

SPORTS

BASKETBALL / HIGH SCHOOL

EDSS basketball teams off to a stronger start

Both the junior and senior boys' teams have so far posted better records than last season

» WHITNEY NEILSON

THE EDSS BOYS' BASKETBALL teams are already off to a better start than last year.

The juniors have one win and four losses in regular season play so far. Their win was versus Kitchener Collegiate Institute, who hadn't lost a game this season until they faced EDSS. The seniors have no wins and five losses in regular season play, but two wins at a recent tourney.

Last year's teams didn't post a single win in the regular season.

"We've actually won two games on the weekend at a tournament in Walkerton and we only won one game all year last year, so we're off to a good start," said senior team coach Adam Taylor.

Aside from returnees from last year's team, they have three Grade 11s, and three new Grade 12s who didn't play last year. He notes the latter three are actually some of their best players.

"We have a lot more athletic team this year, which is nice. They're working really hard," Taylor said.

Rather than a full-season goal, they have set goals for each game. He says they look for patterns from the team they're playing and set a goal based on that. Last week versus Eastwood Collegiate Institute their

goal was to hold them to 15 points less than they normally score, which they did.

"So we try to set in game goals, like we're going to hold the team to 'x' amount of points or we're going to force 'x' amount of turnovers, and then hopefully that gets them motivated for the whole 32 minutes and we're hoping that it facilitates into wins. But we just don't want to set that goal because losing is kind of a tradition here. We're trying to change that. We're hoping to win at least three [league games] this year, but we haven't told the team yet," Taylor said.

Right now they're working on their 2-3 zone defense, forcing turnovers, and making good rebounds. He says their offense will come, and it is as they're making more shots each game.

"Our zone has improved. We're forcing a lot more turnovers. I think [last Tuesday] we forced 13 or 14 and held probably the second or third best team to 15 points less than they have averaged so far. We've seen them improve shooting wise, which we knew was going to come. The first game we scored mid-20s, the second game was terrible and then [last Tuesday] we scored almost 40. So that's gone up quite

BASKETBALL | 10

DISPLAYING OLMPYIC FORM



Canadian Olympic synchronized swimmer Jacqueline Simoneau performed at the Waterloo Regional Synchro Holiday Watershow in Elmira on Dec. 12. Simoneau will be competing in the 2016 Rio Olympics. [WHITNEY NEILSON / THE OBSERVER]

NOT SO GREAT OUTDOORSMAN / STEVE GALEA

Living life as part of the walking dead



MARK TWAIN ONCE FAMOUSLY said, "The reports of my death have been greatly exaggerated."

Now, for the first time ever, I am able say the exact same thing.

You see, on Saturday night, Jenn received a text-message from a friend, who asked if everything was all right.

When Jenn asked why, he divulged someone just asked him if there was any truth to the rumour I had recently died.

Not as far as I was concerned.

Jenn also knew there was no truth to this, but it didn't help that I was slumped over and sound asleep at my computer desk when she walked in the room to tell me about it.

I suspect the originator of the rumour ran into me before my first cup of coffee. In which case, the mix-up would have been completely understandable.

Having said this, I'm also more than a little disappointed. Call me a dreamer, but I expect the rumour mill to do a whole lot better than this.

First off, there was no really interesting story accompanying the rumour regarding exactly how I died.

GALEA | 10



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BASKETBALL: Season looks more promising

FROM | 9

a bit," Taylor said.

The main thing they're focusing on now is the way they communicate defensively. He says they've been doing a better job of talking more on the court, instead of relying on the coaches for guidance.

The junior team has been playing similarly, posting their first win versus Kitchener Collegiate Institute on Dec. 10.

Their first game of the season was against Grand River, where they lost 73-22. Junior team coach Brandon Hempel says they were still working on their positioning and deciding which player will fit each role the best.

"That game was a bit of a learning experience for us, but going into our next game we played against Southwood and that game was a really close game. Our guys played really well, but it ended up going in favour of Southwood with a score of 57-50. That was a close one and definitely we saw a really big improvement from our first game, so that was something we were really positive about," Hempel said.

At home they faced Eastwood, which saw Elmira lose 62-33. He says they played alright, but ECI is a challenging team. Their game versus KCI went much better last week.

"The guys were playing fantastic offense, really good defense. There were a lot of smart passes. They were putting screens in place. They were driving to the net. So they were really playing well as a team and playing well individually. That worked out in our



Dan Howell passes the ball in the senior team's loss to ECI last week. The team hasn't won a league game yet, but won two games in a tournament recently. [WHITNEY NEILSON / THE OBSERVER]

favour and we came out with a 46-37 win over KCI," Hempel said.

The team's primarily made up of Grade 9s with three returning Grade 10 players. He says the coaches are eager to develop them into players who can return to the team next year. He notes ninth grader Evan Rees was their top scorer versus KCI.

They're working on fundamental basketball skills right now, like running a better zone defense, and playing man on man.

"We've had a really positive outlook from the group of newcomers that we've

got in the Grade 9 year and then of course it's nice to have some veteran guys around that came back from last year. They bring experience to the team that the Grade 9s don't necessarily have. It's a bit of a team in development but definitely over the course of the season we've seen them improving to this point. It was great to see them really pull it all together and pick up the win," Hempel said.

Both teams play Waterloo-Oxford at home today (Dec. 17) at 3:15 p.m. for their final game before the new year.

GALEA: Looking for a better story about dying

FROM | 9

I'm not saying I ever want this rumour to ever surface again. But if it does, I'd like the person starting it to add a few more unlikely details to the story.

You might say you heard I died while wrestling a grizzly bear. When pressed further you could tell them that the cause of death was not the bear itself but rather poor circulation caused by the wrestling tights.

If you'd prefer something a little more believable, you could always go with the story that I was killed by a charging rhino, then cape buffalo, then lion, then elephant. After that you could add, "He was one tough SOB."

That would have made for a better story, too.

Alas, the person who texted our friend was reasonable and, in fact, quite responsible in that she actually went out of her way to confirm the rumour before spreading it. Thanks a lot.

I'm hoping this is why I was the only one who attended the candlelight vigil outside my home on Saturday night. Do you know how sad that is, Jenn?

Needless to say, I am happy with the situation otherwise. And Jenn is clearly relieved, too.

Right after we had a good laugh about it, she said something I'll always remember. She hugged me, then looked me straight in the eyes and said, "Thank goodness this isn't true. I can't imagine what I'd do without you - first."

My daughter was also thankful. She said, "Dad, this has caused me to think about the important things I keep forgetting to say to you. So here goes. I need \$80 for a school trip."

In any case, if you see me going about my business, do not be shocked that I walk among you ... or disappointed either. I'm very much alive. I'm still here at this computer, doing what I do best. And after I wake up from my nap, I write columns, too.

I intend, as we all do, to live a long and prosperous life and fill it with great hunting and fishing stories. There are so many things to see. There is so much left to do. I plan on getting it all in.

Next week, I'm going to purchase myself a new pair of wrestling tights.

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Coach sees some positives as Kings drop two games

Players need to show more consistency throughout the game to get the outcome team wants, says Canal

» WHITNEY NEILSON

DESPITE DROPPING BOTH WEEKEND games, the Elmira Sugar Kings are finding plenty of positives in their game play.

They battled back from a three goal deficit to a one goal difference against Stratford on Friday night, before falling 5-2. And on home ice on Sunday they were up 3-1 over Kitchener in the second frame, but ended up losing 4-3.

They were undoubtedly tough losses, but proof the Kings can compete with the top two teams in the league.

"It was definitely a good test this weekend," said head coach Ty Canal.

"We've had some tough games down the stretch here against very good hockey teams. I think it's good for our players to see and you definitely have to take some positives out of it. From watching you could see our guys getting confidence when we were behind and now we've just got to find a way to make sure when we're up to shut the door and to be able to close out a game for the full 60 minutes that we need to."

Neither Elmira or Stratford could get any scoring done in the first period, but the Cullitons would dominate the second, notching three goals to Elmira's zero. Goal scorers were Jared Nash, and Tyson Baker (2), helped by Josh Miller (2), Hayden Broomhead, An-

thony Kotsovos, and Nash.

Ethan Skinner and Ty Biles got the Sugar Kings on the board in less than four minutes into the third, bringing the score to 3-2 in the Cullitons' favour. Mitch Montgomery, Mackenzie MacSorley, Ryley Cribbin, and Ryan Walsh picked up the assists.

"We played some good hockey. There were some good stretches especially at the beginning of the third when our backs were up against the wall, I thought we started to skate well and we started to play with some urgency and get that type of game going," Canal said.

He says it would have been nice to see that same type of urgency earlier in the game, when they let Stratford get ahead of them in the second period.

"We had a stretch there that we weren't playing the way that we can and that put us behind the eight ball. Luckily in the third we were able to get a couple quick goals, which got us right back into the game and for some reason when our backs are up against a wall we're playing better hockey," Canal said.

Stratford increased to a two-goal lead late in the first period with a goal from Justin Graham (Baker), and when the Kings pulled their goalie, Jack Scanlan gave Stratford the 5-2 win, assisted by Tristan Hohl.

On Sunday versus Kitchener, it looked like the



Mitch Montgomery jumps on a loose puck, with Zac Coulter, Ethan Skinner and Rob Kohli on his heels. The Sugar Kings lost 4-3 to the top-ranked Kitchener Dutchmen on Sunday at the WMC. (WHITNEY NEILSON / THE OBSERVER)

Kings were going to hand the first-place Dutchmen their third loss of the season.

Elmira's Quinten Bruce (Montgomery, Jake Moggy) scored late in the first to start the second frame in the Kings' favour. But within 37 seconds Dutchman Jason Willms (Owen Lane, Nathan Grossi) tied it up.

The Kings took the 3-1 lead with goals from Ty Biles (Cribbin, Skinner) and Dawson Shackelton (unassisted and shorthanded) in the second. Kitchener's Lane, assisted by Curtis

Smith, lessened the gap with a goal of his own.

"It all happened in the second period. I don't know if we took the foot off the pedal. They're a good team. If you give good teams opportunities to score or opportunities to take momentum and that's what unfortunately we did in the second. We gave them momentum, and we gave them opportunities. When you're a good team like that you're going to capitalize. It's definitely unfortunate," Canal said.

But there was no more

scoring for the Kings as Kitchener scored twice in the third to take the game. Alex Demrovsky and Connor Cole picked up the goals, with Taite Wirschke (2), Adam Kawalec, and Nathan Grossi assisting.

"Being up 3-1 at the one point, we felt that was one that our guys after the game felt like we were hoping to capitalize on that and play with the lead for a change as well, and work on shutting a team down when we are up by a couple," Canal said.

Canal says the week-

end may not have gone as planned, but you can tell the players are starting to become more comfortable playing together as a team.

"Over the course of a season there's definitely going to be a lot of ups and downs. It's just a matter of how you take it and how you can bounce back from both ways," Canal said.

The Kings head to Guelph to face the Hurricanes tonight (Dec. 17) at 7:30 p.m. and return home to the WMC at 2 p.m. to play the Cambridge Winter Hawks for their final game of 2015.

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Three former players join board of directors of Woolwich Youth Soccer

Club president says he's eager to see what young blood will bring to the table

» LIZ BEVAN

THERE ARE SOME NEW, young faces now sitting on the board of Woolwich Youth Soccer, and they are ready to give back to the organization that has given them so much.

Sydney Jones, Takuya Shibayama and Connor Goodwin, all former members of Woolwich Youth Soccer (WYS) teams, have been appointed to the board for the club, volunteering their time for the young players currently gearing up for next summer.

Steve Sider, the club's new president, says he hopes to see the incoming board members create some new energy and "buzz" for the future.

"All three of them have been through the Woolwich system as players, they did really well and now they are giving back," he said.

"We want to look in new directions and think of ways to develop our players in Woolwich, and these three represent that really well."

The club hosts rep and house league teams for soccer players in the township aged 5 to 18, and now that these players have aged out of the club, Jones says she wants to help on the administrative side of things.

"It has been a huge part of my life," she said, mentioning that before being asked to be a member of the board, she was coaching and training younger players. "I have always felt a sense of belonging in Woolwich and I loved representing them on the pitch. Now, I feel committed to the club and want to help any way I can in the long run."

Shibayama was pleased to accept a spot on the board, helping direct the future of the young players. Playing soccer in Woolwich was a big part of his life when he first came to Canada.

"More than the actual game, I love soccer for the camaraderie and playing with friends," he said. "When I moved to Canada, I didn't speak much Eng-

lish, but playing soccer helped me make a lot of friends. I knew the rules in my native language, so it was relaxing to play when I first moved here."

He has also taken his love of sports into his everyday life in university. He sees his spot on the board as complementary to his choice of study.

"What I am studying in university is focused on health. I have been learning how important it is for kids at that age to start getting active, especially in sports, in order for physical health to develop properly," he said, adding that it was also about lending a hand doing something he loves. "I thought, why not get involved in my own community and try and make it a bit better. I love the game."

Sider says it is important to have younger faces sitting around the board room because it gives the players someone to relate to. The new members have been through the WYS teams and know what they

are talking about.

"The younger kids love them. They are just the great role models you want as a parent," he said. "They have stepped up with reffing, coaching or training and they get a lot of respect from the kids."

Part of the new ideas for soccer development Sider wants to get in place moving forward will be starting this winter. Although not all the details have been ironed out, he says there will be development and training programs running before the regular season starts in May.

"In the past, it has been up to coaches (to keep players playing), but this year we are launching a new program in January," he said. "It is giving kids an opportunity to get their foot on the ball throughout the winter, get them on the field."

For more information about the Woolwich Youth Soccer Club and a full list of board members, visit www.woolwichyouthsoccer.com.

SENIOR GIRLS BEAT KCI



The EDSS senior girls' volleyball team defeated Kitchener Collegiate Institute at home on Dec. 10 (25-17, 25-15, 25-14), while the juniors lost 3-2 (25-23, 20-25, 25-21, 18-25, 15-12) to their KCI counterparts. (WHITNEY NEILSON / THE OBSERVER)

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even better 2016! All the best!

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THE SCORE

WOOLWICH WILDCATS

Tyke Select
Dec. 12 vs Burlington
 Home: **3** Visitor: **2**
Goals: Mitchell Krasovec (3)
Assists: Lucas Benham, Luke Wood (2)

Tyke Select
Dec. 13 vs Oakville
 Home: **8** Visitor: **0**
Goals: Tristan Hill (3), Mitchell Krasovec, Avery Collingwood, Spencer Hume, Wade McKenzie, Lucas Benham
Assists: Lucas Benham, Luke Wood, Avery Collingwood, Mitchell Krasovec, Carter Weir (2), Spencer Hume, Gabriel Reitzel, Alex Veitch, Caleb Paquet, Cameron Dawson, Mac Zettel
Shutout: Carson Waechter

Novice: MAJOR
Dec. 8 vs Halton Hills
 Home: **5** Visitor: **2**
Goals: Sam Ratcliffe, Danny Schaefer, Ethan Burkholder, Owen Wepler, Riley Dettweiler
Assists: Connor Goebel (2), Owen Wepler, Riley Dettweiler, Josh Carson, Sam Ratcliffe

Novice: MAJOR
Dec. 12 vs Burlington
 Home: **5** Visitor: **2**
Goals: Owen Wepler (2), Sam Ratcliffe (2), Danny Schaefer
Assists: Riley Dettweiler, Danny Schaefer, Josh Frey

Novice: MAJOR
Dec. 14 vs New Hamburg
 Home: **4** Visitor: **3**
Goals: Sam Ratcliffe (2), Josh Frey, Josh Carson
Assists: Danny Schaefer, Mitchell Roemer, Matt Darrigan, Josh Carson

Novice: AE
Dec. 8 vs Halton Hills
 Home: **2** Visitor: **4**
Goals: Bryson Rozema, Carter Snider
Assists: Hayden Weber, Brandon Fishman

Novice: AE
Dec. 12 vs Guelph
 Home: **1** Visitor: **2**
Goals: Evan Woods
Assists: Bryson Rozema, Nathan Dyck

Novice: AE
Dec. 13 vs Stoney Creek
 Home: **5** Visitor: **1**
Goals: Hayden Weber (2), Carter Snider, Tyler Gingrich, Brandon Fishman
Assists: Declan Johnson (2), Jordan MacLachlan

Atom: MINOR A
Dec. 12 vs Milton
 Home: **7** Visitor: **1**
Goals: Brady Martin (3), Stuart Sinclair, Ian Leech, Mitchell Walker, Nathan Martin
Assists: Mitchell Walker, Ian Leech, Liam Wood, Brady Martin, Eric Kane

Atom: MINOR A
Dec. 13 vs New Hamburg

Home: **2** Visitor: **2**
Goals: Pacey Camm, Brady Martin
Assists: Nathan Martin

Atom: MAJOR A
Dec. 9 vs Oakville
 Home: **8** Visitor: **4**
Goals: Joey Martin (4), Jordan Chang, Cade Beacom, Isaiah Reitzel, Ethan Martin
Assists: Keenan Martin, Ryan Brubacher (2), Ethan Bickerton, Parker Alles, Drew Birmingham, Denver Martin

Atom: MAJOR A
Dec. 12 vs Halton Hills
 Home: **3** Visitor: **1**
Goals: Drew Birmingham, Cade Beacom, Isaiah Reitzel
Assists: Keenan Martin, Jordan Chang, Ethan Martin, Ethan Bickerton, Eric Hutton

Atom: MAJOR A
Dec. 13 vs Burlington
 Home: **4** Visitor: **2**
Goals: Jordan Chang, Ryan Brubacher, Joe Martin, Drew Birmingham
Assists: Joe Martin (2)

Atom: MAJOR AE
Dec. 13 vs Flamborough
 Home: **4** Visitor: **3**
Goals: Austin Schnarr (2), Riley Snider, Ben Wilkie
Assists: Nathan Lipp, Sammy Hacock, Joh Enns, Austin Schnarr, Parker Collingwood

Atom: MINOR AE
Dec. 12 vs Oakville
 Home: **3** Visitor: **3**
Goals: Tyson Roth (2), Cale Waechter
Assists: Daniel Kochut, Keegan Martin

Atom: MINOR AE
Dec. 13 vs Ancaster
 Home: **6** Visitor: **1**
Goals: Owen Weber (2), Kane Kruschat (2), Tyson Roth, Josh Uhrig
Assists: Josh Uhrig (2), Owen Weber (2), Daniel Kochut, Tyson Bauman, Tyson Roth

Atom: LL #1
Nov. 28 vs Beverley
 Home: **3** Visitor: **8**
Goals: Jamie Ferretti, Tucker Armstrong, Jack Rozema
Assists: Jett Renon, Brody Downs

Atom: LL #1
Nov. 29 vs Hespeler
 Home: **3** Visitor: **0**
Goals: Jack Rozema, Tanner Armstrong, Evan McDowell
Assists: Tucker Armstrong, Jamie Ferretti (2), Tanner Armstrong

Atom: LL #1
Dec. 4 vs Ayr #2
 Home: **7** Visitor: **0**
Goals: Evan McDowell (2), Dawson Brubacher, Tanner Armstrong, Jack Rozema, Jamie Ferretti (2)
Assists: Jamie Ferretti (2), Tanner Armstrong, Hayden George, Evan McDowell, Jett Renon,

Tucker Armstrong (2), Myles Hunter
Shutout: Hunter Brown, Evan Sauve

PeeWee: MAJOR AA
Dec. 12 vs Garden City
 Home: **5** Visitor: **4**
Goals: Owen Lee (2), Spencer Young, Cameron Leonard, Michael Hayes
Assists: AJ Mitchell, Colton Schmitt

PeeWee: MINOR A
Nov. 28 vs Milton
 Home: **4** Visitor: **5**
Goals: Adam Shapcott, Haylee Clemmer, AJ Shaw-McMahon (2)
Assists: Andrew Gear, Brett Moser

PeeWee: MINOR A
Dec. 1 vs Halton Hills
 Home: **2** Visitor: **2**
Goals: Carter Cousineau, Lucas Carson
Assists: Lucas Carson, Nolan Karger

PeeWee: MINOR A
Dec. 12 vs Hespeler
 Home: **2** Visitor: **1**
Goals: Haylee Clemmer, Lucas Carson
Assists: Brett Moser, Zack Bender

PeeWee: MINOR A
Dec. 13 vs Milton
 Home: **5** Visitor: **3**
Goals: Haylee Clemmer, Lucas Carson (2), Andrew Gear, Nolan Karger, Lucas Carson
Assists: Zack Bender, Brett Moser, Carter Rollins, Haylee Clemmer, Nolan Bridge (2)

PeeWee: MINOR AE
Dec. 12 vs Caledon
 Home: **7** Visitor: **2**
Goals: Tristan Kraemer, Griffin Boerner, Lucas Radler, Sam Goebel (2), Will McDougall, Joshua Moore
Assists: Will McDougall (2), Mitchell Hartman (2), Shelby Rempel (2), Mitchell Brubacher, Coleton Benham (2)

PeeWee: MINOR AE
Dec. 13 vs Ancaster
 Home: **7** Visitor: **4**
Goals: Lucas Radler (3), Griffin Boerner (2), Shelby Rempel, Tristan Kraemer
Assists: Mitchell Brubacher, Mitchell Hartman (2), Griffin Boerner, Sam Siopiolosz, Adam Pauls, Joshua Moore (2), Shelby Rempel (2), Sam Goebel, Sebastian Garrett, Will McDougall

PeeWee: MAJOR AE
Dec. 7 vs Caledon
 Home: **1** Visitor: **1**
Goals: Ben Fretz
PeeWee: Major AE
Dec. 13 vs Flamborough
 Home: **1** Visitor: **5**
Goals: Kieren Oberholzer
Assists: Andrew Weber

PeeWee: LL #1
Nov. 28 vs Ayr #2
 Home: **2** Visitor: **6**
Goals: Max Nitsche, Ryan

Curtis
Assists: Daniel Kelly, Owen Battler

PeeWee: LL #1
Nov. 29 vs New Hamburg
 Home: **7** Visitor: **3**
Goals: Ethan Murr, Liam Moyer, Owen Battler
Assists: Liam Moyer, Turner Duldhardt (2), Ryan Curtis, Ethan Murr

PeeWee: LL #1
Dec. 5 vs Woolwich #3
 Home: **3** Visitor: **5**
Goals: Ethan Murr, Jackson Dumart, Cole Brubacher
Assists: Daniel Kelly, Liam Moyer (2), Weston Bradley, Ethan Murr

PeeWee: LL #1
Dec. 6 vs Woolwich #3
 Home: **1** Visitor: **2**
Goals: Ryan Curtis
Assists: Daniel Kelly, Ethan Murr

PeeWee: LL #1
Dec. 12 vs Tavistock
 Home: **1** Visitor: **7**
Goals: Owen Battler
Assists: Daniel Kelly

PeeWee: LL #2
Dec. 12 vs Plattsville
 Home: **9** Visitor: **0**
Goals: Jon Staken (2), Thomas Hill-Ring (3), Ashton Weber, Ryan Shantz (2), Matt Henry
Assists: Ryan Shantz, Braxten Breen (2), Patrick Perry, Ashton Weber, Jon Staken (2), Matt Henry, Michael Wang, Emmett Weissenboeck, Thomas Hill-Ring
Shutout: Simon Bauman

PeeWee: LL #2
Dec. 13 vs Beverly
 Home: **1** Visitor: **6**
Goals: Braxten Breen
Assists: Jamie Reichard

PeeWee: LL #3
Dec. 12 vs Paris
 Home: **7** Visitor: **2**
Goals: Coleton Benham (2), Malcolm Sager, Gavin Wright, Matthew Yorke (3)
Assists: Coleton Benham, Andrew Buehler, Owen Hackert, Jonathan Horst, Josh Sager, Nolan Williamson

Bantam: MINOR A
Dec. 11 vs Caledon East
 Home: **5** Visitor: **1**
Goals: Keaton McLaughlin, Jarrett Anderson, Matt Fleischmann, Brett Allen, Nathan Curtis
Assists: Payton McIsaac (3), Brett Allen (2), Jesse Martin, Matt Fleischmann, Jarrett Lavigne, Hunter Weigel, Trevor Ferretti

Bantam: MINOR A
Dec. 13 vs Burlington
 Home: **3** Visitor: **2**
Goals: Payton McIsaac, Nathan Curtis, Hunter Weigel
Assists: Keaton McLaughlin (2), Jesse Martin, Jarrett Lavigne, Ben Witmer, Brett Allen

Bantam: LL #1
Dec. 9 vs Tavistock

Home: **5** Visitor: **2**
Goals: Nathan Taylor (2), Nick Lunz (2), Sullivan Kee

Assists: Nick Lunz, Grayson McGirr, Turner Willoughby (2), Nathan Taylor, Adam Schill, Noah Bauman

Bantam: LL #1
Dec. 11 vs Plattsville
 Home: **2** Visitor: **4**
Goals: Nick Lunz, Turner Willoughby
Assists: Nathan Taylor, Nick Lunz

Bantam: LL #2
Dec. 12 vs Ayr #1
 Home: **2** Visitor: **2**
Goals: Tyson Miffin, Conner Kroetsch
Assists: Andrew Kieswetter, Tyson Kraemer, Dante Del Cul

Midget: LL #1
Dec. 4 vs Beverley #2
 Home: **3** Visitor: **3**
Goals: Jeff Talbot (2), Alex Metzger
Assists: Nick Campagnolo, Connor Goss, Ryan Diemert, Max Bender, Trent Brunkard

HOCKEY TOURNEYS
PeeWee: MINOR A
Regional Silver Stick Dec. 4-6 Cobourg
Game 1 vs Nepean
 Home: **3** Visitor: **1**
Dec. 4 vs RWC
 Home: **7** Visitor: **1**
Goals: Lucas Carson (3), Haylee Clemmer, Carter Rollins, Reid Burkholder, Corbin Schmidt
Assists: Zack Bender, Carter Cousineau, Lucas Carson, Nolan Karger (2), AJ Shaw-McMahon (2), Carter Rollins, Reid Burkholder
Dec. 5 vs Cambridge
 Home: **2** Visitor: **2**
Goals: Adam Shapcott, Lucas Carson
Assists: Nolan Karger
Dec. 5 vs Cambridge
 Home: **0** Visitor: **3**
Dec. 5 vs Nepean
 Home: **4** Visitor: **1**
Goals: Nolan Karger, Haylee Clemmer, Lucas Carson (2)
Assists: Adam Shapcott (2), Carter Cousineau

ELMIRA JR SUGAR KINGS
Midget: MAJOR A
Dec. 12 vs Halton Hills
 Home: **3** Visitor: **2**
Goals: Tyler Moser, Connor Bauman, Jake Lewis
Assists: Aaron Weigel, Tyler Moser, Kelby Martin, Jordan Gamble (2)

Midget: MAJOR A
Dec. 13 vs Hespeler
 Home: **1** Visitor: **5**
Goals: Mathieu Fife
Assists: Ryan Shantz, Noah Zeller

HOCKEY TOURNEYS
Midget: MAJOR A
Canadian Cup
Montreal Dec. 4-6
Game 1 vs Centre

LADY LANCERS CONTINUE TO SHINE



The EDSS girls' hockey team continued their winning streak on Monday, beating Southwood 5-0. This marked their 40th straight win in regular-season play. [WHITNEY NELSON / THE OBSERVER]

Wellington
 Home: **5** Visitor: **0**
Goals: Keegan Saunders (2), Mitch Waters, Tyler Moser, Jordan Gamble
Assists: Aaron Weigel (2), Tyler Moser, Matthew Schouppe (2), Kelby Martin (2), Jayden Hipel, Ryan Shantz, Jake Lewis
Shutout: Connor Duench

Dec. 4 vs Goulding
 Home: **5** Visitor: **3**
Goals: Tyler Moser, Matthew Schouppe, Noah Zeller (2), Mitch Waters
Assists: Mitch Waters, Tyler Moser, Matthew Schouppe

Dec. 5 vs O'Donel
 Home: **2** Visitor: **1**
Goals: Tyler Moser, Mitch Waters
Assists: Noah Zellers, Ryan Shantz

Dec. 6 vs O'Donel
 Home: **2** Visitor: **4**
Goals: Jordan Gamble, Matthew Schouppe
Assists: Tyler Moser, Jake Lewis

Hinsperger, Delaney Jacklin
Assists: Delaney Jacklin (2), Karissa Schouppe, Delaney Keen, Payton Ravelle, Julia Doerbecker, Sydney Dettweiler

Shutout: Bethany Hebbourn

PeeWee: B
Dec. 13 vs Mississauga
 Home: **6** Visitor: **0**
Goals: Delaney Jacklin, Ella Campbell (2), Maddy Goss, Delaney Keen, Sydney Dettweiler
Assists: Julia Doerbecker (2), Jane Hinsperger (2), Jocelyn Pickard, Karissa Schouppe, Ella Campbell
Shutout: Mackenzie Koenig
Bantam: LL 7135

Dec. 12 vs Wilmot
 Home: **2** Visitor: **1**
Goals: Morgan Hanley, Zoe Peev
Assists: Liette Fife

Eleftheriadis, Nolan Romhild

Atom: MAJOR AA
Dec. 6 vs Burlington
 Home: **3** Visitor: **1**
Goals: Nolan Ressor, Liam Witner, Josh Dierickse
Assists: Zach Arnold (2), Dimitri Eleftheriadis, Damon Radley, Carson Bernhardt

HOCKEY TOURNEYS
Atom: MAJOR AA
Rochester Invitational
Rochester Dec. 11-13
Game 1 vs Amherst
 Home: **3** Visitor: **2**
Goals: Josh Dierickse, Brandon Kong, Caleb Hunter
Assists: Damen Radley (2), Nolan Ressor, Carson Bernhardt, Zach Arnold
Dec. 11 vs Connecticut
 Home: **8** Visitor: **0**
Goals: Brandon Kong (3), Dimitri Eleftheriadis, Carson Bernhardt, Josh Dierickse, Jackson Heron
Assists: Brandon Kong (2), Damon Radley (2), Liam Witmer, Nolan Ressor, Tyler O'Hearn, Carson Bernhardt, Caleb Hunter

Shutout: Kyle Pereira

Dec. 12 vs Rochester
 Home: **6** Visitor: **0**
Goals: Liam Witmer (2), Josh Dierickse, Brandon Kong, Tyler O'Hearn, Dimitri Eleftheriadis
Assists: Nolan Ressor, Josh Dierickse, Nolan Romhild, Aaron Jain, Carson Bernhardt, Galin Moir
Shutout: Mitch Simmons

Dec. 12 vs Ottawa
 Home: **1** Visitor: **3**
Goals: Jackson Heron
Dec. 13 vs Amherst
 Home: **6** Visitor: **0**
Goals: Aaron Jain (2), Dimitri Eleftheriadis, Brandon Kong, Nolan Ressor, Carson Bernhardt
Assists: Dimitri Eleftheriadis (2), Caleb Hunter, Damon Radley, Brandon Kong, Josh Dierickse, Liam Witmer
Shutout: Mitch Simmons

Dec. 13 vs Ottawa
 Home: **5** Visitor: **2**
Goals: Tyler O'Hearn (2), Caleb Hunter, Dimitri Eleftheriadis, Jackson Heron
Assists: Nolan Romhild, Caleb Hunter, Carson Bernhardt

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Jacks split a pair of games in quest for .500 record

After falling 6-2 to the Centennials on the road in Ayr, Wellesley enjoys home ice in 6-4 win over the Paris Mounties

▶ WHITNEY NEILSON

A WIN AND A loss over the weekend bought the Wellesley Applejacks no closer to their goal of a .500 record by the end of December.

With a record of 12-13-1, they sit in fifth place, just four points (two wins) behind Tavistock, with a game in hand.

In Ayr last Thursday, the Jacks lost 6-2 to the second-place team. They skated to a win on Sunday though, beating Paris 6-4.

“Actually the game in Ayr I thought we had a really good first period,” said head coach Brad Gerber.

“We were leading 1-0 after the first. They’re obviously a very good team in our league and we played exactly how we wanted to, as far as taking care of our end and getting pucks in deep. We were rewarded. That was good.”

With less than 30 seconds left in the first versus Ayr, Wellesley’s Braidon Kerbs scored a power play marker, assisted by Brady Gerber and Spencer Brick, to give the Jacks the lead.

But the Centennials

pulled up their socks in the second, putting away three goals by the end of 20 minutes. Cash Seraphim (2), and Jake Whibbs scored, with help from Zachary Masters (2), Mitch Klie (2), Riley Clipper, and Brendan Schaefer.

“Ayr picked it up a notch and they’re a good team. Against teams like that you make a mistake and they’re going to score on you and that’s what happened,” Gerber said.

They kept the scoring going in the third, tallying two more goals from Whibbs (Logan Beechey) and Schaefer.

Cal Jefferies scored on a power play, assisted by Alex Uttley and Jackson Keller to lessen the gap 5-2. But Seraphim earned a hat trick, scoring for the third time that game to end it 6-2 for Ayr.

Gerber says it was still a good effort for the Jacks, and it’s difficult for a young team to face one with so many veterans.

“It’s stuff that we can correct, just turning the puck over and not getting the puck in deep when we should and little things like

that. We’re not really concerned about it,” Gerber said.

The Jacks found more success on home ice on Sunday versus the Mounties. The first period was a true back and forth. Wellesley’s Nick Mercier earned a power play marker, assisted by Jake Wilkinson and Keller. Less than two minutes later Paris’ Brett Wilson got his own power play goal, assisted by Patrick Snell and Keegan Alvestad.

Fast forward 20 seconds and the Jacks were in the lead again with an unassisted goal from Keller. Not to be outdone, the Mounties picked up their second goal 22 seconds later when Austin Sine (Griffin Heitshu) scored.

“It was a good period. I thought both teams worked pretty hard. I thought we played well enough that we should have been ahead after the first. I thought we carried the play. We were pleased with the way they were playing, but not happy that it was only 2-2,” Gerber said.

Wellesley added two quick goals in the second



Jake Wilkinson heads toward Paris’ net with Brenden Goran close behind. The Jacks beat the Mounties 6-4 on Sunday at the Wellesley arena. [WHITNEY NEILSON / THE OBSERVER]

within the first three minutes and held the Mounties off for the rest of the period to keep their lead. Sean McEwan and Nicholas Breault earned the goals, with Jefferies, Breault, McEwan, and Nathan Schlupp helping.

“In the second period, that has been our weak period, I thought the sec-

ond period was a real good period for us. We really forced the play and we did things that we need to do to win hockey games,” Gerber said.

Paris evened the playing field as Heitshu and Mikael Ruffini scored to lock the team at 4s. Robbins (2), Richard Brooks, and Cole Corriveau provided assists.

“We weren’t dictating the play anymore. We have to play our style, not their style. They came pretty hard at us and they tied it up pretty quick,” Gerber said.

As the clock wound down, Mercier took advantage of a power play and scored with 90 seconds left to play. Breault and Keller assisted. McEwan added the final goal on an empty net, helped by Jefferies.

“After they tied it up 4-4, I give the boys credit for staying with it and staying focused. We got a power play goal late there to win it and we got the empty netter as well. It was a good win for us,” Gerber said.

Paris spent 48 minutes in the box compared to Wellesley’s 15. This was crucial for the Jacks’ win, and something that’s part of their game plan. Gerber says they’ve been telling the players to stay out of the scuffles after the whistle goes, and to stay focused on the game, which clearly paid off.

And it certainly feels good to beat the third-place

JACKS | 15



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Jackson Keller scored Wellesley's second goal of the night in a 6-4 win on home ice. [WHITNEY NEILSON / THE OBSERVER]

JACKS: Team plays two more home games before Christmas

FROM | 14
team.

"I think it's pretty huge for the guys, not only for moving up in the standings ourselves, but it's confidence as well. I think any time you beat a team ahead of you it's got to feel good for the boys. Confidence goes a long way in hockey and if you've got confidence going into the next game against whoever you're playing it's a big factor," Gerber said.

Facing Tavistock and Paris for their final games of December, the Jacks are hopeful about moving up to fourth place. They also

beat Tavistock the last time they played.

"The last two games are big games. Tavistock, we're only four points behind them for fourth place with a game in hand, so obviously we want to catch them for fourth place, and then Paris again. They're in third place, so who knows. They're quite a few points ahead of us, but you never know what can happen in the new year," Gerber said.

The Jacks have two more games before the Christmas break, both at home. They'll play Tavistock on Dec. 20 and Paris on Dec. 23. Puck drop is 7:30 p.m. for both.



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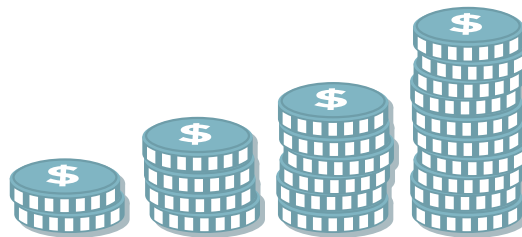


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SPORTS

HOCKEY / JUNIOR B



Kings post a pair of wins in weekend play

The Sugar Kings earned four points over the weekend, beating both Stratford and Brampton. Here, returning player Ethan Skinner passes the puck in the team's 4-1 win at home over the Brampton Bombers on Sept. 25.

After defeating Stratford and Brampton, team runs record to 4-2, good enough for third place

» WHITNEY NEILSON

IT WAS A PERFECT four-point weekend for the Elmira Sugar Kings as they outskated both Stratford and Brampton, giving them a 4-2 record two weeks into the 2016-17 season.

They sit tied for third place with Waterloo and Kitchener, who also hold 4-2 records. Listowel is in first at 7-0. Guelph has second place, having gone 6-1 thus far.

The Kings narrowly beat the Stratford Warriors 5-4 on Sept. 23, their second win over the team this season.

Klayton Hoelscher got things rolling in the first for the Kings, assisted by

Blair Butchart and Zack Cameron. Stratford's Noah Benjamin, helped by Jack Scanlan and Anthony Kotsovos quickly tied the game less than two minutes later.

Elmira's Andrew McIntyre gave his team the lead at 14:02 in the first, assisted by Jake Brown and Ethan Skinner, but Stratford's Justin Graham (Keaton Ratcliffe) evened the score again.

The Kings got to work, scoring twice more in the first 20 minutes with goals from captain Jeff Jordan (Quinten Bruce, Skinner) and Skinner (MacIntyre, Matt Murray) to finish the period 4-2 for Elmira.

The second frame saw much less action between



Keanan Stewart battles for the puck in front of the Brampton net during Sunday's game at the WMC. [WHITNEY NEILSON / THE OBSERVER]

the pipes. The Warriors scored once on a shot from Brent West, helped in by Curtis Abbott and Rob Grant. Benjamin (Trevor Dulong) scored again in the third period to tie things up 4-4.

Brown came through for Elmira, putting back a top corner shot on a breakaway while shorthanded to give his team the 5-4 win.

Kings goalie Jonathan Reinhart stopped 32 shots to Stratford goalie Sam Dal-

las' 40. They returned to the WMC on Sept. 25, where they hosted the Brampton Bombers, winning 4-1.

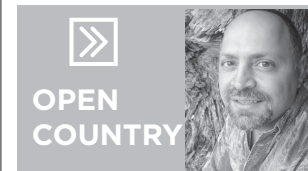
Adel Zivojevic put Brampton on the board first at 7:31. Brandon Fisher was the helper. But they wouldn't score again as Elmira knocked back four goals from Murray (Brown) in the first, Kyle Soper (Hoelscher, Slegers) in the second and Slegers (Jordan, Skinner) and Jacob Black (Spencer Comelli, Keanan Stewart) in the third.

Forward Ty Biles went off in the second period after knocking out part of one of his front teeth. The

KINGS | 13

NOT SO GREAT OUTDOORSMAN / STEVE GALEA

Important hunting skills for the new moose hunter



MOOSE SEASON IS JUST about upon us. Unless you happen to be a moose or moose sympathizer, this is a wonderful time of year. Hunters and (in some areas) their hounds will spend days in the woods hoping that they will be the first to place the tag in their pocket on one of the most sought after trophies in all of hunting – the camp couch.

For the casual hunter, there is no greater achievement.

Well, maybe one – that is avoiding being in the immediate area of the moose someone else just shot. Needless to say, this takes a whole lot of skill and some planning. After all, it's not easy avoiding detection when you are clad from head to toe in hunter orange.

The odds are good, in fact, that someone will see and yell at you to come down into the swamp to help. Feigning being hard of hearing helps mitigate this.

You just don't claim this at the time, however. No

GALEA | 11

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GALEA: Start early and often in establishing good excuses for not helping out at hunt camp

FROM | 9

sir, you have to start as you would like to end, by letting people know this right from the beginning.

The standard advice is to walk into hunt camp and immediately start to utter phrases such as “Pardon me” or “What did you say?” I actually prefer to do this year round. Either way, it will set the stage for when someone one valley over yells, “Come and help me

drag out this moose!”

If you’ve done things right, you will yell back, “Yes, I’m going to camp for a snooze.” This, as you can see, not only gives you a head start on getting to the camp couch but it also prepares you for later when someone says, “Hey! It’s your turn to do the dishes!” To which you can return a smile, give them a thumbs up and say, while heading out the door with fishing

rod in hand, “Sure! I’ll be glad to catch us some fishes!”

Of course, this ploy will only work until some SOB discovers that they can use a birch bark moose call as a megaphone. That’s why you need a backup plan – the bad back.

The bad back is a classic excuse, probably as old as moose hunting itself. Therefore, modern moose hunters need to up their

game to fool fellow hunters.

I prefer a well-crafted doctor’s note that features such phrases as “incontinence-inducing back spasms” and “violent, psychotic episodes.”

If the camp is filled with too many skeptics, it’s also wise to take in a bottle of suppositories and nonchalantly mention that “My doctor said if my back pain gets bad, I’ll need one of

you to administer these to me.”

You won’t lift a finger for the rest of the week.

Arguably, the most important moose hunting skill is knowing what to say when you actually miss one standing broadside at 25 yards. I prefer the sentence, “It was him,” as I point in the direction of the nearest hunter.

Yet, there will be times when that hunter is the one

trying to ascertain why you missed. In which case, I’ll point in the opposite direction and repeat the phrase. If that hunter is there too, try another cardinal direction until you get it right.

Look, no one said moose hunting was easy. It takes hard work and dedication to earn everyone’s respect in camp. And all it takes is one well-placed bullet in an impenetrable swamp to lose it.

EDSS girls ballers crush Forest Heights in season home opener

It was a big win for small squad as the EDSS senior girls’ basketball team starts the season on the right foot

▶ WHITNEY NEILSON

DESPITE LOW TURNOUT

FOR this year’s senior girls’ basketball team at Elmira District Secondary School, the team handily won their season opener last week.

The girls defeated Forest Heights Collegiate Institute 43-11 in their first game of the season at home on Sept. 22.

“We only have eight players on the team, so they’re going to be in good shape,” said coach Brian Carter.

“We have five girls new to senior and three returning, so it’ll certainly be a learning season, a developmental year for sure.”

Natalie Mayer, Jackie Wideman and Sami Martin are three of the players who moved up to senior this year he expects to be strong leaders in the league.

“They had a very good year in Grade 10, so they’ll certainly be good,” Carter said.

He says their returning girls bring experience and size to the team, noting they’ve actually got some

good height on the team.

“Stephanie Ball is one of our post players and Cobi Morris is pretty versatile, she can play post and wing. Carly Borutskie is our third returning player and she’s a guard. She’s a good defender,” Carter said.

Hannah Kavanagh joined the team this year having never played basketball before. He says he’s already seeing improvement in her. Emilia Mercante rounds out the roster.

He was happy with how the team played against Forest Heights, despite that team typically being one of the weaker ones in the league.

“They rebounded extremely well, both on the offensive side and the defensive side. I thought they played really well team defense, they supported each other. And we held Forest Heights down to 11 points, so that’s pretty impressive,” Carter said.

Usually they like to have at least 10 or 11 players. This decline to just eight is a trend he’s seen over

the last few years. Playing soccer and hockey outside of school this time of year can keep girls from playing high school basketball, but also once they’re in the senior level they’re more likely to have part-time jobs.

“It’s becoming more and more competitive for their time. And in junior they don’t worry as much about homework and their grades. In senior they start to make decisions based on that as well. They feel like they have a busy semester so they’d rather focus on school. You get the hardcore basketball players that just want to play basketball. It’s the other girls that like basketball, but it’s not their life, that sometimes decide making money for school is more important or studying and they don’t have time. It’s tough,” Carter said.

Regardless, he says the team is ready to play and he’s excited to work with them, especially players he’s never coached before. “They’re enthusiastic



Cobi Morris goes for the shot as the EDSS senior girls’ basketball team earned a resounding victory over FHCI on Sept. 22 with a 43-11 win.

and because there’s only eight of them we talked in the preseason and they are committed. They’re out at every practice, they’re at every game and it’s nice to see the commitment. And that’ll certainly help them as far as trying to improve,” Carter said.

They don’t have any long-term goals, but in the short term they want to improve each game and fine-tune some concepts they’re working on to be competitive by the end of the year.


“Obviously we want to reach the playoffs and then basically what we want to do is just be better and better until the playoffs start and then once the playoffs start we can put our best foot forward and see what happens,” Carter said.

They faced Grand River Collegiate Institute on Sept. 27, losing 46-37, and return home today (Sept. 29) to play Sir John A. Macdonald Secondary School. They’re home again on Oct. 4 at 4:45 p.m.



From left, Stephanie Ball looks to pass, and Jackie Wideman, Natalie Mayer and Sami Martin bring the ball up the floor during action at the EDSS gymnasium.


[WHITNEY NEILSON / THE OBSERVER]



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The Woolwich Major Atom A squad emerged victorious at the Richmond Hill Early Bird Tournament Sept. 19. Front row: Justin Strohoff, Tyler Fisher. Second row: Ian Leech, Pacey Camm, Evan Passmore, Michael Gear, Mitchell Walker, Nathan Martin. Third row: Eric Kane, Kane Kruschat, Andrew Chumley, Liam Wood, Elijah Weiss, Stuart Sinclair, Isaac Lopers. Back row: Marc Strohoff, Martin Kane, Allan Lopers, Terry Martin, Mark Leech.

WOOLWICH WILDCATS

Novice: MAJOR A
 Sept. 20 vs Burlington
 Home: 4 Visitor: 3
Goals: Mitchell Krasovec (2), Carter Weir, Adam Bloch
Assists: Spencer Hume, Tristan Hill, Sutton Meier, Adam Lavigne (2), Wade McKenzie
 Sept. 24 vs Guelph
 Home: 4 Visitor: 4
Goals: Adam Lavigne, Tristan Hill, Caleb Paquet, Mitchell Krasovec
Assists: Mitchell Krasovec, Sutton Meier, Wade McKenzie, Adam Lavigne, Spencer Hume

Atom: MAJOR AE
 Sept. 24 vs Erin Hillsburgh
 Home: 10 Visitor: 1
Goals: Hunter Brown (2), Owen Weber (4), Seth Shantz, Josh Uhrig, Jake Patterson, Josh Gibson
Assists: Seth Shantz, Josh Uhrig, Keegan Martin, Owen Weber, Tyson Roth (3), Jack Rozema (3), Daniel Kochut (2), Hunter Brown
 Sept. 25 vs Milton
 Home: 6 Visitor: 0
Goals: Owen Weber (2), Seth Shantz, Tyson Roth, Daniel Kochut, Preston Hackert
Assists: Josh Uhrig, Seth Shantz, Cale Waechter, Preston Hackert, Jack Rozema (2), Josh Gibson
Shutout: Jake Wingrove

Peewee: MINOR A
 Sept. 24 vs Owen Sound
 Home: 1 Visitor: 1
Goals: Parker Alles
Assists: Joe Martin

Peewee: MINOR AE
 Sept. 24 vs Guelph

Home: 1 Visitor: 9
Goals: David Taylor
Assists: Evan Gruhl
 Sept. 25 vs Flamborough
 Home: 2 Visitor: 2
Goals: David Taylor, Jonathon Enns
Assists: Evan Lucier, David Taylor

Peewee: MAJOR AE
 Sept. 23 vs New Hamburg
 Home: 3 Visitor: 3
Goals: Lucas Radler, Coleton Benham, Corbin Schmidt
Assists: Lucas Radler, Coleton Benham, Corbin Schmidt (2), Mitchell Hartman, Mitchell Brubacher
 Sept. 24 vs Erin Hillsburgh
 Home: 4 Visitor: 0
Goals: Mitchell Brubacher, Lucas Radler, Shelby Rempel, Sebastian Garrett
Assists: Shelby Rempel, Crobin Schmidt, Mitchell Hartman (2)
Shutout: Gage Usiski

Bantam: MINOR AE
 Sept. 24 vs Flamborough
 Home: 3 Visitor: 4
Goals: Andrew Weber, Mac Benham, Kolin Weigel
Assists: Andrew Weber, Mac Benham, Gavin Wilson, Ben Fretz
 Sept. 25 vs Oakville
 Home: 1 Visitor: 10
Goals: Andrew Weber
Assists: Ben Fretz

Bantam: MINOR AA
 Sept. 21 vs Dundas
 Home: 7 Visitor: 1
Goals: Cameron Leonard, Kyler Austin (3), Tyler Martin (2), Carter Servais
Assists: Owen Lee, Nate Snyder, Carter Servais (5), Tyler Martin (4), Kyler Austin (3)

Bantam: MINOR A
 Sept. 18 vs Owen Sound
 Home: 4 Visitor: 3
Goals: Nate Snyder, Carter Servais, Kyler Austin, Owen Lee
Assists: Carter Servais, Owen Lee, Cole Slade, Kyler Austin, Nate Snyder

Atom: MAJOR A
 Early Bird Tournament
 Richmond Hill, ON Sept. 17-19
Game 1 vs Whitby:
 Home: 5 Visitor: 0
Goals: Mitchell Walker, Stuart Sinclair, Pacey Camm (2), Nathan Martin
Assists: Andrew Chumley, Nathan Martin, Eric Kane (2)
Shutout: Tyler Fisher
Game 2 vs Nickel City
 Home: 0 Visitor: 0
Shutout: Justin Strohoff
Game 3 vs Leaside
 Home: 7 Visitor: 2
Goals: Elijah Weiss, Liam Wood (2), Eric Kane, Stuart Sinclair (2), Pacey Camm
Assists: Stuart Sinclair, Ian Leech (2), Mitchell Walker, Eric Kane, Nathan Martin
Game 4 vs Richmond Hill
 Home: 9 Visitor: 2
Goals: Nathan Martin (2), Liam Wood, Stuart Sinclair (4), Isaac Lopers, Pacey Camm
Assists: Pacey Camm (2), Ian Leech, Michael Gear (2), Isaac Lopers, Nathan Martin, Eric Kane
Game 5 vs Caledon
 Home: 3 Visitor: 1
Goals: Ian Leech, Kane Kruschat, Pacey Camm
Assists: Isaac Lopers, Nathan Martin, Eric Kane
Game 6 vs Nickel City
 Home: 5 Visitor: 2

Goals: Pacey Camm (3), Stuart Sinclair, Isaac Lopers
Assists: Eric Kane (2), Nathan Martin, Kane Kruschat, Stuart Sinclair


WATERLOO WOLVES

Atom: MAJOR AA
 Sept. 23 vs Kitchener
 Home: 5 Visitor: 3
Goals: Hayden Taylor (3), Ben Yong, Lukas Skanes, Riley Webster
Assists: Easten Oberholtzer, Matthew Ball, Calvin Witt, Jackson Andrews, Carter Merritt, Declan Uniack, Griffin Bedis
 Sept. 25 vs London
 Home: 4 Visitor: 6
Goals: Haydeb Taylor (3), Matthew Ball
Assists: Tim Hodson (2), Jackson Andrews, Calvin Witt, Ben Yong

WOOLWICH WILD

Novice: B
 Sept. 24 vs Wilmot
 Home: 4 Visitor: 0
Goals: Lexie De Jeu (2), Peyton Gaudet, Kylie Rayfield
Assists: Lexie De Jeu, Olivia Weiss, Brooke Kroetsch, Emily Metzger
Shutout: Riley Nelson

Atom: B
 Sept. 24 vs Waterloo
 Home: 4 Visitor: 0
Goals: Avery Grundy (3), Claire Jacklin
Assists: Sara Forwell (2), Tiana Bender, Charlotte McMillan
Shutout: Makenna Kroetsch



PUBLIC NOTICE

The Corporation of the Township of Wellesley

NOTICE TO PROPERTY OWNERS
 The First Installment of the 2016 Final Tax Bill was due September 7, 2016

AND

The Second Installment Is due November 2, 2016

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Theresa Bisch
 Treasurer



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Applejacks split weekend games, now tied for second

Team continues on the road with stops in Woodstock, Paris

» WHITNEY NEILSON

THE WELLESLEY APPLEJACKS SPLIT their second weekend of the regular season with an overtime loss to Ayr and an easy win over Burford, leaving them tied for second place in the division with New Hamburg and Paris.

The Jacks faced the Ayr Centennials for the first time this season on Sept. 22, narrowly losing 4-3 in overtime.

"I thought in Ayr we played two great periods, but with that being said, any time you don't get the two points you're disappointed," coach Brad Gerber said.

He added they played well the first two periods, but they need to continue that level of play into the third period to beat teams like Ayr.

Wellesley's Jordon Hoekstra opened the scoring in the first on a power play, assisted by Alex Uttley. Ayr's Riley Clipper evened the playing field with his own marker, helped by Zachary Master-son and Cole Cummings to finish the first period 1-1.

The Centennials pulled ahead early in the second, as Simon Galvao (Quinn Diamond, Matt Patton) scored. Successful shots on net from Nick Mercier (Uttley, Hoekstra) and Tyson Bender (Cal Jefferies, Sean McEwan) gave the Jacks the lead to head into the final frame. All goals were earned on power plays.

Ayr managed to sink their third goal of the night on a power play in the third from Clipper again, assisted by Jake Whibbs and Galvao to take the game into overtime.

Ayr captain and former Junior B Elmira Sugar Kings captain Mitch Klie got the puck past Jacks net minder Ryan Hergott to end the game 4-3 in Ayr's favour, 90 seconds into overtime. Eric Uba and Mackenzie Kemp picked up assists.

The game was much closer than it would have been this time last year between the same teams. Gerber attributes this to the group of returning Applejacks this season and the quality first year players.

"Until you beat them, until you actually do it, you've got to prove that you can beat them on a regular basis as well. I think it's a real booster for the guys knowing that we can play with them and it's hopefully a matter of time before we can finally get a couple points off of them," Gerber said.

The Jacks spent Saturday volunteering at the Wellesley Apple Butter and Cheese Festival before heading to Burford on Sunday, where they skated to a 9-3 win over the Bulldogs.

"It's nice to see them in the community helping out like that. I think the players actually had as much fun as the kids did," Gerber said.

Wellesley controlled the

puck in the first, scoring twice on the power play. Hoekstra and Mario Alyas scored, while Jake Wilkinson, Mercier and Greg Huber picked up assists.

The second period was full of scoring by both sides, as Wellesley put another five points on the board to Burford's three. Goals for Wellesley came from McEwan (Jefferies), Jefferies (Mercier, Nick Palmer), Brick (Alyas), Huber (Brenden Goran), and Brick again (Alyas, Palmer). Burford goals came from Connor MacKay (Hayden Hellyer, Jakob Miller), Matt Zilke and Hellyer (Jesse Szabo, Austin Grech).

As if those weren't enough to cement their lead, McEwan and Wilkinson (Hoekstra) scored in the third to make it a 9-3 final.

"The first period was pretty good, the second period we outscored them in the second, but we had some breakdowns in our own end and that can't happen," Gerber said.

He commends both goalies Ryan Hergott and Ryan Porter for their goaltending to begin the season.

He's hoping they can secure a few more wins in their next three away games before they hold their home opener on Oct. 8.

The Jacks head to Woodstock on Sept. 30 to face the Navy Vets, followed by an Oct. 1 game in Paris against the Mounties.



Spencer Comelli is the most recent addition to the Elmira squad. The 19-year-old defenseman stands 6'6". [WHITNEY NEILSON / THE OBSERVER]

KINGS: At the WMC Sunday to face Kitchener

FROM | 9

game had to be stopped shortly for referees to find the piece of tooth on the ice. Trainer Becky Brubacher assessed the situation before he returned with a full face mask to

play the rest of the game.

Comelli is a recent addition to the Kings. The defenseman played for the Pelham Panthers last season and the beginning of the 2016-17 season. At 6'6", he's three inches taller than any of the other Sugar

Kings. Slegers and Stewart stand at 6'3".

The team is off to Guelph tonight (Sept. 29) to play the Hurricanes. Puck drop is at 7:30 p.m. They'll be back on home ice on Oct. 2 at 7 p.m. against the Kitchener Dutchmen.

EDSS FIELD HOCKEY TEAM IN TIGHT VS. GCI



The EDSS girls' field hockey team played its second match of the season against Galt Collegiate Institute on Sept. 20, losing 2-1. The Elmira goal came from Micah Verwey. Today (Sept. 29) they face JHSS and CHCI at Budd Park in Kitchener.

[WHITNEY NEILSON / THE OBSERVER]



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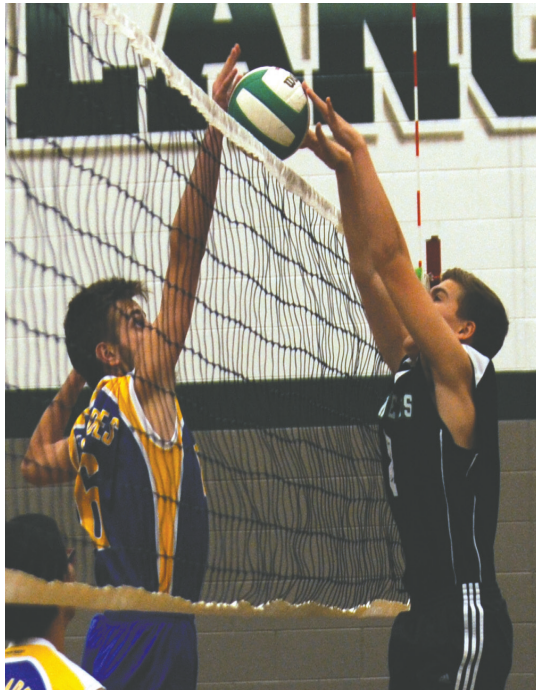
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LANCERS FALL TO VISITING GRCI



EDSS' senior boys' volleyball team battled hard against Grand River Collegiate Institute on Sept. 27, winning one set and losing three to lose the match. On the left, Ethan Ball goes for the spike. [WHITNEY NEILSON / THE OBSERVER]

TAKING IT TO THE STREETS OF WELLESLEY



Runners took over St. Clements on Sept. 24 for the annual Harvest Half Marathon and quarter marathon, for the third consecutive year. It's the only Waterloo Running Series event held in Wellesley Township and it serves as a fundraiser for the Kenyan Kids Foundation. [WHITNEY NEILSON / THE OBSERVER]

Coach has high hopes as EDSS tennis teams get set

LIZ BEVAN

THE SEASON HASN'T EVEN started, but Elmira District Secondary School's senior tennis team is in full swing.

Head coach Mark Carlin says the team, made up of four boys and four girls, has been practicing hard in anticipation of the WCS-SAA competition at the Northfield Racquet Club next week.

"We have been practicing, practicing, practicing," he said, adding that the team uses the Elmira Tennis Club courts at John Mahood Public School. "That is what we are going to be doing. More practic-

ing. In the past, we have done some informal meets, but there is nothing on the schedule right now. We are going straight into the big show."

The turnaround is quick for the eight team members, with CWOSSA competition just one week later. Carlin says there are a couple of events that he is very optimistic about.

"We have a decent team. I have got a full team and we actually have an overflow. We can only send eight to the tournament, but that is a nice problem to have," he said. "We will make a good showing in the girls doubles event. That one in particular we

will be focusing on. Also, the mixed doubles event. We will do well there."

There are still a few things the team will be working on leading up to regional matches next week, but Carlin wants to keep their strategy a secret.

"I wouldn't want that in the paper," he said with a laugh. "We always have a few tricks up our sleeves. We have very strong teams."

The junior tennis competition doesn't start up until the spring, so Carlin's focus is now on the senior team and improving on the court.

"We are looking pretty good. They are about middle of the pack in terms of their skill level, but there are still two weeks to go to whip them into shape," he said. "The junior team from last spring was one of the strongest teams I have ever coached. The good news is that they are still juniors, so in the spring, we will have some serious talent there."

The senior tennis team will be at the Northfield Racquet Club in Waterloo, bright and early on the morning of Oct. 7.

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Elmira District Secondary School's golf team, Isiah Katsube, Tyler Townsend, Alex Turchan and Jake Code, will be hitting the links in Port Elgin this week after a impressive finish at Rebel Creek last week. [LIZ BEVAN / THE OBSERVER]

EDSS golf team driving for a berth at the provincials

LIZ BEVAN

AFTER A TOP-OF-THE-LIST SHOWING at WCS-SAA, Elmira District Secondary School's golf team is looking towards higher competition this week.

Today (Sept. 29), four golfers – two juniors and two seniors – will be hitting the links in Port Elgin in hopes of making it to provincials.

The team is made up of Isaiah Katsube, Jake Code, Tyler Townsend and Alex Turchan. Coach and head of physical education at the secondary school, Rob Harvey, says he was happy with the team's performance at WCSSAA on Sept. 21.

"I was very pleased with how they golfed. We have a young team and we got third," he said.

This week, Harvey hopes to see more of the same from the four boys.

"A couple of years ago, we finished fourth at CWOSSA, so I am hoping that if we don't win it all, that we can better our finish from a few years ago," he said. "If we can finish in the top three, that would be the goal."

Only the top team will be heading to provincial competition, and while the hope is there, Harvey says he isn't expecting to move on.

"There are a lot of good golfers in the province and in the region, so it would certainly be a huge bonus for us if we could do that," he said. "That would be great."

The team doesn't hold traditional practices like other school teams, meeting once or twice a week to work on skills. Harvey says the guys have the out-of-school experience to succeed on their own.

"The boys, for the most

part, are members of the local courses. All of them have that experience on different courses," he said. "My role is very limited from a coaching standpoint – it is mostly about finding who I can find in the school to put together a team."

He says the team is solid, and he can't wait to see what they do at Saugeen Golf Club in Port Elgin. He already has an eye to next year's team, as well.

"Moving forward, we are going to have a pretty solid team with the junior guys we have and we have one returning senior," he said. "We will have a couple of younger guys with a lot of tournament experience. It will be really good."

Players can still make it to OFSAA individually, but in order to make it as a team, they need to take the top spot today in Port Elgin.

WOOLWICH THUNDER CLAIMS LEAGUE TITLE



The Woolwich Thunder men's team won the TOP Premier Division of the Grand River Soccer League, sealing the deal with an 8-3 win over FC Porto on Sept. 22 at Westmount fields in Waterloo. The squad finished the season with a record of 9-2-3. Back row: Jeff Huff, Peter MacKenzie, Jason Weber, Jeremy Weber, Nick Gaede, Chad Hepburn. Front row: Josh Huff, Jeremy De Souza, AJ Christiaens, Tyler Bott, Travis Habermehl, Yo Wang. Absent: Aaron Shannon, John Wang, Mike Weber, Cade Schaus. [SUBMITTED]



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