

Golden Hawks give up third period lead to Cougars

By Jake Courtepatte

The Caledon Golden Hawks took two games to extra time over the weekend but came out the victor in none.

In a busy weekend of junior C action, both the Orillia Terriers and Schomberg Cougars scored in overtime to hand the Hawks their first and second overtime losses of the Provincial Junior Hockey League season.

Facing the Terriers at the West Orillia Sports Complex Saturday, the Hawks jumped out to a 3-0 lead midway through the second period, thanks to goals from Kevin Pleasance, Nicholas McNutt and Luca Capin. However, the two teams headed to the dressing room at intermission in a tie, after three quick goals got past goaltender Andrew Ireland.

Mitchell Devins-Cann traded a power-play goal with Orillia's Jake Shaw in the third, sending the game to extra time tied at four, where Dallin Blunt won it for Orillia just past a minute in.

It was a similar story when the Hawks returned to Caledon East Sunday night.

Facing the sixth-place Schomberg Cougars, who have enjoyed a hot streak of late, it was the home team that got on the board first with a backhander that snuck under the blocker of Schomberg goaltender Nicholas Nabuurs just four minutes in.

Schomberg had a chance to tie the game shortly after while on the penalty kill, with Austin Hamilton going in on a clear-cut breakaway, sending the puck just over the net. Caledon then promptly doubled their lead on a beautiful solo effort from Andrew Woods to carry it in himself from Caledon's own blue line.

The score remained 2-0 through the second period, with goaltenders on both ends making saves in the double-digit range. Caledon's Jason Cumbo preserved the shutout with a number of circus saves in the period, eventually stopping 11 Schomberg shots.

The Cougars finally broke through on the power play four minutes into the third, a high pressure situation that ended with Carter LeRoux banging in a rebound from the side of the net. They tied the game just 32 seconds later, with Kiefer McIntosh finishing a nice feed from captain JP Crescenzi.

It took less than two minutes more for Schomberg to take their first lead of the game, with Caledon's Shane Rumboldt on the ice after blocking a shot. Essentially down a man, the Hawks gave up another goal to LeRoux.

The Hawks did tie it back up, however, midway through the third when Pleasance tipped a puck past Nabuurs to send the game to overtime.

Some intense three-on-three action led to a number of chances at both ends, but it was Connor May who ended it for Schomberg with a deke to his backhand to put it over the outstretched Cumbo.

The two points earned by the Hawks through the weekend brings the team's total to 10 on the year, with a record of 4-21-2. They remain far back of the seventh place Midland Flyers in the PJHL's Carruthers division.

Three games are on the docket this week as the Hawks visit the Cougars (10-15-1) tonight (Thursday), the Penetang Kings (10-13-2) Friday, and host the league-leading Alliston Hornets (22-2-1) Sunday.

Puck drop is set for 6:30p.m. at Caledon East.

For stats, schedules and more information, visit www.jrcgoldenhawks.pointstreaksites.com



Caledon's Kevin Pleasance looks to make a pass through Schomberg's Liam Spurgeon in the Cougars' 4-3 win over the Golden Hawks at Caledon East Sunday. Photo by Jake Courtepatte