



Upcoming Weekend Games:

A total of 19 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

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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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Goaltender - Christoph Mutschin - Applecore - '95 Hillsdale, NJ

Christoph made 44 saves Sunday morning in Apple Core's victory over Syracuse.

He displayed good rebound control and strong shot recovery skills in stymieing the 'Cuse attack. Mutschin improved his undefeated record to 6-0 and also lowered his GAA to 2.45 and improved his SV % to .927.

Players of the Week:



Forward - Dylan Versage - Maksymum - '93 Batavia, NY

Dylan is a 1993 birth year from Batavia, NY. Dylan had a great weekend against the Revolution and the Hitmen. He led Maksymum with 5 goals and 1 asst. Friday against Philadelphia Dylan had 2 goals and the shootout winner in a 4-3 win. Saturday

Dylan had the only goal in a 4-1 loss to the Hitmen. Sunday against the Hitmen Dylan was back at it with 2 goals and 1 asst. in a 6-2 win.



Defense - Cody Calcagno Jersey Hitmen -'95 Ringwood, NJ

Last week's defensive player of the week was back at this past weekend tallying three points in a weekend split with Maksymum. Calcagno picked up a shorthanded assist in Saturday's contest before contributing on both of the Hitmen's goals on Sunday. Calcagno got the Hitmen on the board with his league leading 6th power play goal of the season before adding an assist on Matt Langlois' third period tally. He currently leads the Hitmen in scoring, and ranks 2nd in the Empire league scoring race amongst defenseman.



Weekend Recap:

Seventh Heaven For Apple Core

Syracuse, NY - The **Apple Core Empire** team traveled long and far to Cicero, New York, to visit the **Syracuse Stars** for a two game set. After finally arriving after some bus complications that prolonged the trip, Apple Core needed to regroup quickly, as they needed to get ready for a tilt against a feisty Syracuse team.

Apple Core came out a little sluggish in the first period of game one, seeing Syracuse outshoot them 11-8, although that didn't stop Apple Core's top line of Manginell, Schoenberg, and Kaszuba of getting AC on the board first. Blake Manginell tipped home a pretty shot pass by defenseman Cameron Giertych, a seeing eye shot at its best. After Tyler O'Mara put Syracuse on the board late on a gorgeous passing play, the period would end tied up at one. In the second, AC would score two to Syracuse' none. Cale Schoenberg netted the 'Cores first of the period, getting help from line mates Jon Kaszuba and Blake Manginell. Just :15 seconds later, Manginell would manage to score the eventual game winner, and the first star of the game, as Syracuse eventually added a goal from Tom Nicholson early on in the third period. That would be enough for AC goaltender Justin Kapelmaster, as he shut the door making 32 saves for his fifth win of the year, a final score of 3-2.

In game two Sunday morning, Apple Core and Syracuse wanted to try and distance themselves early, but that wasn't the case as both goalies were on top of their games. In net for Apple Core it was undefeated, Jersey native, Christoph Mutschin. In the opposing net, it was Nate Skidmore getting the nod for Syracuse. The first period showcased these goalies talents as both teams went into their respective locker rooms scoreless. As we found at during today's game, there would be two firsts for Apple Core. In one of the prettiest passing plays of the early season, Cale Schoenberg would put Apple Core ahead with their first shorthanded goal of the year, getting help

from Blake Manginell and Dan Basist. As the teams went back and forth for the rest of the period, Syracuse managed to squeak one by Mutschin to tie up the game with :32 seconds remaining, a back breaker for Apple Core.

With the late 2nd period goal by 'Cuse, Apple Core was not deflated to start the third period. Jon Kaszuba found Cale Schoenberg for his second goal of the game on a nifty backhand shot past Stars goaltender Nate Skidmore for the 2-1 lead. After a power play goal by Syracuse to tie the game up at two, forward Nolan Pues, cousin of teammate Liam, would score the game winner with a beautiful individual play that came from a pass by Kevin Miller.

The second first for Apple Core was an empty net goal by first star of the game Cale Schoenberg, his third goal of the game, making it the teams first hat trick of the regular season. Third star of the game, Christoph Mutschin, had an impressive game stopping 44 shots guiding Apple Core to a 4-2 win, their seventh in a row and Western Conference leading 11th win.

'Core for the Cure: Apple Core will host the Philadelphia Revolution next weekend in a cancer awareness game. Apple Core will be supporting the fight for cancer, and encourage you to come down and support the cause. Games will be played at the Long Beach Ice Arena on Saturday at 5:15pm and again on Sunday at 9:00am.





Weekend Recap:

Apple Core Silences Rival Suffolk

Long Beach, NY - In the highly anticipated first game against one another, Apple Core looked to make a statement against cross-town rival, **Suffolk PAL**. Leading up to this match-up, Apple Core and PAL have been battling in the standings for that number one Conference spot. Lately, both teams have been hot, Suffolk and Apple Core each impressively winning 4 of their last 5 games. In the first period, it seemed that both Suffolk and Apple Core were cautious in feeling themselves out, each team registering only 7 and 9 shots on goal. As the period progressed, Florida native Darren Aikens netted his first goal of the season, assists going to Nolan Pues and Rob DeLury. The goal seemed to give the home crowd some energy, as Apple Core put on the pressure outworking their opponent in the offensive zone. In the second, PAL found life from Benjamin Sorkin. Michael Leone would find Sorkin in front who finished off the play to tie the game at one. The top line of Blake Manginell, Cale Schoenberg, and Jon Kaszuba started the scoring off in the third period for Apple Core. Manginell, with help from Schoenberg and Kaszuba, sizzled one by PAL goaltender Dan Potter for the 2-1 lead. This goal provided the spark Apple Core needed, resulting in another AC goal just two minutes later as cousins Liam and Nolan Pues found forward James Sharpe who connected for his fifth goal of the year. Justin Kapelmaster would not surrender another goal, resulting in

Apple Core's fifth win in a row. Kapelmaster saw 28 shots, stopping 27 for his fourth win of the season.

Looking Ahead: Apple Core will look to keep their winning streak alive as they will now travel to Syracuse on Saturday to face off against the Stars. Games are to be played Saturday at 6:15pm and Sunday at 9:15am at Cicero's Twin Rinks.



Buffalo Stars Health, Fitness & Safety Night: October 27, 2012 Blood Drive for UNYTS (Upstate NY Transplant Services)

The **Buffalo Stars Hockey Organization** is pleased to announce our **Annual Health, Fitness & Safety Night** on Saturday, October 27th at the Holiday Twin Rinks in Cheektowaga, N.Y.

Various vendors from the Health & Safety Community will be present including **UNYTS, American Cancer Society, Mercy Flight, Forks Fire Company** and others. The Stars will also conduct a **Blood Drive** for the **Upstate New York Transplant Services (UNYTS)**. Last year the Stars fans and families donated enough blood to save 47 lives. The drive will run Saturday from 3-8pm.

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.





Time	Activity
03:00-08:00pm	Blood Drive to benefit UNYTS
03:00-08:00pm	Various vendors from Health & Safety
03:30-04:30pm	Squirt Major vs West Seneca
04:30-05:45pm	Squirt Minor vs Rochester A
05:45-07:30pm	Midget U16 vs Team Ohio U16 AAA
07:30-10:15pm	Juniors vs Team Ohio U18 AAA

GO PINK WITH THE BUFFALO STARS

The Buffalo Stars Empire Junior team will host the Team Ohio U18 AAA in a 2 game non-league set. The **Stars Empire Juniors** and the **Stars U16 Midget** teams will wear pink jerseys as a show of support that night. The Juniors Jerseys will be auctioned off following the Junior game and all proceeds will be given to the **American Cancer Society**

The event is part of the **Buffalo Stars GO PINK Month** where all the Buffalo Stars, as an organization, focused on Breast Cancer awareness and ran various fundraisers to support a cure for this dreaded disease.

Bandits beat Islanders

In their only game of the week the **Boston Bandits** overcame a slow start to prevail against the Islanders Hockey Club. In the first period the Islanders were taking it to the Bandits and scored first. The Bandits would answer on a Kevin Yun 95' (Wayland, MA) shorthanded score assisted by Connor Graham 94' (Norfolk, MA). The Islanders would again take the lead but the Bandits Wes Monson 94' (Charlton, MA) would score an unassisted goal on a nice individual effort with two seconds to go in the opening period.

Early in the second period the Islanders would again take the lead. The Bandits however would not go away and took the momentum for good with a power play goal by Matt Grzybinski 94' (O' Fallen, MO) assisted by Brandon Seal 94 (Orange County, CA) and Taylor Hale (Glendora, CA). The Bandits would score the next four goals in the game with different players netting them: Jamie Young 93' (Russell, OH), John Malewicz 95' (Duxbury, MA), Colton Hutton 94' (Brewster, MA) and Connor Graham.

BANDITS 7 Islanders 3

The win brought the Bandits record to 6-1 to start the season.

Upcoming Bandits Games:

Friday, October 26 vs Islanders at Skate 3 Tyngsboro, MA at 8:20pm

Saturday, October 27 vs Salem at Allied Veterans, Everett, MA at 8:00pm





Weekend Recap: *continued*

Hitmen stay focused; strong

Fresh off a road sweep of the defending Western Conference Champion, Syracuse Stars, the **Jersey Hitmen** returned home this weekend to take on Maksymum Junior Hockey. The weekend began on the right track with Jersey claiming a 4-1 victory in Saturday's opener, but Sunday proved to be a different story as the Hitmen saw their winning streak come to an end at the hands of a 6-2 defeat.

Despite not being at their best during Saturday's first period red hot rookie, Ryan Glander, kept Jersey in the game with some spectacular saves. As Jersey began to gain their composure the period was in its minutes. This left James Martello enough time to slip a puck into the Maksymum net with a nifty move at 18:50 of the period. Despite being outshot 15-9 in the frame the work of Glander and Martello had the Hitmen in the lead as the first period ended.

In the second period it was Martello who kicked started the Hitmen offense once again. The Hitmen Alternate Captain potted his second goal of the night at 6:07 with the help of Matt Langlois and Cory Sala. Then at 10:23 of the period, with the Hitmen shorthanded, Martello helped to create a little more magic. Just as lethal on the PK as he is on the power play, Martello blocked a shot in the Hitmen's defensive zone before chipping the puck past a Maksymum defender and heading on a 2 on 1 with Langlois. After drawing the defender towards his Martello made no mistake in getting the puck onto the tape of Langlois who quickly fired it home to put Jersey up 3-0.

The Hitmen began the third period on the power play and looked to add to their lead. Rory Garlasco, fresh off a month on IR, did just that 1:24 into the period. Garlasco took a feed from Sean Murphy Johnson before walking the blueline and putting a shot off the far post and in for his first of the year. With the Hitmen in control the focus shifted to maintaining the shutout. Unfortunately the Hitmen

came within seconds, but could not hold on as Maksymum scored with just three seconds left to end Glander's bid for a second straight shutout. The goal ended Glander's shutout streak at 119 minutes and 57 seconds.

Sunday's game took a much different turn. Maksymum was once again the better team in the first period, but on this day luck was not on Jersey's side. Maksymum tallied three goals on Kollyn Jones in the first period to take a 3-0 lead to the locker room.

A different Hitmen team came out for the second period, but things just were not going their way. Despite outshooting Maksymum 14-4 in the period the visitors managed to tally a goal at 11:13 to stretch their lead to 4-0. Captain Cody Calcagno finally got Jersey on the board with his league leading 6th power play goal of the season less than a minute later, but that would be all the offense the Hitmen could muster in the second frame.

Then just 17 seconds into the third Maksymum struck again, ending the day of Jones in net. Matt Langlois posted his second goal of the weekend at 13:20, but the Hitmen could not add to the damage despite a 22-11 advantage in shots during the third period. Maksymum would add one goal late and went on to a 6-2 win.

Notes: The Hitmen will enjoy a break before returning to action on November 7th against the Connecticut Oilers.





Jr. Blades Light the Lamp "Pink"

Estero, Fla.-- The **Florida Jr. Blades** took on the Tampa Bay Juniors in a home-and-home series. The Jr. Blades came out victorious in the two contests, winning 4-1 on Saturday and capping off October with a "Pink in the Rink" 10-2 win.



The Jr. Blades travelled to Ellington on Saturday to face off against the Tampa Bay Juniors. The two teams skated to a scoreless first period before Chris Lepore opened the scoring at 7:21 of the second. The power-play goal was Lepore's second of the season and was assisted by Dan Thompson and Matt Benolkin.

Tampa Bay answered back at 14:43, beating rookie net-minder Jake Carter.

"We really opened up the play in the third period," said team captain Koerner. "It was a tight first two periods, but we got into our groove and powered through."

The period expired with the two teams knotted at one. Max Cobb scored the game-winning-goal at 9:24 of the third period. Cobb's goal was assisted by Lepore and Benolkin. Team captain Joshua Koerner scored an insurance goal to put the Blades up 3-1.

The Juniors pulled their goaltender, Eriksson, to gain an extra attacker, but failed to convert and Alec Koenen buried the puck into the empty net. "The game was much more competitive than the score would indicate," said head coach and general manager Tad O'Had. "It's great to get an interstate

rivalry going."

The Juniors walked into a pink themed arena as the Jr. Blades hosted "Pink in the Rink. The event included several charity auctions and specialty pink jerseys and equipment. A portion of the proceeds from the event were donated to the Susan G. Komen foundation.

The Jr. Blades came out strong in the first period, scoring five unanswered goals. Team captain Joshua Koerner began his hat trick performance at 2:54 of the first. His 19 goal of the season was assisted by Troy Degler and Jon Davidson.

"It felt great to be out on our home ice again," Koerner. "There is just something unique about being on your ice, with your music, your locker room and your fans. It's an intangible that makes it playing all the better."

The Jr. Blades completed a perfect 20-0-0-0 home record last season and are currently 8-0-0-0 when playing at home*.

Chaise Howard, Chase Jeppesen and Adam Fowler rounded out the first period scoring.

Tampa Bay attempted to hold the Jr. Blades in check during the second, but were unable to contain forward Brant Takmajian. Takmajian increased the Jr. Blades lead to 6-0 with assists to the defensive pair Michael Haskins and Jeff Solow. "We're definitely a gritty line," said Takmajian. "We make you work for every inch and we will battle until that puck goes in or the whistle blows." Saturday's rivalry carried over into Sunday's contest with several skirmishes breaking out between the two teams. Referees handed out 58 penalty minutes in the first two periods and the Jr. Blades went 2-12 with the man advantage while Tampa was held 0-6.

"We exchanged words several times," said forward Chris Lepore. "We're not a team that is going to be pushed around and we made that clear."

The Jr. Blades need look no further than the score board as Howard completed the second period scoring at 10:32 and the Jr. Blades went into the locker room leading 7-0.

The team continued to role as defenseman Jake Leonard buried the puck to start the third period. Defenseman Jake Leonard recorded his first goal of the year to start the third period. Koerner scored



Weekend Recap: *continued*

Jr. Blades Con't.

his third goal of the contest at 4:06 to complete his hat trick. Tampa Bay's Hintz beat Jake Carter to break the shut out and make the score 9-1. Sergey Hall entered the game in relief of Carter to close out the third period.

Tampa managed to make it 9-2 at 11:25 with a goal by Frankich. The celebrations didn't last long as Jon Davidson lit the lamp for the Jr. Blades 10 goal. Davidson's tally was assisted by Dan Thompson and Michael Haskins.



"It felt good to get the win on such an important day," said Dan Thompson. "The team and the staff worked hard to make "Pink in the Rink" a success and the win makes it even better."

Give this picture a caption. We will publish the best caption next week. Send your caption to: sportsniag@aol.com



Florida Eels Empire set off major firepower in a three game exhibition series in preparation for Valley Warriors Northern Showcase. The Florida Eels Empire Team scrimmaged USF on October 13th in a home and away series. The Eels downed USF in a 9-2 game where the Eels came out very hungry and crawled over their older opponents. On Sunday Oct 21st at home the Eels Empire team continued to show its scoring power netting a total of 16 goals for. As usual Gallegos and Delezenne lead the Eels goal scoring attack where Gallegos ended the night with 4 goals and 4 assists and Delezenne added 3 goals and 2 assists. They seem to be about as lethal of a duo as you will find in the EmpireJHL. Also adding to the score was a big playmaking game from Jonathan Carlson who notched 4 assists in the game. Depth forward Stephen Bourque showed his craftiness getting 2 goals in the game as well.

The team as a whole seemed to be firing all their guns including goaltender David Bryant who earned himself a shutout. On the previous afternoon, the Eels Empire team scrimmaged against the Spacecoast Empire league team in a mid season exhibition game again came on strong in the match with a constant attack on their east coast of Florida rivals. These 3 games provided an opportunity for the Eels Empire squad to prepare for their upcoming New England Showcase. The Eels players are so anxious to play against their Northeast opponents and wanted to add these games as tune ups for the events. While up north the Empire team plans on playing 2-3 additional exhibition games so they get greater opportunities to play against their northern brothering.