



SPORTS



Senior forward Toni Galati skates in to shoot the puck on December 6 against Allen Park. Below: junioir forward John Randazzo handles the puck at the game on December 6, when the Bears fell to Allen Park 7-6. Photo:Delaney Cade

Hockey opener a disappointment

BY DELANEY CADE

On December 6, the Bears played Allen Park in their home opener. The first period scoring was opened by sophomore forward Nicholas Kovalchik.

The goal was assisted by junior forward John Randazzo and junior Andrew Vitale. Allen Park answered the goal in the last minute of the period, scoring on the power play.

The first goal of the second period was scored by senior forward Erik Taurence, and assisted by senior forward Toni Galati and senior defensemen Kevin Golowic.

One minute later Allen Park tied the score. With a new goalie, Wyandotte gained new momentum scoring two more goals.

The first by junior defensemen Robbie Cabanaw, assisted by Galati, and senior defensemen Jordan Rukowski. The second goal was scored by

Randazzo and assisted by 14 and Taurence.

By the end of the period Allen Park and Wyandotte both scored another goal, Wyandotte's coming from senior defensemen Todd Sowards.

The score at the end of the second was 5-3.

An eventful third was opened by Allen Park scoring three goals, two of which were short handed, to gain the lead.

Kovalchik tied the game near the end of the third period, but Wyandotte's last efforts were not enough.

Allen Park scored the game winner at the end of the third.

Although the Bears lost their first home game, they performed well at the Port Huron Tournament. "We played really well, better than I expected,

seeing that it was our first real contest," said Bears head coach Mike Quint.

The first opponent Wyandotte faced was Flushing on November 28.

Top performers in the game included junior forward Will Gentles

with two goals and two assists.

The Bears won 11-3.

The next game was against Port Huron Northern on November 29. Sophomore forward Gerald Mayhew had two goals, junior

forward Alex King had two goals and Galati had one goal and two assists. Wyandotte won 7-2.

"They showed at the Port Huron Tournament that they are capable of playing with some of the better teams," said Quint.

The Bears believe the hardest thing to overcome this season will be the "Trenton Curse," which is a problem almost every year.

"We want to overcome the Trenton Curse because everybody puts them up on a peadistal," said Quint. "We are just as good as anybody and we know it, but we have to come to every game ready to play."

Roosevelt's season looks to be an exciting one; their current record is 3-2. Their next game will be on December 13 at Grosse Point South.

Out Goes MEGA League In Goes the New Downriver League

BY KYLE TIMMIS

Over the past couple years the idea has been thrown around to change up the leagues in the

downriver area because of the lack of rivalries and games were not as competitive as they used to be.

Teams were not matching up well against non-

league teams and sometimes it was just too far of a drive to go play a game.

So some of the athletic directors from all around the downriver area had talked to each other about this idea of getting out of the MEGA Conference and they all seemed to agree.

That is when the fire started.

The process started and athletic directors were writing their letters to the MEGA Conference saying that it was their last year and they wanted to get out. Then they had to submit a new format and then get that approved by the board of education. Then after some serious legal help things started to take off in a good direction.

It is official now; this upcoming Fall 2009 will be the start of a new league called The Downriver League. It will consist of ten teams from the downriver area. It will be teams like Wyandotte, Allen Park, Southgate, Melvindale, Trenton, Taylor Kennedy, Taylor Truman, Woodhaven, Carlson, and Lincoln Park.

"The level of competition is going to change and it's going to get very competitive," head football coach Ron Adams said.

There will be no more crossover games in terms of playing non-league teams and it will all be based on inter league match ups each week.

This idea of a new league will not only affect the

high schools but also the middle schools as well. The cost of gas put a big focus on cutting down driving and with the new format of the league it configures to a ten mile radius from each venue at a maximum.

"There are pros and cons to this league and I think that the development of rivalries will happen once again in the downriver area, but some of the cons are struggling teams will have a hard time competing in this new league," Athletic Director Tom DeSana said.

Downriver will be buzzing once this new league is in full effect, and a lot of people support it with pride.

"I'm really glad to see this happen and it will be great for our community and our athletes as well," Adams said.

Football will be greatly affected by this league due to only four teams out of the ten can advance to the state playoffs but the concept of the league is solid.

"Time will tell if this league will work or not, being around for a while coaching and being the Athletic Director, we can compete in every sport if we just keep doing what were doing now and keep putting up them banners," DeSana said.

The hype cannot be anymore exciting for next fall to start up with this new league but it will be a great experience for our athletes.



The Michigan Mega Conference and all of the Mega team plaques will be coming down in the fall and ten new Downriver League team names will be replacing them. Photo by: Kyle Timmis