

THE TRI-CITY NEWS

Adanacs clamp down on 'Rocks

By Gary McKenna – Tri-City News - June 11, 2008

Coquitlam Adanacs got an early jump Saturday on the Victoria Shamrocks and didn't let their old rivals catch up.

The Adanacs raced to a 3-0 first-period lead and never trailed, clamping down on Shamrock shooters on way to an 8-5 victory at the Sports Centre.

The win moved the Adanacs to 6-1 and into a first-place tie with the 6-0 New Westminster Salmonbellies in the seven-team Western Lacrosse Association. The third-place Shamrocks fell to 4-2.

"I was particularly impressed with our defence," said Adanacs general manager Les Wingrove. "We played really well in our own end."

Chris Levis was sharp in net for the Adanacs, blocking 36 shots while Aaron Bold stopped 33 in the Shamrocks' cage. The Adanacs' powerplay is starting to show signs of life again after its recent struggles. Veteran Jason Wulder scored one of his two goals in the game with the man advantage as Coquitlam went one-for-five on the powerplay.

"I think our powerplay started out really well but it has really tapered off the last three games," Wingrove said. "A part of that is not having everybody around to practice."

Missing high-scoring Curt Malawsky is at least part of the reason the A's are struggling with the man advantage. But even with their powerplay struggling the Adanacs are still finding ways to win.

Dane Dobbie, Trent Smalley and Wulder all scored to give the Adanacs their three-goal margin heading into the second frame.

Victoria finally got on the scoreboard five minutes into the second when Kyle Morwick tallied, then Ryder Bateman cut the A's lead to 3-2 four minutes later. Wulder and the Shamrocks' Kelly Hall swapped markers before Dobbie netted his second goal of the contest to give the A's a 5-3 lead after the second.

The A's Tim Campeau, Andy Secore and Steve McKinlay tallied in third period, in which Coquitlam out-scored Victoria 3-2 to seal the win.

Dobbie was named the game's first star with four points, while Wulder also notched two goals and two helpers.

A's captain Bruce Murray was chosen third star behind Victoria's Nolan Heavonor largely for rallying Coquitlam's dogged defence.

Next, the Adanacs host the struggling Burnaby Lakers, who sit 1-4-1, Saturday at the Sports Centre, 7:45 p.m. The A's then face the 'Bellies in a key battle June 19 at Queen's Park Arena.