?Cellar dwellers? will fight for the title in men?s hockey

The Caledon Senior Hockey League standing is now officially upside-down for the playoffs as the crown will go to one of the bottom two finishers in the regular season.

George's Arena Sports, which finished fifth in the regular season, leads the playoff round-robin following a 4-1 defeat of Rutherford Global Logistics, the regular-season champs, Monday at Don Sheardown Memorial Arena. Yale Industrial Trucks, the cellar-dwellers in the regular season, stayed in contention for the playoff title by waxing Fines Ford Lincoln 6-1. In the other game, Bolton Chiropractic Centre finally won a playoff game with a 7-5 decision over Jiffy Lube Oilers.

George's sits atop the round-robin with seven points on a 3-0-1 record while Yale has six points at 2-0-2.

In the season finale this coming Monday (April 6), George's can win the playoff crown by beating Fines Ford. Yale will win if George's loses and it beats Jiffy Lube. But in the event of a tie in points, a long series of tiebreakers will kick in.

George's 4,

Rutherford 1

Bret Smith exploded for three goals and an assist to lead George's to the win over Rutherford.

Ron Sampson also had a big night with three assists. Stephan Paccula scored the other goal while Joe Lampkin had two assists. Gary Faultless and Greg MacIssac each had an assist.

Jim Horan scored for Rutherford on a setup from Ted Callighen and Murray Hurst.

Yale 6.

Fines Ford 1

Nick Taccogna and Garth Young powered the Yale offence, as Taccogna had two goals and an assist while Young scored twice. John Castellucci and Brian (Crazy Legs) Samuel scored the other goals. Steve Tarasco and Joe (The Barber) Guaragna both notched two assists. Frank Cirone, team sponsor Al McFadyen and Randy Freitag each bagged an assist.

John Pitsadiotis scored an unassisted marker for Fines.

Bolton Chiropractic 7,

Jiffy Lube 5

Team sponsor Mike (Doctor Bend) Shore and Rick Agar were firing on all cylinders as they put up four points each.

Shore had two goals and two assists while Agar scored once and set up three other goals. Bruno Fracassi and Jeff Boyles were right behind them with three points each. Fracassi took time out from instructing the troops to bag a goal and two assists, while Boyles clicked for three helpers. Mark Perrin, Paul Speck and David Shoalts scored the other goals. John Van Wagner and Dave Armstrong had one assist each.

Jim Moyer was the top marksman for Jiffy Lube with two goals. Steve Sanderson had a goal and an assist. The other goals came from Bill Jenner and Joe Palumbo. Tony Dinis had two assists with singles going to Luch Pinarello, Mike McNamara, Rich Petrie and team sponsor Brian Fetterly.

March 23

Yale Trucks continued their Cinderella run with a 4-4 tie against George's March 23.

Both teams remain undefeated in the post-season tournament.

George's needed two late goals from Lampkin and Sampson to salvage the tie after Yale held a 4-2 lead for most of the third period. In the other games, Fines Ford edged Bolton Chiropractic 3-2 and Jiffy Lube Oilers dumped Rutherford Global Logistics 4-2. Yale 4,

George's 4

Sampson finished with two goals and an assist while Lampkin had one goal and one assist.

Maurizo Giorgio had the other goal. Smith finished with two assists and Paccula had one.

Taccogna led the Yale shooters with one goal and one assist. The other goals came from Freitag, Tony Calabro and Jim Dunbar. Single assists went to Cirone, Dan Tasson, Samuel, Joe Garagna and Castellucci.

Jiffy Lube 4,

Rutherford 2

Jenner paced the Oil Kings with a goal and two assists. Bill Doherty, Dinis and team sponsor Fetterly scored the other goals. Jim Schaefer added an assist.

Bernie Tisdale and Bob McHardy scored for Rutherford. Romas Krilavicius, Horan and Dave Boyd had one assist each.

Fines Ford 3,

Bolton Chiropractic 2

Pitsadiotis scored with 57 seconds left in the game to give the Motor Men the win over the hard-luck Bonebenders, who hit at least three goal posts during the game. Jack Gibson set up both the winning and the tying goal, which was scored by Mike Gasparini. John Pallotta scored the other Fines goal on an assist from Rod Sinclair.

Agar was the Chiropractic leader with both goals. Assists went to Speck, Van Wagner, Gary Stewart and Boyles.