

North keglers end South's run as Williamsville Cup boys' champs, Billies win overall

The Williamsville South boys' 10-year dominance in the Williamsville Cup ended last Wednesday as the Billies took second by 88 pins to Williamsville North. The Spartans, led by Mike Gilbert's 706 high series and Greg Sacco's 269 high game, finished with 3,094 total pins to South's 3,006.

The South boys' winning streak dates back to 1997.

The South girls, led by Jessica Mammon's 724 series, won by 236 pins over North (2,645-2,409) to keep the overall Williamsville Cup at South.

North coach Jim Rauh said his boys team started poorly. He said South was ahead by 100 pins after the first game but his team averaged 230 in the second game to move ahead by three pins heading into game three. In the last game, North averaged 206 on scores by Dave Griffiths (215), Sacco (205), Steve Levine (186), Matt Parisi (206) and Mike Gilbert (217).

North had only won two matches all year, both over Orchard Park, in an ultra competitive ECIC Division I.

"Teams in our division like Lancaster and Frontier are very strong. That's why winning the Williamsville Cup was nice," said Rauh. "We won the whole thing last year but we have never won the boys part."

North's Jackie Vetrano rolled a 231 high game.

Williamsville East finished third. The East boys amassed 2,778 pins, the girls had 2,134.

The South boys finished the regular season 7-3 in ECIC

Division II after defeating Iroquois, 6-1, on Thursday at Airport Lanes. The Billies' Russ Scheiss topped all bowlers with a 639 series and a 255 game while Justin Maggio on the "B" team rolled a season-high 594 with a 205 game. Alex Petrie added a 600 series, including a 220 game. Adam Petrie shot 590 with a 216.

The North boys closed out its league matches last Thursday with a 7-0 loss to Frontier. The North "A" team rolled a season-best 2,592 set but still lost by 250 pins. Griffiths opened with nine strikes en route to a 276 game and 716 set. Junior Peter Doster bowled a 237 and 581 set on "B".

"It looks like we were blown out but we scored a season-best 4,654. Our "A" team averaged over 210," said Rauh. "Frontier was just too good."

Rauh is taking Sacco (213.45), Griffiths (191.7), Parisi (186.6) and Gilbert (185.9) to sectionals but expects the team, which includes Levine (182.9), to advance. Rauh thinks his team has the top-five averages in the section among teams who did not make a .500 record and a new rule implemented before the season would allow them to qualify.

Sweet Home boys

In a very exciting match, Sweet Home defeated West Seneca East, 6-1, on Friday at Manor II to become co-champions of Division II with West Seneca East. Sweet Home finished 8-2 overall.

Captain Dan Kaminiski rolled the high game of the match, the

year, and Division II with a 288. He had the high set for the match with a 689. His other games were 222 and 179. He finished the season averaging 200.56. Not far behind Dan Kaminski was his brother Ryan, who rolled a 659 series. Ryan Kaminski was very consistent with games of 210, 211 and 238. Aaron Klein rolled a 633 set with games of 231, 199 and 203.

Aaron Klein and Ryan Kaminski had the exact pin fall for 30 games. They each were able to make adjustments and ended the year with a final average of 208.43, bowling in five different bowling centers. Ryan Kaminski set the pace last year, as a freshman, averaging 201.8 while Klein averaged 180.9. Klein raised his average 28 pins this season.

John Grunzweig temporarily held the high game of the year for the team, rolling a 276 the first game of the match. That did not hold for long as Dan Kaminski rolled his 288 the next game. John also rolled a 208 for a 626 set. Rounding out Sweet Home's 600's was Brian Barnas with a 618 series. Barnas had games of 182, 238 and 198.

Bill Klein came through with games of 212 and 211 making him eligible for sectionals.

The "A" team rolled their team high set with 913.

ECIC girls' Rolloffs were held on Monday followed by the boys on Tuesday at Thruway Lanes. The Section VI girls championships will be held at 9 a.m. Thursday followed by the boys on Friday. Both are at Thruway.

Amherst's boys 'A' team narrowly loses to Depew

by PATRICK J. NAGY
Reporter

Amherst Central closed out its 2006-07 season with a 6-1 home loss to Depew last Friday at Airport Lanes, but Tigers coach Jason Beckman felt the score was deceiving.

"It came down to the last game (on 'A')," said Beckman. "I'm happy with the way the kids bowled overall."

Amherst's "A" team lost game three, 728-720. The Tigers took its only point from Depew in game one on "A." Led by Dean Snyder's 233 and Eric Michalski's 208, Amherst won, 803-693. Snyder finished with a 593 set. Michalski was not far behind with a 598. Amherst's "A" lost by two total pins, 2213-2211.

Depew's "B" team won the match. The Wildcats won all three "B" games by a combined 461 pins, 1994-1533. Depew's Steve

Bukowski led "B" with a 602 set. Kevin Alajko led Depew's "A" team with a 653 set, including a game-high 248.

"It was a total team effort," said Depew coach Adam Nagy.

The win improved Depew to 6-6 and qualified the team for the Section VI Championships on Friday at Thruway Lanes.

Amherst was also without Justin Garus, who has qualified for sectionals as an individual with a 187.07 average, and Kyle Schmidt. Despite not having a winning record, Amherst has advanced to sectionals because their top-five averages are better than other teams that did not qualify with a .500 record. It's also dependent on how many lanes are available on the day of sectionals.

"I'm happy with our improvement the kids made all year," said Beckman. "They're a good group to work with, they take instruction well and they support each other,

so it makes it fun for a coach."

Before the Depew match, Amherst lost to Maryvale 7-0, Cheektowaga, 6-1, and Pioneer, 5-2.

Amherst's "A" lost to Cheektowaga, 2248-2315. The "B" team lost by 12 pins in game three. Garus led the Tigers with a 618 set, including games of 225 and 203. Michalski rolled a 582 with games of 213 and 203. Sean Stein, who averages about 145, shot a 170 and 175. Chris Oliver rolled a 202.

Garus shot 234-596 on "A" against Maryvale. Corey Rotterman had a 189, 193 and 193 for a 575 set on "B".

Led by Michalski's 211-581, Snyder's 202 and Garus' 207, the Tigers "A" team took both points against Pioneer.

Amherst girls

The Lady Tigers have also made great strides this season. Despite finishing 1-10, including a 7-0 loss to Depew, coach Dennis Illig has seen much improvement.

Illig said Lauren Williams, who two months ago was averaging 78, shot all three games against Depew at least 33 pins above that, including a 168. She finished with a 392 set.

Katie Fowler was below 100 and has steadily improved, Illig said, with games of 121, 125 and 146 against Depew. Kristin Ortman (142-365) and Stephanie

Mohr (159-419) have also improved, said Illig.

Like the boys team, Illig thought his girls were a couple of marks away from taking some points against Depew. Carolyn Trabert led Amherst with a 446 set.

Amherst was supposed to compete in sectionals this Thursday, but it was changed last Friday to only teams with a .500 record.

Sweet Home hockey wins both games on first road trip

by PATRICK J. NAGY
Reporter

Sweet Home hockey hit the road for the first time in school history this past week, winning twice over Section III's Liverpool at the New York State Fairgrounds in Syracuse.

Sweet Home won 5-3 on Friday and 6-2 on Saturday. Sweet Home was supposed to face Section III's Baldwinsville on Friday but did not because of wintry weather.

Five different Panthers scored in each game. On Friday, Rich Beaudet (Corey Sykes, Alex Esposito), Anthony Manzella and Paul Campise (James Cardinale on power play) lifted Sweet Home to a 3-1 lead after two periods. Two quick goals from Liverpool's Matt Wilson and Joey Wilson (Matt Wilson) tied it at 3-3 in the third but Esposito (Dominic Puntillo, Ryan Gutt) and Cardinale (Esposito) answered for the Panthers.

On Saturday, Sweet Home broke open a tightly-played penalty filled game with four third period goals from Manzella (Beaudet, Chris Covul), Gutt, Mike Campise, and Covul.

"We stayed out of the penalty box and so did they," said Sweet Home coach Dave Gerspach. "We rolled three lines. Some guys had the most ice time in that game."

Dan Martino opened the scoring 30 seconds into the game from Paul Campise. Gutt gave Sweet Home a 2-1 lead from Manzella in the second.

Brad Capone and Tim Ross scored for Liverpool. Rob Castiglia made 31 saves on Friday. Derek Mohney stopped 19 shots on Saturday.

Gerspach was happy with how his team handled the trip.

"When we scheduled this last year, it was with the

purpose of playing in Utica on March 10 (Division II state final four)," said Gerspach. "So the kids had to have the experience of riding on bus and playing on a rink they've never played on... The team bonding was the best part of it."

Sweet Home will play a Section IX team in the Division II regionals on Saturday, March 3.

Sweet Home concluded an unbelievable Western New York Varsity Hockey Federation regular season with a 6-3 win over Kenmore West.

James Cardinale scored twice, once on the power play from Paul Campise and Esposito. Manzella (Esposito, Covul), Esposito (Manzella, Dominic Puntillo), Paul Campise (Gutt), and Matt Stewart (Esposito, Paul Campise) on the power play also tallied for Sweet Home.

Nick Panepinto (Scott Moser, Michael Vasquez) on the power play, Patrick Fisher (Vasquez, Moser) and Anthony Farah (Panepinto, Kyle Whipple) scored for Kenmore West.

The Panthers finished with a league-best 27 points (12-1-3). They are 17-2-4 and ranked No. 2 in New York State Division II.

The Panthers have a first round bye in the Federation playoffs and plays the winner of Kenmore West and St. Francis at 7 p.m. Friday on the Amherst Pepsi Center's Feature Rink.

"I like our chances," said Gerspach. "Four years ago, I was hoping for one win in the Federation. We just went through 16 games and lost once."

The Panthers will also have a boost for their playoff run with the return of Ryan Marko. The junior forward, who has been out since Jan. 27, was medically cleared on Monday.

e-mail: pnagy@beenews.com

Amherst 1998 Mite Selects roll in Tonawanda

The Amherst Mite 1998 Selects evened their record at 3-3 with a convincing 7-1 victory over the Tonawanda Selects on Sunday afternoon at Brighton Arena. Amherst tallied three times in the first period with Connor Wagner opening the scoring at 8:36 with help from Rachel DePerio. Nick Carbone followed less than a minute later with an unassisted goal right off the faceoff. Sam Kinerk closed out the period when he banged in a rebound from close range after the goalie kicked out a Carbone wrist shot.

Tonawanda notched their lone goal at the 7:02 mark of the second when Evan Reardon pounced on a loose puck in front of Amherst netminder Cam Carney and slid it inside the left post to cut the Amherst lead to 3-1.

That would be as close as Tonawanda would come as Amherst scored eight seconds later. Dylan Wild fired a 20-foot wrist shot past the Tonawanda goalie converting a pass from Wagner. Carbone notched his second on an easy tap in after Kinerk managed to get the puck in front around the helpless Tonawanda blueliner.

The second came to a close when Chris Dirienzo fed a pass from the corner right onto Josh Knauf's stick as he was parked in front of the net and had no trouble finding the twine to give Amherst a 6-1 lead.

The lone goal of the third period came at 9:03 when Carbone finished off the hat trick on a setup from Kinerk.

Amherst was stellar defensively as Tonawanda was unable to mount any serious pressure on Carney with Brendan DesRosiers standing out as a stalwart on the blueline for the visitors.

All Day
SCRAMBLERS



Breakfast, lunch and dinner

Great new tastes to enjoy whenever you feel like it. Served with seasonal fresh fruit and choice of buttermilk pancakes, toast or a fresh-baked Mammoth™ Muffin. Available for a limited time only.

Meat Lovers

Crispy fried breakfast potatoes and fluffy scrambled eggs with diced ham, crisp Applewood smoked bacon and lean sausage. Topped with creamy cheese sauce, sharp American cheese, diced tomatoes and green onions. **\$8.29**

Perkins
RESTAURANT & BAKERY
Breakfast is just the beginning

Amherst (716) 625-8386
8444 Transit Road, Williamsville
Hamburg (716) 646-1600
4245 McKinley Parkway
Niagara (716) 297-7800
1785 Military Road, Niagara Falls