



Thunder Bay thumps Black Hawks in opener



Key 3 p.m. game today for Waterloo

By JIM FICKESS
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The Waterloo Black Hawks face two possible alternatives in today's second game of the United States Hockey League championship playoffs and their final home appearance of the season, slated for 3 p.m. at McElroy Auditorium.

The Black Hawks must: 1. defeat Northern Division champion Thunder Bay or 2. face the near-impossible task of having to win the final three games of the best-of-five series on Twin home ice next weekend.

The defending league titlists squelched a brief third period Black Hawk rally to win the championship opener 5-3 in front of the largest hockey crowd in 10 years at McElroy. Last night's turnout of 4,255 was topped only by the throng of 5,400 which showed up for a Green Bay game late in the 1963-64 season when the Black Hawks battled to their first of five consecutive league crowns.

Black Hawk Coach Dave Swick is sure the first alternative, a Black Hawk victory, will come about this afternoon.

"WE'VE GOT to get them tomorrow!" exclaimed Swick following last night's loss. "The guys realize we need Sunday's game and they will be playing that way."

"We'll be more physical tomorrow. We'll go right out

there afternoon," vowed Swick.

"We played good enough hockey to win tonight," the first-year coach asserted. "We just made mistakes and Thunder Bay is a good enough team to capitalize on all them."

Swick continued, "We seemed to be letting up after we scored. Every time we scored, we turned our back and died and let them score right after us."

The key goal in the game, in Swick's opinion, came with just 13 seconds left in the first period when the Twins' Tom Deacon tied the game at 1-1.

Waterloo's Mark Weinstein recorded the games first goal just 13 seconds earlier. Weinstein got behind Thunder Bay defenseman Danny Wilson and lifted the puck over goaltender Joe Bamford to give the Black Hawks a short-lived lead.

"WHEN WE LET them have that goal late in the first, that really hurt. That was the game's big goal," emphasized Swick. "We lost the momentum we would have had starting the period with a 1-0 lead."

The Black Hawks, who were outskated by the Twins in the second period, mounted a brief rally in the third stanza.

Trailing 3-2 going into the final 20 minutes of action, Waterloo tied the score when Hal Murphy canned a 15-

footer with 6:56 gone in the period. Murphy took the centering pass from Jim Smith, who was tangled up with linemate Weinstein behind the Twin goal.

"I thought we had them when we tied the game at 3-3, but we let up for a minute and the next thing you know, we're down 5-3," Swick said, shaking his head.

Tinker Mithrush scored what proved to be the winner for Thunder Bay 1:44 after Murphy's tally. Jack Byerley then added an insurance goal for Thunder Bay with 6:55 in the game. Waterloo defenseman Dale Pennock got caught to far in the Twin zone while trying to hold the puck in, allowing Byerley and linemate Gary Lindquist to have a 2-1 break.

PENNOCK, known for his hard checking, got in a couple of pretty good licks in the second period, only to have smooth-skating Thunder Bay score on the plays.

Chuck Kelner gave the Twins a 2-1 lead three minutes into the second when he beat Coyle with a blazing slap-shot from the left corner. Pennock smashed Kelner against the boards while he was getting his shot off and the Thunder Bay left-winger had to be helped off the ice.

The Twins grabbed a 3-1 advantage nine and a half minutes later when Brian De-

piero scored. Pennock met Mithrush with a solid check behind the Waterloo net. Mithrush, however, was able to get the puck to Depiero, who was barreling down on Coyle.

Waterloo's second period marker came when an off-balance Bob Lamoureux flicked a 20-foot wrist shot in the before falling to his back to cut the Twin lead to one, 3-2.

The first period, except for its high-scoring final 36 seconds

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WATERLOO LINEUP
Goal: Coyle; Defense: Pennock, Brown, Mazur, Gospor, Farwars, Smith, Barzee, Leysen, Selinger, Lamoureux, Weinstein, Hendrickson, Murphy, Houston, Storky.

THUNDER BAY LINEUP
Goal: Bamford; Defense: Wilson, Rubenick, Ferguson, Mithrush, Farwars, Hogon, Deacon, Vollant, Lindquist; Byerley, Kelner, McLeod, Brognolo, Depiero, McDonald.

Scoring by periods	1	2	3
Waterloo	1	1	3
Thunder Bay	1	2	2

FIRST PERIOD
19:24: 2. Thunder Bay, Deacon (Hogon, McLeod); 19:47: Penalties: Hendrickson (charging); 6:35: Ferguson (tripping); 15:04.

SECOND PERIOD
3:00: 3. Thunder Bay, Kelner (Byerley); 3:00: 4. Thunder Bay, Depiero (Mithrush); 12:38: 5. Waterloo, Lamoureux (Hendrickson, Selinger); 16:15: Penalties: Rubenick (holding); 16:40: Houston (tripping); 5:43: Wilson (tripping); 17:42.

THIRD PERIOD
6:56: 6. Waterloo, Murphy (Smith); 6:56: 7. Thunder Bay, Mithrush (Depiero); 8:40: 8. Thunder Bay, Byerley (Lindquist); 3:05: Penalties: none.

Shots on goal:
Waterloo 16 12 13-47
Thunder Bay 9 12 10-48
Officials: Ref. Ricci, John Watts and Mike Blech; Linesmen: A-4, 25.

WATERLOO GOALIE Jim Coyle deflects a Thunder Bay shot in the first period of the United States Hockey League playoff game

last night at McElroy Auditorium. The Black Hawks and Twins opened the USHL championship series here before the largest crowd of the season. (Courier Photo by Dan Jacob)

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