

Our Athletes

Crunch time

Two losses give hockey little margin for error

By JOHN GORALSKI
SPORTS WRITER

Losses are piling up for the Warrior-Knights, and that's put the second-year hockey co-op in a precarious position. With losses to East Catholic and EO Smith last week, Hall-Southington has lost four in a row. Time is running out.

Seven games remain in the regular season, and the Warrior-Knights still need four wins to qualify for the postseason. With three powerhouse opponents perched at the end of the schedule, the young team has their backs against the wall.

Ice Hockey

"It's time. The next four games over the next three weeks will be the difference whether we're playing in March or our season ends in February," said Coach Jeff Anastasio. "We've got four very winnable games in the next three weeks, and those are four games that we have to win to salvage a run at the playoffs."

East Catholic loss

On Friday, Jan. 29, John Gradante swept away 46 East Catholic shots, but it wasn't enough as the Warrior-Knights fell, 3-0. The Eagles (9-3) out-shot the locals, 49-16 as Hall-Southington suffered its second shutout of the season.

Girls basketball: wins over Rockville, Simsbury

From page 17

points) led the offense. Mariah Berry added six points. Meg McLaughlin, Sawicka, and Krysta Valerio scored four points apiece, and the defense did the rest. Southington held all but one Rockville scorer under six points in the contest.

The win against Simsbury was closer down the stretch. Once again, the Knights turned to their defense, which held the

Trojans to four points in the final quarter.

"That night and this night, defensively, we were pretty darned good," said DiNello. "Do I wish it was easy? Yeah, but in the grand scheme of things this type of game will help us more than winning by 20."

Nappi led the Knights with 21 points and six rebounds, including a trio of three-pointers. Donohue added six points, and Tori Munson scored four.



JOHN GORALSKI

Andrew Green races through the heart of the defense during a 4-2 loss to E.O. Smith-Tolland-Windham on Saturday, Jan. 30.

We've got four very winnable games in the next three weeks, and those are four games that we have to win to salvage a run at the playoffs.

Jeff Anastasio,
Hall-Southington
hockey coach

"It was a pretty solid effort. They're a strong team with some pretty skilled forwards," said Anastasio. "We were encouraged by the game. We revised our forcheck about a week ago, and we executed it pretty well. We gave up a couple of early goals-one on a penalty shot-but it was a good effort."

Swept by EO Smith

Kevin SanAngelo and Owen Kantor opened the game with back-to-back scores and Hall-Southington carried a 2-1 lead into the first break, but a pair of quick penalties led to a two-man advantage midway through the second period, and EO Smith co-op capitalized with the go ahead goal.

Gradante collected 36 saves. Nick Mastroianni had an assist for the locals, but an empty net goal late in the final two minutes put the game out of reach.

EO Smith swept the season series with a 4-2 win in West Hartford.

"It was a disappointing loss for us," Anastasio said. "I thought that, in the first period, we played our most complete period top to bot-

Jan. 29
East Catholic 3
Hall-Southington 0

Jan. 30
EO Smith co-op 4
Hall-Southington 2

tom. It was probably our strongest period of the season. We put the puck on net. We executed our forecheck really well. In the second period, we got caught up in a little bit of penalty trouble, and we were sort of undone by our special teams."

With the loss, Hall-Southington fell to 4-8-1 overall.

To comment on this story or to contact sports writer John Goralski, email him at jgoralski@southingtonobserver.com.

Indoor Track: CCC

From page 18

pole vault with a new personal best.

Ravin Walters set a new school record with his second place finish in the shot put (46'5"). "It was great," said Whyte. "It's only the second time this year that he threw the shot, and he finished second."

The boys earned 25 points to finish eighth overall and fourth in the CCC West. Wilcox scored with an eighth place finish in the 1600m (4:38.59). Brown placed eighth in the 1,000m (2:42.26) and teamed with John Lewis, Steven Maffioli, and McGrane to score a seventh place finish in the sprint medley.

"I've got to give a lot of

credit to Bryan McGrane because he ran the 1000m and was really hurting," said Whyte. "I didn't think that he was going to run the sprint medley because his hip was really bothering him. We thought we'd have to substitute him and that would have really lost us some seconds, but he gutted it out. If he didn't end up running that race, we wouldn't have scored. That just showed a lot of guts and determination."

Saucier, Washer, Jacobs, and Conaty earned all-conference honors with their top three finishes. The Knights will try to carry the momentum into the Class L championships on Thursday, Feb. 11 in New Haven. Events will commence at 4 p.m.

Quality is our Priority



Come check our caring staff at our new location



Full time Hygienist on Staff

Implant Placement Restoration & Maintenance

FREE EXAM
New patient only with appointment

invisalign

IS NOW HERE!

NO METAL WIRES OR BRACKET.

Family Dental Practice of Southington
Come check out our state of the art facility

248 N. Main St. Southington • 621-2644
M-W 8-5, Tues. & Thurs. 9-6, Fri. 8-4

Place Your Classified Ad Online



www.stepsaver.com

AVALONE CONTRACTORS

ROOFING SIDING
REP. WINDOWS
GUTTERS
ADDITIONS

In business for a blessed 26 years

(860) 582-0712

PO Box 9656, Bristol, CT
Fully Ins. Worker's Comp. & Liability

BERKSHIRE OIL 100 gallon deliveries available

25 Stafford Ave, Bristol, CT
589-0499 • 747-4334 www.berkshireoil.com

NEW 4¢ SENIOR DISCOUNT For Automatic Delivery

• Automatic Metered Delivery
• 20 Day Credit Accounts
• Emergency Burner Service
• Burner Plans • Service Contracts

2.44^{9*} Min. 100 Gals.

We Welcome New Customers
*Price subject to change without notice.

A FULL SERVICE COMPANY