

sports

Hawks will grow from narrow loss

DARREN LUM

Staff Reporter

With hands on heads, shirt collars held by teeth, hands slapping on outstretched arms, and calls for a foul, Red Hawks players and head coach Paul Longo exhibited their disbelief at a lack of foul call on the eventual final possession play of 43-42 loss to the undefeated Wildcats of I.E. Weldon on Thursday, Jan. 16 in Haliburton.

The commotion was directed at the official closest to the play because of what the Hawks believed was a foul committed against Camden Marra, who scored on a circus shot, made after a missed three-pointer.

"It is what it is. It's basketball. You got to try and fight for everything, you know. It looked like a little bit of a foul on the last play of the game here, but I'm really impressed we were able to put a shot up," Longo said. "We designed a play for a three-point shot for Holden [Dupret-Smith]. Camden did a hell of a job getting in there to get that board and got that shot up and can't believe it went in, but it looked like a foul, but I'm not going to get upset."

The close loss hurts, but Longo believes the team will learn from the experience.

"I'm so proud these guys. Weldon [came in] 6-0 in our league right now and we gave them everything they can handle today. I thought we were the better team overall. I think we missed some easy layups and easy shots in the first half that could have been the difference. I'm really, really proud of our effort. Every single guy gave everything they have on both ends of the floor. To hold a team like Weldon to 43 points is pretty good, really good. I love our tenacity and our fight. We fight for everything. We don't give up on a play, even if we make a mistake. We come back and correct it. We just don't give up on anything. That's just the character of these guys. All 14 of them," he said.

The Hawks are 3-3 in league play as of Monday morning, Jan. 20. Longo points out the Hawks were dominated by the Wildcats earlier in the season, losing by 20 on Dec. 10 in Lindsay. He said this game shows how far the team has progressed in the past two months.

The Hawks were missing "big man" Joe Boice at the five and Mike Stephen.

Coming into the game, the team was on a roll, winning two league games in a row, beating the Titans of St. Thomas Aquinas Catholic Secondary 64-46 and then the Brock Bulldogs 52-38.

The potential for success is looking good after this close game with the Wildcats.

"If we can take a good AAA [school] team to a one possession game like that then we should be able to use that as motivation in our A [school] games," he said.

The Hawks defence is relentless and easily translated into a dozen turnovers in each half.

Longo wondered aloud if the team could have won the game, if they could

have converted just one of these turnovers into two points.

Longo loved his entire team's effort, but made a point of acknowledging Ethan Glecoff, Ryan Mee, Carson Phillips and Brenden Newhook.

A tournament in Bracebridge at the end of the upcoming exams will be used as a tuneup for February.

The team has two league games left and one day of interlock action, which includes two games.

The Hawks are currently the No. 1 A seed in Kawartha West with a 3-3 as of Monday, Jan. 20. There are four league games left in the season.

There is a belief that resides with the team when it comes to success.

Longo said his team is never intimidated despite the majority of the team being in Grade 11. There is a long term goal for this young team.

"We have a goal. Our goal in Grade 12 [next year] is to try and get an OFSAA berth for A [schools]. So we're trying," he said.

Longo gave credit to the Weldon player who sank the three-pointer to tie the game 37-37 with 5:45 left in the game. Up to that point, both teams were struggling to score.

The rest of the game came down to which team could execute and turnover the ball less.

"Great game. Two, I thought, evenly matched teams and, you know, the basketball gods went the other way and that's OK," he said.

Red Hawks post player Ethan Glecoff collides with an I.E. Weldon defender who draws the charge during Kawartha High School Basketball League action on Thursday, Jan. 16 in Haliburton. The Red Hawks lost 43-42, but pushed the undefeated Wildcats on the Hawks' final possession, which led to two points scored by Marra from a miss (and what Hawks thought could have been an and-one scoring opportunity to tie the game). /DARREN LUM Staff



Red Hawks guard Camden Marra leaps to the net, as a Wildcats of I.E. Weldon defender looks for the block.



Red Hawks guard Camden Marra gets tangled with a Wildcats of I.E. Weldon defender.

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Summer arts take a hit

Haliburton School of Art + Design, Haliburton Art and Craft Festival cancelled due to COVID-19

JENN WATT

Editor

Two major arts institutions in Haliburton have nixed their summer plans for 2020, adding to the growing list of cancellations in the county as efforts continue to limit the spread of the coronavirus.

On April 8, Fleming College announced that Haliburton School of Art + Design wouldn't be offering its summer programming, affecting more than 300 week-long and weekend courses that draw thousands of people to the Highlands.

"Although this is a difficult decision that impacts thousands of students and many others in the arts community, it is the only option available to us as we hold the health and safety of the community as our highest priority," Tom Phillips, vice president academic experience, said in a statement.

Students are to be contacted about the cancellation and refunds.

On April 11, the Rails End Gallery and Arts Centre posted to its Facebook page that the Haliburton Art and Craft Festival

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Taking Good Friday online

Reverend Max Ward of the Minden United Church sings a hymn accompanied by pianist Melissa Stephens (out of view), using the teleconferencing app Zoom to reach his congregation during the Good Friday sermon delivered online at Haliburton United Church on Friday, April 10. Ward was thankful to Reverend Harry Morgan for allowing him the use of the church since the connection in Minden wasn't strong enough for a live-stream service. His first online sermon was delivered on March 22. Before the sermons, people use the 15 minutes to socialize with each other on the app./DARREN LUM Staff

HHHS reorganizes admissions as COVID-19 precaution

JENN WATT

Editor

Haliburton Highlands Health Services expanded the number of beds at its Haliburton site and changed the flow of

patients to the county's two emergency departments in an effort to keep respiratory cases isolated to one site only.

Last week, the corporation announced that COVID-19 related needs would be directed to the Haliburton emergency department, while non-COVID-19 admis-

sions would be going to Minden. The Haliburton site has increased from 15 to 21 beds in acute care and Minden now has nine acute care beds.

"Together, these 15 new acute care beds

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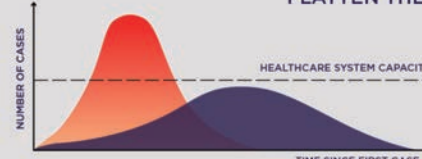
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County cancels Hike Haliburton Festival

CHAD INGRAM

Staff Reporter

Haliburton County's Hike Haliburton Festival has been cancelled for 2020 amid the COVID-19 pandemic.

County councillors made the decision during a May 27 meeting (that meeting taking place via online conferencing platform Zoom and broadcast on YouTube) after receiving a report from tourism director Amanda Virtanen.

Hike Haliburton is the county's signature event, taking place each fall and including dozens of guided hikes at locations throughout the county.

As Virtanen told council, typically planning – including organizing the hikes, retaining volunteer guides, attaining sponsorships, etc. – takes place throughout May and June. "Generally, by Canada Day, everything is open to market and the promotion begins," she said.

Virtanen's report included four
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Keeping cool

Six-year-old Remi Haywood plays in the sprinkler on her driveway, keeping cool on a hot day on Wednesday, May 27 in Haliburton. Last week, the Highlands were treated to summer-like temperatures, which regularly reached the upper 20s before cooling by the weekend./DARREN LUM Staff

Resorts may open with protocols in place

CHAD INGRAM

Staff Reporter

It appears that cottage rental resorts in the county may open for business under provincial guidelines as long as they abide by proper protocols, the Haliburton, Kawartha, Pine Ridge District Health Unit says, with that information sent to county accommodators by the County of Haliburton last week.

During a May 27 county council meeting, there was some discussion about how private, short-term rentals of cottages were taking place when they weren't supposed to be, while cottage rental resorts kept their doors closed to abide by the province's emergency orders amid the ongoing COVID-19 crisis.

"Short-term rentals are supposed to be not operating, but they are," said Algonquin Highlands Mayor Carol Moffatt at that meeting. "I'm getting an awful lot of complaints and concerns from people who are saying that the rental place next to them is, you know, full of two or three families every weekend."

Moffatt, who pointed out that motels and hotels have been allowed to operate, creating what she said was an unfair playing field, said she'd been trying to get clear answers from the province for a couple of months, including through conversations with HKLB MPP Laurie Scott.

"I've been pushing to get an answer on short-term rentals since the beginning of this, but there really is no clear answer," she said. "... We have many small businesses that are abiding by the provincial

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Sports hall of fame planned for county

CHAD INGRAM

Staff Reporter

The Haliburton Highlands Sports Hall of Fame will celebrate sports excellence and community spirit, and well as the history of sport in the county.

The volunteer organizers of the proposed hall of fame visited Dysart et al councillors during their Dec. 16 meeting, requesting support for the concept and for an initial display area for artifacts, photos, plaques and memorabilia to be established inside the A.J. LaRue Community Centre.

"We are here today to propose to you support for this proposal," said Scott LaRue, chairman of the hall of fame's management committee. LaRue and committee secretary/treasurer Roger Dart made the presentation to councillors. Also part of that committee are Don Popple, Jim Bradley, Paul Morissette, Roger Trull, Dysart et al Deputy Mayor Pat Kennedy and Jim Blake. Blake is the co-founder and president of the Haliburton County Community Co-operative, and the hall of fame will exist as not-for-profit organization under the auspices of the co-op.

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A joyful performance

A pair of Stuart Baker Elementary School students with the Grade 1/2 group finish performing *Nutcracker and Plates* during the JDHES and SBES Christmas Concert on Tuesday, Dec. 17 at J. Douglas Hodgson Elementary School in Haliburton. The event was hosted by Andrew Dawson and Drew Hewitt and included 15 different groups acting, singing, dancing and playing instruments in seasonal numbers. /DARREN LUM Staff

County working to streamline services: warden

SUE TIFFIN

Staff Reporter

In the next year, county council plans to face challenges including the question of governance, physician recruitment and provincial changes to public health and paramedicine, and celebrate successes such as the expansion of cell and broadband service, the development of a shoreline preservation bylaw, and work toward better preparation for climate change.

In a speech she delivered at this year's Haliburton County inauguration after being named warden for a second year, Warden Liz Danielsen, also Algonquin Highlands deputy mayor, spoke to the year past and the year ahead while surrounded by fellow members of county council, and an audience of politicians and well-wishers.

"Given the voices that we heard loud and clear during the election, urging amalgamation and questioning the costs of municipal operations across the county, one of our first priorities was governance and streamlining of services," said Danielsen. "However, before any decision on governance can be made, the delivery of services and who should be providing them has to be determined."

Danielsen said "no small amount of work" had been done by management and staff to ensure financial sustainability across all departments, noting a comprehensive asset management plan that was passed earlier this year. "In addition, a lot of hard work has been

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