

# Whalers drop from top spot in OHL after losses

How quickly things can change.

In a 24-hour span, the Plymouth Whalers' loss total doubled — and the Whalers dropped from a tie for No. 1 in the Ontario Hockey League to a tie for second place.

The trouble started Saturday, when Plymouth battled back from a three-goal deficit after two periods to tie Owen Sound 5-5. However, the comeback effort drained the Whalers; Chad Woollard scored his third goal of the game to give the host Platers a 6-5 triumph.

On Sunday at Guelph, Plymouth was frustrated once again by the team's personal nemesis — goalie Chris Madden, the same guy who led the Storm to a four-game sweep in the OHL semifinals last April. Madden stopped 32 of 33 shots in beating the Whalers, 3-1.

The two losses left Plymouth at 18-4-2 — none too shabby, by any standard. Ottawa now leads the OHL, however, with a 20-2-2 record; the Whalers and the Barrie Colts are next best. Ottawa is first in the East Division, Barrie is best in the Central and Plymouth remains atop the West.

Guelph improved to 17-7 with the victory, first in the Midwest Division. Owen Sound is 10-9-3 (through Sunday).

Against the Platers Saturday, the Whalers had only a goal from Harold Druken in the first two periods as Owen Sound built its 4-1 lead. But Plymouth rallied quickly in the third period,

## HOCKEY

getting a pair of power-play goals in the first 3:34, one by Eric Goudy (his fourth of the season) and another by David Legwand (his 13th).

Woollard's second goal of the game pushed the Platers' lead back to 6-3 with just over 14 minutes remaining, but the Whalers got a third power-play goal, this one by Druken this

league-leading 29th), with 9:04 left to make it a one-goal game again. Paul Mara tied it for Plymouth 26 seconds later (his sixth), backing over time.

Woollard's game-winner (his seventh goal of the season) came after 2:29 of OT.

Legwand and Adam Colagiacino each had two assists for the Whalers. Rob Zopp made 34 saves in goal for Plymouth; Curtis Sanford had the same number for Owen Sound.

Against Guelph, the Whalers found themselves battling from behind once again after the Storm followed a scoreless first period with two second-period goals. Mara's goal (his seventh) drew Plymouth to within a goal early in the third period, but the Whalers could get no closer — thanks to the combination of Darryl Knight's second goal of the game with 15 minutes left and Madden's goalkeeping. Madden made 32 saves in

gaining the win. Robert Holsinger had 30 stops for Plymouth.

## Computware in 1st

The Computware Ambassadors moved into first place in the nine-team North American Hockey League with a 7-0 rout of the St. Louis Sting Sunday at Computware Arena.

J.J. Swistak and Steve Jackson each scored two goals to spark the Ambassadors. Craig

Kowalski and Beau Fritz made 13 saves apiece in splitting the shutout in goal. The win, combined with a split earlier in the weekend against Danville (the Ambassadors won 5-3 Friday, then lost 4-3 Saturday at Computware), left Computware with a 10-4-1 record — one point better than second-place San Jose (16-5).

D.J. Vogt scored twice and Kowalski made 35 saves in the Ambassadors' win Friday.

## Warriors rally to beat Flyers

Farmington freshman Matt Lee scored the first goal Saturday night, but host Wallid Lake Western overcame the early deficit for a 6-1 victory in high school hockey.

Lee scored at 8:23 in the first period, but Mike Murphy tied the score at 3:20. It remained a tie game until Murphy scored his second goal 1:37 before the end of the second period.

## HOCKEY

The Warriors then added four goals in the third period. Kevin Dillon scored two, Vinny Azzopardi and Jordan Doggett one apiece. Pat Petersen had four assists for Western.

The loss dropped the Flyers to 0-3 in their first season.

"It seems like the third period presents a problem for us, because we were right in the game," Farmington coach Glenn Breuhan said. "It was 2-1 at the end of the second period in the last two games."

"It seems like our intensity level disappears in the third period. We've played well enough to win in the first two periods of both games."

"I'm not sure if it's a fatigue factor or something else. I don't know if it's because the kids aren't used to this level of hockey yet, because it is a lot faster."

Correcting the situation is a priority and will be the primary focus in practice, according to Breuhan said.

"I think (fatigue) is a characteristic of a young team that hasn't played together," he said. "Or maybe all the hitting in the first two periods has worn them down. We don't quite have a handle on it yet, but that's what we're trying to figure out."



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## WEEK AHEAD

### PREP FOOTBALL FINALS

#### AT PONTIAC SILVERDOME

Friday, Nov. 27

(Class A Championship Final)

Harrison vs. Hudsonville, 1 p.m.

Saturday, Nov. 28

(Class AA Championship)

Redford CC vs. Rockford, 1 p.m.

MEN'S COLLEGE BASKETBALL

Wednesday, Nov. 26

Siena Hts. JV at Oakland CC, 7:30 p.m.

Friday, Nov. 27

Oakland CC at St. Clair (Ont.), 8 p.m.

Saturday, Nov. 28

Wm. Tyndale at Schoolcraft, 7:30 p.m.

PREP HOCKEY

Wednesday, Nov. 25

Redford Union vs. Stevenson,

Franklin vs. Dexter,

at Edgar Avenue 6 & 8 p.m.

Saturday, Nov. 28

Redford CC vs. Divine Child

at Redford Ice Arena, 8 p.m.

ONTARIO HOCKEY LEAGUE

Friday, Nov. 27

Ply. Whalers vs. North Bay

at Computware Arena, 7:30 p.m.

Saturday, Nov. 28

Ply. Whalers vs. Peterborough

at Computware Arena, 7:30 p.m.