

The Knights snuck by the Bulls in a closely contested 3-2 victory. The game started off with Matt Smith of the Knights scoring first at 9:19 of the first period, assisted by Sam Perkins. The Bulls quickly responded when Jason O'Connell tied the game at 6:45, with John Killion assisting. The Knights regained the lead less than 30 seconds later when Bill Fisher found the net, assisted by Rob Reale. However, the Bulls equalized again at 2:28, courtesy of Mike DeBenedictis, assisted by Marty Carabin.

The second period saw no goals, despite both teams generating opportunities. The game was decided in the third period when Mike Coughlin scored the game-winning goal for the Knights at 2:21, assisted by Matt Smith, securing the 3-2 victory.

Mark Dwyer of the Knights earned the win between the pipes, while Tom Andrade of the Bulls took the loss. Despite the high shot count from the Bulls (40 shots to the Knights' 19), the Knights held firm for the win. The game was cleanly played with no penalties across all three periods.

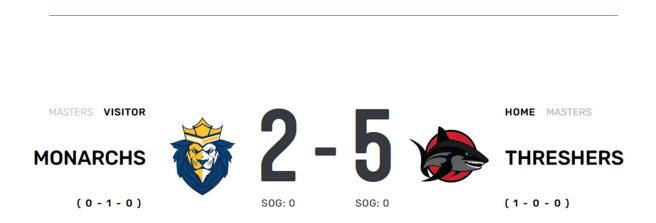


The Mariners edged out the Yellowjackets with a 2-1 victory in a tightly contested game. The Mariners took the lead in the first period when Kyle Smythe scored an unassisted goal at 10:48. Both teams battled hard in the second period, but neither could find the back of the net.

In the third period, the Mariners extended their lead to 2-0 with a game-winning goal by Peter Krukiel at 1:11, assisted by John Krukiel and Mike Tantillo. The Yellowjackets tried to mount a comeback late, with John Petricig scoring a power-play goal with just one second remaining, assisted by Matt Kennedy, but it wasn't enough.

The game saw multiple penalties in the third period, with Yellowjackets' Eric Murray receiving a game misconduct for unsportsmanlike conduct, while Dave Kendrick of the Mariners also served a minor for the same infraction.

Goaltender Mike Ciavattieri earned the win for the Mariners, stopping 23 shots, while Howie Bumpus took the loss for the Yellowjackets despite a strong 30-save effort.



The Threshers secured a dominant 5-2 win over the Monarchs in a well-fought match. The scoring opened just 20 seconds into the game, with Duncan Morrissey finding the back of the net for the Threshers, assisted by Eric Johnson. In the second period, the Monarchs briefly tied it up at 1-1 with a goal from Jeff Hurst, assisted by Rian Kearney, but the Threshers quickly responded as Travis Dupuis scored, with help from Anthony Leclair and Brian Morgan, reclaiming the lead.

The third period saw the Threshers pull away. Brian Morgan netted the game-winning shorthanded goal, assisted by Eric Johnson, at 5:01, and John Sances followed up with another goal less than two minutes later. The Monarchs tried to rally, with Ben Perrotta scoring late, assisted by Steve White, but an empty-net goal from John Zimmer, assisted by Johnson and Frank Davis, sealed the win for the Threshers.

The game had a few penalties, with Travis Dupuis of the Threshers getting a slashing minor in the first, and the Monarchs' Ben Perrotta and Rian Kearney each serving penalties for hooking and slashing, respectively, later in the game.

Joe Burke earned the win in net for the Threshers, while Buddy Johnson took the loss for the Monarchs.



The Mountainmen cruised to a 4-1 victory over the Longhorns in a game marked by stellar offensive play and airtight defense. Pat McNamara got the Mountainmen on the board early in the first period, scoring at 1:52 with an assist from John Hickey.

In the second period, Jim Daniels took over, scoring twice. His first goal came at 7:14, assisted by Pat Scully and Rich Greer, which ultimately proved to be the game-winner. Daniels struck again at 3:02 with help from Chris O'Keefe and Greg McKenna, extending the Mountainmen's lead to 3-0.

The Longhorns fought back in the third period, cutting the deficit to 3-1 when Scott Varley found the net at 6:43 with assists from Steve Colabro and Ed Mortell. However, Daniels completed his hat trick just two minutes later at 4:10 with an unassisted goal, sealing the Mountainmen's victory.

Both teams played a disciplined game, with no penalties called throughout the match. Mountainmen goalie Brandon Cardoza earned the win, while Doc Smith took the loss for the Longhorns.



The Astros secured a solid 3-1 victory over the Hawks in a game dominated by timely scoring and strong goaltending. After a scoreless first period, the Astros took control in the second period with Jim Ford scoring twice. His first goal came at 8:04, assisted by Adam Bellantoni, and he followed it up with the game-winner at 7:07, again assisted by Bellantoni.

In the third period, the Astros extended their lead to 3-0 when John DeVincentis found the net at 8:16, assisted by Dave Fallon. The Hawks responded late in the game, scoring with just one second remaining, as Justin Stratton put one past Andrew Pelley with help from Frank Elwood, but it was too little, too late.

Andrew Pelley stood tall in goal for the Astros, shutting down the Hawks for the majority of the game, while Jeff Nawrocki took the loss for the Hawks. Despite some penalty trouble for the Hawks in the second period, with a minor for too many players on the ice, the game remained disciplined, and no penalties were called in the third period.



The Bolts secured a 5-3 win over the Fury in a fast-paced matchup that saw the Bolts pull away early and fend off a comeback attempt. The game opened with Daron Jacobs scoring unassisted for the Bolts at 10:01 in the first period. Tom House tied it up for the Fury shortly after at 8:41 with assists from Steve Lemish and Kevin Mackin. However, the Bolts responded quickly, with Jamie Jernegan and Tim Cruz netting goals to give the Bolts a 3-1 lead by the end of the first.

In the second period, Mark Vitello scored the eventual game-winner at 9:43, assisted by Peter Vitello, giving the Bolts a commanding 4-1 lead. The Fury answered back at 1:18 with a goal by Gavin Steinman, assisted by Sean Keegan, but they couldn't fully close the gap.

The third period saw the Fury continue to fight, as Dan Coletti scored at 10:41, assisted by Nate Rasmussen and Neil Landry, to cut the lead to 4-3. However, an empty-net goal by Dave Richardson at 1:01 sealed the 5-3 victory for the Bolts.

Despite the Fury's efforts, penalties hurt their chances in the third period. Rich Higgins received two minor penalties—one for roughing at 7:26 and another for hooking at 3:01. Goalie Rick Welch earned the win for the Bolts, while Dan Nason took the loss for the Fury.



The Spartans emerged victorious in a 5-2 win over the Reapers, thanks to a strong third-period performance. The Reapers took an early lead in the first period when Dan Sloan scored at 4:35, assisted by Pete Tamborella and Jim Polito.

The second period saw the Spartans turn the tide. Paul Brinkmann tied the game at 8:05, assisted by Bill Petrarca, and just 24 seconds later, Jim Holmes, with help from Mike Martin, gave the Spartans a 2-1 lead.

In the third period, the Reapers briefly equalized at 10:22 when Sean Cannon scored, assisted by Mark Kaplan. However, Glenn Harnish took control, scoring the game-winning goal unassisted at 4:48, followed by an insurance goal from Jeff Vancura, assisted by Brinkmann, at 1:31. Harnish then sealed the game with an empty-net goal just 10 seconds before the final buzzer.

Goaltender Matt Nelson played a solid game for the Spartans, while Ken Menkello took the loss for the Reapers. Neither team committed any penalties throughout the contest.