

Richards shakes butterflies, A's to win at home

By Dan Olson - Coquitlam Now - May 28, 2008

He faced butterflies and battled nerves. After he harnessed those problems, Tyler Richards took to stopping the Coquitlam Adanacs.

The Western Lacrosse Association rookie delivered a rock-solid effort between the pipes to lead his New Westminster Salmonbellies to a 12-7 win over his hometown Adanacs on Saturday.

Making his third start of the season, the 21 year old looked like a wily veteran, kicking out 39 shots, including 17 in the opening period. Coquitlam counted three times on its first eight shots and led 3-1 midway into the game. That's when Richards got his bearings.

"All day I was so nervous, I had butterflies in my stomach since about two o'clock," the junior Adanac grad said with a grin. "I had a bit of a shaky first period but it was definitely exciting, really different and I was glad to get it out of the way."

The Adanacs wish they could say the same.

Coming off a hard-fought 12-9 win in Burnaby the night before, Coquitlam took to the floor Saturday nursing a few injuries and minus a couple of veterans.

Staking out an early lead, however, proved shortlived.

New West's fresher legs, and Richards' sharp stops, turned the tables in quick fashion.

The Salmonbellies erased the two-goal deficit with six straight tallies, including a key shorthanded goal by captain Nenad Gajic. New West would add a second man-short marker, then convert two straight powerplay chances during a five-on-three in the third period.

"We played right to the end but the deficit was too large. We had a few multiple penalties, four on three and five on three, you can't make a comeback at that... That just puts a knife in your back," remarked Coquitlam head coach Andy Ogilvie.

While the Adanacs cut the deficit to 8-5 after 40 minutes, the visitors responded with four goals to start the third, sucking the wind out of Coquitlam's sails.

"Our style is to run. When they get all their players out, they'll be a terrific team but we started running halfway through the first and got the ball rolling," remarked Bellies coach Bob Salt.

Jason Wulder led all Adanac shooters with three goals and two assists, while freshman Dane Dobbie netted a pair. For New West, Jamie Floris tallied three times, while Ian Hawksbee scored once and set up five others.

Against Burnaby, Tim Campeau and Dobbie each tallied three times.

The Adanacs next test comes Saturday, 7:45 p.m., when they host the Langley Thunder.

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BOB SALT

-Obviously a big rival, they knocked us out of the playoffs last year...

-He was fabulous, his first three games he's been just awesome. He's a legitimate top league goalie. He's one of the few goalies who can stop right into this league - dish was one and we've got another.

-Our style is to run. When they get all their players out, they'll be a terrific team, but because we ran. We started running halfway through the first and got going.

TYLER RICHARDS

-All day I was so nervous, I had butterflies in my stomach since about two o'clock. I had a bit of a shkey first period but it was definitely exciting, really different and I was glad to get it out of the way.

-we've got a pretty big defensive core, they pushed the guys out and let me see the shots. When I can see the shots I'll stop most of the shots.

-they've been absolutely phenomenal to me. From Day One, they gave me high fives and welcomed me to the team.

-I think we showed a lot of determination. We took a lot of stupid penalties, got into trouble but what I learned about the Bellies is that when they are down they never give up.

-Way more nervous tonight than in game one, way more. It's tough to come into your home barn to have all the fans you're used to have cheering for you cheer against you. I was just glad to get the win and get it out of the way.

-it took about 10 (shots). Half a period and I finally settled down, and that's about when we put our backs up. The guys came around me and played hard 'D' and we persevered and got the win.

-We expect to win it again. With us being New West, there's nothing but success in this organization and nothing else is acceptable.

DANE DOBBIE

-I'm just doing what I can to help the team, guys are helping me fit in. I'm playing with Wulder and Veltman, playing with those guys is great.

-we just didn't put our 60 together, we didn't play 60 minutes into the game and that's what you've got to do to win. You can't take time off.

-I've played against him for three, four years. He's on his game, but we've got to shoot the ball, you've got to get him going, get him off his game.

-It's a lot different, a lot more bigger, faster skilled players. Older, more mature men, brains too, the guys are smart. You get the pass when you're not expecting the pass. It's quicker but you've got to adjust to it.

-it's good to have the opportunities, get on the powerplay.

ANDY OGILVIE

-Definitely New West seems to be the team to beat, so that's what you call an adjustment. They are playing well, they've got a good squad there.

-We played last night, so whether that's a factor or not - it's early in the season so maybe conditioning for two nights in a row. It was pretty obvious that they were a little fresher than we were.

-Those, you can't have that. You've got a powerplay and you can't be scored on. Your powerplay's out there, so you stay discipline so you can get powerplays and get an advantage to score a goal, and not to break even. Stuff like that really hurts.

-We played right to the end but the deficit was too large. We had a few multiple penalties, four on three and five on three, you can't make a comeback at that... That just puts a knife in your back.

-He's done a great job, that goalie there. He's done a great job, I've watched him play a couple of times and he's a big key to their team right now.

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