

The Knights may be building for the future, but the present belonged to the Threshers, who powered their way to a decisive 6-3 victory. While the Knights showed flashes of promise, particularly from Mike Coughlin's two-goal effort, it was the Threshers' relentless attack, led by John Zimmer and Duncan Morrissey, that left no doubt about the outcome. With the Sharks poised to defend their title, the Threshers' victory sends a strong message to the reigning champs: they're coming for the crown.

The game kicked off with the Threshers asserting dominance early. John Zimmer struck twice in the first period, showing a combination of speed and precision that left the Knights reeling. Despite a spirited secondperiod response from Chad Gillpatrick and Mike Coughlin, the Knights couldn't contain the duo of Zimmer and Morrissey, who combined for two more goals in quick succession. By the time Anthony Leclair sealed the win with a late third-period tally, the Threshers had thoroughly dismantled the Knights' defensive efforts.

For the Knights, this season was more about laying the groundwork for success than immediate results. With young talent and a clear plan, they appear primed to make waves next year. But for now, the Threshers are surging, armed with an offense capable of defending their title. The playoffs are on the horizon, and the Threshers look hungry, ready to attack.

| | | 1ST | 2ND | 3RD | |
|----------------------------------|--------------------------------------|-----|-----|-----|----|
| Game M-WEEK 14 Regular Season | Bulls (6 - 8 - 0) MASTERS | 1 | 0 | 1 | 2 |
| 6:33 PM Dec 8, 2024 | Yellowjackets (7 - 7 - 0) MASTERS | 4 | 3 | 3 | 10 |

The stakes were sky-high, but the Yellowjackets rose to the challenge, clinching their playoff spot with a dominant 10-2 thrashing of the Bulls in a must-win game for both teams. With the victory, the Yellowjackets punched their ticket to the dance, while the Bulls were left licking their wounds, condemned to share the cellar with the hapless Knights. For the Yellowjackets, this was a statement game; for the Bulls, it was another chapter in a season gone wrong.

The game opened with the Yellowjackets firing on all cylinders. Bill McIver and Chris Boussy combined for two early goals that set the tone, while Eric Murray's game-winner at 5:58 of the first period showcased precision passing and clinical finishing. The Bulls managed a glimmer of hope with a late first-period goal by Rich Fuller, but that hope was snuffed out by Sean Taylor and the relentless Yellowjacket power play, which scored three times in the second period to stretch the lead to an insurmountable 7-1.

By the third period, the Yellowjackets were in full control, and Sean Taylor capped off his hat trick with a laser from the point. The Bulls' Tony Rota managed a late consolation goal, but it did little to mitigate the sting of this crushing defeat. Outshot and outclassed, the Bulls ended their season in disappointment, while the Yellowjackets surged into the postseason as a team to watch. As the final buzzer sounded, it was clear: the Yellowjackets are dancing, and the Bulls are staying home.



The Mariners sailed into victory waters on the strength of a disciplined performance, edging the Monarchs 2-1 in a tense matchup. Despite a goalless first period, the Mariners found their rhythm in the second, with Mike Tantillo and John Krukiel lighting the lamp in quick succession. While the Monarchs rallied late with Rian Kearney's third-period strike, their offense couldn't find a way past Mike Ciavattieri, who stood tall between the pipes to secure the win.

Collin Brennan was the unsung hero for the Mariners, registering two assists and setting the tone for his team's offensive surge. Tantillo's opening goal at 5:29 of the second period was a beauty, a result of Brennan's crisp pass through the slot. Just minutes later, Krukiel doubled the lead with a game-winner that showcased precision and teamwork. The Monarchs' frustration boiled over with a penalty for too many men on the ice, a mistake emblematic of their struggles to match the Mariners' cohesion.

The Monarchs' late push added drama, but Ciavattieri's calm and commanding goaltending kept them at bay. The Mariners, now building momentum, showcased the kind of composure and execution that could make them a threat in the postseason. For the Monarchs, the loss underscores the need for sharper play and fewer miscues if they want to keep their crown intact.

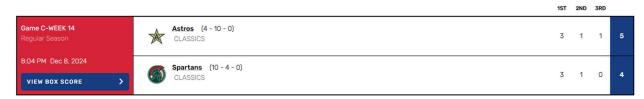


| | | 1ST | 2ND | 3RD | от | |
|----------------------------------|---------------------------------|-----|-----|-----|----|---|
| Game C-WEEK 14 Regular Season | Reapers (5 - 9 - 0) CLASSICS | 0 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 2 |
| 7:30 PM Dec 8, 2024 | Hawks (9 - 5 - 0) CLASSICS | 1 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 3 |

In a nail-biter that showcased grit, drama, and a touch of overtime magic, the Hawks soared past the Reapers 3-2 in a thrilling contest. The game ended with Brian McKenna delivering a stunning short-handed, gamewinning goal just over a minute into overtime. The Hawks not only claimed victory but proved once again why they thrive under pressure, leaving the Reapers to reflect on a match that slipped through their fingers.

The game was a back-and-forth affair from the start. Chuck Kilfoye opened the scoring for the Hawks with an unassisted tally early in the first period, capitalizing on a defensive miscue. The Reapers responded in the second with Eric Morgan's goal off a crisp setup from Sean Cannon, but the Hawks regained the lead through Justin Stratton's perfectly timed finish. The Reapers weren't done, however, as Brook Conley tied it in the third with a dazzling solo effort, setting the stage for a tense finish.

Overtime didn't disappoint. With Shawn Malloy in the box for tripping, the Hawks found themselves shorthanded but unshaken. McKenna seized the moment, intercepting a pass and racing down the ice to beat Ken Menkello in a one-on-one showdown, sealing the victory. Barry Kaiser was a fortress for the Hawks, stopping 29 of 31 shots and proving instrumental in the team's success. While the Reapers left emptyhanded, they proved they're no easy prey.



The Astros edged out the Spartans 5-4 in a thriller, with John Keyes sealing the deal on a power-play goal midway through the third period. It was a game defined by intensity, lead changes, and clutch performances, as both teams left everything on the ice. For the Astros, the win was a testament to precision under pressure, while the Spartans' relentless attack fell heartbreakingly short despite a dominant 39-shot effort.

The first period was a fireworks show, with five goals exchanged in a dizzying back-and-forth. Pete O'Brien struck first for the Astros, but the Spartans' Paul Brinkmann and Pete Cleary countered with quick goals to take the lead. The Astros tied it with Dave Fallon's redirection, only for Brinkmann to notch his second of the night. A late-period snipe from Bill Langrill put the Astros back on even ground, setting the tone for an epic showdown.

The Spartans leaned heavily on Brinkmann and Rich Boyle in the second, but it was Keyes who stole the spotlight. He scored twice, including the game-winner in the third, capitalizing on a Glenn Harnish tripping penalty. Andrew Pelley stood tall for the Astros, turning away 35 shots and anchoring his team through waves of Spartan pressure. For the Spartans, who outshot the Astros nearly two-to-one, the loss was a bitter pill. The Astros, however, skated off as victors in one of the season's most electrifying contests.



The Mountainmen stormed to a commanding 7-3 victory over the Bolts, combining crisp teamwork and timely scoring to notch a win that cements their playoff push. Pat Scully delivered a standout performance, tallying two goals, including the eventual game-winner, while Ron Hughes was a rock in goal, turning away 16 shots with confidence. The Bolts showed flashes of brilliance but were ultimately overwhelmed by the Mountainmen's relentless attack and depth of talent.

The opening period was a flurry of action, with five goals scored in just over six minutes. Joe O'Connell set the tone early for the Mountainmen, but Tim Cruz and Mark Vitello answered quickly for the Bolts, giving them a brief lead. The Mountainmen roared back with back-to-back goals in the final moments, including a buzzer-beater by Andrew Kuhn that injected the team with palpable momentum heading into the second period.

From there, it was all Mountainmen, as Scully's sharp wrister at the start of the second marked the beginning of the end for the Bolts. Jim Daniels piled on with a goal and two assists, showcasing why he's been one of the team's most consistent playmakers all season. The Bolts managed a late goal from Jay Faherty in the third, but the Mountainmen's Walter Sullivan slammed the door shut with a clincher in the final minute. With this commanding win, the Mountainmen have made a loud statement: they're not just playoff contenders—they're a team to be reckoned with.



In a game where patience and precision reigned supreme, the Longhorns outlasted the Fury in a 3-1 triumph that was defined by tactical play and opportunistic scoring. Doc Smith stood tall between the pipes for the Longhorns, turning away 11 of 12 shots in a rock-solid performance. Meanwhile, the Fury struggled to generate consistent pressure, as the Longhorns' defensive prowess shut down passing lanes and stifled their attack.

After a scoreless first period where both teams tested the waters, the Longhorns drew first blood in the second. Scott Varley delivered a laser pass to Ed Mortell, who set him up perfectly to break the deadlock. The Fury responded a few minutes later when Nate Rasmussen buried a slick feed from Gavin Steinman to level the score. But that glimmer of hope for the Fury was fleeting, as the Longhorns took full control in the final frame.

Tim Routhier's power-play goal just three minutes into the third proved to be the dagger, capping a clinical setup by Mortell and Varley. Moments later, Bob Sideropoulos padded the lead with a nifty finish off a pass from Bill Sawtelle, putting the game out of reach. Despite a valiant effort from Fury netminder Dan Nason, who faced a barrage of 27 shots, the Longhorns were simply too disciplined and determined. With this win, the Longhorns solidified their position as a team to watch as the playoff race heats up.