

# Amherst Squirt Minor 'AAA' wins Rochester Invite



The Amherst Knights' Squirt Minor "AAA" hockey team recently won the Rochester Invitational Tournament with an exciting 3-2 overtime win over the Pittsburgh Hornets. Members of the team, pictured from left, are: first row - Matthew Barnaby and Tyler Johnson; second row - Tyler Durfee, James Panzarella, Liam Bailey, Chris Berger, Jon Tucker, Alex Randaccio; third row - Michael Steffan, Jared Cummins, Tyler Eldridge, Tyler Lawrence, Joey Mostowy, Michael Bliss, Derek Westbrook; fourth row - coaches Matt Barnaby, Al Randaccio, Ron Cummins and John Berger.

The Amherst Knights' Squirt Minor "AAA" hockey team recently won the Rochester Invitational Tournament with an exciting 3-2 overtime win over the Pittsburgh Hornets.

In the championship game, goalie Tyler Johnson kept his team in the game with many outstanding saves as the Knights were outshot, 15-1, but only losing, 1-0.

Early in the second period, Michael Steffan scored on a rebound shot to tie the game and bring life to the Amherst squad. Amherst and Pittsburgh shared many scoring chances in the second but neither team could break through.

In the third period, Chris Berger undressed the Pittsburgh goalie on a breakaway to give Amherst a 2-1 lead. However, with the goalie pulled and an extra attacker on the ice, Pittsburgh tied the

game with 18 seconds remaining.

The resilient Amherst team did not let that stop them. At three minutes into overtime, Michael Bliss ripped a shot so hard that the Pittsburgh goalie could not control the rebound. Chris Berger tapped in the rebound to end the thrilling contest.

In the championship game, Amherst had strong defensive play from Tyler Eldridge, James Panzarella, Alex Randaccio, Jonathon Tucker, Tyler Lawrence, and Liam Bailey.

Amherst had strong forechecking from wingers Matthew Barnaby, Jared Cummins, Joey Mostowy, Derek Westbrook, and Tyler Durfee.

Amherst did not lose throughout the tournament play. In round robin play, Amherst beat Perinton, 10-0, tied the Mid-Fairfield Blues, 3-3, and beat the Don Mills Flyers, 8-2.

In the quarterfinals, Amherst beat the Florida Everblades, 8-5. In the semi-finals, Amherst beat a strong Rochester Americans team, 5-2.

## Bantam Bisons topple Southtowns Stars

The Buffalo Bisons defeated previously unbeaten Southtowns Stars, 3-1, in exciting action over the weekend.

Despite being outshot, 25-20, Conner Naughton held strong between the pipes, as Eric Adolf (Sam Romano) and Joshua Shupe (Romano) tallied goals. Alex Fritz got the empty netter with 15 seconds left on the clock. The game was a physical one, and Coach Dwyer had the players answer the call.

On Saturday, the Bisons had an easier time, beating the Jamestown Lakers, 6-3, behind goals

from Ian McQuestion (Lucas Buscemi), James Brand (Marc Bezbatchesko, David Arthur), Jordan Rusek (Sean Basil), Fritz (Arthur, Bezbatchesko), Arthur (Bezbatchesko, Fritz), and Shupe (Adolf, Martynowicz). JC Grabenstatter, Evan Thur, Josh Little, Jake Pugliese, Jim Frauenhofer, and Graig Knowlton played solid in securing the win.

Earlier in the week, the Bisons dropped a 6-1 game to host Cazenovia, as physical play again dominated.

The Bisons tangle with Webster on the road next Sunday.

## Amherst Squirt Minor 'AA' ties, earns two victories

The Squirt Minor "AA" hockey team gave Bisons netminder Stephen Dhillon all he could handle on Saturday afternoon in North Buffalo but he made several brilliant saves to repeatedly stymie the Amherst offense.

Amherst was down 1-0 entering the third as Jack Lalley staked the Bisons to a 1-0 lead at the 2:52 mark of the second as he beat Knights goalie Jacob Siegel top shelf on the glove side with a wicked wrist shot.

Jordan Jenneve finally solved Dhillon early in the third on a pass from Connor Bender to give Amherst the 1-1 tie.

### Amherst wins chippy contest with Regals, 3-2

The Squirt Minor "AA" team got a third period goal from Connor Bender to break a 2-2 deadlock and give the Knights a hard-earned victory over the Buffalo Regals on Thursday night in Cheektowaga.

Jacob Siegel had Amherst's first goal on a pass from Bender and then Bender fed Nick Carbone to give the Knights a brief 2-1 lead in the second before the Regals beat Amherst goalie Cam Carney to even things, setting the stage for Bender's winner in the third.

The game featured nine penalties as both squads were in nasty mode throughout.

### Amherst Squirts topple Grand Niagara, 4-1

The Amherst Squirt Minor "AA" knocked off the Purple Eagles, 4-1, at the Pepsi Center on Tuesday night.

Connor Wagner opened the scoring with an unassisted tally. Less than three minutes later, Holden Greene found the twine with Dylan Wild assisting.

Wild put Amherst up 3-0 with a nifty wraparound goal to start the second. Nick Carbone and Brendan DesRosiers added helpers. Niagara's Alexander Halley cut the lead to 3-1 at the end of the second but halfway through the third, Carbone removed all doubt by scoring for Amherst on a feed from Jordan Jenneve.

## Bantam division

# Minor 'AA' Knights sting Hornets

Coach John DiDonato's Amherst Knights Bantam Minor AA team continued its winning ways with a 6-1 victory over the Buffalo Hornets.

The scoring party started with two goals in the first period by defensemen Zach Lesswing and Joey Kersten.

In the second period, Mike Nowicki scored on a two-on-one breakaway. In the third period, the Knights put the game out of reach by a goal from Patrick Griffin and two goals from John Richmond.

Goaltender Thomas Styn earned the victory with help from the penalty killing work done by his defensemen Benny Ferro and Bobby Finley.

## Hayman nets winner for Saints over Western Michigan

Jon Hayman broke a 3-3 tie in the third period as the Bantam St. Lawrence Saints beat Western Michigan, 4-3.

Andrew Kreppel and Dylan Szafranski got the assists on the game winner as the Saints increased their unbeaten streak to six.

Patrick Waldron and Brandon Gaglio scored first-period goals to make it 2-0 Saints. Western Michigan came back with goals from Jordan Leising and Ryan Shanahan.

Dylan Scinta drilled home a shot to make it 3-2 Saints, but Leising got his second of the game to it at 3-3, setting up the third period and Hayman's winning shot.

## HIGH SCHOOL SPORTS CALENDAR

### Wednesday, Dec. 12

**Boys basketball:** Tonawanda at Amherst, 7:30 p.m.  
**Boys bowling:** Pioneer at Amherst (Airport Lanes), 4:30 p.m.; Sweet Home at South (Transit Lanes), 4:30 p.m.; East at Iroquois (Lancaster Lanes), 4:30 p.m.  
**Girls bowling:** Pioneer at Amherst (Airport Lanes), 4:30 p.m.; Sweet Home at South (Transit Lanes), 4:30 p.m.; East at Iroquois (Lancaster Lanes), 4:30 p.m.  
**Wrestling:** Amherst at Pioneer, 6 p.m.; Orchard Park at Sweet Home, 6 p.m.; Starpoint at East, 6 p.m.; South at Iroquois, 6 p.m.

### Thursday, Dec. 13

**Boys basketball:** South at Sweet Home, 7:30 p.m.  
**Boys bowling:** South at East (Transit Lanes), 4:30 p.m.; Orchard Park at North (Transit Lanes), 4:30 p.m.  
**Girls bowling:** South at East (Transit Lanes), 4:30 p.m.; Orchard Park at North (Transit Lanes), 4:30 p.m.; Sacred Heart vs. Nichols (Thruway Lanes), 4 p.m.  
**Hockey:** Sweet Home vs. St. Joe's (Amherst Pepsi Center Feature Rink), 9 p.m.; East vs. Lancaster (Amherst Pepsi Center Olympic Rink), 9 p.m.  
**Wrestling:** North at Akron, 6 p.m.

### Friday, Dec. 14

**Boys basketball:** East at Bishop Timon-St. Jude, 7:30 p.m.; Frontier at North, 7:30 p.m.  
**Girls basketball:** Iroquois at Sweet Home, 7:30 p.m.; Lake Shore at East, 7:30 p.m.; North at Lancaster, 7:30 p.m.; W.S. East at South, 7:30 p.m.  
**Hockey:** North vs. Shenendehowa (Clifton Park Ice Arena), 8:45 a.m.; Williamsville South Holiday Booster Tournament on Amherst Pepsi Center Feature Rink — East vs. Clarence, 7 p.m.; South vs. Glens Falls, 9 p.m.  
**Boys swimming:** Amherst at Cleveland Hill, 4:30 p.m.; Sweet Home at Clarence, 6 p.m.; Lake Shore at East (Transit Middle School), 6 p.m.; Jamestown at North, 5 p.m.; South at Cheektowaga, 4:30 p.m.  
**Wrestling:** Amherst at Iroquois, 6 p.m.; East at Lake Shore, 6 p.m.; Cheektowaga at South, 6 p.m.

### Saturday, Dec. 15

**Hockey:** North vs. LaSalle (Hudson Valley Community College), 11:30 a.m.; Williamsville South Booster Holiday Tournament on Amherst Pepsi Center Feature Rink — East vs. Glens Falls, 1 p.m.; South vs. Clarence, 3 p.m.  
**Indoor track:** Amherst, East, North, South at Fredonia State College, 9 a.m.  
**Wrestling:** South at Jon Vesper Duals Tournament, 9 a.m.

### Sunday, Dec. 16

**Hockey:** Amherst vs. St. Francis (Buffalo State College), 3 p.m.; Sweet Home vs. East (Buffalo State College), 5 p.m.  
**Indoor track:** Sweet Home at Fredonia State College, 9 a.m.

### Monday, Dec. 17

**Girls basketball:** North at Niagara-Wheatfield, 6:30 p.m.  
**Boys bowling:** Sweet Home at East (Transit Lanes), 4:30 p.m.; Lancaster at North (Transit Lanes), 4:30 p.m.; South at W.S. East (Wimbledon Lanes), 4:30 p.m.  
**Girls bowling:** Sweet Home at East (Transit Lanes), 4:30 p.m.; Lancaster at North (Transit Lanes), 4:30 p.m.; South at W.S. East (Wimbledon Lanes), 4:30 p.m.

### Tuesday, Dec. 18

**Boys basketball:** Amherst at Cheektowaga, 6:30 p.m.; East at Sweet Home, 7:30 p.m.; North at W.S. West, 7:30 p.m.; South at Iroquois, 6:30 p.m.  
**Girls basketball:** Starpoint at Amherst, 7:30 p.m.; East at Clarence (Clarence Middle School), 7:30 p.m.; Hutch-Tech at South, 6 p.m.  
**Girls bowling:** Sacred Heart vs. Nardin (Thruway Lanes), 4 p.m.  
**Boys swimming:** Lake Shore at Sweet Home, 4:30 p.m.; East at Jamestown, 5 p.m.; Cleveland Hill at South, 4:30 p.m.  
**Wrestling:** Amherst at St. Joe's, 7 p.m.