

December 17, 2006

Randolph Jr. RAMS -vs.- Bridgewater

'Bridgewater 8-3 victory over Randolph'

Despite the even flow to the start of Sunday's game, the Bridgewater Jr. Panthers came out on top with an 8-3 victory over the Randolph Jr. RAMS, in their first match up of the season. Randolph's goalie, Michael Pollio, faced 10 more shots (39) than Bridgewater's Jimmy Harrison's 29 shots.

FIRST PERIOD

The first four minutes of the game started with both teams attacking and defending their zones pretty evenly, and solid net-minding from their goalies. But it was the Jr. Panthers with a first strike, a goal at 4:18 into the first, by Collin Mank, the first of his hat trick for the evening contest. Randolph, while shorthanded, rallied back quickly within a minute to have Justin Kleinwaks even up the score. After skating wide, and then into the slot, Justin was able to score on his own rebound, one of the few rebounds Jimmy Harrison would allow.

With the score tied, the Jr. Panthers went on top on a power play goal by Anthony Mandraccia, the first of his hat trick for the game, at 6:56 into the first. Taking the puck wide, Anthony was able to pick and deliver a top shelf goal, to put his team up by one.

The first period continued with Mank and Mandraccia getting behind the defense and scoring alternating goals, which put the Panthers on top 4-1 to close out the period.

SECOND PERIOD

Within 40 seconds of the start of the second period, Kyle Brennan broke free, skating through a hard back checking defenseman, and pulled Randolph to within two. Kyle's goal was assisted and set-up by a pass from Justin Kleinwaks.

As the period continued, it was the Panthers that would add to their lead, by Mank and Mandraccia alternating scoring goals for their team, and Mank completing his hat trick. The first goal, at 2:59 into the period came after cycling the puck deep in Randolph's zone, Mank found the back of the net. Mandraccia's goal was setup by the hard working Panther's Mike DiPascoli and Mike Ruggeri.

After three power play attempts, Randolph was unable to get the biscuit past Harrison as the second concluded with Randolph still on a man advantage.

THIRD PERIOD

Randolph started the period off with a man advantage and was able to control the puck, but the Panther defense would not allow any quality shots on their net-minder. Any shots that did get through to Harrison were quickly contained.

At 6:47 into the period, Randolph was applying constant pressure. After cycling the puck around the net, Evan Jones was able to score, to bring Randolph within two again. The Panthers came back hard and it was Mandraccia's turn to complete his hat trick with a score at 8:03 into the period.

In the ensuing minutes, the Panthers' offense continued to work the puck and apply pressure. The final goals, one scored by forward Carl Meixsell, and another errant goal from a Panthers' defenseman, closed the game, to complete the 8-3 tally for the Bridgewater Jr. Panthers.