

**Tuesday December 23, 2008**

## **Eagles finish 3-1 in Butte tourney**

POST REGISTER

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The Idaho Falls Eagles Midget AA (U-18) hockey team finished this weekend with three wins and one loss in the Copper City Classic in Butte, Mont.

Idaho Falls lost the first game of the weekend 4-3 to the Butte Blues.

Idaho Falls took the early first-period lead on a goal from Logan Winterholler and an assist from Ryan Henderson. The Eagles then fell behind 2-1 in the second period before coming back to take a 3-2 lead on goals from defenseman and all-state linebacker from Hillcrest, Jake Belnap. The goal was assisted by Josh Forbush, who also scored, assisted by Dylan Sherick. But the Eagles couldn't hang on in the third and went down to the host team. Goalie Austin Mooso turned back 38 of the 42 shots he faced.

In their second game, the Eagles rallied for a 7-4 victory over the Ogden Wildcats.

Idaho Falls started slow, falling behind 0-4 halfway through the second period before scoring seven unanswered goals in a 15-minute stretch to overtake the pesky Wildcats. The Eagles recorded a team high 78 shots on goal while giving up only 33 to the Wildcats. Winterholler recorded a hat trick, while Ed Anderson had two goals and Tyler Belnap and Sherick tallied a goal apiece. Devin Crighton and Jared Latham each had two assists, and Devin Davis, Jared Hergesheimer, Zeke Cole and Josh Moon each had an assist. Mooso stopped 29 of Ogden's 33 shots.

In the Eagles' third contest of the weekend, they faced off against the strong Bozeman Icedogs and took a 5-3 win.

Idaho Falls trailed early but managed to tie the score at 1-1 at the end of the first period on a goal by Anderson with assists from Tyler Belnap and Davis. The second period saw both teams score two goals, with the Eagles' goals coming from Donny MacLachlan off an assist from Cole and an unassisted goal from Crighton. In the final period, the Eagles outscored the Icedogs 2-0 to earn the victory and notch their seventh win of the season. Third-period goals came from Jake Belnap off an assist from Winterholler and Crighton off an assist from Jake Belnap. Mooso saved 33 of Bozeman's 36 shots.

The final match of the weekend pitted the Eagles against the Ogden Wildcats.

Idaho Falls dominated the game this time from start to finish, outshooting Ogden 86-6 on its way to Mooso's first shutout of the season -- a 7-0 win. Two goals each were scored by Crighton, Forbush and Jake Belnap, with the remaining goal coming from Latham. Sherick earned a playmaker (three assists in one game), Crighton recorded two assists and MacLachlan had one.

The Eagles (8-3) will compete Dec. 26 through 28 in Missoula, Mont., against Coeur d'Alene; Tri-Cities, Wash.; Helena, Mont.; and Missoula before returning home to host Rock Springs, Wyo; Logan, Utah; and Sun Valley on Jan. 17 and 18 at Tautphaus Park.

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## **Squirts split two-game series against Salmon**

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The Idaho Falls Youth Hockey Association Squirt Division sent one team to Salmon on Dec. 14, where the Idaho Falls Eagles Black team played two games against the Salmon Rapids.

The first game ended in a 4-4 tie. Dusty Gardner was in goal for Idaho Falls and had 13 saves on 17 shots.

In the second game, Idaho Falls came away with a 4-3 win. Gavin Thomas played goalie and had 29 saves on 32 shots.

Goals were scored by Taylor Blossom, Travis Ferrara, Mark Mathison, Patrick Novak and Joshua Robinson. And Matthew Vadnais recorded an assist.

The other team players include Gunnar Batalden, Carson Kantack, Brianna Maestas, Kelby Renfro, Seth Turnage and J.D. Wells.