

East boys lacrosse ends losing skid against Grand Island



Williamsville East's Mike Faltisco gets ready to score a goal against Grand Island last Tuesday at Grand Island. The Flames won 11-2.

by PATRICK J. NAGY
Reporter

It's been a handful of years since Williamsville East has beaten Grand Island in boys lacrosse but that all changed last Tuesday at Grand Island.

The Flames opened a 3-0 lead after the first quarter and extended it to 5-1 at halftime en route to a convincing 11-2 victory.

"It's been four or five years since we beat them," said East coach Ed Greenway. "We should have won last year but we fell apart and they beat us by a goal (11-10) in the last seconds of the game. The kids remembered that and wanted to send a message."

Greenway said the key to the game was the play of defenders Rashaun Durden, Josh Roetzer, Ryan Dobos and Brian Wallden for not giving Grand Island's offense a chance to set up.

Zach Stubbendeck also won 11 of 13 faceoffs, which helped the team keep possession of the ball. Stubbendeck also scored once.

Derek Frost led the Flames' offense with three goals and two assists.

Peter Duggan had two goals and two assists. Mike Faltisco and Austin Weil each had two goals and one assist. Brad Teal tallied a goal and assist.

Goalie Ryan Sheehan, coming off a goal against Lake Shore, chipped in an assist. He also made eight saves. MP Joseph made a save in the fourth.

East's other game was a 13-6 home loss against Hamburg last Thursday.

Hamburg jumped out to a 4-0 lead after the first quarter and Mike Springer made it 6-3 with six seconds left in the first half. The Bulldogs led, 9-5, after the third quarter.

"This game was not indicative of how close the game was," said Greenway. "What hurt us was their ability to score in transition. Six of their goals came in transition. You take those away and it's a one-goal game... It wasn't until the fourth quarter that we started to play with more confidence and a sense of urgency."

Greenway said his team probably has 18 shots that they couldn't bury.

"If we make any of those shots, it's a much tighter game," said Greenway.

Joe Resetaritis scored six times to lead Hamburg.

Weil led East with two goals and one assist. Teal scored twice. Duggan and Frost each had a goal and assist.

Sheehan made 10 saves.

East (3-2, 6-3) beat West Seneca East, 5-1, on Monday. Highlights will appear in next week's Bee.

The Flames play at 5 p.m. on Wednesday at North Tonawanda and at 6 p.m. on Friday at Amherst.

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Sweet Home bounces back, defeats Lake Shore, Victor

by PATRICK J. NAGY
Reporter

The Sweet Home boys lacrosse team showed last week how to bounce back from a tough loss.

The Panthers fell to Class B powerhouse Hamburg, 17-2, last Tuesday at Sweet Home but rebounded by winning at Lake Shore, 18-0, last Thursday and defeating Section V's Victor, 14-6, on Saturday afternoon at Sweet Home in a down pour rain.

Sweet Home coach John Faller said Hamburg beat his team in every aspect.

"We gave up 10 goals in the second quarter," said Faller. "We haven't given up 10 goals all year."

Jared McHenry and Matt Zon scored for the Tigers.

Donnie Daniels scored six times, Zon chipped in four goals

and McHenry and Alex Gilmour each tallied twice as the Panthers rolled over Lake Shore.

"We were able to beat their guys in one on one situations," said Faller. "We controlled the faceoff circle (won 16 of 21)."

Faller said Zon won most of the faceoffs.

Daniels and Zon scooped up eight ground balls, Eric Galdys had seven and Jimmy Cardinale picked up six.

Pat McMahon needed to make

only five saves.

Sweet Home opened a 4-0 lead on Victor and was ahead, 8-5, at halftime.

The Panthers' midfield scored nine of the 14 goals. Nick Cavaliari scored five times. Daniels and Taylor Heald each scored twice. McHenry and Zon each scored once.

Daniels also recorded three assists. Mike Halter posted a goal and two assists. Eric Danheiser also scored.

Zon also won 8 of 13 faceoffs and picked up seven ground balls. Cardinale grabbed seven ground balls. Matt Cuddihy had six ground balls.

McMahon posted 10 saves.

Sweet Home (7-4, 2-3) lost to Amherst, 10-9, in overtime on Monday. Highlights will appear in next week's Bee. The Panthers host Grand Island at 5 p.m. on Wednesday and travel to Williamsville South at 7 p.m. on Friday.

"They're all big games," said Faller. "Each one helps you with the standings for the playoffs."

Daniels leads Sweet Home through the Victor game with 14 goals and 11 assists. He is second in ground balls with 45.

Cardinale leads the team with 46 ground balls.

McMahon has a 64 percent save percentage. Zon has won 61 percent of faceoffs.

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North needs triple OT to beat WS West

The Williamsville North boys lacrosse team almost gave away its game last Wednesday at West Seneca West but found a way to win, 7-6, in triple overtime.

Dan Rychlicki scored the game-winning goal in triple overtime. Rychlicki finished with three goals.

North led, 6-4, in the fourth quarter before West Seneca West tied the game with a little over two minutes remaining.

North coach Matt Smart said in each overtime session, both teams passed the ball away to the other team, dropped the ball and gave the other team chances they didn't earn.

Smart said after several attempts at setting up offensive plays to win the game, it was hard work in the transition game by the defense and Joe Greenwald (goal, four assists), that earned Rychlicki the shot and game-winning goal.

Smart said his team came out flat, trailing 4-1 early in the second quarter. With five minutes remaining in the first half, Smart said his team started to play with a little emotion and pride and brought the score to 4-3 at halftime.

"West Seneca West played a smart game to

take us out of ours," said Smart. "We let them and that upset me. Our team has to play our style of game as well as they can each day for us to be successful. We took a part of the work day off but still came out on top. In the end, it is a win, but we can play better in all areas of the game. We must step up as individuals and as a team. I don't care about age, grade level or experience. We have to do our job each and every day."

Nick Hereth scored twice. Brian Jaszka (goal, assist) and Kurtis Knoble (two assists) also had points for North.

Smart said Grant Rickan played a great game against one of West Seneca West's best offensive players.

Smart said goalie Pat Stasio made the saves he needed to keep them in the game.

West Seneca West edged North, 39-38, in ground balls but Smart said it was only because both teams passed or dropped the ball away more than it was in North's stick.

The Spartans opened the week with a 7-5 home victory on Monday over Williamsville South.

Smart said his team played sloppy in the

first half and South scored in unsettled situations and outworked them which led to a 4-2 Billies lead.

North outscored South, 5-1, in the second half.

"We controlled the ball on offense and didn't allow a point to be scored in six-on-six," said Smart. "Everyone on the field stepped up to do a little extra in the second half."

At the time, it was North's first win of the season.

"We needed this win," said Smart. "It feels good. We have a long way to go in terms of Class A but this win was a good building block that we can add to."

Rychlicki led North with three goals and two assists.

Craig Petit scored twice. Greenwald had a goal, three assists and scooped up five ground balls. Knoble added a goal, assist and five ground balls. Jaszka added one assist.

Stasio made 21 saves.

North hosts Frontier at 5 p.m. on Friday, travels to Canisius for an 11 a.m. start on Saturday and return home to host Lockport at 5 p.m. on Monday, May 12.

South seeks identity, timely goals

by PATRICK J. NAGY
Reporter

The Williamsville South boys lacrosse team is looking for an identity.

The Billies are 3-6 overall but 1-4 in Class B.

"We're playing well in the non-league games but not as well in league games," said South coach John Szymendar. "The

kids are working hard but we're trying to find what our glitches are and work through them. We're also trying to find our senior leadership and identity."

South lost all three of its games last week, beginning with a 7-5 loss last Monday at Williamsville North.

South led most of the game (2-1 first quarter, 4-2 halftime, 5-4 third quarter) before coughing up

the lead in the fourth.

Aaron Mong, who leads South with 14 goals, scored four times against North. Dave Quinlan also scored.

Nate Lennert scooped up 10 ground balls. He has four goals, five assists and 75 ground balls for the season.

Goalie Mike Quinlan made 21 saves. He has a 71 percent save percentage on the year.

A day later, South lost at West Seneca East, 9-1.

"They don't make many mistakes and we either turned the ball over or passed it away," said Szymendar.

Max Muscato, who leads all Billies with 19 points (13 goals, six assists) scored the lone goal for South.

The Billies closed out last week

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