



ICE CHIPS

News and Notes

EHA Board Meeting

The next meeting of the board is scheduled for Tuesday, January 8, 2002, one week later due to New Years Day. It is held in the auditorium at Asnuntuck Community College. The meeting starts at 7:00 pm and are open to the public.

Our association meetings are held the first Tuesday of each month. The floor is open for comments and questions from our guest.

Enfield Federal Savings Yellow Jackets vs EHA Starrs

By Bob and Krista Carey

Sunday's Ice action saw the Yellow Jackets up against the EHA Starrs for the first time in the 2001 season. From the initial face off, the Yellow Jackets dominated the ice. Benjamin Fenyo got his first "hat-trick" of the season. Michael Riley and Zachary Anderson each scored a single goal to propel the Yellow Jackets in their 5-2 victory against their opponents. Strong goal-tending was provided by Brandon Carey who stopped numerous shots throughout the game. The Yellow Jacket's victory was a product of teamwork, passing and strong defensive play by all the members of the squad. Next weeks action will be just as exciting! Go... Yellow Jackets... Go!!!

U-12 Lady Eagles Run the Clippers Ashore!

By Kate Murray

On the evening of December 1st, the air was charged as the U-12 Lady Eagles hit the ice against rival team, the Cromwell Clippers. After a long drought, the Lady Eagles were determined to shutdown the Clippers and prove their mettle. From the opening face-off to the closing buzzer, the young Eagles honed in on their prey with a quiet persistence. For sure, the Clippers were left wondering how they had missed that sandbar on their game chart!

The first period found a determined group of Eagles running rush, after rush on the Clipper's net. Though the score remained 0 - 0, at the end of the first it was not from a lack of effort. Mary Michaud, a team veteran, found her stride by being back on wing. If not for the goalie's best friend, the post, Mary and Ali Murray might have scored during the first! The inability to break the Enfield offensive and defensive lines during that first period set the tone for the game. Congratulations to all lines! An all out effort was launched by every shift! No one individual prevailed, a true team effort held the opponent at bay. It was a stunned Clippers team that put into port for a stern lecture prior to the second period.

During the second, the work ethic and effort of one of the youngest EHA team members paid-off in a big way. Thirty seconds into the period Danielle Harris scored her first goal of the season by manning her position at the net. Danielle had a little help from fellow linesmen, Clavette and Michaud in her effort. There was not a dry eye in the Enfield stands! The team celebrated Danielle back to the bench. Welcome to the world of scoring Danielle - may you earn many more in the upcoming weeks of hockey!

Danielle inspired her teammates with her efforts. During the second, the Lady Eagles cemented their hold on the game. Emily Walsh earned a dramatic second goal 2 minutes into the second period. Emily took the puck on a breakaway and skated end to end to earn her team its second goal. Once is never enough for Emily, so at the six-minute mark she relieved the Clippers of the puck at the face-off and skated to victory yet again! Defensively, Eleanor Peck was on her game!

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U-12 Lady Eagles Run the Clippers Ashore!

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Stopping shots on goal and covering the puck with the tenacity of a Nor'easter! Elle kept the Clippers off-course with the assistance of her defensive squad. At the close of the first period, the score stood at 3 - 0, Enfield.

The battle continued into the third and final period of the game. Nicole Clavette scored at the 4-minute mark with the assistance of linesmen Mary Michaud and Ali Murray. A line change caught our team short during the final 23 seconds of the game, allowing the Clippers to score their one and only goal of the game. The final score rested at 4 - 1, Enfield. Congratulations Lady Eagles, keep the momentum going!

Post game, Coaches Rossignol, Gifford and Stewart noted that this game was a true team effort. Coach Rossignol stated that the team wanted to win from the drop of the first puck. The Eagles took it upon themselves to win and showed the maturity to not get rattled by a frustrated opponent. Coach Gifford stated, "They took care of business!" No one individual won the game, strength in unity persevered. Keep that spirit Lady Eagles, there's Bear on the menu this weekend!

U-12 Lady Eagles Grin and Bear It!

By Kate Murray

It was a Bear of a weekend for the U-12 Lady Eagles. The Eagles faced-off against the Northford Polar Bears on home ice on 12/8 and away in Northford on 12/9. The pairing of these two squads ruffled some fur. The last time that these rivals met fans will recall that the win went in favor of Northford, 4 - 2. Since that meeting, the young U-12 EHA team has pulled together and developed a solid portfolio of assets. This weekend found our Lady Eagles shutting out the Bear on Saturday night and forfeiting a goal to the Bears on Sunday.

What has made the difference? According to Coach Dave Rossignol, "Solid defensive play" was the key to this past weekend's games. At the heart of that defensive team was goalie, Eleanor Peck. Rossignol stated that Peck had a, "terrific weekend." Elle stopped many a Northford rush and covered the puck assertively. Though the Lady Eagles were out-shot this past weekend, their defensive squad rose to the occasion to counteract the Bears game.

The Saturday, 12/8/01, game found the two teams in the mood to rumble. Both teams hit the ice with winning in mind. The standout player of the evening was definitely, Siobhan Davis. When a line change found Siobhan alone during the second period, she stood tall and staved off one Bear of a rush!! Kudos to you, Siobhan, for your heads-up play! Coach Gifford attributed the shutout to the Lady Eagles strong back checking during the game. In particular, he noted Jenelle Herrick's confident play. On to Sunday...

Sunday's game, 12/9/01, proved to be another defensive battle. Coach Rossignol noted that the gelling of his defensive pairs was key to the team's success. He complimented the strong teamwork and positional play of the defensive pairings of Vicky Heyse/Siobhan Davis and Lauren Little/Ali Murray. Of course, it did not hurt that Elle Peck was hot! Offensively, the coaches recognized the aggressive play of Morgan Ouellette, taking on opponents at the boards with ease and determination. Brianna Buchalski played "heads-up hockey," covering the point on defensive rushes. Though Nicole Clavette and Emily Walsh's multiple attempts on net did not pay-off this past weekend, the Bears were left with a higher level of respect for their play.

Loyal fans will stay tuned for the next pairing of the Eagles and the Bears. The Lady Eagles are definitely clawing at the cave. 'Tis the season and you never know when the Eagle will catch the Bear hibernating!

Enfield GSL Bantams Not To Be Intimidated

By Craig Robinson

On Saturday, November 24th the two of the most promising teams the Greater Springfield League Bantam South Division faced one another for the first time. The Westfield Wings II and the Enfield Eagles had not faced off previously during the regular season or the preseason evaluation games. The Wings and the Eagles have both been flying high in their GSL Division Standings. The Wings in first place had won their first three games with stellar defense and goaltending allowing a total of only two goals. The Eagles were in second place having a powerful offense that scored an amazing 22 goals in its first four games. The team had also demonstrated a solid defense and goaltending as shown by the limited goals scored against them. This was a matchup that players, coaches and parents knew would be exciting.

The Eagles learned early in the first period that the Wings record was not built on defense alone as their offense dominated the puck for much of that period. The Eagles missed the loss of Travis Knightly who as second line center had scored nine points in his last three games. He has moved on to High School hockey. Travis was rarely suckered in to commit retaliatory penalties, didn't swear at refs (even when they deserved it) and was an all round positive influence on the team. The Enfield offense would occasionally rally to briefly get the puck into the offensive zone only to be stripped of the puck and have to chase the Wings back into our zone. Even Ben Quesnal whose skillful skating has allowed him to skate the puck around entire teams in earlier games and score was getting stripped of the puck.

Despite solid defensive work by Fred Conner, Jeremy Seam, Mike LaJoie, Mike Watson, Nathan LaPlante and Tony Nelson the Wings were able to get off several good shots in the first period. Enfield Goalie Brandon Brown clearly kept us in the game first period as he made one incredible save after another. While always providing solid goal tending in previous games this was his best showing yet. His skills will be needed even more in the future as the teams other solid goalie Aaron Williams has left the team to play High School hockey.

As the Wings became frustrated towards the end of the first period they attempted to intimidate the Eagles. The checking became more physical and elbows to the head out of view to the refs became more common. None of the Eagles backed down. Even the team's smallest offensive skater Nicholas Kuzaczka was not intimidated as he aggressively challenged

whichever Wings player had the puck. Unfortunately a couple Eagles did retaliate and the retaliation were the first penalties the refs happen to see. The Eagles were able to kill the penalties and the first period ended scoreless.

Clearly tension and frustration was rising in the second period. One would never know these two teams entered this game with good penalty records. What the Wings couldn't accomplish with skill they attempted to accomplish with illegal physical intimidation. Too frequently retaliatory punches or roughing from the Eagles occurred so they did not benefit from many power plays. Much of the second period had two people in each penalty box. Both teams had a total of 31.5 penalty minutes by the end of the game. While the Wings may have instigated the Eagles to commit many of their penalties the stats shows retaliation does not pay. Enfield had 8 penalties totaling 16.5 minutes while the Wings only had 7.

After intense offensive pressure the Wings finally scored a goal 10:38 into the second period. The Eagles not to be outdone made an immediate comeback ten seconds later. Dustin Cormier stripped a Wings player of the puck in the neutral zone, made a break-away and shot. It rebounded but Ben Quesnal was in position to shoot and get the goal. The score remained 1-1 as the Wings stepped up their physical attack on the Eagles. Nick with an elbow to the head was lifted off his skates and shoved into the glass. He remained on the ice for a couple minutes before he was able to get up. This may have been a turning point in the game. No body likes to see a big guy creaming a little guy. The Eagles came back on the ice with even greater determination. Mike Boice drew a penalty and to his credit didn't retaliate resulting in one of the few power plays for the team. The Eagles offense which also included Rick Cousineau, Craig Lamond, Keith Loiselle and Chris Robinson dominated the rest of the second period spending most of the time in the offensive zone.

The Eagles continued to control the puck going into the third period. About 3 1/2 minutes into the period Ben Quesnal scored his second goal of the game with a beautifully executed one-timer with assists by Dustin Cormier and Mike Boice. The Wings redoubled their efforts and the Eagles went into a defensive mode to protect their lead. Panic set in on the Eagles bench towards the end of the third period when Goalie Brandon Brown was injured. He continued to play with his injuries. Due to the good defense he had only to make a couple more incredible saves before the game ended.. When the Zamboni clock ran out the Eagles Bantams had beaten the first place Westfield Wings II by a score of 2-1 in a victory to be proud of.

GSL Bantams Lose To Holy Name

By Craig Robinson

The only team to beat the GSL Bantam team in regular season play has done it again in a game we would all rather forget. The Eagles came into the game having just upset the #1 team in the GSL Bantam "B" division in a 2-1 victory over the Westfield Wings II team the day before.

The game with Holy Name started out fine. Shortly into the first period Mike Boice makes a break away shot. The goalie stops the puck but it falls on the ice in front only to be tapped into the net giving the Eagles the initial lead. A little more than a minute later Holy Name ties it up. At the end of the first period Holy Name makes a breakaway and scores with 3 seconds on the clock.

The Eagles fought back. Two minutes and 15 seconds into the second period Ben Quesnal outskates two defensemen and scores a shorthanded goal tying the game. Unfortunately things went south for there. The Eagles committed far too many penalties giving Holy Name a perpetual power play. Despite solid defense by Mike LaJoie, Fred Connor and Tony Nelson the Holy Name team was able to score on the power play with one minute remaining in the second period. More Eagle penalties and Holy Name scored once more before the end of the period.

In the first minute of the third period Mike Boice took a slap shot, skated in and shot his own rebound only to be denied again. A minute later Holy Name scored again. Too many penalties by the Eagles made it difficult to score again. Final Score Eagles 2 - Holy Name 5.

GSL Bantams Suffers Disappointing Tie with Amherst

By Craig Robinson

When these teams met before the Eagles creamed Amherst in a lopsided 8-2 victory. Amherst in its 7 games prior to Saturday December 1st had lost 6 and tied 1 with Westfield#1 who had also not won a game. The Eagles on November 24th had just beaten the number 1 team in the division. What happened on December 1st between these two teams? Was it the fact that the Eagles had no scheduled practice the week before the game or was it a coaching line experiment gone awry or did Amherst just show overnight improvement? What ever it was... it was ugly!

The first period was relatively uneventful. Most notable was a slap shot on net from Mike Boice and another from the blue line by Mike Watson. The Amherst goalie stopped both and the period ended with no score on the boards.

About 4 ½ minutes into the second period Chris Robinson who had been unusually aggressive this game with a couple solid checks in the first period got a penalty for interference. Amherst took good advantage on the power play. On a breakaway by Amherst the covering Eagles Defenseman Mike Lajoie lost an edge but Mike Boice in a burst of speed skated back and dove on the ice to knock the puck away. With only 20 seconds left on the power play Amherst made another drive and scored the first goal. (It should be noted that the team has lost one of its better Defenseman Jeremy Seam to high school hockey. His skating, checking and great defensive plays will be missed. Good luck Jeremy.) About a minute later the Eagles answered back as Nick Kuzaczka put a nicely placed shot in the back of the net. He was assisted by Nate Laplant and Keith Loiselle. The second period ended 1-1.

Enfield parents anticipated the third period to be where the Eagles came to life. We were not disappointed ...initially. Early in the period Defenseman Mike Lajoie expertly worked the puck into the Amherst zone and passed to Rick Cousineau. Rick made a perfect pass right in front of the net to Dustin Cormier who made one-timers look easy with a shot that escaped the Amherst goalie. The Eagles lead 2-1.

Now for the ugly part. Star Defenseman Fred Connor got a tripping penalty about 4 minutes into the period. Less than a minute later Amherst had another goal and tied the game. Fortunately Mike Boice's slashing penalty which occurred just prior was cancelled. With 2:44 left in the period Nate LaPlante goes to the penalty box and the Eagles had to defend against another power play. The last minute and a half at even strength resulted in a flourish of activity by the Eagles, a few good shots but a disappointing tie.

Enfield GSL Bantams Shut Out Westfield I

By Craig Robinson

The Eagles started the first period of its 12/8 game with a new second goalie in net: Mike Mamunes. We also gained a forward Ryan Holloway. Welcome aboard Mike and Ryan. The team's *former star* Defenseman Fred Connor is now playing for the Enfield Bantam "B" team which is undefeated this year. Good luck Fred, we sure will miss your excellent defensive play.

The Eagles shrugged off their tie with Amherst, had a practice on Monday night (it does make a difference for those that attend), and got back in their groove. Enfield controlled the puck for most of the game. Mike Boice got the first goal off an assist from Keith Loiselle about 4 minutes into the game. Less than a minute later Westfield offense skated past the Eagles defense leaving a 1 on 0 but Goalie Mike Mamunes came out of the net and poked the puck away before a shot could be taken. Halfway through the first Enfield drew the first penalty. While shorthanded Defenseman Mike Watson took a powerful slap shot from the neutral zone that went ringing off the post. With 3:14 left in the first Enfield set up its points. Dustin Cormier passed to Mike Lajoie who took a shot from the blue line and got his first goal of the season. (Chris Robinson claims this one hit the blade off his stick as it shot past him into the net but acknowledges Mike's well aimed shot needed no re-direction. Chris however took a hard hit to the head later in the game so his short term memory may be in doubt). The second period ended 2-0 with two penalties per team.

The second period left Enfield short handed most of the time but still controlling the puck. Center Ben Quesnel had two nice breakaways this period and 1 on 0 situations. One shot was high left and the other high right but the goalie stopped him cold. Trying a different approach about 5 minutes into the period he came down the ice in a 2 on 2 and makes a perfect pass to Wing Rick Cousineau who takes the shot and gets the third goal of the game. Thirty seconds later Keith Loiselle makes the fourth goal assisted by Craig Lamond and Mike Lajoie. About half way through the period with a loose puck and numerous bodies in front of the net Nick Kuzaczka dives for the puck and flips it into the net somehow winding up on top of Westfield's goaltender in the process. The goal

counted making the score 5-0. Defenseman Tony Nelson got a penalty ten seconds later resulting in a subsequent breakaway by Westfield and one of their few good scoring opportunities of the game. Mike Mamunes made an excellent save. Mike Boice took a wicked hard slap shot with 1:32 left in the period that the Westfield goalie amazingly deflected.

The only goal of the third period was scored in the first 30 seconds by Eagle's Dustin Cormier assisted by once again, Mike Lajoie who not only played tremendous defense but got some points this game. The remainder of the third period resulted in more penalties for Enfield and a few more scoring chances for Westfield. Fortunately Enfield Goalie Brandon Brown who was in net for that period was up for the challenge and made some excellent saves.

Although some of the (8) penalty calls against Enfield in the second and third period were questionable the team still had far too many. This could have caused a loss to a stronger team. Fortunately for Enfield the Westfield I team was unable to take many quality shots.

Enfield GSL Bantams Tie Keene Again

By Craig Robinson

This is the second match up with Keene. In the first game Chris Robinson had scored his first goal of the season on his first line out. But both teams played a solid physical game and there were no further goals until late in the second period. Don't be fooled by the fact that Keene had the second lowest total penalty minutes in the GSL Bantam South Division...they check hard. Both teams worked hard and wound up with a 4-4 tie.

The second game took place at Olympia on 12/9. It started with neither team dominating the puck but like the last game Enfield got the first and only goal in the first period. The goal was scored at 6:41 by Keith Loiselle assisted by Craig Lamond. A Keene penalty was called with 2 minutes left in the first period. Despite some incredible rushes by Ben Quesnel and others the team could not convert.

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Enfield GSL Bantams Tie Keene Again

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The second period got a little rougher as Nate Laplante was given a solid check lifting him off his skates and into the Keene bench. At 8:46 Ben Quesnal is tripped on a breakaway and somersaults through the air. Keene got the penalty. Undaunted Ben comes back on the power play skating around four Keene players and gets off a perfect shot on goal only to have it stopped by an equally impressive save. At 4:57 in the 2nd period Enfield got a break when penalties were called on two Keene skaters. With a two man advantage about 30 seconds later Craig Lamond hit the back of the net just under the bar on the glove side. He was assisted by Ben Quesnal and Nate Laplante. At 3:37 Ben Quesnal got a penalty for roughing for what appeared to be a legal but incredibly enthusiastic check that propelled a Keene skater across the ice. While on the power play Keene knocked Mike LaJoie down on the ice and made a breakaway. Despite a great effort by Defenseman Mike Watson Keene was able to score at 2:29. Back at even strength Mike Boice made a rush down the ice and in a 2-on-2 situation made a perfect pass to Ray Holloway who took the shot and got the goal. Keene then put on a tremendous offensive drive and controlled the puck for the rest of the period. Shots were peppered at Goalie Brandon Brown who made four outstanding saves only to have Keene get a shot into the net while he was down on the ice 11 seconds before the end of the second period.

This Keene team has stamina and it showed in the third period. Within three minutes Keene had tied the game at 3-3 with a 1-on-0 drive to the net. The play went back and forth as Enfield tried to get a pull ahead goal but Keene put up a battle. The last minute of the game was all Keene offense. With a 2-0 Enfield Goalie Mike Mamunes made an incredible glove save on a shot so hard we couldn't see the puck. Thirty seconds later he had to make another incredible glove save on a shot to the upper corner of the net. Goalie Mamunes held the game to a tie as the Zamboni buzzer went off. The team is to be commended for only having 3 penalties in a very physical game. This also probably prevented a tie from becoming a loss.

Enfield GSL Bantams Lose to Greenfield, 4-3

By Craig Robinson

Greenfield got the first goal with Goalie Brandon Brown in net about a minute and one half into the first period. About two minutes later Enfield had a 2-on-1 drive down the ice. Chris Robinson made a nice centering pass to Nick Kuzaczka who's one-timer was smothered by the Greenfield goalie. About half way through the first period Greenfield had an offensive flurry. Brandon Brown easily handled the first few shots but finally a Greenfield blast from the blue line found its way into the net.

Almost two minutes into the second period Greenfield gets a shorthanded goal and things looked bleak for the Eagles who have never been down 3-0 in a game before. But the Enfield team showed grit. Mike Boice stealing the puck sprinted down the ice shot his own rebound only to be denied a second time. Brandon made a couple good saves to keep things from getting worse for the Eagles. About half way through the period Defenseman Mike Watson passes to Ben Quesnel who got a breakaway. He waited for the Goalie to go down before he shot getting the first goal for the Eagles. The whole Enfield bench came to life. Despite the offensive pressure that Enfield began to mount the Greenfield team got its 4th goal on a shot from the blue line with 3 minutes left to the period. Goalie Mike Mamunes was in net. Before the end of the period Ben Quesnel on a short handed line would skate around Greenfield streak down the ice and get his second goal.

Third period Enfield kept the pressure on. Defenseman Mike Lajoie and center Mike Boice made several bone crunching checks on Greenfield skaters. Defensemen Tony Nelson, Nathan Laplante and Mike Watson kept Greenfield's shots on goal to a minimum and the Eagles offensive skaters put their game into high gear. Ben Quesnal on another breakaway got a hat trick. The score stood 3-4 in a tremendous come from behind struggle by the Eagles. Although penalties against Enfield in the third period mounted and at times Greenfield had a two man advantage Greenfield would be denied another goal. With one minute left in the period the Enfield goalie was pulled. A Greenfield skater broke away with the puck. Chris Robinson who was just coming off bench sprinted cross ice and dove to successfully block the shot from the unprotected Enfield net. Despite a determined offensive push for the last minute by Enfield the team could not make the tying goal.

Pee Wee A's Goalies/Defense Lead to an Undefeated Weekend

By Joanne and Alex Kapinos

The Pee Wee A's opened up against West Haven on Saturday at friendly Bennett arena. With Justin Harden in the net for the Eagles the game plan was flawless defense to support Justin. As period one opened up Enfield jumped to a quick lead as Nick Kapinos found the net at the 44 second mark. The game continued into the second period as Enfield peppered West Haven with 25 shots. The story of the game came on the defensive side as Tim Giguere, Adam Cartier, Mark Zabicki and Zach Daniels played flawlessly. The foursome allowed no odd rushes or solid shots for West Haven all game. The "lights went out" for West Haven in the third period as Jimmy Thompson added Enfield's second goal assisted by Andrew Caronna and Nick Kapinos. Late in the third period Aaron Pion added an unassisted goal to make the final score 3-0 and Justin Harden's shut out performance in the net.

There was only enough time to stop for lunch before heading off to host Wallingford at Cromwell for a rematch with the Hawks. This was second game of the day for both teams and the match opened up evenly with Andy Nacin in the net. Enfield's defense continued their solid play from earlier in the day. Enfield got on the board first with a wrist shot from Nick Kapinos after a nice feed from Andrew Caronna. Momentum changed for Wallingford in the second period as the Eagles temporarily forgot how to breakout of the zone and Wallingford scored.

Period 3 started off with aggressive play from Aaron Simons, Joe Fusco and Mike Furey who all played well throughout the game. With 4 minutes left in the game the well rested line of Thompson, Caronna, and Kapinos broke the puck out of the zone and headed for the net, off a smart pass from Andrew Caronna, Nick Kapinos scored the eventually game winning goal with 3 minutes left. Another great game from Zach, Tim, Mark, Adam and Justin.

The A's headed to Loomis for a Sunday morning match against Northern in an attempt to complete an undefeated weekend and shut out for goalie Andy Nacin. Enfield quickly opened as Jim Thompson

found the back of the net off a Nick Kapinos pass. Aaron Pion then scored off a nice pass from Matt Vozollo who kept it alive in the corner to give Enfield a 2-0 lead. Within 40 seconds Aaron found another puck in the crease to give Enfield a 3-0 lead, this one was assisted by Zach Daniels and Matt Vozollo. Period 2 opened up with more solid defense and a fourth Enfield goal by Matt Vozolla assisted by Adam Cartier and Jeff Harris. The third period finished off the Black bears as Mike Furey kept the puck alive with hard work and scored Enfield's unassisted fifth goal. The slaughter continued as Aaron Pion got a "Hat Trick", his third goal assisted by Jeff Harris. Enfield closed out the scoring as Nick Kapinos assisted by Andrew Caronna put the seventh goal in the net for a 7-0 Enfield win. Goalie Andy Nacin earned his first shut out of the year and the Pee Wee A's capped a 3 win weekend.

Pee Wee "B"s at Full Strength Against West Haven

By Paul Rivard

After a month-long stretch plagued by injuries, the Enfield B's were finally dressing the full squad and were rewarded with a long-overdue 4-1 win against West Haven.

Enfield drew first blood with a first period goal from Scott Duguay. Scotty found the back of the net cleanly after receiving a nice back-hand pass in the slot from Garrett Rivard.

Period two saw only one goal and that was from the stick of Luke Anderson off a nice feed from Alex Grandahl.

The tenacious West Haven team finally got on the scoreboard early in the final period, only to be answered one minute later by a nice goal off the stick of Anthony Sarno. Sarno and James Drummey broke into West Haven territory on a high speed two-on-one. Drummey sent a crisp and perfectly timed pass (one that would have made Mr. Gretzky smile) right onto Sarno's stick on the West Haven doorstep. The final goal to seal the victory for Enfield was an empty netter from Rivard, back after a month out with a broken thumb.

The entire Enfield defensive squad was solid throughout the game, with special mention going to Tim Lawless who turned in his most aggressive game thus far in the season. Goaltending was solid by Nate Allard, playing in only his second game after returning from a knee injury that also had him warming the bench with Rivard for the past month.

Key to this win for Enfield was a noticeable improvement in their time of possession, in their transition game, and shots on goal (though shots were not recorded, it was safe to assume that our B's out-shot West Haven by a 4 to 1 ratio).

Pee Wee B2 Earns First Shutout

By David Orszulak

The EHA Pee Wee B2 team finally broke out with an offensive explosion, overwhelming and completely outplaying WTM2 in a Greater Springfield League regular season game. Kyle Houlihan opened the scoring midway through the 1st period on a goal assisted by Eric Cournoyer and Ben Broadhurst who made a perfect pass from deep in the corner. The Eagles would take control of the game for good with three goals in the 2nd period. Andrew Pantuosco converted on a nice passing play involving Peter Devylder and Cournoyer. Just 12 seconds later, Tyler Orszulak would convert a beautiful one timer off a great pass from Zach Lavender, with Pantuosco drawing the other assist. Later as the period drew to a close, Jordan Knightly scored with assists to Eric Rubin and Drew Thompson which staked EHA to a 4 - 0 lead after two. Even though EHA tried to let up in the third period with a big lead, nevertheless they continued to do all the right things. Dan Aikins bagged his first goal of the season converting on a scramble in front of the net with assists again going to Rubin and Thompson. Other third period goals were scored by Matt Poremba (Lavender and Brian Buchalski assisting), Orszulak (from Buchalski and Pantuosco) and Houlihan (from Devylder) as the Eagles cruised to the 8 - 0 win while goaltender Eric Nasuta recorded the team's first shutout of the season.

Pee Wee B2 Look Sharp Against Amherst

By David Orszulak

For the third time this young season - once in the evaluation round and once in the regular season - the EHA Pee Wee B2 team faced an Amherst team which thus far had managed to frustrate the Eagles with two wins. This time around though the Eagles looked sharp right out of the gate as they swarmed all over the Amherst end early on with Kyle Houlihan opening the scoring of a nice passing play involving line mates Ben Broadhurst and Jordan Knightly. However Amherst quickly turned the game around scoring two quick goals

to take a 2 - 1 lead midway through the 2nd period. Later in the period, the game and the momentum would turn while the Eagles were shorthanded as Matt Poremba took a clearing pass from Tyler Orszulak and Zach Lavender and went through the entire Amherst team to tie the score at 2 each. But within the opening minute of the 3rd period, Amherst went ahead again and it looked like the Eagles' frustrations against this team would continue. But the Eagles refused to quit as Broadhurst scored his second goal of the game, assisted by Knightly and Nick Goulet. As the game wound down and began to look like it would end in a 3 - 3 deadlock, Knightly broke through the Amherst defense off a feed from Lavender and scored the game winner. The defense, in particular Lavender and Brian Buchalski, and goaltender Eric Nasuta were solid down the stretch as the Eagles improved their regular season GSL record to 3 - 4 - 2.

Enfield Squirt A Team Wins Thanksgiving Tournament

By Bill Bolton

The Enfield Squirt A team stayed at home during the Thanksgiving break being one of the host teams for Enfield's own Thanksgiving Tournament. In the Squirt Division the teams entered were Enfield, South Windsor, Middlesex, and the New York Cyclones. The first game of the tournament for Enfield was on Friday afternoon against South Windsor. Enfield controlled the play from the start and put their first goal in the net at the 6:22 mark of first period. The goal was an unassisted effort by Joe Giordano. Enfield continued to move the puck well and generated several great scoring opportunities. The second goal of the game came with 1:52 left in the first. Eric Chamberland rifled the puck into the net from the high slot on a feed from Branden Chicorka. Steve Alexander put the game away early in the second when he buried a pass from Joe Giordano to put Enfield up 3-0. At the end of the game with no time left on the clock South Windsor was awarded a controversial goal making the final score Enfield-3 South Windsor-1.

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Enfield Squirt A Team Wins Thanksgiving Tournament

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On Saturday morning Enfield played their second game of the tournament. The opponent was Middlesex. The Enfield Squirt A's came out strongly in this one and put it away early. By the end of the first period it was Enfield-5 and Middlesex-0. The goals were by Brian Sullivan, Branden Chicorka, Derek Michaud, Joshua Stein, and Joe Giordano. The assists went to Branden Chicorka, Joshua Stein, David Lloyd, and Jake Bolton. From the second period on the game became very physical as Middlesex tried to disrupt the flow of the game. This was to no avail, as Middlesex was never allowed to generate any kind of offense. Brian Sullivan gave Enfield a 6-0 lead at 2:50 of the second period and that would be how the game would end. Final Score: Enfield-6 Middlesex-0.

By Sunday morning Enfield had already secured a spot in the tournament finals but still had to take on the New York Cyclones for their third and final preliminary game. This game was a lopsided match up from the start. With less than 5 minutes played in the game Enfield had already taken a 3-0 lead. The mismatch continued with Enfield winning in the end 9-0. Thomas Grigely had a hat trick with Branden Chicorka, Jake Bolton, Brian Sullivan, Steve Alexander, Joe Giordano, and Eric Chamberland adding one each. Brian Sullivan, Zach Chmelowski, Eric Chamberland, and Branden Chicorka each had two assists while Thomas Grigely, Steve Alexander, Joe Giordano, and Jake Bolton added one.

So the finals were set. The Championship Game would match Enfield against South Windsor at 12:00pm. This was just 90 minutes after Enfield had completed their third game. In the first period the Enfield brass fired 7 shots at the South Windsor goalie scoring on 2 of them. Both goals were by Branden Chicorka with one of them unassisted and the other one on a pass from Brian Sullivan. At times Enfield had shown signs of slowing down in the second period but today this would not be the case. Enfield was determined to hoist the Championship Trophy and added two more goals in the second to insure their celebration. Both goals in this period were scored by Joe Giordano the first one unassisted and the second one from Jake Bolton. Brian Sullivan added a goal at the 8:14 mark of the third period making the final score Enfield-5 SouthWindsor-0. The shots on net for the game were Enfield-24 and South Windsor-11. The Enfield boys celebrated their championship, each taking a turn carrying the trophy around the rink. For the tournament Enfield had scored 23 goals and given up 1.

Enfield Squirt A Splits on the Road

By Bill Bolton

On Saturday afternoon the Enfield Squirt A team traveled to East Haven to take on a perennial Division 1 team. East Haven had beaten several of the best teams in the state and Enfield knew that this game would be a real test. The game started over an hour late as there was a high school jamboree being played. The Enfield A team didn't get a locker room until the zamboni was already preparing the ice for the big Squirt A match up. Soft ice and water patches all over the ice surface hindered the early part of the game. Both teams struggled to find a rhythm as the play continued pretty much even. With 6:26 left in the first period East Haven got a huge break. Zach Nolan made a blocker save that bounced off a defenseman out front and back into the net. East Haven took the lead 1-0. The game remained scoreless until the 6:31 mark of the second period when East Haven took a 2-0 lead. Enfield had been dominating the ice surface but was unable to get the puck past a phenomenal East Haven goalie. Just 3 minutes later Enfield finally got on the board. After a scramble in front of East Haven's net Brian Sullivan dug the puck out of the pile skated around the sprawled goalie and buried the puck in the net. The assist went to Thomas Grigely. By the end of the second Enfield had out shot East Haven 15-5 but they were behind 2-1. The third period was played at a tremendous pace with both teams flying up and down the ice. With 56 seconds left in the game Enfield pulled their goalie and tried to tie the score. The Enfield big guns pressured East Haven keeping the puck in the offensive zone for the remainder of the game but were unable to score. Enfield had played well out shooting East Haven 22-10 but had lost the game 2-1. Final Score: East Haven-2 Enfield-1.

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Enfield Squirt A Splits on the Road

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On Sunday afternoon the team headed to Darien to take on the Darien A team. This game was considered to be the biggest game so far this year for the Enfield Squirt A's. Darien A had refused to play the Enfield Eagles for the last 3 years at the Squirt A level even though Enfield had defeated the Darien A1 team 8-0 and 3-0 in the 2000-2001 season. This year however would be different. Darien had finally agreed to have Enfield down to Darien for a game. Darien knew how well the Enfield squirt A's were doing this season and knew that if they wanted to end up as one of the top teams in the state again this year they would have to beat Enfield. The game began at an extremely fast pace. Both teams moved the puck well and created several opportunities. It was clear that this was the toughest team Enfield had faced this season. The game saw no scoring until the 10-second mark of the first period. Joe Giordano crossed the blue and fired a high shot that found it's way past Darien's goalie into the top right corner of the net. Enfield had taken the lead 1-0! The play remained pretty much even throughout the second period as well until Branden Chicorka broke the game open. With just 54 seconds left in the second he made a brilliant rush that left the puck right on the goalie's doorstep for Brian Sullivan to put home. The assists of course went to Branden and Joe Giordano. With Darien realizing that they were in trouble of losing the game began to get physical. This would cost Darien, as Enfield would put the game away on a power play goal with just 1:46 left in the game. The goal was an empty netter by Branden Chicorka assisted by Brian Sullivan and Joe Giordano. Enfield had met the task and sent Darien A off their home ice with a 3-0 loss. Final Score: Enfield-3 Darien-0. Zach Nolan made 21 saves in route to his 9th shutout of the season. At this point Enfield is 13-3-1 in the CHC.

Enfield Squirt A Team Adds Two More Wins

By Bill Bolton

On Saturday afternoon the Enfield Squirt A team traveled to their "home away from home" rink in Simsbury, Connecticut to play a determined Central Squirt A Team. Central did not have a lot of "stand out" talent but they were well coached and played an aggressive style of hockey. The first meeting between these two teams ended in a 2-2 tie and Enfield was committed to setting the record straight. The game started off at an even pace with both teams getting scoring opportunities with 5 shots on net each. It would be Enfield however who would post an entry on the scoreboard first. Branden Chicorka scored the goal from Eric Chamberland at the 6:07 mark of the period. With just :04 left in period Joe Giordano would add an unassisted power play goal to give Enfield a 2-0 lead. From this point on Enfield took control of the game determined to keep Central off the board. Enfield had posted a 2-0 lead in the last meeting only to see Central come back and tie the game. In this match however Enfield continued their strong level of play. Zach Nolan also continued his dominating ways in net making several key saves. With 2:05 left in the second period Joe Giordano put the game away with another unassisted tally. Enfield was up for good 3-0. Over the last two periods Enfield out shot Central 17-6 in route to Zach Nolan's 10th shutout of the season. Final Score: Enfield-3 Central-0.

On Sunday morning it was off to Northford, Connecticut to take on Greater New Haven's Squirt A Team. On paper this should have been an easy win for the Enfield boys and the results went as predicted. The Enfield Squirt A's rushed onto the ice surface for warm-ups and didn't stop there. Right from the opening face-off Enfield controlled the puck. By the end of the second period Enfield had out shot Greater New Haven 16-3 and thanks to a hat trick by Branden Chicorka taken a 3-0 lead. Eric Chamberland picked up two assists and Thomas Grigely one. The dominance carried right through the third period as Enfield added 3 more goals. It was the Josh Stein/David Lloyd show as they both figured in on all three. The first one was a great shot by Josh with the assists going to Matt Cartier and David Lloyd. The second one came off a great play by David. Josh had worked the puck to the net and fired a low hard shot to the right side of the goalie. David had worked his way past his defender and buried the rebound that had dropped right on the doorstep. The last goal was all David Lloyd. It was Josh who was credited with the goal as he was the one to actually fire it into the net but it was David's hard work that made the play possible. David carried the puck down the right wing, faked an inside move on the defenseman, and carried it wide into the corner. As he continued toward the net he eyed Josh trailing in the high slot and immediately fired a perfect pass that Josh put home. If not for a bad bounce that put Greater New Haven on the board Enfield would have recorded another shut out. But this would not be the case. Enfield had been strong throughout ending with edge in shots 24-4 which gave them the victory. Final Score: Enfield-6 Greater New Haven-1. The Enfield Squirt A's record in CHC now stands at 15-3-1 with a goal's against average of .895.

Squirt “A-1”s Start December Off 3-0

After the long thanksgiving break the A-1's were eager to get back on the ice. Saturday they traveled to Bridgeport to take on their A team. The Eagles scored 1st, 5:01 into the 1st period, it was Kyle Dyer ripping one in on a perfect pass from David Cardoropoli. Bridgeport tied it at 1 2 minutes later and then the game took on the air of a championship game as both teams had excellent chances to score, 3:55 into the 3rd Mike Cherpak blistered one high into the net assisted by Collin McGunigle and DJ DeGray to put Enfield up 2-1. Bridgeport really put the pressure on after that and Kyle Murkowicz, Matt Simons, Nick Dwyer and Ed Dukette worked hard to keep the lead. Scott Andrewsikas came up with many spectacular saves and the Eagles held on for the win.

Sunday mourning the A-1's hosted East Haven and took it to the Easties for a 6-0 victory, Stephen Daddario opened the scoring with a top shelf score assisted by Ben Kapinos and Matt Reda. Kyle Dyer continued his scoring streak assisted by David Cardoropoli and Ben Kapinos. DJ DeGray scored 2 unassisted goals on turnovers caused by aggressive fore-checking. David Cardoropoli scored assisted by Collin McGunigle and Kyle Dyer and Collin closed out the scoring assisted by DJ and Ed Dukette. Another shutout for Scott Andrewsikas.

Game 3 the Eagles traveled to West Haven for a Sunday night game. Wanting to get a quick start, the A-1's scored 44 seconds in on a nice goal by David Cardoropoli, assisted by Pete Aikins and Scott Andrewsikas. The Westies tied it at 1 with 2:35 left, as Kyle Dyer was overwhelmed in net. The Eagles jumped back in the lead with 0:28 left in the 1st scored by Mike Cherpak, assisted by Collin McGunigle. Nick Dwyer and Ed Dukette stepped up on defense to keep the Westies off the board. The game became rough as W. H. tried to come back, but Kyle Dyer was up to the task in goal. At the 7:12 of the 3rd Matt Reda scored unassisted on a W. H. turnover and put the A-1's up 3-1 to secure the victory.

Squirt “A-1”s Now at 5-0 for December

After a no show Friday night by Central the A-1's were ready to go Saturday morning as Wallingford came into town to revenge an earlier loss to Enfield. The Eagles got off to a slow start and with 4:24 left in the first the Hawks got first blood. In the second the weary Eagles came out flying and Ben Kapinos put one in at the 9:40 mark assisted by DJ DeGray and Collin McGunigle. Nine minutes later the Eagles took the lead on a goal by DJ and assists by Colin and Kyle Murkowicz. The Hawks kept up the pressure and the defense of Ed Dukette and Kyle Murkowicz keep them off the scoreboard. Four minutes into the third Mike Cherpak scored one just under the crossbar assisted by Collin McGunigle for his 3rd assist of the game. The team turned it up a notch and never let the Hawks back in the game for the 3-1 win.

On Sunday mourning the Eagles braved the weather and went south to take on Greater New Haven. The Eagles scored first by David Cardoropoli, assisted by Pete Aikens to end the first 1-0. In the second the team came out flat and GNH scored twice to take a 2-1 lead after two. In the 3rd after Coach Bob's pep talk the A-1's came out flying and scored four goals to get the 5-2 win. David Cardoropoli added his second assisted by Kyle Dyer. DJ DeGray scored next assisted by Collin McGunigle. Mike Cherpak added the next 2, one unassisted and the other assisted by Ben Kapinos. Scott Andrewsikas came up with some big saves in net and Nick Dwyer and Matt Simons turned up the defense to keep GNH at bay. Great job guys, you worked hard to come back in this one.

Squirt “A-1”s Split for the Weekend

The A-1's hosted Darien's A-1 and gave a lackluster performance losing 4-1. Collin McGunigle scored the lone Eagles goal assisted by DJ DeGray and Nick Dwyer. It was time to regroup and see if we could find the winning way for Sunday.

Sunday morning and off to Milford to take on the always strong Southern Stars. Ben Kapinos found the scoring touch early at the 10:22 mark of the first. Mike Cherpak earned the lone assist. Matt Reda working hard just missed a tip in on a nice centering pass from Stephen Daddario. In the second period Kyle Dyer scored unassisted as he rocketed one that was tipped by the Southern defense and found it's way to the back of the net. Pete Aikens and David Cardoropoli worked hard on the forecheck that caused the turnover. Ed Dukette and Matt Simons tied up the Stars in front of the net to foil many scoring chances. Nick Dwyer and Kyle Murkowicz did a great job on the penalty kill to keep Southern scoreless and Scott Andrewsikas had some spectacular saves to earn another shutout for the 2-0 win.

Squirt B Wins Thanksgiving Tournament

After a day of "rest" and turkey the Squirt B players and their families were on the road to play in a Thanksgiving tournament in the Berkshires. I apologize ahead of time to all those players who scored and assisted because I don't have the official scoresheet to reference. I can only give some highlights of the games. One thing for sure, this team and the families sure know how to have some fun. It was a productive weekend in more ways than one. We all have a lot to be thankful for and we are all truly blessed.

We started off by playing a team from Bedford New York. Despite some very hard skating and some hard work, this team dominated. This team also crushed the other entries, soon realizing that they were out of their league. They were an experienced "A" team and in the honor of true sportsmanship they withdrew from the tournament leaving the remaining teams on level playing ground. (Or skating ice)

The Berkshire and the Millbrook teams proved to be more competitive. The players were evenly matched allowing our kids to be challenged as well as excel. The games were very even and exciting. The kids were physical, fast and probably the best competition we have had in a while. We went on to beat both teams and win the championship game on Sunday. There was a lot to be proud of and a lot of memories for these kids to enjoy.

We parents had some fun too, some of us enjoyed shopping sprees, we especially liked "Catherine's Hand Dipped Chocolate Shop" The guys especially liked the Brewery where we, as a team (All 50 of us) had "lunch". I am not sure they have recovered from those "hockey players". Between games there was a trip to the bowling alley for mini golf and bowling it was a lot of fun for the team and their families. We would all like to thank the coaches for their generosity.

There were some memorable moments at the games too. Ronnie Fasano set all records driving to KMart for shoes. Cathi Walsh did a good job yelling "SCOTTYYYYYYYYYYYY" when Bonnie wasn't there. She also filled in for Kelly Allard with her trademark "HEY!" as Zach was being attacked on the ice. What that

team didn't realize was that the more they go after Zack the harder he plays. He had a very nice tournament and he and Reilly Higgins showed us how "setting each other up" with some nice moves really pays off. Apparently, Reilly gets his 'nice moves' from his mother. The "Mrs. Higgins" proved to be the latest dance craze, and the token dance for the Squirt "B" team, bringing us both luck and entertainment. Anthony Poissant deserves credit for his outstanding play despite feeling "under the weather". He certainly demonstrates 'true leadership' and the team really appreciates it. Way to give 110 percent. Another "standout" for our team was Mitch Kraucunas. When the "announcer" for the Mite Tournament lost his voice they sought out the "loud father" from Enfield. Mitch did an excellent job presenting those Mite champions their trophies.

Sunday's game was very exciting. The kids were happy to have Coach Glen back on the bench to help lead them to a victory. We were happy to have "staplehead" Mr. Walsh back to watch Conor and we were glad to have Mrs. Bird and Jeffrey there to see Justin Bird play one of his best games. If it were not for Tom Demontigny none of us would be able to see our kids play he was the best window washer ever, having to squeegee the mist off the glass. And Mel, you can relax now the kids did a great job, save up that nervous energy for the next tourney. Mrs. Allard and Mrs. Stevenson, glad you were their to yell "hey" and "Scottyyy" Only this time, the entire team was yelling "SCOTTYYYY" as he was outstanding stopping 21 attempts and earning another shutout!

The team left for home after receiving their individual trophies and another 1st place trophy to represent The EHA at the ETR. Nice job! It is just too bad that the team photo is a still and not a video. We would all like to see the team doing the "Mrs. Higgins" again. Congratulations.

Enfield Squirt B vs South Windsor B

The Squirt B team started the month of December by chalking up a victory as they defeated the South Windsor B squad 8-2. The kids started the first period out great by showing us some nice hockey. Josh Fasano drew first blood as he caught a pass from Zach Allard. Zach scored next on an assist from Justin Bird to end the period 2-0.

Twelve seconds into period two, Tony Colca scored on a pass from Craig Downs. Their line is playing very well together and it showed in the play action. The defensive pair of Poissant and Votta assisted with the next two Enfield goals as Nate Turner and Craig Downs scored to end the period with the Eagles up by 5.

South Windsor came alive scoring 25 seconds into the third period. Instead of sparking the Enfield players into the "we came to play mode" this seemed to have the opposite effect, taking the wind out of their sail. Despite the heated prodding from the coaches the play still didn't intensify until Reilly Higgins fed Zach to score 6 minutes later. South Windsor scored their last goal with less than 3 minutes in the period. Then with 52 seconds left in the period Justin Bird had the "perfect pass" threading the puck through 4 defenders onto Zach Allard's stick who showed us a "onetimer" for the HAT! Great job, this is the "Enfield playing" we want to see from you! Finally with 7 seconds left in the game Josh Fassano assisted Nate Turner to give us the 8-2 victory. Although play was often sluggish with poor concentration there was some nice back checking from Nick Demontigny and some great hustle from Bryan Solnick. Scotty had a great game despite getting "speared" by a South Windsor opponent. Great 100 percent effort was demonstrated by Danny Kraucunas as he earned the honor of player of the game.

Enfield Squirt B vs Greater New Haven

After the home game with S. Windsor the team had just enough time to grab a quick bite and they were on the road to play Greater New Haven in Northford. Having played this team before we were prepared for their trash talking and physical game. Period one was scoreless as both teams battled back and forth. Scotty was strong in net with a great save at the buzzer.

Tony Colca and Zach Allard had some nice attempts to start period 2. The GNH Goalie was able to stop the offensive effort. Not for long... Justin Bird had a nice feed to Reilly Higgins, Craig Downs was able to catch the rebound and put Enfield on the board. Way to be there Craig! Enfield continued apply the pressure frustrating the GNH team and with three minutes left in the period Reilly Higgins had a great break away goal. He showed us some nice stick work as he worked his way past a GNH defenseman to backhand it into the net! The goalie was totally blown away! Reilly scored again early in the third period (assist Allard) to make it 3-0 Enfield. The entire team played a strong defensive game keeping the GNH team scoreless, earning Scotty another shut out.

In contrast to the earlier game, this one showed us great effort and hard work. The kids obviously exhausted from skating 2 of the last 4 hours, never let up or never gave in. Nice work! Craig Downs was given the honor of player of the game for his efforts in this game.

Enfield Squirt B vs Echo B

The Squirt B's had their first encounter with ECHO B on Rink 1 at the ETR. Whoever designed the rink to house both sides together on one bleacher needs to have their head examined. Sitting in the stands challenges one's patience having to endure the rude and offensive comments. We all need to remember that we are there to watch the kids and what a game we got to watch.

The kids played a hard and physical game. ECHO was tough playing the body and using every opportunity to take the upper hand. Our kids wouldn't have it, not in our house! They played tough and held their ground (or ice). The team played well defensively Craig Downs and Nick Demontigny did a great job dropping back on "D". Despite the effort ECHO scored first at the end of the period.

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Enfield Squirt B vs Echo B

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In the second period Zach Allard caught the puck as he came off a change and took it down the ice to even the score. The period continued aggressively Andrew Votta, Conor Walsh, Dan Kraucunas and Anthony Poissant played some nice "D". Nate Turner had a great shot from a face off with an unfortunate great save from their goalie (or was it really in?...). ECHO managed to go ahead with a goal to end the period 1-2 ECHO.

Now onto period three...Justin Bird must have had a sense that we (parents) were being verbally abused in the stands and he was ready to take charge. The ECHO goalie stopped a slow moving puck but didn't cover, Justin picked his pocket and laid it in the net to tie the game! This turned things around for our team. The sparks were flying (so were the punches). Craig Downs soon followed with a breakaway goal skating by two defensemen to score the go ahead goal. Enfield and Echo traded time in the sin bin. The game ended with a missed opportunity for ECHO. They had a two man advantage in the final minutes as two of our men were in the box. The kids did a great job at not allowing them to capitalize. Way to penalties! ECHO pulled their goalie in the final minute only to allow the "Zach attack"!

Be ready guys for a rematch on Jan. 9th at the HCC. (Only this time there will be a few thousands seats to separate the fans.) Reilly Higgins and Justin Bird are players of the game. Reilly nice hustle and Justin keep playing like you have been!

Squirt B vs Baywest

The Squirt B team experienced their second loss of the season. There wasn't much to say about this game except it was ugly! Perhaps we could blame it on a Friday night, or on a Friday that the Enfield School kids were off for a day of play. Perhaps we could blame it on the fact that the kids knew it was a nonconference game. Whatever the excuse...there was no excuse! The only highlight came in the third period, it was a nice pass from Nick Demontigny to Tony Colca to score the only Enfield goal. Tony had most of our attempts on goal. Perhaps there was one Enfield player that came to play!

Squirt B vs West Haven C

The next day the B's were back on the ice to play West Haven at the ETR. At 5:40 in the first Zach Allard had an unassisted goal to hopefully spark the offense. The period ended as Reilly Higgins fed Josh Fasano with 32 seconds left to start period 2 up by 2.

Shortly into the second period West Haven answered. Play continued aggressively as Reilly Higgins dug really hard in the corner to set Zach Allard up for the onetimer. This pumped up the team, two goals followed in quick succession. Tony Colca assisted Nick Demontigny for one and then Reilly Higgins followed with another one off the face-off. Nice work.

The third period belonged of West Haven. Their next goal was a soft one off the pads of Scotty. They scored against 4:45 in the period and then again with 4 minutes left they scored a shorthanded goal. Despite their rally, Enfield managed to squeak in a "W". Player of the game was Nick Demontigny, way to dominate those face-offs!

Mite "A"s Tie Southern

By Stephen Palmer

The Enfield Mite A's battled back from a two goal deficit to register a 2-2 win against a talented Southern squad. Great team play, desire and pure grit were the key ingredients for our young Eagles in their quest to remain unbeaten. Southern took an early lead 47 seconds into the tilt and added their second goal 2:56 into the second period. Enfield finally broke the ice with a beautiful goal by freshmen Matt Antonacci. Steven Palmer began the play by carrying the puck out of our zone and slid a pass to a streaking Zach Stein. Zach blew by Southern's right defenseman and unselfishly fed Matt in the slot. Matt's one-time shout found nothing but twine. Several more great scoring opportunities were created by our eager Eagles, only to be thwarted by Southern's goaltender. With time running out late in the third, Enfield pulled their goalie, Christian O'Shea (11 saves) for some added offense. The tenacious forechecking of Dillon DeRosia and Tyler Watts forced Southern's defensemen to carry the puck near their goal. Palmer capitalized on the situation by stealing the puck and drilling it five-hole into the rear net jam. This moment of overwhelming joy was shared by each and every member of EHA attending the game in the lower rink at Cromwell. The Janney jersey was awarded to Antonacci for his hard effort and clutch goal. Way to go boys and girl. Great team play and effort will always prevail.

Mite "A"s Defeat West Hartford

By Stephen Palmer

Our Mite A's traveled to Kingswood-Oxford for a showdown with a beefed-up West Hartford squad. While continuously battling off stick checks by the Knight Hawks. Enfield zoned in for one of team's best efforts this season registering an impressive 9-1 victory. The win improved the team's record season to 10-0-1. Every goal scored had some degree of flash to it. Credit to the kids great team play and imagination. Dillon DeRosia registered his second hat trick of the season. Every one of his goals were scored top shelf. Zach Stein scored twice on two great deke moves. Brendan Fleming was "awakened" and contributed with two brilliant goals; one on a wrap around and the 2nd on an awesome 1 on 4 break. Steven Palmer scored a goal on an instinctive diving push shot off the draw. Katie Sullivan scored off her own rebound, never once flinching as opponents attempted to clear her from the goal crease. Matt Antonacci and Palmer registered two assists apiece. Also contributing with helpers were Robbie Picard, Ethan Cournoyer, Evan Thompson, Kyle Hughes, Dillon and Zach. Joey Papetti, Stephen Pernal and Tyler Watts were solid. Christian O'Shea made 8 impressive saves. Enfield outshot West Hartford by a 26-9 margin. The Janney Jersey was awarded to Brendan Fleming.

Mite "A"s Cruise Past Southeastern

By Stephen Palmer

With momentum on our side, the Mite A's cruised into Norwich to defeat a tough Southeastern squad 5-2. Our young eagles improved this season's record to 11-0-1. Southeastern was determined to break our Eagles winning streak with tenacious forecheckong and backchecking, but were unable to penetrate close to our net due to some gritty team defense. Southeastern managed to outshoot us 18-16, but were unable to pick up any rebounds. Our defensemen cleared the puck well to the corners before they had a chance to capitalize. Our team's offense was effective on pouncing on loose pucks converting well-executed plays in Southeastern's end. The Janney Jersey was awarded to Tyler Watts for his hard work and toughness in Southeastern's zone. Goals were scored by Eric Cormier, Steven Palmer, Zach Stein, Dillon DeRosia and Matt Antonacci. Assists were earned by Robbie Picard, Katie Sullivan, Brendan Fleming, Matt and Steven. Christian O'Shea was stalwart between the pipes once again.

Mite "A"s Tie Stamford

By Stephen Palmer

The Enfield Mite A's skated to a hard fought 2-2 tie with Stamford A's. Our game wasn't pretty. Quite honestly we should have lost, but confident teams sometimes get lucky. Stamford outshot is by a 24-20 margin. Our kids are still in the process of learning how to use their bodies to protect themselves and the puck. This is a tough transition for any 8 or 9 year olds. Enfield's goals were scored by Eric Cormier and Kyle Hughes. Assists were credited to Dillon DeRosia on both goals. Defensively, Robbie Picard, Stephen Pernal, Evan Thompson and Ethan Cournoyer are coming into their own.

East Haven Hands Mite "A"s Their First Loss

By Stephen Palmer

Oh boy, did our Enfield Mite A's get spanked. East Haven handed the Mite A's their first loss of the season with a convincing 4-1 romp down in the confines of East Haven. Enfield took the lead going into the second, but our lack of intensity and physical presence was evident. E.H. 's aggressive forechecking and bump-and-grind style was a bit intimidating to our young Eagles. Although scoring opportunities were pretty equal between both teams, E.H. controlled the tempo of the game outshooting us by an 18-15 margin. Hopefully a better effort will be put forth in December when we meet them again in the Stamford Christmas tournament. Zach Stein scored Enfield's lone goal off a nicely executed face-off in E.H.'s zone by centermen Dillon DeRosia.

Mite "A"s Rebound Against ECHO

By Stephen Palmer

Rebounding from their first loss the day before, Our Mite A Eagles responded with an exhibition on the art of passing. The kids regrouped and registered a convincing 5-0 victory over ECHO before a crowded ETR atmosphere, nothing like being home! Goals were scored by newly recruited forward Joey Papetti (1 goal, 1 assist), Dillon DeRosia (2 goals, 1 assist), Steven Palmer (1 goal), and Brendan Fleming (1 goal, 1 assist). Assists were also credited to Matt Antonacci, Tyler Watts and goaltender Christian O'Shea. The Whole TEAM played spectacular.



Mite "A"s Celebrate Thanksgiving Tournament Victory

Entering this year's Thanksgiving weekend bash at ETR, our Mite A's were prepared to and ready to face every challenge in our quest to bring home the crown.

Our young Eagle's primary focus was on improving our teamwork, playing our positions, working along the boards and shooting hard at the net. Our strategy worked. These young kids are learning fast. Every other week another individual awakens and shows their true talent. Hopefully the rest of the squad can keep up with the pace. Blame it on CO-Coach Stephen Gorman's intense and inquisitive lectures.

Enfield's first opponent in the tourney was a tenacious Bay West squad. Our Mite A's won 7-2 but the score was no reflection of how hard the game was played. Bay West demonstrated true grit and our kid's responded with some unselfish team play and heads up hockey. Points were recorded by Dillon DeRosia (2 goals, 1 assist), Steven Palmer (2 goals), Katie Sullivan (1 goal), Zach Stein (1 goal), Ethan Cournoyer (1 goal, 1 assist) and Brendan Fleming (1 assist). Enfield's defense was led by Robbie Picard, Stephen Pernal and Evan Thompson. Christian made 11 saves in preserving the win.

In our second tilt we faced an inspiring New York City Cyclone team. The Eagles skated hard and passed often in route to a well-played 8-0 victory. Leading the way offensively were Joey Papetti (2 goals, 1 assist), Steven Palmer (2 goals, 1 assist), Kyle Hughes (1 goal), Dillon DeRosia (1 goal), defenseman Stephen Pernal (1st goal of the season), Brendan Fleming (1 goal, 1 assist) Zach Stein (1 goal), Robbie Picard (1 assist) and Tyler Watts (1 assist). Christian was flawless again in the net.

Saturday afternoon brought the skills competition, congratulations to the relay team of Tyler Watts, Zach Stein, Dillon Derosia and Stephen Pernal on their first place team. Robbie Picard and Christian O'Shea did very well on the shoot-out losing to a well deserving NYC Cyclone pair. Great job guys!

Saturday evening the Mite A's met a formidable foe the talented Manchester, NH Flames. The game was tight from start to finish. Fortunately, our Eagles came out on top with a hard fought 4-3 victory. It took until the last 20 seconds of game time to determine the victor in this game. Every Eagle player was awesome. Great game to watch from the bench. Thanks kids for the pure effort.

In the championship game, the Mite A's had a much anticipated rematch with NH Flames. The Eagles managed a 4-2 victory. Although it wasn't one of our best team efforts, we still managed to deposit the win and big trophy. The kids deserve a lot of credit for their endurance, attitude and general happiness throughout this tournament. All coaches and parents are very proud of your accomplishment!!!!!!

Special thanks to Debbie Crane for organizing a great tournament.

Mite "B"s Come Back From Two Goals Down

By Mike Stasiowski

On Saturday, December 1 the Mite B Eagles staged an impressive 4-2 come from behind victory over Central Connecticut to improve their record to 7-3-1. In the first period, Central came out skating hard and scored two goals in the first four minutes. The momentum started to shift late in the first period when Stephen Picard, Joseph Stasiowski and Justin Markowski generated sustained pressure in the Central end. While the lines were changing, Stephen Picard scored to cut the Central lead in half. Zack Palmer and Justin Markowski received the assists at 10:24.

In the second period, Central had several quality scoring opportunities as they took advantage of two Enfield penalties. With Central leading 2-1, Andrew Silva made several tough saves to keep the Eagles in the game. Wade Schools and David Ouellette nearly connected on a short-handed bid but the second period ended with no scoring.

Wade Schools scored a wrap around goal 40 seconds into the third period to tie the game at two. David Ouellette and Jeff Bird picked up the assists. A determined Central team regained their momentum with an offensive surge half way through the period. Once again, Andrew Silva shut the door on Central and kept the game tied. At 9:12, Ryan Guhne put the Eagles up to stay when he stole a Central pass and scored unassisted. Zack Palmer sealed the victory with a goal at 10:58 off a pass from Justine Locke.

Mite B Eagles Shut Out West Haven

By Mike Stasiowski

On Sunday, December 2 the Enfield Mite B Eagles extended their winning streak to three games with a decisive 6-0 victory in West Haven. With two skaters short, coach Bill Noll had to juggle his lines. But the Eagles responded by taking control of the game right off the opening face off.

Stephen Picard scored just 39 seconds into the game to give Enfield a 1-0 lead. Joseph Stasiowski and Wade Schools picked up the assists. Enfield continued to dominate play in the first period but they were not able to add to their one goal lead. Zack Seagrave, Shaun Kellam, Chris Oski and Thomas Noll did not allow a West Haven shot on goal for the first 5 minutes of the game as the Eagles played most of the first period in the West Haven end.

West Haven started the second period by firing two quality shots on goal but Andrew Silva came up with the saves. At 1:20, Justin Locke accepted a pass from Zack Palmer and took it the length of the ice to put Enfield up by two. Enfield continued to pressure the West Haven net minder when Zack Palmer scored off a pass from Ryan Guhne at 5:38 to give the Eagles a three-goal lead. Ryan Guhne ended the second period scoring at 10:58 off a pass from Justine Locke.

In the third period, Ryan Guhne scored his second goal of the game at 6:15 to make the score 5-0. Justine Locke ended the scoring with his second goal of the game at 9:35. Ryan Guhne assisted on the play for his fourth point of the game. Andrew Silva posted his second shut out of the year as the Enfield Mite B Eagles improved their record to 8-3-1.

Mite B Eagles Beat Southern 5 - 3

By Mike Stasiowski

On Saturday, December 8 the Enfield Mite B Eagles traveled to the Milford Ice pavilion to take on a Southern Connecticut team that had lost only one game all year. Enfield took a quick lead when Wade Schools scored an unassisted goal at 1:33. Southern struck back hard by pouring 15 shots on goal in the first 12 minutes. Southern finally was able to get one past Andrew Silva to tie the game with 30 seconds left in the period.

Southern scored at 1:18 of the second period to take a 2-1 lead. The home team was able to hold the lead until 6:25 when Wade Schools scored his second goal of the game. Jeff Bird and Dave Ouellette assisted on the play. Ryan Guhne gave Enfield the lead when he scored at 8:29. His shot from 12 feet out was set up by crisp passing from Zack Palmer and Justin Locke.

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Near the end of the period, Joe Stasiowski stole the puck in front of the net and fired what appeared to be a goal. However, the referee ruled that the puck did not cross the goal line so the score remained 3-2 in favor of Enfield.

Southern started the third period with a two-man rush that was broken up by Shaun Keelam. Southern continued to apply pressure in the Enfield end when they scored the equalizer at 2:10. At 4:34, Ryan Guhne scored his second goal of the game to give the Eagles a 4-3 lead. Zack Palmer assisted on the play. Just nine seconds later, Wade Schools earned the hat trick when he took the center ice face-off in for the score. Southern pulled their goalie in the last minute of the game but they could not break through the Eagles defense. Andrew Silva stopped a total of 25 shots as the Eagles improved their record to 9-3-1.

Mite B Streak At Five With Victory Over ECHO

By Mike Stasiowski

On Sunday, December 9, the Mite B Eagles hosted ECHO from Bolton in an effort to extend their winning streak to five games. Timely scoring and good defense highlighted the Enfield victory as the Eagles improved their record to 10-3-1. At 7:58 of the first period, Justin Locke stole a pass at the red line and took it in to give Enfield a 1-0 lead. Then with 45 seconds left in the period, Justin Locke put the Eagles up by two when he fired his own rebound into the net after receiving a pass from Ryan Guhne.

In the second period, ECHO scored their one and only goal of the game at 9:50 to make the score 2-1 in favor of Enfield. Solid defense by Chris Oski, Zack Seagrave, Thomas Noll and Shaun Kellam allowed ECHO few scoring changes the rest of the game. Andrew Silva was also sharp in the net to further frustrate the visiting team.

In the third period, Ryan Guhne gave Enfield a 3-1 lead when he scored at 4:18. Justin Locke picked up the assist on the play for his third point of the game. Just 38 seconds later, David Ouellette iced the victory when he scored off a pass from Wade Schools and Jeff Bird. Andrew Silva allowed just one goal to lower his goals against average to 2.07 on the year.

Mite "B"s Unbeaten in Six Games

By Mike Stasiowski

The Enfield Mite B Eagles hosted Southern Connecticut on Sunday, December 16 for the second meeting of the two teams. After the Eagles 5-3 come-from-behind victory last week in Milford, everyone expected an exciting game. Without question, no one was disappointed.

In the first period, Joe Stasiowski opened up the scoring with a goal on a backhanded one-timer at 3:32. The assist went to Justin Markowski who stole the puck along the boards and sent a perfect pass in front of the net. The rest of the first period proved to be a defensive battle with good plays on both ends of the rink.

In the second period, Enfield was charged with its one and only penalty of the game at 1:43. Thomas Noll and Zack Seagrave tighten up the defense to kill the power play without allowing a shot on net. At 3:23 of the second period, Ryan Guhne put the Eagles up by two when he stole the puck at mid ice and took it in for the score. Southern scored their first goal of the game at 6:18 when they finished a shift that kept the puck in the Enfield end for over a minute. Southern scored the tying goal at 7:19 on a three-on-one breakaway.

At 2:45 of the third period, Southern scored their third consecutive goal to take the lead 3-2. But Enfield refused to be beaten. At 7:24, Wade Schools picked up the puck in the neutral zone and faked out two defenders as he scored an unassisted goal to tie the game at three. The tie extends the Enfield Mite B unbeaten streak to six games. Enfield is now 10-3-2 on the year.