

Top-ranked Bulls goaltender back in net

By Andre Lodder

Goaltender Malcolm Subban is back and so are the wins for the Belleville Bulls.

With the return of the top-ranked draft-eligible goaltender in North America, the Bulls have managed to get back in the win column after winning just one game in all of January.

Subban has been nursing a groin injury that he suffered on Dec. 29 and didn't play a single game in January.

Since his return, Subban has gone 3-1 with a 2.85 goals-against average and a .920 save percentage.

Subban made his first start on home ice since Dec. 17 in a 3-1 routing of the Guelph Storm on Saturday Feb. 10.

Following the game Subban said how happy he is to be back in the lineup and helping the team get into the playoffs.

"It feels really good to be honest, just being back here and supporting the team," said Subban. "We're all clicking right now, and we just need to keep it up for the playoffs."

The only blemish on Subban's record since his return came in a 9-0 loss to the Eastern Conference-leading Ottawa 67's on Sunday night. Subban let in three goals on 10 shots before being replaced in the first period by Charlie Graham.

Assistant coach Jake Grimes said he is confident Subban will get only better the more he plays.

"He's still going to get a lot better than what you've seen in the last couple games. He's still sort of on his way back to getting sharp," said Grimes.

The Bulls have rallied behind Subban's return, going 4-2 in the last six games.

While four wins and two losses isn't anything to write home about, it's certain-



Photo by Deevan Ingraham

Belleville Bulls goalie Malcom Subban deflects a shot wide of the net during the first period of play at the K-Rock Centre in Kingston, Ont. A late goal by the Kingston Frontenacs pushed the game into overtime where the Bulls managed to best the Fronts 3-2 after Jake Worrard netted his second goal of the year.

ly a step in the right direction for a Bulls team that has struggled in the new year. "I think we should be winning again. We should expect to. We've had some tough times with injuries almost all year," said Grimes.

"Maybe we won a little more than we should have at the start of the year but

that's the way it goes. We may have lost a little more than we should have recently, but it should even out. I think we're on our way up now and we need to be."

With only 16 games left in the season the Bulls currently sit ninth in the Ontario Hockey League's Eastern Conference

but are only one point out of a playoff spot, and only two points behind the sixth seeded Oshawa Generals.

With the regular season nearing its end, Subban's return is a big boost for a Bulls team eager to make the playoffs.

"He's one of the best goalies in the country, one of the best in the world for

his age," said Grimes.

"What can I say? He's one of the most important guys on the team."

The Bulls will try to redeem themselves Wednesday evening as they play host to the Ottawa 67's after losing 9-0 in Ottawa on Sunday. The game starts at 7:05 p.m. at Yardmen Arena in Belleville.



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Bulls holds fundraiser for hospital foundation equipment

By Andre Lodder

Sticks and Stones may break bones, but they also fix kidney stones.

The Belleville Bulls won their Saturday game against the Guelph Storm 3-1 but the Sticks and Stones fundraiser stole the show.

The fundraiser was organized by the

Belleville General Hospital Foundation in order to raise money for a holmium laser, a piece of equipment used to eliminate kidney stones.

The team wore a special limited edition jersey with a BGH theme. The bovine that usually adorns the Bulls' crest was given a stethoscope and hospital patch. The jersey itself resembled a mixture of both the

Canadian and Swiss international jerseys.

Following the game, the team's game-worn jerseys were auctioned off with proceeds donated to BGH equipment.

The total amount from the fundraiser has yet to be determined, but will be revealed at the Bulls' home game on Saturday against the Mississauga St. Michael's Majors. The auction alone raised more than \$30,000.

Martin Queen, a BGH Foundation board member, took part in the auction purchasing the jersey of Bull's goaltender Malcolm Subban.

Queen said he was happy to win the bid for the jersey but was even happier to see people actively taking part in the auction.

"It's not about the sweater; it's not about the game; it's about giving back to

the community and raising money for equipment for the hospital so we can all be taken care of," said Queen.

Queen is no stranger to the hospital's need for the equipment. He's taken part in similar events hosted by the Bulls in the past.

"The people in Belleville are always giving back, so this is my chance to do a little bit of that also," said Queen.

Men's team takes win on weekend

By Tiffany McEwen

The Loyalist Lancers basketball teams went head to head with the Seneca Sting this weekend, ending in a narrow victory for the men and a defeat for the women.

The men scored their last two points in a free-throw in the last 30 seconds of the game, earning them a 74-73 win against the Sting. This victory brought their record to seven wins and 11 losses.

The Lady Lancers lost their game against Seneca 82-36. They now have eight wins and six losses.

Men's coach Richard Whitfield said he is happy with his team despite their current placing.

"I thought overall we did well. I'm happy with the win, but we did have our breakdowns," said Whitfield.

"At the college and university level, you need to have mental toughness. They're starting to really get the mental aspect of the game."

Whitfield said that even though his team struggled with the offensive aspects from time to time, they are doing well.

"It takes time to adjust to a new style, a new philosophy."

Chris Eligh, the coach for the women's team, said the women did their best despite injuries.

"It was a rough game physically. A lot of the girls are recovering from injuries. They played the best game they could," said Eligh.

"It was a disappointing loss. The first half of the game was disappointing, but they played well the second half."

Eligh said that despite the ups and downs associated with a young team, they are playing well.

"They just need to continue to work hard at games and at practices. They just need to dig deep, play through and work hard."

Both the men's and women's teams will be playing at Loyalist College on Friday, Feb. 17, against the Centennial Colts. The Lady Lancers will be first at 6 p.m. and the men will be playing at 8 p.m.



Photo by Tiffany McEwen

Loyalist Lancers Patrick Kalala, number 33, jumps to make a shot as Seneca Sting player Tamark Wright moves to block. The Lancers took the game in a close 74-73.

Volleyball teams losing key players

By Meagan Pecjak

Loyalist College is losing some major players this season.

Moments before the game Sunday, the team announced some of the men and women who are graduating this year.

Leighann Bishop is among them, being the only player on the women's Volleyball team to be graduating this season.

The men's team will also be losing some key players.

Dave Templar, coach of the men's team said, "we will miss them, but it will give us the opportunity to work on, and develop our other players as well."

Matt Woods is the captain of the team, as well as a two-time Most Valuable Play-

er. Woods also broke a record this season for career serving-aces with a current count of 162.

Also leaving the team this year are Justin Lee and Curtis Bucking, along with two-time MVP, and Loyalist Lancers Athlete of the Year, Kyle Donnan.

Donnan also broke a record this season with the most career kills, with 758.

Templar said "you never want to see good players leave. But that's the cycle. At some point they need to move on with their lives."

Both teams played the Georgian Grizzlies on Sunday afternoon.

The Lady Lancers lost their game 3-1. So far this season, the women's team has 13 wins and six losses, while the men's team has 14 wins and five losses. The men won Sunday 3-1.

Fishing enthusiasts brave thin ice

By Rachel Psutka

At quarter to six on a Saturday morning in February, there are few souls willing to brave the thin ice of the Bay of Quinte just to catch some fish.

But that's exactly what a group of local ice fishing enthusiasts did on February 11, all in the name of raising money for Hospice Quinte, as the Knights of Columbus hosted their fifth annual ice fishing derby.

With the sudden cold snap on Saturday morning, event co-organizer Peter Girard was grateful that it meant more fishermen would take part.

"We lucked out. Had it not been good, had the ice not been available, we wouldn't have had as many fishing. We would've just had the faithful followers from last year here," he said.

One of those faithful followers was Bill Tripp, who hauled in the biggest fish of the day before 11 a.m. The 10-pound pickerel was also the first to be weighed in.

Dave Fleming, a fisherman from Trenton who helped organize the event from its start five years ago, hit the ice before 6 a.m. hoping to get a good bite.

"I caught five pickerel today," Fleming said at around 11 a.m., "but the boys are still out there. They could get something

big."

Fleming, who has been fishing on the Bay of Quinte all his life, was largely unconcerned with the warnings about thin ice.

"You walk out on the ice with a bar and test the thickness before driving on it. You have to use common sense," he said.

While the fishermen were out on the ice before the sun rose, many spent the day preparing the Fish and Game Club for the evening's festivities, including a Valentine's Day themed roast beef dinner and dance.

With prizes ranging from \$300 for the biggest fish, to door prizes for many attendees, co-organizer Peter Girard said the event is a hit with everyone, fish-loving or not.

"For \$20, you get a good meal, the chance to win door prizes, plus you get to fish all day. It's the best deal in town," he said.

Erica Holgate, community relations and fund development for Hospice Quinte, said the event organized by the Knights of Columbus is critical for the organization.

"Fundraisers like this really help. We only get about 30 per cent of our funds from the local health integration network, and the rest comes from community support," said Holgate.