

Lancers hold off late surge for win

By David Zammit

The Loyalist Lancers men's basketball team came out with something to prove on Tuesday night as they took on the Durham Lords with a stripped down roster of only seven players. The Lancers hung on to win a nail-bitter 75-66.

"I believe that now the battles in practice have become more intense as everyone is fighting for playing spots or minutes," said Lancers forward Calvin Chevannes.

"At this point we basically already have a playoff spot locked down, but position-wise is what were fighting for right now," said Chevannes.

The men came out with a lot of energy in the first. The Lancers were aggressive towards the basket, causing early foul problems for the Lords. Six and a half minutes into the first, the Lords already had six team fouls that cost them two starting players for the rest of the first half. The

Lancers took a 19-11 lead into the second quarter.

Lords head coach Desmond Rowley was all over the referees during the game, often yelling at the officials. "Take a look at the foul numbers. There are two teams out here on the court you know, not just Durham."

The second quarter was domination by the Lancers as they took advantage of the Lords who had two starters on the bench. The high-flying Lancers stole the ball and went in on a two on zero and set Brayden Gohn for a huge tomahawk jam, to get the crowd going.

The Lords only scored 13 points in this quarter, caused by the Lancers shut-down defence, to go along with the poor shooting of the Lords. It was 45-24, heading into the break.

"Those players who quit, we kind of just put them behind us and said we still have our goal of going to nationals. For right now, our goals are to just take one game at a time, four quar-

ters at a time," said Chevannes.

The third quarter looked like the Lancers changed jerseys with Lords. Lords guard Christoff Pierre hit back-to-back three's, to pull his team within 12 by the start of the fourth. The Lancers led 64-52 heading into the last quarter.

Durham's Pierre and Leke Bankole kept the team rolling in the fourth as they found their way within five points of the comeback, when the wheels fell off. A couple of big defensive plays by the Lancers held the lead to secure the win.

Game notes: Lancers: Brayden Gohn had 12 points and 11 boards. Matt Miller had a team high of 17 points for the Lancers. Patrick Kalala added 16 points.

Lords: Christoff Pierre had 14 points to go with 13 boards. Ali Sadaat had a team high 16 points and 13 boards. Leke Bankole was the Lords top bench player with 14 points.



Photo by Justin Tang

Loyalist Lancers guard Jordan Marlowe plays the ball past the Durham Lords defence as the two teams battled at Loyalist College Tuesday. The Lancers beat the Lords 75-66.

Lancers dominate Durham in battle

By David Zammit

The Loyalist Lady Lancers came out firing on all cylinders on Tuesday night, as they cruised to a huge 72-35 win over the Durham Lords. Jenni Thompson was on fire for the Lancers on this night.

"Jenni really stepped up and made great choices all game long," said Lancers head coach Chris Eligh.

The first quarter was a carbon copy of the entire game as the Lancers showed the Lords why they are third in their division. The Lancers came out with the hot hand and jumped out to a 22-10 lead after the first.

The game only got worse for the 3-12 Lords. The second opened with Thompson hitting a wide-open corner three pointer.

The women were relentless as they attacked the basket, heading into the half with a 42-17 lead. Thompson had 18 points in the first half of the game, outscoring the entire Lords team.

The Lords had no answer for

Thompson.

"Thompson is one of the best pure shooters in the league, we wanted to try a box and one but injuries and sickness would not allow for it last night. Not sure it would have mattered last night as she was on fire as usual. OCAA player of the year arguably," said Lords coach Tim Baulk.

The Lords came out with a bit of a spark in the third, when the Lancers used some of their bench. Alexandra Aguiar and Nikea Worrell provided some depth later in the game. They both saw over 15 minutes in action for the Lancers. The score heading into the final quarter was 59-26.

Thompson opened the scoring again in the fourth with a three-pointer. The Lancers went 10 of 25 from three-point land. The Lords only attempted three and missed all of them. The game was never really close as they Lancers crushed the Lords 72-35ww," said Coach Eligh.

Game Notes: Jenni Thompson had 27 points to go with 10

boards. Martine Gauvin had a great game with 18 points, eight assist, and eight steals. Kelsey Hare was the top scorer for the Lords with 17 points and 10 boards.

Coach Baulk said after the game "Kelsey scored her points when the game was essentially over and Chris had his bench on. Kelsey turning the ball over six times will not put us in a winning position, especially when it's your veteran players who are making over half the turnovers."



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Photo by Marta Iwanek

Kyle McCrea braves the cold as he runs during his Loyalist College fitness class Thursday. Fifteen to 20 cm of snow is expected in the area from Thursday night until late Friday afternoon.

Conservation areas get new signs thanks to donations

By Marta Iwanek

Quinte Conservation will be able to put up two, possibly five new signs at its conservation areas because of the community's donations to the Adopt An Acre program in 2012.

The non-profit received \$4,800 and successfully adopted out 240 acres.

"Signage is important for visibility," said communications and marketing specialist Jennifer May-Anderson. "People were having a hard time finding a conservation area if they were going out to look for it because they couldn't read or see the sign from the road."

Larger signs like the ones now planned for Deerock Lake and Price Conservation Areas cost about \$1,800 each. After those are put in place, May-Anderson said they will look into signs for Sidney, Beaver Meadow and Flinton Conservation areas. Donations were down from last year's total of \$5,200.

of \$5,200.

The Adopt An Acre program has existed since 1994, but after a period of time, languished before being revived again about four years ago, said May-Anderson.

While the organization does receive money from provincial and federal governments, fundraisers like this help with extra projects. She said many people choose to donate the \$20 for an acre during the Christmas season as a gift.

When the program was revived a few years ago, one of their first goals was making sure people can find the areas. "And then once we get all of our conservation areas with improved signage, then we'll be able to start focusing on individual conservation areas and the particular needs each one might have," May-Anderson said. These were the last five signs planned, so if they finish them this year they will move on to different projects in the future, she added.

Extracurricular activities still on backburner

By Tom Hicken

Both the local school board and teacher's unions are hopeful to restore the extracurricular activities that have been frozen by teachers across the province.

Kerry Donnell, communications officer of the Hastings and Prince Edward District School Board, is looking forward to union heads meeting with Ontario's new premier, Kathleen Wynne, to continue labour negotiations that had previously failed.

"The timing of this is interesting because in the next few weeks we're going to see a bit of a thawing from the freeze (of extracurricular activities)," Donnell said, referring to Wynne's inauguration to be held Feb. 11, and a cabinet resuming one week later.

Elementary public school teachers across Ontario withdrew their voluntary involvement from extracurricular

and sports activities back in December 2012, with high school teachers following suit, after their outrage with the province's introduction of Bill 115.

At the time, Education Minister Laurel Broten used the controversial bill to freeze wages with a forced two-year contract for teachers, which their unions deemed "undemocratic" for taking away their right to negotiate a contract with their employers – the school boards.

Since then, student clubs, after school athletics and school proms have been sparse across Ontario, including the 46 elementary and eight secondary schools within the HPEDSB district.

"There are provisions where teachers need to be involved in extracurricular programs according to school board procedure," Donnell said.

However, according to Jacqueline Wood, co-president of Quinte Second-

'People don't like how there's no sports going on. It's kind of boring around here so a lot of kids don't like coming to school because of that.'

Co-president of Quinte Secondary School student council, Jacqueline Wood

ary School's student council, the few clubs and groups that remain at her school are mostly student-run with no involvement from teachers.

"Our principal will be helping us with prom. It probably won't be as organized

with fundraising because our teachers won't be involved to push things along and keep things going," she said.

Bill 115 was repealed in January, but the contracts still remain. Wynne says she has confidence in restoring negotiations but adds that she will not nullify the existing contracts imposed through the enactment of Bill 115.

"I know that the premier has already had some meetings with the provincial unions and the school board trustees association," Donnell said, adding that they're hopeful the momentum Wynne has started will continue.

However, the unfavourable labour deals that were legislated and not negotiated have left teachers and their unions sour. The decision to continue withholding extracurricular activities is, "based on the union's directions that they give to their members – it's not di-

rected from the school board," Donnell said.

Both students and their parents remain frustrated as teachers continue their refusal to supervise clubs and sports teams in their schools.

"People don't like how there's no sports going on. It's kind of boring around here so a lot of kids don't like coming to school because of that," Wood said.

Another concern from students is their admissions into post-secondary programs, some of which rely heavily on scholarships. With a lack of extracurricular activities, students say they feel their peers from other provinces or private schools have an unfair advantage when it comes to out-of-classroom experience.

"I think it's been a major issue because a lot of kids can't apply for those athletic scholarships," Wood said.