, MA)

Alex had a 6 point weekend (4 goals and 2 assists) as the Kings Empire went undefeated at the EJ Winter Showcase. On Friday he had a goal and two assists during the Kings victory over Palm Beach. On Saturday he scored the game winner as the Kings outscored Portland 6-5. He saved his best performance of the weekend for Sunday scoring two more goals including the game winner as the Kings beat the Florida Blades 4-2.



Defense: Gianni Paolo - South Shore Kings (96 Hope, RI)

Gianni led all defensemen in scoring this weekend picking up 6 assists as the Kings went 3-0 at the EJ Winter Showcase. In victories over Palm Beach, Portland, and the Florida Blades Gianni had four power play helpers.



Goalie: Brian Jacobs - South Shore Kings (93 West Chester, PA)

Brian was credited with the win in all three games this past weekend as the Kings went undefeated at the EJ Winter Showcase. He stopped all 15 shots he faced in a victory over Palm Beach on Friday. On Saturday he played the second half in a 6-5 come from behind victory over the Portland Pirates. On Sunday he made some key saves down the stretch as the Kings handed the Blades their first loss of the season by a score of 4-2.

Hampton Roads Jr Whalers



In game one of the weekend the **Hampton Roads Whalers** offense missed chance after chance to blow the game open as a hard working Frederick team pushed the Whalers into overtime. Frederick drew first blood in the game at 13:45 of the 2nd to take a 1-0 lead. The Whalers power play brought the game even at 1-1 at the end of the 2nd at 2:54 when Michael Addison converted from Alex Dempsey and Jackson Braniff. In the 3rd at 14:45 the Whalers took a 2-1 lead, again on the power play, as Alex Dempsey tipped home a point shot from Connor Vazales. Jeremy Wilson also assisted on the play. Frederick pushed back at 9:45 to tie the game at 2-2. The Whalers killed off a late Freeze powerplay with 3:27 to play, and then were rewarded with a power play of their own with 1:04 to play. After several key chances were turned away by Frederick net minder Kevin Russell, the game would head to overtime. In OT, the Whalers would start with a 4 on 3 power play carry over for 0:56 seconds. Connor Vazales found a wide open Keegan Howver in the left face-off circle, Howver walked into the slot and buried the game winner just: 42 seconds into OT to send the Whalers to a 3-2 victory. Grant Laughrey stopped 25 of 27 Freeze shots to pick up the win in net. The Whalers power play finished 3 for 7 and the Whalers penalty kill went 5 for 5. The Whalers held a 31-27 shot on goal advantage. Frederick had 14 PIMS on 7 infractions; the Whalers had 10 PIMS on 5 infractions.

In game two of the weekend the Whalers offense was more effective, posting 6 goals on 59 shots. The Whalers took the lead in the 1st period when Mat Culcasi put home a rebound off a Jackson Braniff shot. Less than 3 minutes later Frederick capitalized off some sloppy Whalers defense to tie the game at 1-1. Late in the 1st period, with 3:59 left, Alex Dempsey picked up his second goal of the weekend to give the Whalers a 2-1 lead on a nice feed from Taylor Paasch. Frederick tied it 2-2 early in the 2nd period at 17:10. 9 seconds later Taylor Paasch gave the Whalers back the lead 3-2 from Luke Carroll. At the 9:47 mark the Whalers took a 4-2 lead when John Davies one-timed a pass from Jonathon Jones and Jackson Braniff into the net. In the 3rd period Frederick held a 14-9 shot advantage but goaltender Alan Johnson kept his team in the game. At 10:09 the Freeze cut the lead to 4-3. Again the Whalers responded, just 18 seconds later Taylor Paasch picked up his second of the night to make it 5-3 Whalers from Jeremy Wilson and Jackson Braniff. At 1:05 of the 3rd Nick Kujawa

sealed the game for the Whalers with an empty net goal, his first of the season, from John Davies to make it 6-3 Whalers. Alan Johnson picked up a well deserved win in net with 33 saves on 36 Freeze shots. The Whalers held a 59-36 shot on goal advantage. Both teams finished 0 for 3 on the power play. The Freeze had 8 PIMS on 4 infractions, the Whalers 18 PIMS on 5 infractions.

Philadelphia Revolution Report



Game 1 of the home and home between the **Philadelphia Revolution** and the Jersey Wildcats was a defensive battle led by each team's respective goal tender. Both Joe Marshall for Philly and Thomas Noce for NJ were able to put up 2 shut out periods. In the 3rd, the scoring silence was broken when Sean Fleming found a seam through the slot, and hit Ryan O'Malley, who wasted no time ripping the puck off the crossbar and into the net. Tried as they may, Philadelphia was unable to hold onto the lead as NJ scored with only 3 minutes left to force the game into overtime. Both teams had their chances but it was the Wildcats who were able to knock a bouncing puck over the goal line for the overtime winner.

After a defensive battle the night before, the Wildcats opened up the scoring just 28 seconds into the 1st period. Philly fought back and Joe "K" Kotlarczyk put the final touch on a team effort to get the Revolution back to even. Back-to-back goals for the Wildcats led the way into the 3rd period. Despite putting 60 shots on goal, including O'Malley's second power play tally of the weekend, Philadelphia was unable to close the gap and dropped the Sunday evening contest with a final of 4 - 2.



Empire Western Conference All Star Team

This past weekend in Hooksett, NH the elite players of the Empire Junior Hockey League converged on Tri-Town Arena for the annual All-Star weekend. The three game set saw the Western Conference take on the Western Conference on Sunday night before squaring off against the Eastern States Hockey League and the Southern Conference on Monday. The Western Conference would leave New Hampshire on Monday afternoon with league bragging rights after sweeping their three contests.



In game one the West toppled the East with a 5-4 shootout victory. Monday morning's contest pitted the West against the All-Stars from the Eastern States Hockey League, a game in which the West trailed 2-0 at half. However, before the game was over the West would tally seven unanswered goals in the second half en route to a 7-2 victory. As the West headed into their final game of the weekend against the Southern Conference both teams were perfect on the weekend and looked to secure league supremacy. It would be the West who would come out on top as they cruised to a 7-3 win.

Leading the offensive charge for the West was the line of Sean Fleming (Philadelphia Revolution), Chris Fersini (Jersey Hitmen), and Alex Tuch (Syracuse

Stars). They were followed closely by the lines of Cassie Garrison, Luke Kirwan and Jeremy Marginsky, all of the Syracuse Stars, as well as the line of Keegan Travers, Nolan Pues, and Joe Bochichio, all of Apple Core. Also making contributions up front was the line of Brian Ruff (Buffalo Stars), Jake Garay (Brewster Bulldogs), and Andrew Turgeon (Potomac Patriots).

The blueline was safely patrolled by the pairings of Cody Calcagno and Matt DaSilva from the Jersey Hitmen, Trenton Yule and Anthony Eno of the Syracuse Stars, Chad Malinowski (Brewster Bulldogs) and Mike Dellatto (Apple Core), as well as Brian Morgan (Maksymum) and Scott Mogerley (Jersey Wildcats). In net the West got solid performances from Justin Kapelmaster (Apple Core), TJ Noce (Jersey Wildcats, and Matt Braun (Jersey Hitmen).

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Boston Bandits News

Boston Bandits sweep CD Selects on roadtrip.

The Boston Bandits traveled to Albany, NY to take on the CD Selects. In the first game the Bandits came out of the gate blazing as they scored two goals in the opening thirty seven seconds. The first goal was scored by Paul Fregeau (93') on a nice pass from Niall Caparon (93'). The very next shift Aahron Lara (94') would score assists going to Will Platt (94') and Evan Jackson (94'). CD Selects would get the next one as the game settled down the Bandits Mike Taormina (96') would tip in a shot from Derek Ridgeway (93') to give the Bandits a 3-1 lead after one. The Bandits would storm the CD net for most of the rest of the game, outshooting them 46-25 overall. Fregeau would add his second of the night assisted by Tyler Drevitch (95') and Caparon. CD would finish the scoring on the power play in the waning seconds.

BANDITS 4 CD Selects 2

In the second the Bandits started right where they left off out shooting CD 20-7 but the CD goalie would come up big time and again. In the second period the CD goalie could not hold the Bandits off anymore as they would score three goals by Mike Taormina, Niall Caparon and Tyler Drevitch. The Bandits would pick up three more goals in the third by Chace Smith (94'), Sam Kent (93') and Tyler Drevitch's second of the game. Bandits out shooting CD 58-25. **BANDITS 6 CD Selects 3**

Bandits All Stars:

Tyler Drevitch and Paul Fregeau traveled to Hooksett, NH after the games in Albany, NY to represent the Bandits on the Empire Eastern Conference All Star Team. They would play three games at the All Star Event which included the parent EJ All Stars game as well.

In the first game against the Western Conference All Stars it was the Bandits taking center stage. In the 4-5 shootout loss, Tyler Drevitch set up all four goals for 4 assists as well as wowing the crowd with his goal in the shootout. Paul Fregeau would scored 2 of the goals.

The second game they faced the Southern Conference All Stars in a rough and tumble game both players having good games in the 2-1 loss. In the third game against the ESHL All Stars, Drevitch would add 4 more assists and Fregeau would add one assist in helping the Eastern All Stars win 10-1.

Mike Taormina would represent the Bandits in the Empire Futures Game and played well.

Upcoming games for the Boston Bandits:

The Bandits have host three divisional games this week at BIA: Wed. Jan. 18 Baystate Breakers 4:50PM, Friday Jan. 20 Valley Jr. Warriors 8:00PM and Sunday Jan. 22 Salem Ice Dogs 12:30PM

Here are some good Junior Blogs to follow:

USA Junior Hockey: <http://www.usacollegehockey.com/cgi-bin/UBBCGI/ultimatebb.cgi>

A great board for Junior Hockey discussion. I post in here all the time and am a moderator.

American Junior Hockey: <http://www.americanjuniorhockey.com/>

Please give us your feedback on this Newsletter and make sure to get it into the hands of your players and parents. This is only our first issue. It will only be as good as you make it. Make sure to keep news flowing in. sportsniag@aol.com

Pete Preteroti

AMERICA IS GREAT



GOD BLESS THE USA

