

Stratford offense takes control of Midwest quarter-final

Continued from page 8

Game 2

The Cyclones scored on their first shot of the game late in the first period, but there wouldn't be many more highlights for the club in a 5-1 loss to the Warriors on Saturday night at the Steve Kerr Memorial Complex.

Game 2 was shifted to Saturday after heavy snow squalls throughout the area prevented travel on Friday. And despite being on their heels for most of the opening frame, Listowel managed to take a brief 1-0 lead when Tyler Hotson's backhand fooled Rhett Kimmel on the Cyclones' first shot of the game. Thomas Gangl picked up the lone assist.

But then it would be all Stratford the rest of the way; Clayton Lewis and Drew Welsch scored in the second to make it 2-1, and then Carter Schoonderwoerd, Mitchell Casey (PPG) and Dowd (PPG) put the game away with third-period markers. Kimmel took the win with a 15-save performance. The Warriors scored on both of their two power-play opportunities.

Morrison stopped 28 shots in front of 475 Kerr Complex attendees.

Game 3

It was much the same script for Game 3 on Sunday night back in Stratford, as six different Warriors potted goals for a 6-1 victory and a 2-1 series lead.

Stratford scored six unanswered goals before David Mabey got the Cyclones on the board with the man advantage in the waning minutes of regulation. Bowers picked up the lone assist.

Welsch and Callan Christner scored in the first, Drew Ferris and Cole Melady tallied in the second, and Schoonderwoerd and Camden Daigle found twine in the third for the Warriors. Kimmel picked up his second win in as many nights with 23 saves.

Morrison got the start for Listowel but was pulled early in the second period in favour of Dixon Grimes after allowing three goals on 13 shots. Grimes also allowed three goals on the 21 shots he faced.

The series shifted back to Listowel for Game 4 on March 4, but as of press time the result is unknown. Game 5 is scheduled for Friday, March 6 in Stratford at 7:30 p.m. If necessary, Game 6 goes in Listowel on Sunday, March 8 at 3:30 p.m. Game 7 would be March 9 in Stratford at 7:30 p.m.

2020 Midwestern Conference Quarter-Finals

(1) Elmira Sugar Kings v. (8) Brantford Bandits
(Kings win series 4-0)

Feb. 26 – Brantford 0, Elmira 7
Feb. 29 – Elmira 4, Brantford 3 (OT)
March 1 – Brantford 3, Elmira 8
March 2 – Elmira 6, Brantford 1

(2) Kitchener Dutchmen v. (7) Brampton Bombers
(Dutchmen lead series 3-1)

Feb. 26 – Brampton 0, Kitchener 6
Feb. 28 – Kitchener 6, Brampton 4
Feb. 29 – Brampton 4, Kitchener 2
March 1 – Kitchener 7, Brampton 2
March 4 – Brampton @ Kitchener

(3) Cambridge Redhawks v. (6) Waterloo Siskins
(Series tied 1-1)

Feb. 29 – Waterloo 3, Cambridge 6
March 1 – Cambridge 2, Waterloo 3 (OT)
March 3 – Waterloo @ Cambridge

(4) Stratford Warriors v. (5) Listowel Cyclones
(Warriors lead series 2-1)

Feb. 26 – Listowel 5, Stratford 2
Feb. 29 – Stratford 5, Listowel 1
March 1 – Listowel 1, Stratford 6
March 4 – Stratford @ Listowel (Game 4)

* as of press time result of Game 4 unknown

2020 PJHL Pollock Division Semifinals

(1) Mount Forest Patriots vs. (5) Mitchell Hawks
(Series tied 3-3)

Feb. 19 – Mitchell 2, Mount Forest 5
Feb. 22 – Mount Forest 3, Mitchell 6
Feb. 23 – Mitchell 1, Mount Forest 0
Feb. 25 – Mount Forest 4, Mitchell 2
Feb. 29 – Mitchell 4, Mount Forest 3
March 1 – Mount Forest 4, Mitchell 3
March 4 – Mitchell @ Mount Forest (Game 7)

* as of press time result of Game 7 unknown

(2) Wingham Ironmen vs. (3) Kincardine Bulldogs
(Ironmen win series 4-0)

Feb. 21 – Kincardine 1, Wingham 4
Feb. 22 – Wingham 5, Kincardine 4 (OT)
Feb. 23 – Kincardine 3, Wingham 4
Feb. 26 – Wingham 3, Kincardine 2



Dan McNe Photo

LANE CLOSURE – Listowel Cyclones winger Tyler Healey looks to speed around Stratford Warriors defender Malcolm McLeod during the second period of Game 2 of the Midwestern Conference quarter-finals on Feb. 29 at the Kerr Complex. After winning Game 1, Listowel fell in the next two to face a 2-1 series deficit heading into Game 4 on March 4.

Konings, Team Cottrill advance to nationals

Continued from page 8

The Ilderton rink finished the round robin with a 4-1 record, good for second in Pool B.

Wilson and Dow got off to a slow start, giving up two in the first end and one in the second end, and were unable to recover. The local rink scored one in the third end before giving up one in the fourth, one in the fifth and two in the sixth. After the sixth end, the pair conceded the game, losing 7-1 and were eliminated from the event.

Representing the Wingham Curling Club, the Cottrills were unable to defend the provincial title they won last year.

Currently ranked #9 in Canada, the WCC curlers won their first game at the event, 8-5 over a rink from Quinte. The Cottrills then dropped their next two games – both by a score of 7-5 – to a Guelph rink and the Liscumbs of Ilderton. They rebounded with a 9-2 win over a St. Catharines duo before dropping their fifth game of the round robin to a Unionville team, 10-4.

With a record of 2-3, the Cottrills

finished fourth in Pool B and failed to qualify for the playoff round.

The news for local curling fans wasn't all bad.

Konings, playing with Lauren Wasylkiw out of the Unionville Curling Club, were crowned the Ontario Mixed Doubles Champions after taking the long way to the title match on Sunday.

The pair, ranked #27 in Canada, started the week with a 6-4 win over Mount Forest's McKenna McGovern and Sam Steep before losing a 7-6 decision to a Grimsby rink. Konings and Wasylkiw then won their next two games – a 10-2 decision over a Maitland Curling Club rink and a tight 7-6 win over an Ottawa rink – before dropping their final round robin game to a K-W Granite Club rink 8-4.

Konings and Wasylkiw finished the round robin with a 3-2 record, good for third place in Pool B.

On Sunday, the duo needed to win four games to win the title, and they did just that.

In the tiebreaker game, Konings and Wasylkiw defeated the same

K-W Granite Club team they lost to the night before, again an 8-4 match. They went on to defeat a St. Catharines rink in the quarter-finals by a score of 6-3 and won their semi-finals match against a fellow rink from Unionville 6-1 to advance to the finals Sunday evening.

In the finals, Konings and Wasylkiw took on the Ilderton rink who eliminated Wilson and Dow in the quarter-finals.

The Liscumbs got off to a quick start, scoring a point in the first and second end before Konings and Wasylkiw scored a pair in the third and stole one in the fourth to take a 3-2 lead. The Liscumbs scored a pair in the fifth to regain the lead. In the sixth, Konings and Wasylkiw scored two, then stole one in the seventh and two in the eighth to win the game 8-4.

As Ontario champions, Konings and Wasylkiw will now compete in the 2020 Canadian Mixed Curling Championships as Team Ontario. The national event takes place from March 17-22 in Portage La Prairie, Manitoba.

OMHA semifinals continue this weekend

Continued from page 8

Down 2-1 heading into the third period, the Bantam Reps allowed another goal to the Kings early in the final frame. Then with just over eight minutes remaining in regulation,

Rowan Alexander brought Listowel back within one with a point blast through a screen. With time winding down and the Listowel net empty, Jeremy Hamilton held the zone on an attempted Prince Edward County clearing attempt and fired a knuckling snap shot that fooled the Kings' netminder with 12 seconds left in the third, tying the game 3-3 and forcing overtime.

Harrison Meulensteen played the hero in the 10-minute extra frame, getting a tip on a point shot at 6:54 to give Listowel a 2-0 series lead on points. Prince Edward County would get its revenge on March 1 in Game 2, however, doubling

up the Cyclones 4-2 in Listowel.

Tied 2-2, the series shifts to Belleville for Games 3 and 4 on March

6 and 7, respectively. If necessary, Game 5 goes back in Listowel on March 8 at 6 p.m.

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LSC SHOWCASE 2020



Dan McNeely Photos
ALADDIN ON ICE – The Listowel Skating Club presented its 2020 showcase ‘Aladdin On Ice’ at the Steve Kerr Memorial Complex on Feb. 29. Pictured, clockwise from above: Maianh Strickert and Marcus Elliott; Jeremy Hamilton, Valerie Hamilton and Abby Ztya (faces hidden Tessa Paleczny and Madison Jurjens); Dakota Baker; Valerie Hamilton performs a solo; Konrad Hoffman as Abu; Abby Ztya performs a solo; Zoe Charters, Katelyn Fizell, Hailey Mayberry, Emma McEachern and Nadine Woods; Canskater of the Year Celina Siebenga, Spirit of Skating recipient Hailey Mayberry and StarSkater of the Year Tessa Paleczny (contributed photo); Greysen Duchsarm as the Genie and Lukas Oosthuizen as Prince Ali; Penelope Meekins with program assistant Madison Jurjens.



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Listowel Banner SPORTS

Warriors oust Cyclones from Midwest playoffs

Listowel dispatched in quarter-finals for first time since 2016

CYCLONES	FINAL	3
WARRIORS		4

DAN MCNEE
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STRATFORD – Chalk up a victory for the Stratford Warriors in the most recent playoff instalment of the Battle of Perth County.

The fourth-seeded Warriors eliminated the No. 5 Listowel Cyclones from the 2020 GOJHL post-season with a 4-3 victory in Game 5 on March 6, winning the best-of-seven Midwestern Conference quarter-final series 4-1. After taking the series opener on Feb. 26, the Cyclones could not hold back the steady offensive attack of the Warriors the rest of the way, who would go on to win the next four games and the series.

Stratford will now take on the top-seeded Elmira Sugar Kings in the Midwest semi-finals. The No. 2 Kitchener Dutchmen will face the No. 3 Cambridge Redhawks.

Friday night's loss marked the first time since 2016 that Listowel failed to advance beyond the first round of the post-season. With Game 5 tied 2-2 heading to the third period, Stratford would strike 49 seconds into the frame with a power-play goal from Drew Welsch. Evan Dowd added another at 17:24 to make it 4-2, before Jonah White got Listowel back within one with the net empty for an extra attacker with less than two minutes remaining in the third.

It would be as close as the Cyclones would get, as Rhett Kimmel made 22 stops to lead Stratford to the win. Malcolm McLeod and Carter Schoonderwoerd also scored for the Warriors, with Rylan Bowers scoring twice for Listowel. Evan Morrison made 27 saves in defeat.

Dowd finished with three points in Game 5 to give him nine points in the series, including two game-winning goals.

Game 4

A tighter back-and-forth physical affair was the storyline in Game 4 on March 4 in Listowel, but it would be the Warriors prevailing 3-2 in double overtime for a 3-1 series lead.

White opened the scoring for the Cyclones only 3:40 into the first period, but Stratford

would respond with a pair of goals from Dowd and Zac McCann. Tyler Healey would draw Listowel even at 2-2 with his first of the playoffs midway through the third, outskating a pair of Stratford defenders down the left wing before potting his own rebound past Kimmel.

The first overtime frame was marked with several big hits from the Cyclones defense corps; Brenden Clayton made his presence known by standing up a pair of Warriors at the Listowel blue line over the course of the period. Double overtime had both sides exchanging quality scoring chances, but a giveaway behind the Listowel net saw Welsch feed Dowd the game winner with a quick one-timer that Morrison had no chance on.

White finished with two points for Listowel while Morrison stood out all night with an impressive 40-save performance. Kimmel picked up his third straight win with 22 stops.

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(*Kings win series 4-0*)
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(*Dutchmen win series 4-1*)
Feb. 26 – Brampton 0, Kitchener 6
Feb. 28 – Kitchener 6, Brampton 4
Feb. 29 – Brampton 4, Kitchener 2
March 1 – Kitchener 7, Brampton 2
March 4 – Brampton 1, Kitchener 6

(3) Cambridge Redhawks v.
(6) Waterloo Siskins
(*Redhawks win series 4-2*)
Feb. 29 – Waterloo 3, Cambridge 6
March 1 – Cambridge 2, Waterloo 3 (OT)
March 3 – Waterloo 3, Cambridge 2 (OT)
March 5 – Cambridge 4, Waterloo 0
March 7 – Waterloo 0, Cambridge 2
March 8 – Cambridge 4, Waterloo 3 (OT)

(4) Stratford Warriors v.
(5) Listowel Cyclones
(*Warriors win series 4-1*)
Feb. 26 – Listowel 5, Stratford 2
Feb. 29 – Stratford 5, Listowel 1
March 1 – Listowel 1, Stratford 6
March 4 – Stratford 3, Listowel 2 (2OT)
March 6 – Listowel 3, Stratford 4



Tyler Schaefer Photo

GOOD FOR TWO – The Listowel Marauders continued their undefeated minor basketball season earlier this month, hosting Clinton and St. Marys for a pair of victories at LDSS. Pictured above, Armando Tecsa drives past a Clinton defender for a successful layup in a 62-38 Listowel win.

Ted Nichol pots triple-OT goal to win Queen's Cup for Guelph

DAN MCNEE
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GUELPH – Ted Nichol gave University of Guelph hockey fans a memory to last a lifetime during the 109th Queen's Cup championship game on March 7.

Provincial championship on the line, home ice, triple overtime. Doesn't get much better than that. Nichol, a Listowel native and second-year sociology student, accepted a Ryan Valentini pass just inside the Ottawa Gee Gees' blue line and fired a low wrist shot stick side 1:14 into the third overtime period to give the Guelph Gryphons a 2-1 win and their seventh Ontario University Athletics championship.



Contributed Photo

OVERTIME HEROICS – Listowel's Ted Nichol scored the triple-overtime game winner for the Guelph Gryphons on March 7 to capture the Ontario University Athletics championship over the Ottawa Gee Gees. The 23-year-old forward spent one season with the Listowel Cyclones before playing the remainder of his junior career with the Ontario Hockey League's Kingston Frontenacs.

"We went through a lot of adversity during the playoffs, internally and (with) things that were out of our control but our group was brought closer together," Nichol told the *Banner* on Monday. "We knew if we could get the job done it would feel that much sweeter. We set goals at the start of the year and we've achieved them so far."

Nichol's Gryphons topped Wilfrid Laurier, Brock and Western in the 2020 OUA post-season en route to the Queen's Cup title on Saturday. Guelph now advances to the national championship bracket this week in Halifax, Nova Scotia, where it will face the St. Mary's Huskies in the U Sports quarter-finals on March 12.



PLAYOFF EXIT – The Stratford Warriors celebrate Evan Dowd's double-overtime game winner on March 4 at the Steve Kerr Memorial Complex. The Listowel Cyclones' 2020 post-season would come to an end two nights later at Allman Arena, with the Warriors taking a 4-3 decision to win the Midwestern Conference quarter-final four games to one.

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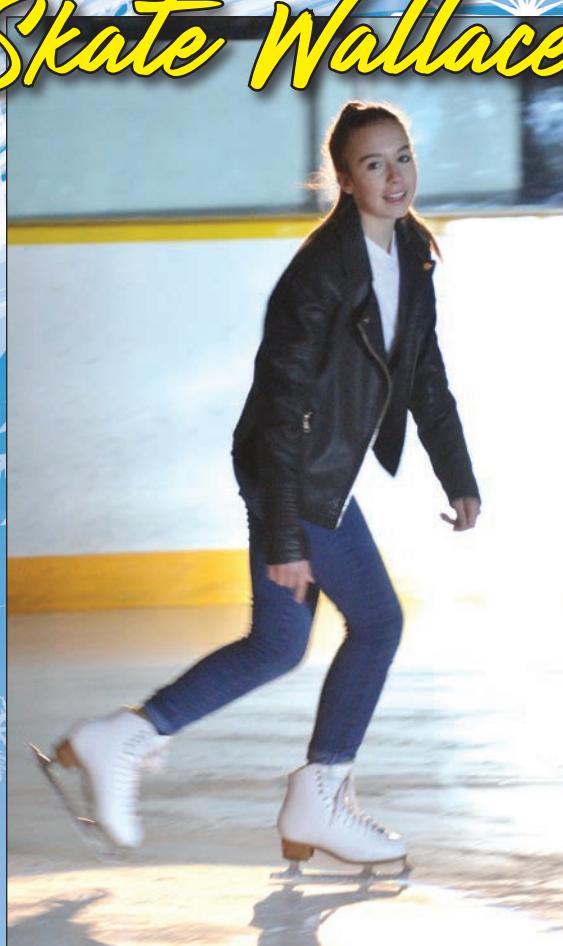
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Skate Wallace Showcase 2020





Dan McNeely Photo
CURLING KICKOFF – Paddyfest 2020 celebrations officially kicked off last weekend, with events like the annual Paddyspiel at the Listowel Curling Club helping to get things started for the 43rd running of North Perth's Irish festival, hosted by the Listowel Kin Family. Pictured Saturday morning is Martin Horn rolling his rock towards the house.

Ironmen, Pats tied 1-1 in Pollock finals

PATRIOTS **IRONMEN**

FINAL **1**
4

ANDREW SMITH

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WINGHAM – The Wingham Ironmen are tied 1-1 in the PJHL Pollock Division final with defending champions Mount Forest, with the league rivalry against the Patriots shaping up to be as heated as expected.

Opening the series in Mount Forest on March 7, Wingham took the early lead on goals from Trevor Donaldson and Kyle Stanbury, with the Patri-

ots unable to get on the board until the second period. Another goal early in the third period for Mount Forest tied the game 2-2, with the Ironmen unable to find another before heading to overtime. Despite Wingham's efforts, the winning goal found its way past goalie Devon Carson to give Mount Forest the 3-2 win.

Regrouping at home on Sunday, the Ironmen once again took the early lead on back-to-back goals from Logan Tolton in the first period. The Patriots answered with a goal early in the second to cut Wingham's lead in half,

and followed it up by making several attempts on the power play in an effort to tie it up. Wingham had their own chance on the power play shortly after, with Brady Becker scoring on a wrist shot to put the Ironmen up 3-1.

With the remaining minutes in the game ticking down, Mount Forest pulled its goalie for the extra attacker, leaving the net wide open for Chase Meurs to put the final nail in the coffin on the 4-1 win.

Game 3 is back in Mount Forest on Saturday, March 14 at 8 p.m. and Game 4 goes in Wingham on Sunday, March 15 at 3 p.m.

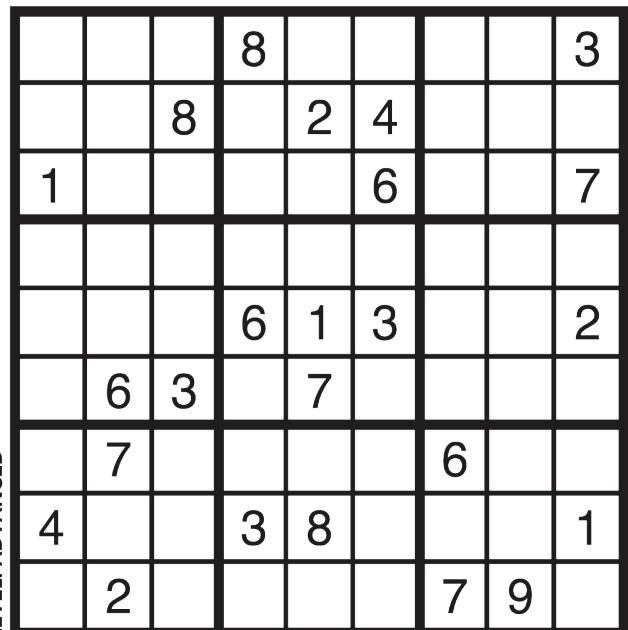


Contributed Photo

BREAKFAST BOOSTER – The Listowel Panthers volleyball club donated \$1,110.80 to the Breakfast Club of Listowel – a program that supports healthy eating and nutrition for students at area schools – following its successful annual tournament held Feb. 22-23 at LDSS. The Listowel U14 and U15 squads placed second in their respective divisions, while the U13 girls finished fourth. The Panthers extended gratitude to the local businesses for their support of the 2020 Panther Cup, which attracted 24 total teams consisting of girls aged 11-16.

SUDOKU

PUZZLE NO. 758



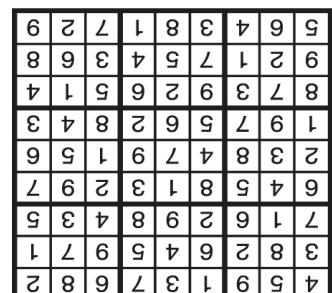
LEVEL: ADVANCED

HOW TO PLAY:

Fill in the grid so that every row, every column and every 3x3 box contains the numbers 1 through 9 only once.

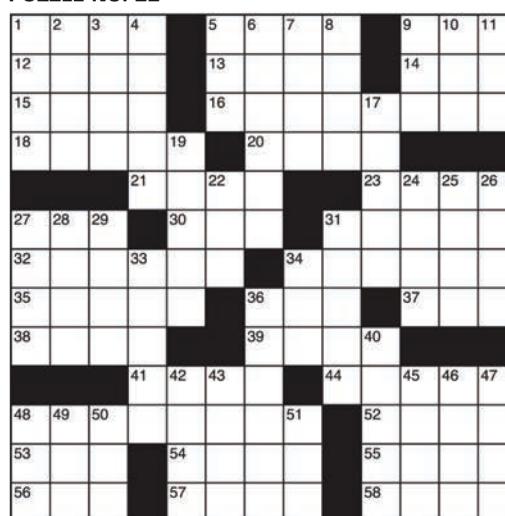
Each 3x3 box is outlined with a darker line. You already have a few numbers to get you started. Remember: you must not repeat the numbers 1 through 9 in the same line, column or 3x3 box.

ANSWER TO PUZZLE NO. 757



CROSSWORD

PUZZLE NO. 22



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ACROSS

- Big quiz
- Baggage
- Kid
- Solemn vow
- Wheel shaft
- Corn portion
- For keeps
- Bookish
- Railroad station
- Fountain treat
- Dinghy, e.g.
- Vent
- Whit
- Pacino and namesakes
- Birchbark or dugout
- Expire, as time
- Show up
- Deal out
- Stocky
- antelope
- Commandment
- number
- Spends
- Song of worship
- Performance by one
- Mr. Karloff
- Broadcast
- Mexican entree
- Mine output
- Colony insects
- Ship's hands
- Although
- Subtraction term
- That woman's
- Having foot digits
- Roofline detail
- Stride
- Ache
- Sal, for example
- Has being
- Female voice
- Oboe insert
- Afternoon brew
- Rowing blade

DOWN

- Wheel
- Corn
- For
- Bookish
- Railroad
- Fountain
- Dinghy
- Vent
- Whit
- Pacino
- Birchbark
- Expire
- Spends
- Song of worship
- Performance by one
- Mr. Karloff
- Broadcast
- Mexican entree
- Mine output
- Colony insects
- Ship's hands
- Although
- Subtraction term
- That woman's
- Having foot digits
- Roofline detail
- Stride
- Ache
- Sal, for example
- Has being
- Female voice
- Oboe insert
- Afternoon brew
- Rowing blade

ANSWER TO PUZZLE NO. 21



CROSSWORD PUZZLE ANSWERS
USE AMERICAN SPELLING

Look for the answers to this week's puzzles in next week's Listowel Banner