



Photo by Sarah O. Swenson

Loyalist's Martine Gauvin removes her mouthguard to shout instructions to her teammates during Wednesday night's basketball action against St. Lawrence Vikings. Gauvin led the team in minutes and scored 11 points.

Turnovers contribute to women's final score

By Melissa Murray

The third quarter decided the game for both Loyalist basketball teams last night.

After 30 minutes of play, the men's loss and women's win were almost sealed during the Lancers' final regular season basketball games against St. Lawrence College.

The women played with intensity leading the entire game and finishing strong against the St. Lawrence College Vikings, with a final score of 75-48.

"We wanted to finish them in the third," said the women's head coach Chris Eligh. And they did with a lead of 24 points.

The men outscored the Vikings 26-14 in the fourth quarter, but they never got within six points of the Vikings to overcome the 20-point lead by St. Lawrence College after the third quarter. The Vikings still won 71-63 guaranteeing them a home play off game.

"The fourth quarter was phenomenal," said the men's head coach Richard Whitfield. "They played a more physical game than us. They played a full 40 minutes of basketball and we only played a good 10."

Eligh said he felt it was the women's intensity that won them the game.

"They played hard basketball," he said.

"They brought intensity and pressure to the game."

Turnovers were a huge contributor to the final score. The Lady Lancers snatched 31 turnovers while the St. Lawrence Vikings only produced seven points off of stolen chances.

"The morale has been really decent all year," said Eligh. "They are a positive group and a good group."

Eligh said he believes if the team keeps their consistency, their intensity and their communication open, they'll thrive during the playoffs. "They'll also need to finish their lay-ups," he added.

Top scorers for the ladies were guard



Photo by Sarah O. Swenson

Loyalist's Damone Donaldson takes a shot during Wednesday night's basketball action. Despite a strong fourth quarter, the Lancers fell to the Vikings 71-63. Donaldson played all 40 minutes and scored 9 points.

Amber Burton, guard and forward Haley Sisler and guard and forward Sierra Cauley. The ladies also used three-pointers to their advantage banking seven three-pointers, while their competition scored four.

The ladies end their season in fourth place in the east division of the OCAA.

The Lady Lancers host the fifth place Niagara knights in their first play-off game on Saturday.

The men's team saw their chance at entering the playoffs slip away after their loss to Centennial this past weekend. This loss was just as disappointing.

"The morale is the same as when we

lost games at the beginning of the season. They underachieved and the players know it," said Whitfield.

"No coach is happy when their team underachieves. It's disappointing, but they are a team of great guys."

Patrick Kalala, Matt Miller and Calvin Chevannes contributed 44 of the 63 baskets made and Kalala and Damone Donaldson played the entire 40-minute game.

The status of the men's team next year is still up in the air as up to five players could be leaving Loyalist this year, said Whitfield.

With the loss, the men finished ninth in the East Division.

Best Eastern Ontario figure skaters visit Belleville this weekend

By Dan Pearce

Spins, jumps and intricate footwork will be on display by some of the best figure skaters in eastern Ontario this weekend.

The Yardmen Arena in Belleville will play host the Eastern Ontario STARSkate Invitational Championship from Feb. 24-26.

Figure skaters from Whitby to Ottawa will compete in the annual competition.

Lauren McLean, Emily Seigner, Renada Barnable and Maddie Callaghan of the Trenton Figure Skating Club, or TFSC, will all be competing.

TFSC coach Ida Klemencic said the girls are between 10 and 12 years old, and each has been figure skating for around five years. Seigner is competing in the championship for the second time. For the rest of the girls, it's a brand new experience.

"This is the biggest competition for

these girls. It's what they've been working towards the whole season," said Klemencic. "This is the biggest competition that they compete in at this level."

Klemencic has been coaching figure skating for 24 years in Frankford and Trenton.

She said, for now, this is the largest

qualifier for these girls, but in years to come, they'll be able to qualify and compete at the all-Ontario level.

"Everyone's been working really hard to get ready for this competition," she said. "Ultimately that's what they want to do, qualify for all-Ontario."

First playoff game doesn't go well for Hawks

Series now at 1-0 after overtime loss to Kingston Voyageurs

By Dan Pearce

The Voyageurs ventured to Trenton and emerged victorious from Community Gardens on Tuesday night. The Golden Hawks weren't so golden.

The Hawks got off to a bad start in their first playoff game of the season against the Kingston Kimco Voyageurs with a 1-0 overtime loss. The series is now at 1-0 for the Voyageurs.

It was a battle between two goalies as the game was scoreless after three periods. Despite an onslaught of offensive pressure from the Hawks — they outshot the Voyageurs 48-37 — Voyageurs goalie Charlie Finn came out on top, saving everything the Hawks threw at him.

"We have a young team with a quiet confidence, and we believe in our goaltender," said Kingston head coach Colin Birkas. "Finn has been doing a great job for us in the playoffs. You can't say enough about him."

Finn, who got his second shutout of the playoffs with an impressive 48 saves, received a much-deserved first star, while Hawks netminder Spencer Finney received the second star with 36 saves.

"It was all we could handle," said Birkas. "It's definitely a tall order for anyone in the league to go up against the larger and older Trenton team."

The Hawks had plenty of opportunities and lots of close calls, but couldn't find a way to get the puck by Finn.

"It's pretty simple, if you don't put the puck in the back of the net, you don't deserve to win," said Trenton coach Jerome Dupont.

A penalty early in the overtime period may be what led to the Vees victory.

Finn left his crease to retrieve a loose puck and Trenton's Krystain Yorke made a break to challenge him for it. Finn fell to the ice and York was given a slashing penalty, giving the Vees a man advantage.

Less than a minute later Kyle Wilhelm shelved a one-timer pass from Steve



Photo by Marta Iwanek

Kingston Voyageurs goalie Charlie Finn stops a shot on net from Trenton Golden Hawks forward Andrew Parks on Tuesday night at the Community Gardens in Trenton. The Kingston Voyageurs won 1-0 in overtime.

McParland to give the Vees the win. Wilhelm received the third star for getting the OT game winner.

It was a surprising win for the Vees, who failed to win any of the six games they played against the Hawks during the

regular season, including the Hawks' last game less than two weeks ago.

The Vees were also playing their third road game in three days after defeating the defending Ontario Junior Hockey League champions, the Wellington Dukes, in the

first playoff round.

The Hawks, who finished the regular season first in the Eastern division, received a first round bye.

The teams meet again in Kingston on Thursday at 7 p.m., and in Trenton on

Friday at 7:30 p.m. to continue their best-of-seven playoff series.

Dupont said Trenton's strategy heading into Thursday's game is to "play good defensive hockey, like we did last night (Tuesday)."