

Royals hockey team wins 5?2 over Erin

In what was one of their best performances of the season, the Centre Dufferin District High School Royals hockey team won their third game of the season with a 5?2 win over Erin District High School at the Centre Dufferin Recreation Complex on Tuesday, December 16.

The Royals were leading 2?1 in the second period on goals from Mitchell Skilton and Kyle Latter.

CDDHS forward Evan Spencer widened the gap when he got a breakaway when the Royals were short handed and let a shot rip to the top corner of the Erin net to make it a 3?1 game.

Erin challenged with a goal with just under nine minutes left in the period.

Skilton got his second of the game late in the frame when he picked up a rebound during a scramble in front of the Erin goal.

The Royals played a smart third period keeping the Erin squad to the outside and protecting their two goal lead.

They got some insurance when Stephen Falls scored in the third to make it a 5-2 game. From there the Royals kept up the pressure and held on to take the win.

?We did really good in the offensive zone, there was lots of passing, ?Said Royals right winger Mitchell Skilton. ?I think we were even near the beginning then we started to pick it up.?

As most hockey fans know, a two goal lead is one of the most dangerous positions to be in, so the Royals knew they had to come out for a solid third period.

?We knew we had to stay safe in the defensive zone and push the offence,? Skilton said of the squad's third period strategy.

It worked ? the Royals played smart and came away with the win.

After that game, the Royals have a 3?6 record for the season.

Over all, Orangeville District Secondary School is tied for first place in the Division 4 / 10 standings with Centre Wellington District High School. Both teams are undefeated after seven games and have 14 points so far.

The Royals will get some time off over the Christmas break, returning to the ice on January 8, to go up against Westside in Orangeville.

They will be back on home ice for their final regular season home game on Tuesday, January 13, when they will host Orangeville District Secondary School.

That game is scheduled for a 2 p.m. start.By Brian Lockhart

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