

Coach Schafer's Notes for November 21, 2017

@CORNELL 6, St. Lawrence 1

Clarkson 4, @CORNELL 0

This past weekend was a tale of two nights. We were very good on Friday night and Clarkson completely out-worked us on Saturday evening.

Against an under-manned (injuries) St. Lawrence team, we lived up to our national ranking (5th) and picked up our seventh straight victory to open the season for the first time since 1971 (eight straight). We were led by sophomore forward Noah Bauld who recorded his first three goals of the season for his first collegiate hat trick. Bauld didn't make the lineup in the previous game vs. Harvard, and he was excited about earning a spot back on the ice. We wanted him to take that extra step as a player, play with confidence offensively and bring pucks to the net and finish. He was solid in all aspects. And a hat trick? It just shows that he doesn't want to be out of the lineup in the future.

The first part of the opening period was a standstill, but Bauld got us going at 11:34 with a backhand that went inside the far post. Eight seconds later, freshman forward Morgan Barron made it 2-0 after intercepting a pass and skating 1-on-1 with a defender.

Freshman goaltender Matthew Galajda kept the score at 2-0 with a blocker save on a St. Lawrence breakaway, and about 5 minutes later stopped another carom while we were down a man. With 4:01 remaining in the second period, junior defenseman Brendan Smith made it 3-0 with an unassisted tally behind a screen by senior forward Jared Fiegl. Bauld made it 4-0 with 2:55 remaining in the second period with his second wraparound of the night.

With about 6 minutes remaining in the game, freshman defenseman Alex Green, at the center point, found junior forward Anthony Angello in the left circle for a wide-open one-timer that flew into the net. About 3 minutes later, St. Lawrence, working a 4-on-3 power play, scored its lone goal of the game.

The final goal, with 2:20 remaining, was bizarre. Angello took the puck to the net and it was poked off his stick, caroming to Bauld. He sent a pass across the goal mouth to senior forward Trevor Yates on the far post but a Saints defenseman ended up sweeping the puck into his own net and the goal was credited to Bauld for his hat trick.

Galajda was solid in the net, although only called upon for 15 saves, while the visitors' goalie stopped 40 shots. We were 0-for-6 on the power play and St. Lawrence was 1-for-5.

The next night, Clarkson came into Lynah ranked No. 7 in the country and the Golden Knights lived up to that ranking. Give Clarkson all the credit in the world. They played grittier and took it to us in all facets of the game. We can't blame all the freshmen that saw ice time but the old guys need a kick in the butt for how they played and we as a coaching staff didn't make the right adjustments either.

We got right off to a rocky start with a penalty just 56 seconds into the game and our No. 1 ranked penalty kill was dented with a goal at 2:53. The visitors kept up relentless offensive pressure and scored again at 5:21. On that goal, we had upperclassmen standing in the crease watching their guys whack at the puck. That goal was a killer but that goes back to mental preparation. It wasn't just on Matt; it was on all of us.

With 7:37 to play in the second period, senior forward Jared Fiegl had a breakaway but his shot bounced off the far post. A couple of minutes later, Angello had a shot from the right circle collared by the Clarkson goalie, who played very well.

Shortly after, Clarkson put the game on ice with a pair of goals in a span of 28 seconds. The first one came on a delayed penalty, and the second stretched the lead to four (4-0) on the ensuing power play.

Give Casey Jones '90 credit for having his team ready; we just missed the boat. We did not look like the team that had only given up nine goals all season entering Saturday night's game. After killing 94 percent of our penalties going into the game to rank No. 1 in the country, we were only successful on 67 percent vs. Clarkson.

Galajda made 19 saves and the Golden Knights' goaltender was called upon to stop just 15 shots. We were 0-for-5 on the power play and they were 2-for-6.

We play Niagara at home tonight and Boston University at Madison Square in New York City Garden on Saturday evening.