### SCHOOL SPIRIT



Members of the Esko homecoming court received student votes based on character traits this year. Pictured from left are Ingrid Hexum, Nate Rengo, Wyatt Wickenheiser, Brett Lillo, Keone Anderson, Kaitlyn Adkins, Mason Perich, Cole Engen, Maddy South, Rusty Anderson, Maya Emanuel and Chad Hart. Remembered via a photo is Jackson Pfister, who died in 2019 during his sophomore football season. Engen, Hart, Hexum and Adkins were the top vote getters. Contributed photo



Barnum fans have some fun last Thursday as their team swept Cromwell-Wright. Photo by Dan Saletel / Pine Knot News

#### SOCCER

# CEC boys win playoff opener

Jack Slater

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The Cloquet-Esko-Carlton boys kicked off their 7AA post-season play Tuesday, entering the game against Mesabi East as favorites and for good reason, winning 9-1.

The first-half action started quickly as CEC's Elijah Aultman put one away 8 minutes in.

Things really opened up for the No. 3 seeded Lumberjacks, with Elijah Aultman netting two more goals for a hat trick, along with one each from Sam Bailey, Ryan Tomsche and Brody Dushkin before the end of the first half.

Gavin Benz recorded Mesabi East's lone goal, in the 22nd minute.

An active Lumberjacks student-section created a much-missed atmosphere in the first 40 minutes at Bromberg field, spurring on the 'Jacks in very enthusiastic fashion.

The second half entailed less scoring, but CEC's grip did not loosen. Xavier Anderson found the net twice and in quick succession, in the 56th minute and again in the 58th. Sophomore superstar Elijah Aultman bagged his fourth goal — and the last of the game — in the 59th minute.

CEC coach John Sundquist handily won his first playoff game as head coach; he remained humble despite the blowout victory.

"We were very aware that this team just needed one goal against us too, so it's nice that we got out of here and can move on to Thursday."



Jordan Aultman handles the ball in CEC's opening playoff win against Mesabi East Tuesday. Jack Slater / Pine Knot News

The next step for CEC is a 5 p.m. Thursday playoff game at Grand Rapids, a team they lost to 2-1 earlier this season.

Looking back on CEC's regular season against Grand Rapids, Sundquist thinks they played a great game, but missed chances proved to be costly.

"Looking back on that tape ... we handled them really well. We had the majority of the chances, I think 12 to 14 real good chances, they had two and they buried them ... A couple of those goals fall and then it goes our way. You know, I'd rather have them fall in the playoffs than in the regular season. But they're a really good team, they've got a really good coach so they'll be tough."

He also trusts his team have found their place and are prepared for their next challenge.

"We moved some pieces around and I feel like everybody's in their best spot right now and I think we're playing well," he said. "We worked out some of the

kinks the last three, four games ... we'll just see you know, Rapids will be the big test."

It's all or nothing for CEC, and the team looks ready for the face-off against Grand Rapids. Only time will tell for Sundquist's squad.

If the Lumberjacks win on Thursday (after this issue was printed), they will head into the 7AA championship game Tuesday, Oct. 19 at the high seed. Top-seeded Denfeld was set to play Hermantown at Public Schools stadium Thursday.

### Girls soccer playoffs

Both local girls soccer games were scheduled for times after this week's Pine Knot News went to press. Both Cloquet and Esko were favorites. Here's bracket information for the rest of the tournament play. 7AA

With a 14-2 record, the Cloquet girls soccer team is the top seed in Section 7AA. The Lumberjacks had a bye in the first round, and will play the winner of the Denfeld vs. Hermantown game in the semifinals Thursday, Oct. 14 in Cloquet. The championship game is scheduled for Tuesday, Oct. 19 at the high seed.

As the Section 7A No. 1 seed Esko (8-7) was set to play Two Harbors or North Lakes Academy Wednesday in Esko. Other nearby schools in the bracket include No. 6 Proctor and No. 7 Duluth Marshall. The 7A championship game is set for 2 p.m. Saturday at

#### OCTOBER

2021-2022

**MINNESOTA** 

WILDERNESS HOCKEY SCHEDULE

FRI., OCT. 15 @ MN MAGICIANS - 7:00 SAT., OCT. 16 VS MN MAGICIANS - 7:15 FRI., OCT. 22 VS JANESVILLE - 7:15 SAT., OCT. 23 VS JANESVILLE - 7:15 THUR., OCT. 28 @ CHIPPEWA - 7:00 FRI., OCT. 29 @ SPRINGFIELD - 7:05 SAT., OCT. 30 @ SPRINGFIELD - 6:05

#### NOVEMBER

FRI., NOV. 5 VS MN MAGICIANS - 7:15
SAT., NOV. 6 @ MN MAGICIANS - 7:00
FRI., NOV. 12 VS JANESVILLE - 7:00
SAT., NOV. 13 VS JANESVILLE - 7:00
THUR., NOV. 18 @ CHIPPEWA - 7:00
SAT., NOV. 20 VS CHIPPEWA - 7:15
WED., NOV. 24 VS MN MAGICIANS - 7:15
FRI., NOV. 26 @ CHIPPEWA - 7:00
SAT., NOV. 27 VS CHIPPEWA - 7:15

#### **DECEMBER**

FRI. DEC. 3 @ FAIRBANKS - 10:30 SAT. DEC. 4 @ FAIRBANKS - 10:30 FRI. DEC. 10 VS ST. CLOUD - 7:15 SAT. DEC. 11 @ ST. CLOUD - 7:00 FRI., DEC 17 VS ANCHORAGE- 7:15 SAT., DEC 18 VS ANCHORAGE- 7:15 SUN., DEC 19 VS ANCHORAGE- 3:15 FRI., DEC. 31 VS FAIRBANKS - 5:15

#### **JANUARY**

SAT., JAN. 1 VS ANCHORAGE- 7:15 SAT., JAN. 8 VS CHIPPEWA - 7:15 Fri., Jan. 14 VS MN Magicians - 7:15 SAT., Jan. 15 @ MN Magicians - 7:00 Fri., Jan. 21 VS MN Magicians - 7:15 SAT., JAN. 22 @ MN MAGICIANS - 7:00 Fri., Jan. 28 @ Chippewa - 7:00 Sat., Jan. 29 VS Chippewa - 7:15

#### **FEBRUARY**

THUR. FEB. 3 VS FAIRBANKS - 7:15 FRI. FEB. 25 @ ST. CLOUD - 7:00 SAT. FEB. 26 VS ST. CLOUD - 7:15

#### MARCH

THUR., MAR. 3 @ MN MAGICIANS - 7:00 FRI., MAR. 4 @ SPRINGFIELD - 7:05 SAT., MAR. 5 @ SPRINGFIELD - 6:05 THUR., MAR. 10 @ ANCHORAGE- 10:07 FRI., MAR. 11 @ ANCHORAGE- 10:07 SAT., MAR. 12 @ ANCHORAGE- 10:07 THUR., MAR. 17 @ KENAI RIVER- 10:00 FRI., MAR. 18 @ KENAI RIVER- 10:30 SAT., MAR. 19 @ KENAI RIVER- 10:30 FRI., MAR. 25 VS JANESVILLE - 7:15 SAT., MAR. 26 VS JANESVILLE - 7:15 THUR., MAR. 31 VS SPRINGFIELD - 7:15

#### **APRIL**

FRI., APRIL 1 VS SPRINGFIELD - 7:15 FRI., APRIL 8 @ JANESVILLE - 7:00 SAT., APRIL 9 @ JANESVILLE - 7:00 FRI., APRIL. 15 @ CHIPPEWA - 7:00 SAT., APRIL. 16 VS CHIPPEWA - 7:15

#### **HOME AWAY**

ALL GAME TIMES ARE P.M. CENTRAL TIME ADVANCE TICKETS AVAILABLE AT B&B MARKET AND SUPER ONE LIQUOR.

# WWW.WILDERNESSHOCKEY.COM