

sports

Potsdam Hosts Gouverneur Friday OFA Nips Stoners At Buzzer; P-H Rolls Again

Massena Rips Potsdam 6-1

BY DAN WILLIAMS
Sports Editor

Mark DeRouchie scored three goals and assisted on another as the Massena Red Raider hockey team exploded late in the game to rout Potsdam 6-1 before a large crowd at Pine Street Arena Saturday afternoon.

The Red Raiders, now ranked number one in the New York State large school hockey poll, had a tough time with the young Stoners for half the game, until scoring twice at the end of the second period and three times in the third to ease past Potsdam.

Chris Wiley, Dave Romeo, and Dwayne Richards added goals for Massena.

Potsdam tied the game 4-6 into the second stanza when Scott Denicourt scored what would be the Stoners' only goal of the contest. One of the downfalls for Potsdam's upset bid was the penalty-killing efforts of Massena. Potsdam had numerous opportunities to score with man-up situations but Massena's stick skaters kept the Stoners away from the net.

Great checking by the Raiders prevented Ron Reagan from wheeling and dealing like he's accustomed to doing.

Potsdam Nips Saranac

Potsdam turned aside a tough challenge from the Division II ranks last Wednesday by defeating a fired-up Saranac Lake hockey

BY DAN WILLIAMS
Sports Editor

OGDENSBURG — Providing the Stoners with a taste of their own medicine, the Ogdensburg Free Academy Blue Devils nipped Potsdam 49-47 on a buzzer-beater shot by guard Mike Martin Friday night.

Exactly five weeks ago, Potsdam's Andy Ondek hit a layup with no time left to beat OFA in Potsdam 49-48. The Stoners had their chances to do the same thing Friday night, but a couple of untimely whistles and a clutch hoop by a hot player led to the downfall, the Stoners' second loss in a row.

Potsdam trailed by five points with 2:00 left. A Bharat Patel

juniper from the top of the key tied the game at 47 with :35 left. OFA rebounded the ball, Potsdam applied the pressure man-to-man defense, and Scott Sargent dribbled the ball off his foot with :25 to go. Or did he?

One official signalled Potsdam's ball, but the other one gave the ball back to OFA, saying a Potsdam player tipped the ball out of play. The Devils, in control, got the ball to John Wright, who was fouled with :08 remaining. The senior missed both, Potsdam rebounded, and Jeff Bajza began an apparent three-on-two break to try to win the game. He hit dribbled, and the official whistled the senior for a carry.

OFA had another chance with :04

left. They didn't waste it. Martin took the ball, drove baseline, and hit a 15-footer as the buzzer sounded.

"The two calls late in the game didn't lose the game for us, but they didn't help. We missed a lot of easy inside shots in the first half which could have put us up by about 10. The call when Sargent dribbled the ball off his foot was an unfortunate one because there was only :25 to go. If there was more time, it might not have mattered as much," said Stoner Coach Steve Kmack.

"OFA matches up well with us. It was an intense defensive struggle just like the last one. We caused a lot of turnovers with our pressure defense, but we couldn't capitalize

by hitting the shots," said Kmack.

Potsdam, who lost a 60-43 decision to powerful Malone in Potsdam last Tuesday, is in a shooting slump, said their coach. "Every team hits a stale point in the season. It's happening to us now — our shots just aren't falling and when you live or die by the 15-footer, we have to hit our shots," said Kmack.

Basil Cheney scored a game-high 18 points to lead Potsdam, but missed several easy shots in the first half which could have opened the game up. Ondek's 12 second half points kept Potsdam close and Patel hit for eight markers.

Martin scored nine of his 12 points in the fourth quarter, Wright and Joe Benjamin each scored 11 for Bill Merna's tough OFA squad.

Malone Slams N-N

The Malone Huskies, fresh off a 17-point win at Potsdam, kept the winning ways going, slamming Norwood-Norfolk Friday night 58-44 with a strong second half.

Kris Gallagher pumped in 16 points to lead a balanced scoring attack for the Huskies, while Scott Henry nailed 17 for the visiting Flyers. Scott Collins, the second half of the Flyers' "Great Scott" combo added 11.

N-N lost a tough 62-50 game to

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Tupper Lake Edges Potsdam, Others Postponed

A sparkling 20-point effort by Tera Arey led the Tupper Lake girls basketball team to a 44-36 win over host Potsdam last night in Sandstoner Gym.

Both Norwood-Norfolk and Parishville-Hopkinton had their games postponed because of Monday's snowstorm.

Mary Kennedy chipped in with 10 points for Tupper Lake. Kellina Martin poured in 10 points for winless Potsdam, who have been victims of bad luck throughout the year.

Last Thursday at Massena, the Stoners trailed 21-18 at the half, only to end up losing 43-25 to the Red Raiders.

Tammi Collins nailed 19 points and Kim Foster added 10 for the

hosts. Kelly Norman paced Potsdam with eight and Katie Baker chipped in with seven for the Stoners.

Gouverneur Rips N-N

In a game played last Thursday, the powerful Gouverneur Wildcats rolled over Norwood-Norfolk 54-35 to take over first place in a tight NAC Division I race.

John Smith scored 14 and both Julie Hopkinson and Michelle Desormeaux netted 10 for the

Wildcats.

Leading the way for the Flyers was Mary Connelly with 10 points.

P-H Rolls

A balanced scoring attack, led by Roberta Conklin and Holly Gamber, each with 14 points, led 5-0 Parishville-Hopkinton to an easy 53-20 win over Chateaugay last Thursday.

Tonya Secora and Karla Ann Spellman led the Bulldogs with eight and six points, respectively.

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N-N Drops Two

St. Lawrence Central fought off a tough start and beat Norwood-Norfolk 3-0 in an NAC Division II hockey game last Saturday.

Darren Wilson had two goals and an assist and Jamie Sutton added a first tally for the Larries. Darren Premea stopped 21 Flyer shots in the shutout win.

Against Canton last Wednesday, Chris Wells tallied a goal and two assists leading the Bears to a 4-1 decision over the Flyers.

The trio of John Collins, Andy Firman, and Greg Carvel all notched singletons for Canton.

Mark Ladison scored the lone goal for the Flyers, who continue to struggle in this rebuilding year.



STARTING BLOCKS — Swimmers from Plattsburgh and Potsdam take off for the start of the 1650 yard freestyle. Both the Potsdam men's and women's teams won easily. (Dan Williams photo)

Potsdam College Sports Roundup Swimmers Dunk Plattsburgh; Icers' Road Woes Continue

The Potsdam College mens and womens swim teams, under the guidance of first-year head coach Ken McLaughlin, continued their improvement, sweeping Plattsburgh State in a dual meet last Saturday in the Maxcy Pool.

The men won 67-41, deciding things early with several impressive wins. Double winners for the men were Kyle McCormick in the grueling 1650 yard freestyle and the 500 free and freshman sensation Pete Donahue in the two sprint freestyle races.

Tom Caprio was a winner in the 200 free, DJ Fabozzi was best in the 200 IM and placed second in the 200 fly, Chris Slocum was first in the 100 back, Kevin Boyle was best in the 200 breast, and Tom Holmes won both the 1m and 3m diving events.

Led by senior All-American Renee Hatter's fine performance, the Potsdam women defeated Plattsburgh 63-45. Hatter won the 200 free, the 500 free, and placed third in the 200 breast. Aother double winner was Maria Dabbiero in the 200 IM and the 100 fly. Holly Messitt took first in the 1650 free and Jackie Miller was best in the 100 free.

The swimmers host St. Lawrence today (Tuesday) in a dual meet.

Icers Stay Inconsistent

Luc Boileau's goal at 5:56 of the overtime session lifted the Potsdam College mens hockey team to a surprisingly close 3-2 win at Brockport State last Saturday afternoon.

The Bears continue to struggle in road contests as they played in their fifth and sixth overtime games over the weekend.

On Friday night, an impressive Bear comeback was diluted when Geneseo scored a goal in the last minute of overtime to squeak out a 5-4 win in a crucial ECAC and SUNYAC encounter.

Against the Golden Eagles of Brockport, Potsdam picked up regulation goals from Dan Smith and Chuck Callahan (1-1). Boileau, a sophomore from Seattle, Wash., scored the winner as the Bears go to 3-2 in overtime contests this winter.

The night before in Geneseo, the Bears spotted their hosts a commanding 4-0 third period lead, until roaring back with four of their own in the final 15:00 of the game to force the overtime.

The Blue Knights struck first with two Bill Loveland goals, a score by Dan Loughran, and a marker from Erik Stevens. Potsdam's offense woke up in the third stanza on goals from Smith, Ted Bana (2-0), and Boileau.

With :35 left in the extra session,

Terry Reilly, last year's ECAC Rookie of the Year, nailed the winner for Geneseo.

Tim Swall stopped 32 shots for the Bears while ex-Potsdam netminder Peter Maro saved 30 for the hosts.

Last Tuesday, at Plattsburgh, the Bears were nailed by five second period goals as the Cards' went on the defeat Potsdam 8-3.

Women Lose Three

The Potsdam women's basketball team lost three games in blowouts last week to powerful opponents.

Against Albany State on Saturday, the Bears lost 67-33. All-American hopeful Rainny Lesane poured in 12 points and had seven steals to lead the Great Danes. Diane Fernandes added 11 points to lead a balanced Albany scoresheet, which had 13 players score.

Potsdam was led by Carolyn Gordnier's nine point effort and Jordy Heller's seven point, 10 rebound performance. Kelly Patraw also added seven points for Addy Malatesta's cagers.

On Friday night, William Smith handed Potsdam a 70-38 loss with a powerful second half outburst.

Trena Sutton, a tough inside player, scored a game-high 21 points to pace the winners. Teammates Leslie Sofarelli and Amy Vandervort chipped in with 13 points each.

Gordnier once again led the Bears with 12 points and seven rebounds. Patraw and Heller each scored eight points and combined for 10 rebounds for the 2-10 Potsdam club.

At Oswego last Tuesday, it was a case of too much Linda DeRyke, as the Great Lakers defeated Potsdam 68-41.

The 6'11" senior center for Oswego scored 31 points in the rout.

Wrestlers Win One

A win over Williams College was the saving grace for a Potsdam College wrestling team which ran into two powderkegs last week.

The Bears beat Williams 30-18 Saturday behind a powerful upper-eight performance. Mario Fiacco (158), Mike Price (167), and Jim Goetz (177) all registered pins for Nell Johnson's grapplers. Mark Cipilone picked up a technical fall at 128 pounds to get the Bears rolling. Doug Haviland benefitted from a forfeit at unlimited to score six points.

The University of Buffalo, one of the state's best Division III teams, shut out a Price-less Potsdam squad 49-0. Price set out his encounter with Steve Kain, one of the best 187-pounders, because of a

nagging shoulder injury.

Oneonta, despite losing the matches wrestled 3-2-2, won on forfeits 31-19. Price and Dave Ebert received pins against Oneonta, Haviland won a tough 10-7 match over Steve Gueary, and Fiacco and Bill Stucklen picked up ties at their

weight classes.

Last Tuesday's match with St. Lawrence, perhaps the nation's top-ranked Division III squad, was simply a warm-up for the Saints as they crushed Potsdam 41-2. Price, who earned a tie with Brian Silber, had the Potsdam points.

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Ski Trail Notes

Montana, California, and now New York.

Since the Tug Hill Plateau gets from 200 to 300 inches of snow per year, it is about time that some one is getting some use out of all that snow. This event, in contrast to the Potsdam Langlauf and other local races, is a highly competitive event. The quality goes up every year. Unless you are qualified to get relatively near the front, you really do not have much chance to win no matter how good you are at racing. It is, however, quite an event and a lot of participants enter for the excitement and fun of running it. Last year some of the racers got off on the wrong trail and other racers followed leading them to finish without actually going the required distance, and they had to be disqualified. Hopefully, this will not happen this year because extra precautions are being taken to prevent such a recurrence.

After last week's thaw, some places actually came out of it pretty good. The schools were closed Monday before last in Malone while they were not closed here. Titus Mountain picked up about eight inches of wet snow, and there were not any bare spots during last week. Enough snow fell on Whiteface so that the area still had 28 trails open on last Tuesday, the same number it had on Saturday before the thaw really set with that warm rain. Gore and Tupper had to close more trails than Titus or Whiteface because they did not get as much snow that came after the rain at Titus and Whiteface. No ski areas really had to close; they just lost some base, and in some cases a few trails were closed. Continuous snow over the weekend, which is not apparent around Potsdam, has improved most cross country and alpine skiing. Even as close as Seven Springs, both the alpine and the cross country remained open for most of last week when most people thought there was no skiing around. The snow on Monday of this week has conditions pretty good at Seven Springs and in most of the northeast ski country. In Vermont, New York, and eastern Canada most trails are open and snow conditions are looking up.

The injury ratio in alpine skiing has dropped. In the past ten years, ski injuries have declined from about six per 1000 skier visits to 2.53 during the 1984 and 1985 season. It is the better bindings that is making the difference. It is still a very dangerous sport compared to cross country skiing where the injuries, if they could be somehow measured, would be fractions of the alpine rate. Downhill skiers will be facing greater danger from other skiers more in the future because of the high capacity lifts like the many triples and quads now being installed. There are more skiers to ski with down the trails that will cause accidents in the future.

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