

Amherst Mite Minor 'AAA' wins home opener doubleheader

The Amherst Mite Minor 'AAA' travel hockey team was host to Ontario's Brantford Sportsbiz 99ers in a home-opener doubleheader on Saturday, Sept. 16 at the Amherst Pepsi Center.

Amherst 11, Brantford 0

The Amherst Knights displayed their speed and skill Saturday morning as they dominated Brantford in an 11-0 victory with a total team effort.

Nate Berke's hard wrist shot to the corner of the Brantford net put Amherst on the board only 2:35 into the first period.

The second period highlighted Amherst's offensive skills as they went on an eight-goal scoring frenzy. Carson Briere got the action started by scoring on a short-handed breakaway.

Two minutes later, it was Camden Lock assisted by Berke to earn Amherst's second goal. Thirty-seven seconds later, defenseman Jack Kelly fired a pass to Colton McKenna who drove it home for another Amherst tally. Forty

seconds later, it was Briere who earned his second unassisted goal. Not to be outdone, Berke fired in his second goal of the game.

Only thirty-eight seconds later, Devin Kasperek received a solid board pass and rushed it in for another Amherst goal. Despite playing short-handed, Lock capitalized on a rebound from Berke to earn his second goal with only 57 seconds remaining in the period. Frankie Sciolino scored on a quick shot off a faceoff in the Brantford zone to earn Amherst's eighth goal in the second period.

Third period highlights included hat trick earning goals by Briere and Berke. Goaltender Caleb Hannon was stellar in net, holding off several Brantford scoring chances to earn a well deserved shutout. Amherst was aided by the strong defensive play of Mark Gilbert, Jordan Martin, and Matt Slick. Offensively, Adam Batz, Blake Flanders, and Ryan Sidorski each contributed to Amherst's victory.

Throughout the game, Amherst benefited by executing sharp passes and capitalizing on rebounds.

Amherst 7, Brantford 3

The second game of Amherst's home-opener doubleheader was held at 3 p.m. on Saturday. Despite their defeat earlier in the day, the Brantford Sportsbiz 99ers fought hard in the second game. Amherst netminder Michael Gagliano denied several Brantford scoring chances.

At 9:20 into the first period, Carson Briere executed on a sharp pass from Ryan Sidorski to open up the scoring for Amherst. A mere 43 seconds later, Adam Batz assisted on a flashy backhand goal by Frankie Sciolino. With only 42 seconds remaining in the period, Sidorski netted Amherst's second goal, assisted by Camden Lock after they both battled hard during a scrum in front of Brantford's net.

Less than a minute into the second period,

Sidorski broke from the pack to earn his second goal of the game. Two minutes later, Colton McKenna fired in an unassisted short-handed goal. Halfway through the period, Taylor Keelam, assisted by Micheal Cotton, earned Brantford's first goal of the day.

Amherst responded with an unassisted goal by Briere. The penalty killing talents of Nate Berke and the defensive pairing of Devin Kasperek and Jordan Martin were highlighted as they held off attackers during a two-man Brantford advantage. With one minute remaining in the second period, Brantford's Peter Cappucci scored off a quick pass from Samuel Roy.

Brantford's third goal came 2:12 into the third period on a pass from Noah Gibbons to Liam Boueyenga. Amherst's final goal was a joint effort as McKenna passed to an open Briere. Briere showcased his strong stickhandling skills as he scored a sweet wrap-around goal to secure his second hat trick of the day.

Amherst Knights Squirt Minor 'AAA' lose close game with Burlington

The Amherst Knights Squirt Minor "AAA" hockey team lost 5-4 against a strong Burlington team in a closely contested game at the Amherst Pepsi Center on Sept. 9.

The Knights looked tentative in their first game of the season as Burlington applied some strong early pressure. Six minutes into the first period, a Burlington center found some open ice and let go a thunderous wrist shot on Knights' goalie Max Battistoni's glove side. Battistoni answered

with a momentum changing lightning glove save.

With the momentum on their side, the Knights line of Owen Green, Danny Tyczynski, and Matt Ruggiero stormed the Burlington net until finally, Danny Tyczynski scored from close range.

Highlighting the second period was a strong right side rush by Alex Dimitroff, who fought off a defenseman and launched a shot the Burlington goalie could not control. Dylan

Lock pounced on the rebound to give the Knights a two-goal lead.

Burlington scored at the end of the second and went top-shelf with a wrist shot to tie the game early in the third period.

The Knights began to show some early season fatigue until Danny Tyczynski made a great solo rush down the left side, got behind the defense, cut back across the crease and stuffed the Knights' third goal under the Burlington goaltender's glove.

Burlington never quit and tied the score again.

The Knights then won a key faceoff in the Burlington zone. Matthew Steffan moved in close from his defensive position at the point, picked up the puck and rifled a rocket at the Burlington goaltender. Bradley Truel went strong to the net and scored off the rebound. The Knights led 4-3.

Late in the game, the Knights took a couple of penalties and found themselves in a five on three situation.

Defensemen Mitchell Spring, Matthew Steffan and forward Owen Green, then defensemen Danny Brodzik, Luke Eberhard and forward Dante Todaro, all teamed up to keep the Burlington team from scoring.

The penalties took a lot out of the Knights and Burlington stormed back to finally win the game 5-4.

The Amherst Knights showed some strong play for their first game of the season and look forward to a late season rematch.



CHAMPS — The Amherst Lady Knights 12U hockey team defeated the West Seneca Wings 12U, 4-1, in the championship game of the Jamestown Savings Bank Ice Arena Early Bird Tourney held Sept. 10. Emily Koestler led the way with two goals and an assist, and Courtney Wesolowski was stellar in goal making 18 saves to preserve the victory. Members of

the team, pictured from left, are: front row — Courtney Wesolowski; second row - Katie Friehe, Kate Miller, Emily Koestler, Jocelyn Rizzo, Rachel Gramp, Lindsey Baldwin; third row — coach Paul Koestler, Quinn Patrick, Amber Ried, Claire Hartman, Cassandra Hopkins, Caroline Soh, Juliet Holme, Lizzy Viola, Karli Weidner, and coach Rick Hopkins.

Christian Central Academy Girls soccer opens season 1-1-1

The Christian Central Academy varsity girls soccer team opened its season with a 4-1 loss against Barker.

Barker played an aggressive game. CCA goalie and captain Jenni Albrecht allowed only one goal in the first half but the Barker team came on strong in the second half against CCA goalie Leanne Hoppe and scored three tough goals. CCA's Katie Smith scored the lone goal for CCA and Ashley Tom was awarded with the assist.

In the second game, CCA and St. Mary's of Lancaster tied 1-1. CCA freshman Faye-Lynn Noel scored and Tom had the assist. Hoppe played goal the whole game and stopped 17 of 18 shots.

CCA's third game ended with a 2-0 win against IAC opponent Park. Albrecht scored the first goal with an assist from Smith. The second goal for CCA was a direct kick by Noel. Hoppe had her first career shutout and stopped 11 shots. CCA had 32 shots on goal.

Youth Swimming

SS. Peter & Paul opens season with victory over St. Joseph's

SS. Peter & Paul of Williamsville opened the Neuman Catholic Swim League season Sunday with a convincing 151-96 win over St. Joseph's of University Heights at Sweet Home High School.

SSPP won 13 of 19 individual events and five of six relays in cruising to victory over the hard-working St. Joseph's team, which simply could not match SSPP's depth.

Laura Brick and Rachel Kuechle set the pace for SSPP in the 11-ups with each winning two individual races. Brick took the 200-yard freestyle and 50 backstroke and Kuechle won the 50 butterfly and 50 breast. Other winners included Kathleen Ruggiero in the 200 individual medley and Julia Collins in the 50 free. Clare Costello finished second in the 200 free and 50 back, Costanza was second in the 100 free, and Roehmholdt, Ruggiero and Collins took third.

Brick, Kuechle, Collins and Max Roehmholdt teamed up to win the medley relay while Ruggiero, Roehmholdt, Maury Fields and Allyson Costanza captured first in the free relay.

Those producing additional points in the relays included Samantha Basile, Julie Roehmholdt, Fields, Olivia Bianco, Claire Haumesser, Hope Genco and LauraBeth Wendelin.

Marissa Olsen (50 free), Brian Costello (100 free) and Peter Weimer (50 breast) were winners in the 9-10 age group. Jason Brick, Matt Ruggiero and Gina Nasca recorded second-place finishes and Weimer, Brick, Nasca and Lauren Shine took third in the individual events.

Olsen, Shine, Costello and Ruggiero won the free relay for SSPP. Other 9-10 swimmers winning points in the relays included Shine, Brick, Ruggiero, Costello, Valerie Mueller, Susan Venditti, Weimer, Nasca, Amanda Boeing, and Caitlin Novak.

Charles Weimer was a double-winner for SSPP's 8-unders, taking first in the 25 fly and 50 free. Evan Manna won the 25 free and Kurt Haumesser was first in the 100 IM. Haumesser was second in the 25 breast and Anna Marie Sauer, Nick Powell and Jacob Barberio won points for third-place finishes.

SSPP won both 8-under relays with Barberio, Sauer, Weimer and Manna taking the medley and Jacob Mertz, Manna, Grace Galvin and Haumesser winning the free. Powell, Sean Murphy, Jordan Moore and Logan Noe produced relay points for SSPP.

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