

SPORTS

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Kodiaks take 3 more wins in a row

By KURT LANGMANN
Aldergrove Star

A third period power play goal kept the Aldergrove Kodiaks on a winning streak Sunday afternoon against the Grandview Steelers.

The game started with a goal by the Steelers in the first period, before the Kodiaks snapped in a pair early in the second. The first was scored by Thomas Hardy from Brandon Potomak and Robert Jang at 55 seconds, followed by another at 2:21 by Alex Feighan from Matthew Luongo and Ryan Veillet.

The Steelers evened it up at 10:33 but Aldergrove pulled ahead at 14 minutes with another goal by Hardy from Potomak and Colton Precourt. However, two minutes later the Steelers evened the score at 3-3 to end the second period.

Precourt scored his first of the night at 14:56 of the third, from Colby Rosner and Hardy, to end the game with a 4-3 win for Aldergrove.

Penalties were kept low at three apiece, and shots on goal were almost matched at 27 for the Kodiaks and 28 for the Steelers.

Hardy earned the game's first star and third star went to Kodiaks' Stephen Ryan. Hardy is currently the league's scoring leader.

KODIAKS BREAK ICE

The Aldergrove Kodiaks picked up another two points for their 4-2 win away over Mission Icebreakers Oct. 27.

Despite being outshot 44-40 by Mission, Aldergrove took the lead early in the first with an unassisted



HARRY HUNT PHOTO

Brandon Potomak #9 scores the overtime goal for the Aldergrove Kodiaks against North Delta Devils goalie Steve Myland, Oct. 26 at Aldergrove Arena. The Kodiaks won the game 6-5.

goal by Jordan Pughe at 4:29. Mission evened it up at 16:09, but Aldergrove scored the only two of the second to go up 3-1.

Second period scorers were Colton Precourt from Brandon Potomak and Thomas Hardy, and an unassisted goal by Scott Smith.

Mission got their second goal in the third on a power play at 9:18 but Hardy, helped by Colby Rosner

and then defeat the visiting North Delta Devils 6-5 after 29 seconds.

It was an exciting game to watch and featured outstanding performances from Kodiaks Thomas Hardy, Brandon Potomak and Alex Feighan, who deserved the game's first, second and third stars.

KODIAKS TOPPLE DEVILS IN OVERTIME

It was a nail-biter at the end of the third period but the Aldergrove Kodiaks managed to pull off a pair of last minute goals to go into overtime

and then defeat the visiting North Delta Devils 6-5 after 29 seconds.

It was an exciting game to watch and featured outstanding performances from Kodiaks Thomas Hardy, Brandon Potomak and Alex Feighan, who deserved the game's first, second and third stars.

The Kodiaks outshot the Devils in the first period 19-10 and led with two goals from Matthew Luongo

(from Feighan and Colton Precourt) and Hardy (from Potomak) until the Devils scored on the power play at 9:34.

Hardy took the lead up to 3-1 at 10:37 of the second, unassisted, but then the Devils scored twice in the dying minutes to even it up at 3-3 at the end of the second.

The Devils took the lead at 4-3 on a power play at 5:15 of the third period and it wasn't until the last minute of the game that Aldergrove pulled goalie Mark Menicucci for a six-on-five assault that netted Potomak's first goal of the night at 19:08, assisted by Hardy and Feighan.

The 4-4 tie only lasted a few seconds as the Devils answered at 19:25 to take the lead again, but only briefly. With 10 seconds to go the Kodiaks' Hardy scored his hat trick of the night and the 5-5 tie, assisted by Feighan.

At 29 seconds into overtime Potomak, assisted by Hardy, closed the game at 6-5 for the Kodiaks.

Hardy notched five points that night for three goals and two assists to put him on top of the league's scoring leader sheet with 23 points.

The Kodiaks are now second in their division with 12 points (6-4-0 after 10 games), following Abbotsford Pilots at 14 points after nine games.

The Kodiaks host Mission Nov. 2, 7:15 p.m. at Aldergrove Arena.

The Kodiaks also travel to North Vancouver Wolf Pack on Nov. 5 and Delta Ice Hawks on Nov. 8 before hosting the unbeaten league-leading Richmond Sockeyes Nov. 9 at 7:15 p.m.

'Grove Blanks Semiahmoo



HARRY HUNT PHOTO

Semiahmoo's goal keeper blocks a shot by Aldergrove's Steven Bunt in bantam hockey at Aldergrove Arena Oct. 30. Aldergrove blanked the visitors 4-0.

Five chosen for lacrosse Selects

Aldergrove Star

Five local lacrosse players will suit up for the Burnaby Mountain Selects. The Selects are an elite travelling field lacrosse program, with squads at several age groups.

Midfielder Reece Callies and Matt Stack, who plays defence, are on the junior and sophomore teams, respectively. Jordan

Lewis, a midfielder, is on the freshman team. Kyle Toporchak, who plays attack, is on the U13 team. Aldergrove's Connor Abrams, a midfielder on the senior squad.

The teams will play a series of exhibition games against regional U.S. all-star teams as well as some major tournaments south of the border.

McKinlay suits up for Lions

By GARY AHUJA
Black Press

Neil McKinlay may have been technically retired from professional football, but he had a hunch he would be back in the game.

It became official last week when the 30-year-old signed with the B.C. Lions.

The Lions were dealing with a rash of injuries, especially at the non-import position, so they inked the former Winnipeg Blue Bomber.

Following a stellar collegiate career at Simon Fraser with the Clan — he was named the Canadian Interuniversity Sport most outstanding defensive player in 2002 — the Bombers drafted the D.W. Poppy graduate in the fourth round, 33rd overall.

Prior to joining the Clan, McKinlay played community football with the Langley Minor program.

"It is good and exciting (to get back in) especially the way they have been playing," he said to the media throng on the Lions' practice field in Surrey following Tuesday's practice, his first with the team.

"You never lose the itch (to play), it just sort of subsides."

McKinlay retired following the



Dave Darichuk photo/Winnipeg Blue Bombers
Former Blue Bomber Neil McKinlay has now signed with the B.C. Lions.

2009 season, after playing in 105 CFL games with the Bombers. The special teams standout and line-backer had 92 tackles in his six seasons.

With his wife and two young kids, McKinlay moved back to B.C. and now works as a firefighter for the District of North Vancouver.

With an eye to getting back in the game, he spoke with his employer at the end of August to get their blessing in case an opportunity arose.

"I put my name out there and waited for the right opportunity and this was it," he said.

While his job requires him to be in top shape, McKinlay has been working out for the past eight weeks and he says he is right around his playing weight of 220 pounds.

"The running was the worst part," he admitted. "It will be interesting to see Saturday night how I feel after a couple of plays.

"Saturday night will be different: the lights (at B.C. Place) will come on and the adrenalin will be flowing," he said.

"It will be good. Sunday might be a different story."

He was referring to the Lions big game at home against Edmonton as B.C. looked to catch the Eskimos for first place in the West Division.

The Lions defeated the Eskimos 29-20 that night and next face the Montreal Alouettes this Saturday at B.C. Place.

And while he has played professionally at B.C. Place in prior years, that was always as a member of the opposition, so it is a unique feeling to pull on the jersey of the team he grew up cheering for.

"I am excited, you always want to play where you live," he said.