

Dec. 30 Hornet Holiday Classic



Steinert's Andrew Dudich goes in on a breakaway against Lawrence in the consolation game (Photo by John Blaine/purchase photos by e-mailing jbsportsphoto@aol.com).

Morris stars again but Hornets fall to St. Rose in title game

Dec. 30: The Hamilton West ice hockey team was impressive in reaching the finals of its own

Hornet Holiday Classic, and nearly pulled the upset of the tournament before falling in the championship game.

After rolling through three round robin games, the Hornets met St. Rose of Belmar tonight and dropped a close, 3-1 decision to the powerful Shore Conference team.

The loss left Hamilton at 4-5 while St. Rose improved to 9-2.

St. Rose took a 2-0 lead with single goals in the first and second periods, but Kyle Rogers pulled the Hornets within one when he scored while going to the ground. Thomas Tramontana and Brandon Hrymack had the assists.

Christian Phipps gave St. Rose some breathing room by scoring with 9:20 remaining in the game and West could never generate much offense as it mustered just eight shots on goal.

Once again, Even Morris played outstanding in the nets for Hamilton, making 28 saves to keep the Hornets in it.

For the tournament, Hamilton outscored its four opponents, 16-6.

Spartans fall to high-scoring Lawrence in consolation game

Joe Konrath had two goals and two assist and Sean Clinedinst added two goals and an assist, but it wasn't enough as Lawrence stormed to a 9-5 victory in the Hornet Holiday Classic consolation game.

Steinert took a 3-1 lead and appeared to have things under control before the Hornets outscored the Spartans 4-2 in the second to tie it up. Lawrence continued to blitz in the final period, scoring four goals while holding the Spartans to none.

Rob Mulcare had the other Steinert goal, while Andrew Dudich and Alex Verdi each had two assists, while Tanner Dow and Nicholas Kontura had one each.

PJ Alexiadis had 21 saves in goal.

Steinert slipped to 5-6 while Lawrence improved to 4-6.