



Upcoming Weekend Games:

A total of 26 league games are on tap for this weekend.

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

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

Editor: Pete Preteroti
Design: Casey Mackert

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

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 Fridays. Make submissions along with a picture to Pete Preteroti at sportsniag@aol.com



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Players of the Week:



**Defense - Jersey Hitmen -
Cody Calcagno 1995
(Ringwood, NJ)**

The Hitmen Captain turned in an impressive weekend tallying 3 goals and 2 assists as Jersey swept the Syracuse Stars. Calcagno picked up an assist on Luke Rodgers' game winning goal in Saturday's contest before exploding for a hat trick, including the game winner, and an assist in Sunday's victory. Calcagno's five point weekend catapulted him into the second position in scoring amongst defensemen in the Empire league.



**Forward - Boston Bandits -
Connor Court 1994
(Swansea, IL)**

Connor continued his good start to the season. In the Bandits two wins this week he had both assists in the 2-0 win over CT Oilers.

In the second game had a 3 goals to lead the Bandits. He is one of the hardest workers on the team and has helped lead the team to their 5-1 start.



**Goalie - Boston Bandits -
Ryan McCarty 93
(Acushnet, MA)**

Ryan backed stopped the Boston Bandits to a sweep of the Ct Oilers. He had 23 saves in a shutout performance the first game.

This gave Ryan two shutouts in a row. In the second game, his shutout streak ended at 128:23, a great start to his season. Ryan had 36 saves in the Bandits win.



Weekend Recap:

Hitmen spoil Syracuse opener



The **Jersey Hitmen** traveled to Syracuse, NY this weekend to take on the Syracuse Stars. The weekend marked the first two games of the year at Cicero Twins Rinks for the Stars, and

they were looking to celebrate their first home weekend of the year. However, in the end it was Jersey who did the celebrating, sweeping the Stars en route to their league leading fifth straight road victory.

Through the early part of Saturday's game it seemed as if the teams were feeling each other out. However, in the second the Hitmen began a reign of dominance that would carry throughout the weekend. Shortly after killing off a 5 on 3 power play for Syracuse, Jersey found themselves on a 5 on 3 of their own. Jersey would take advantage of their opportunity as Luke Rodgers was able to convert with the help of Jon Spada, and Cody Calcagno to put Jersey up 1-0. Despite the Hitmen's best effort Matt Schneider stood tall in net, tuning aside 19 shots in the frame and limiting Jersey to just a single goal.

In the third period the Hitmen began to distance themselves early as Dylan Stephanik netted his fourth goal of the year at 3:32 of the period. With Jersey continuing to apply pressure the Dylan Healey provided further separation just over a minute later when he finished off a 2 on 1 break with Joe Masonius to put the Hitmen up 3-0. Despite Syracuse's best efforts the Hitmen defense suffocated the Stars offense and goaltender Ryan Glander took care of the rest. As the clock ticked down the Hitmen skated away with a 3-0 win. The shutout was the first of the Empire season for Glander who turned in a 30 save effort to preserve his perfect evening.

The Hitmen entered Sunday intent on remaining in first place in the West and it was clear from the beginning that Jersey had come with their A game. David Kleyman tallied his first goal of the year just

3:05 into play with the help of Joe Masonius and Dylan Stephanik. With Jersey applying heavy pressure it would be Chris Peterson who would put his name on the score sheet next. Peterson's goal came on a pretty passing play with Dylan Healey and Corey Leskanic just under three minutes after Kleyman had given the Hitmen the lead. Recent UNH commit Joe Masonius would be next when added to the Hitmen lead at 10:29 of the period. Cody Calcagno put up Jersey's fourth goal of the period, a power play goal, at 15:10 off a brilliant feed from Luke Rodgers. Jesse Farabee would put Syracuse on the board with a power play goal of his own at 17:08, the first goal of the weekend for the Stars.

In the second period the Hitmen continued to dominate Syracuse. Peterson potted his second of the game at 3:46 before Michael Taussi added the Hitmen's sixth tally just over a minute later. Syracuse pulled back within four when Ben Engelbrekt put on home on the power play, but Luke Rodgers answered on the following shift with a shorthanded goal to stretch the Hitmen lead once again. Tim Flihan would keep the Stars within reach when he added Syracuse's third goal of the day just over thirty seconds later. The Hitmen however, would kill any hope for Syracuse when Luke Rodgers deflated the home bench with his second of the game at 16:33. Calcagno added his second of the day just under two minutes later to give the Hitmen a five goal second period and a commanding 9-3 lead heading to the locker room.

The third period saw more of the Hitmen imposing their will on the host Stars. Matt Langlois would put the Hitmen's goal total into double digits to get the period started. From there Rodgers and Calcagno both completed their hat tricks, before Dylan Stephanik capped the scoring with 10 seconds left to play. When all was over the Hitmen had handed the Stars a demoralizing 13-3 defeat on the back of 5 power play goals and one shorthanded tally. Mike O'Maley picked up the win in net for Jersey, helping them to maintain their lead in a tight Western Conference.



Weekend Recap:

SUFFOLK FREEZES FREDERICK

The **Suffolk Juniors** took home the 6-3 victory over the Frederick Freeze. Suffolk stifled Frederick's power play, and did not give up a single goal while down a man. Suffolk forced the Freeze goalie Michal Marcinek to work between the pipes, taking 37 shots. Suffolk's goal total was higher than its season average. The Juniors have scored at the pace of 3.4 goals per game during the current campaign. Suffolk was helped by Jason Reiter, who had one goal. Reiter scored 7:05 into the first period to make the score 1-1. Suffolk also got points from Christopher Seeback, who also racked up one goal and one assist. Joseph Quinn also scored for Suffolk. In addition, Suffolk received



assists from Tyler Murphy, who had two and Nicholas Ambery, Joseph Duszak, and Michael Gilroy, who each chipped in one. Frederick's offense rang up 42 shots on the PAL's net.

The Freeze were led by Richard Novodomec, who grabbed two goals. Novodomec scored the first of his two goals at 1:04 into the first period to make the score 1-0 Frederick. Michael Shearer picked up the assist. Novodomec's next tally made the score 5-2 Suffolk with 19:22 left in the third period. Shearer assisted on the tally. Frederick also got a goal from Reid Bibb as well. More assists for Frederick came via Logan Coomes and Florian Cotera, who contributed one a piece. Daniel Potter recorded 39 saves for Suffolk. Suffolk incurred six minutes in penalty time with three minors. Frederick's Marcinek stopped 31 shots out of the 36 that he faced. The Freeze incurred six minutes in penalty time with three minors. The Suffolk Juniors

guttled out a close 4-2 win against the Frederick Freeze. Neither team gained more than a two-goal lead, and Joseph Quinn's goal in the second period proved to be the difference maker. Suffolk pulled out the victory even though it was hit with 69 penalty minutes. Suffolk was led by Quinn, who registered one goal. Quinn scored on the power play 11:57 into the second period to make the score 3-2 Suffolk. Suffolk earned a power play opportunity when Ian Soifer was put in the box for high sticking. Tyler Murphy assisted on the tally. Referees had their hands full with a major incident at 20:00 into the third period. Four fighting penalties were dished out along with two game misconducts.

Suffolk additionally got points from Benjamin Sorkin, who also finished with one goal and one assist. Suffolk also got a goal from Michael Leone as well. Other players who recorded assists for Suffolk were Nicholas Ambery, Matthew Gault, and Christopher Stemke, who each chipped in one. Frederick was often in penalty trouble, totaling 10 minors and three majors for 65 minutes in penalty time. The Freeze surpassed its season average of 19.0 penalty minutes per game. Frederick forced the PAL goalie Peter Fosso to work between the pipes, taking 45 shots. The Freeze were helped by Samuel Buran, who grabbed one goal. Buran scored 7:12 into the first period to make the score 1-0 Frederick. Ryley Harper picked up the assist. Pierce McCaull also scored for Frederick. More assists for Frederick came via Casey Donegan and Adam Gnatowski, who contributed one a piece. Fosso recorded 43 saves for Suffolk. The Juniors registered two goals on seven power play opportunities. For Suffolk, Leone and Gault were ejected from the contest. Frederick's starting goalie, Daniel Dolliver, made 13 saves and finished with the loss before he was taken out in favor of Michal Marcinek, who stopped 10 shots. The Freeze registered one goal on eight power play opportunities. For Frederick, Buran was ejected from the game.

Keep in mind....

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.





Boston Bandits, continue hot start, sweep CT Oilers



The **Boston Bandits** continue their hot start to the 2012-13 season. In the first game of the weekend the Bandits played good team defense and with quality goaltending from Ryan McCarthy 93' (Achushnet, MA), shutout the CT Oilers 2-0. Goal scorers were forward Ray Wilson 94' (Lancaster, CA) and defensemen Taylor Hale 93' (Glendora, CA). Forward Connor Court 94' (Swansea, Ill) had two assists. **BANDITS 2 CT Oilers 0**

In the second game, both teams traded goals throughout. Early in the third period John Malewicz 95' (Duxbury, MA) would net the game winner assisted by Connor Graham 94' (Norfolk, MA) Connor Court led all scorers with 3 goals. Other goal scorers were Wes Monson 94' (Charlton, MA), Aharon Lara 94' (Saugus, CA), Connor Wiggins 94' (Gross Pointe, MI). **BANDITS 7 CT Oilers 5.**

The Bandits record now stands at 5-1-0 in league play, 7-3-2 overall.

Next game: Oct. 19 Bandits host Islanders Hockey Club at Bridgewater Ice Arena 7:50pm

Jr. Blades Working to Win the Fight Against Breast Cancer

Estero, Fla.-- The Florida Jr. Blades join the fight against Breast cancer by going "Pink in the Rink." Players will be wearing custom pink jerseys and spreading awareness for Breast cancer research with the Susan G. Komen Foundation.

"Breast cancer has impacted many of the players and members of the coaching staff," said head coach and general manager Tad O'Had. "When looking at our schedule this year we really wanted to do our part and support such a great cause."

The team has been spreading awareness for the cause with appearances on local news station Fox 4. "We've been able to partner with organizations like Hungry Howies and their "Love, Hope, Pizza" initiative," said alternate captain Dan Thompson. "The shows are fun, but it also helps educate and raise funds for a really vital cause."

The team hopes to use their drive for success to further awareness in the local community. "We've spent some early mornings on the news and some late afternoons handing out flyers," said captain Joshua Koerner. "It's not just about raising funds, but also spreading awareness. People don't realize how many people are effected each year."

The team will go into Sunday's contest against the Tampa Bay Juniors with a 13-2 record. "We've had a great start to the season," said O'Had. "The players are excited for the "Pink in the Rink" event and really motivated to be successful."





Weekend Recap: *continued*

Buffalo Stars name Captains; Retire 3 Jerseys

The **Buffalo Stars Empire Junior** team conducted their Home Opening Ceremonies this past weekend in dramatic fashion as they announced the new Captains for the 2012-2013 season and retired the



Jerseys of 3 Alumni.

The Annual Buffalo Stars Home Opener is always a grand event and this year was no different as the Buffalo Stars, as is tradition, salute the brave men and women of the American Military during this **Annual Salute to the Troops Night**.

The Stars always roll out the red carpet with a dramatic Opening Ceremonies which includes Music, Spotlights, Color Guard and Anthem Singer. The Buffalo Stars Youth Organization gets into the act as well participating in the ceremonies with a "live" tunnel of youth players paving the way onto the ice as the Juniors are introduced. The 25 minute ceremony was capped off with the presentation of colors by the **Lewiston-Porter Junior Air Force ROTC Cadets** and the singing of our National Anthem by **Maddie Radwan**.

As is also tradition, former Buffalo Stars Captains present the Captains Jerseys to the newly installed Captains in an on ice ceremony. Newly installed Captain was second year veteran **Michael Harris**. Installed as Assistant Captains were second year veteran **Patrick Schmelzinger** and rookie **Justice Rogers**.

Following the installation of Captains, the Stars retired the jerseys of 3 former players. (current Assistant Coach) **Mike Flatley**, **Steven Kinney**

and **Joe Rohm** all played for the Stars Organization their entire career starting in the Beginner Program and completing their career as a Buffalo Stars Junior. "I am very proud of these young men who have spent their entire career with our Buffalo Hornets/Buffalo Stars Organization" said President Pete Preteroti. "I have known them most of their life and have watched them grow into fine young men".

As is also tradition on opening day, several Buffalo Stars youth teams also participate with games of their own leading up to the Junior game. The Organization also conducts a Gift Card collection to benefit the **NY Air National Guard 107th Family Support Unit** out of Niagara Falls and a Chinese Auction to benefit the **Wounded Warrior Project**.

The **Jersey Wildcats** were the Stars opponents last weekend and participated in the Ceremonies. Wildcats owner Jim Stanlick also had his Captain present the Stars with donations to give to both the 107th Family Support Unit and the Wounded Warrior Project. A very generous gesture in the spirit of cooperation and friendship from the Jersey Wildcats.

Following the Saturday evening game, players, coaches, parents and fans of the Buffalo Stars and Jersey Wildcats enjoyed a wonderful buffet served up by Buffalo Stars parents.

Although the Buffalo Stars lost both games last weekend: 7-2 and 4-0, the Stars want to thank the Jersey Wildcats for sharing in this special event.

As always, Buffalo Stars Junior home games can be viewed free of charge on our UStream Channel: <http://www.ustream.tv/channel/buffalo-stars-junior-hockey>

Games are archived and you can enjoy a replay of the game and the Opening Ceremony free of charge.

You can also view archived pictures of the ceremony and game at: <http://mypremierphoto.com>