

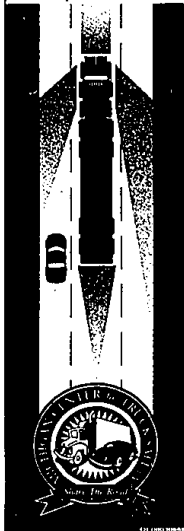
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This material was developed through a project funded by the Michigan Truck Safety Commission.



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Shamrocks shine in tourney

BY PAUL BEAUDRY
STAFF WRITER

The whole purpose of the 22-team High School Hockey Weekend Showcase is to show off the state's best talent. But teams can also use it as a pretty good bellwether on how they stack up against everyone else.

And after the weekend, it became pretty clear that while defending champion Catholic Central is the team to beat in Division 1, there are several other schools who aren't far behind.

"It's great to see where we are," said CC coach Todd Johnson as his squad won a pair of games on the weekend. "Farmington had a solid tourney, too, and they're ranked second. And it gave us a chance to see what some other schools have that we might not get to see."

"But we also went there to make a statement that we were a skilled team and I think we did that."

The Shamrocks posted a pair of wins on the weekend - blanking Birmingham

HOCKEY

Brother Rice, 9-0, on Friday, and letting down another Michigan Interscholastic Hockey League foe - University of Detroit Jesuit - on Saturday, 7-2.

Saturday's games also saw Royal Oak Unified beating Livonia Stevenson, 3-2, and Livonia Churchill losing to Bloomfield Hills Cranbrook, 5-2.

After a scoreless first period on Saturday, CC got things going in the second. Once Pat Coldren scored with four minutes gone in the period on an unassisted goal, the Shamrocks (6-2, 4-0 MIHL) scored four more in the next 10 minutes - with Coldren getting two more. He made it 2-0 with Bryan Genrich getting the assist, then Andrew Eggert made it 3-0 on a power-play goal from Mike Giosa and Eric Reinhardt. Coldren's Power-play goal from Genrich and Mike Monterrey made it 4-0, then Brandon Naurato scored from

Giosa and Travis Hamer on a 5-0 lead. Naurato and CC padded that to 6-0 in the third as Reinhardt scored from Drew Kahle and Jason Lewarne, while Scott Anderson got the Cubs on the board on a two-man power play. Bryan Genrich got that back in the third on a short-handed goal for a 7-1 win. Jimmy Blanchard and John Garza teamed up to stop 15 shots, while the Shamrocks placed 34 shots on goal. On Friday, nine different Shamrocks scored in the win over Rice - Naurato, Billy Burris, Reinhardt, Giosa, Harrison Niemann, Coldren, Lewarne, Billy Makela and Hamway. Blanchard made 11 saves and Garza made 14, while CC peppered the Rice goal with 42 shots.

CRANBROOK 5, CHURCHILL 2: After winning a two-goal lead against Brighton on Friday in a 3-3 tie, Churchill gave up three first-period goals on Saturday and wound up on the short end of a 5-2 decision with Cranbrook.

"It's kind of a snapshot of our season so far," said Chargers' coach Pete Mazzoni as his team ended a six-game unbeaten streak and fell to 3-4-3 overall. "Friday night we had a two-goal lead with five minutes left in the game, and we couldn't keep it. Saturday, if you take away the first period, we played them even up. Consistency is the key word."

Drew Schmale, Matt Robins and Chase Langlands gave the Crusaders (0-1, Division 3) their first-period lead, while Zane Claes made it 4-0 with a goal just into the second period.

The Chargers got one back at the 7:32 mark with Ryan Wischmeyer scoring a power-play goal with Jim Krykowski getting the assist.

Schmale scored with 1:22 gone in the third period for a 5-1 Cranbrook lead, while Churchill's Chris Marchuk closed the scoring with a goal from Wischmeyer and Josh Jones with 42 seconds left in the game. Dave Herrick made 30 saves in goal for Churchill, while Bobby Alderman stopped 14 shots for the Crusaders.

SALEM 6, CHELSEA 2: Salem took a 5-1 lead in the first and were never challenged after that as the fourth-ranked Rocks played perfect at 9-0.

Mark Nagel scored twice in the first period, while John Schultz, Bryan Young and Dave Gill added individual goals. Schultz also had a trio of first period assists, while Aaron Cheesman and Mark Nagel had two. Schultz had an unassisted goal in the second period to make the lead 6-1, while Cheesman and Jeff Harris added goals in the third. Craig Urwin had the lone goal for Chelsea. Brandon DeMars had 17 saves in goal for the Rocks.

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