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Thursday February 15, 2024

PLYMOUTH RECORD ENTERPRISE

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New Hampton Community School students raise funds to support local fire victims

NEW HAMPTON — New Hampton Community School's motto is "NHCS CARES." We try to instill in our students that we are a community that strives for Character, Achievement, Responsibility, Excellence, and Spirit.

Those characteristics were put into practice over the past week, when news broke that a

former NHCS family's barn and livelihood were lost in a fire. Even though our students move on

after graduation, they are always a

part of our NHCS family.

Principal Ann Holloran decided to hold a "Hat Day" on Monday, Feb. 5. Students and staff

could wear their hats in school for the day, with donations going to the Murray family as the

children, Meghan, Andrew and Billy are all NHCS alumni. Word spread quickly throughout the

community, and former NHCS teacher Christine Hunewell chal-

SEE **SUPPORT** PAGE A16



Safety concerns prompt cancellation of local ice fishing derbies

BY DONNA RHODES CONTRIBUTING WRITER Plymouth State University honored Carol and Richard Gerken with the Richard E. Collins Medal

REGION ty concerns about ice conditions on some of the lakes in central New Hampshire have spawned the cancellation of a few ice fishing derbies set to take place this month, including the Webster Ice Fishing Derby in Franklin and the Alexandria Volunteer Fire Department's derby, sponsored by their

on Newfound Lake. The last two years have sadly forced officials from both events to cancel their derbies due to the lack of safe ice on both Newfound and Web-

Firefighters Association

While many people

have been heading out to set up bob houses or simply drill a hole in the ice and pull out their folding chairs, the locations of safe ice are limited once again this year with weather forecasts not promising more ice to form before the derby dates.

Jim Shokal, a top organizer for the AVFD Ice Fishing derby said that at a meeting last Thursday night the committee determined it would not be wise to invite hundreds of people out on the lake when there was still open water and thin

"It's too late in the winter to get sufficient ice in for the derby," he said. "In fact, I wouldn't be surprised if there was no ice across the whole lake this winter."

While smaller bays and coves on Newfound have recently formed anywhere from six to nine inches of ice (according to reports from those who have ventured out on the lake), there are still rocky areas, inlets and outlets, as well as the broad stretch of lake from the ledges in Alexandria across to Bridgewater that are lacking in safe ice. Occasional bouts of rain this winter, winds, and temperatures over the last weekend that teased towards and even above 60 degrees in some areas didn't help matters

> discussions SEE **DERBIES** PAGE A16

PSU honors Carol and Richard Gerken with Richard E. Collins Medal for Distinguished Philanthropy

for Distinguished Philanthropy in recognition of their more than 40 years of dedication to

PSU. President Donald L. Birx, Ph.D.(right), presented the Gerkens with the award at a recent

Gerken of Meredith. New Hampshire, with the Richard E. Collins

ceremony.

the late Richard E. Collins, who demonstrated uncommon generosity

to PSU, the award recognizes those who have exhibited Collins' same spirit of distinguished philanthropy and dedication to PSU students, SEE **PSU** PAGE A17

PLYMOUTH — Plvm-Medal for Distinguished Philanthropy. Named outh State University (PSU) recently honfor former PSU Presiored Carol and Richard dent's Council member,

Cats bring the offense, cruise past Lakers

BY JOSHUA SPAULDING Sports Editor

PLYMOUTH — In an afternoon tilt at Plymouth State University's Hanaway Rink, the Kearsarge-Plymouth hockey team cruised to victory over visiting Laconia-Winnisquam-Inter-Lakes by a 7-0 score.

The Cats were all over the puck early on and forced LWI goalie Patrick Kenney to make save after save. Shea Curley and Jack Swanson had shots go wide, Aiden Chicoine had a bid denied by Kenney and Lincoln Manson got in close for a chance that Kenney stopped. Aiden Wirth made a run into the zone for the Lakers, with Gave Ouellette making a solid defensive stop.

Gunnar Benedict had a bid denied by Kenney and Curley and Manson had shots go wide of the net. Manson also got in close, only to have the

door shut by Kenney. Kearsarge-Plymouth

went on the power play with 10:01 to go in the first and Wirth had a good early clear. However, the Cats came back with some great chances. Brennan Johnson fired a shot wide and another off the post while Charlie Cushing had a shot blocked and Nolan Johnson and Landon Custance had bids stopped by Kenney. Lukas Mondor had a good clear for the Lakers and Curley and Swanson had bids in the zone before the penalty was killed off.

Brennan Johnson and Swanson had chances stopped by Kenney and Manson had a bid denied as well. Custance and Chicoine continued the pressure for the Cats, only to see Kenney keep the puck out of the net.

The hosts were able to break through with 5:29 to go in the first, as Baily Veasey picked up the goal on a rebound, with assists to Custance and Chicoine and the 1-0 lead



JOSHUA SPAULDING

Kearsarge-Plymouth's Gabe Ouellette makes a defensive stop on Aiden Wirth of Laconia-Winnisquam-Inter-Lakes last week.

for the Cats. Ouellette and Manson had chances stopped and Curley had another bid stopped, with Manson getting close on

the rebound.

On that rebound, Manson was able to put the puck in the net on assists from Curley and Swan-

son for the 2-0 lead with 4:02 to go in the first period. After Chicoine had a chance go wide, the Lakers had a run into

the zone but could not capitalize. Curley came back with a chance that was stopped by Kenney

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Hockey FROM PAGE A1

and Manson found Curley with another chance that was stopped. Cushing also had a bid that was stopped and the first period ended with Kearsarge-Plymouth up 2-0.

Chris Rubbe had a bid go wide for the Cats and Matthew Hibbert had one go wide for the Lakers. Swanson got into the zone for a chance that the defense stopped, with Hibbert making a solid defensive stop. Will Thayer had a huge clear in front of an open net for the Lakers, keeping the Cats from popping the puck in the net.

Rubbe had a bid go wide and then Brendan Goodwin made a solid defensive play on another Rubbe chance. Brennan Johnson sent a shot wide and Rubbe had a chance

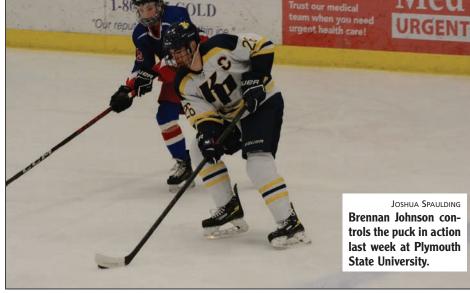
stopped by Kenney. Wirth sent the puck through the crease at the other end and Thayer had a bid go wide.

With 8:12 to go in the second, Kearsarge-Plymouth upped the lead to 3-0 as Manson sniped a shot to the top shelf on an assist from Swanson. The two teamed up for another chance that was stopped by Kenney.

The Cats upped the lead to 4-0 on a Curley tally with 7:28 to go, taking advantage of a turnover, with Benedict getting the helper. Goodwin had a couple of good defensive plays for the Lakers and Magnus Nordhausen had a bid for K-P denied by Kenney.

Kearsarge-Plymouth pushed the lead to 5-0 as Ryder Francis lit the lamp with 5:38 to go on an assist from Veasey.

LWI went on the power



play with 4:43 to go in the period, but the Cats had some good shorthanded chances. Swanson and Manson just missed connecting on a bid and Manson had another bid stopped. Swanson came up with a steal and shot that Kenney denied and Nolan Fullerton had a shot stopped and another go wide of the net. Rub-

be had a bid denied and Brennan Johnson also was stuffed by Kenney before the penalty was killed.

Nordhausen had a couple of bids denied and Brennan Johnson sent a shot wide. Cushing and Fullerton had bids denied by Kenney and the period came to a close with the Cats up 5-0.

LWI went on the power play to start the third period, but the Cats had the best chance, as Curley had a bid denied by Kenney. The Lakers took a penalty to result in a short four-on-four situation before the Cats got a power play chance.

The hosts converted on the power play with 11:08 to go, as Cushing put

the puck to the back of the net on an assist from Veasev.

The final goal came with 3:47 to go, with William Spanos picking up the goal on assists from Swanson and Nordhausen for the 7-0 final score.

Kenney finished with more than 50 saves in the Laconia-Winnisquam-Inter-Lakes net.

Kearsarge-Plymouth is scheduled to be at Pembroke-Campbell on Saturday, Feb. 17, at 7:30 p.m. and will be hosting Belmont-Gilford at Plymouth State on Wednesday, Feb. 21, at 5:30 p.m.

The Lakers are scheduled to be in action on Saturday, Feb. 17, at home against John Stark-Hopkinton at 3:45 p.m.

Sports Editor Joshua Spaulding can be reached at 279-4516, ext. 155 or josh@salmonpress.news.

PSU FROM PAGE A1

community.

faculty, staff and greater

PSU President Donald L. Birx, Ph.D., presented the Gerkens with the medal at a ceremony held at PSU in November.

"I am pleased to be-

stow this prestigious award on two worthy recipients who have created a lasting legacy on our campus," said Birx. "Carol and Richard Gerken have demonstrated their belief in Plymouth State University in their unfailing support of scholarship, programming and capital projects over the tenure of three Plymouth

State presidents; an example of dedication for us to follow."

Throughout their decades of involvement with PSU, the Gerkens have supported the university's art, theatre and capital projects, including the Educational Theatre Collaborative, PSU's Museum of the White Mountains

- where Carol also sits on the advisory board the ALLWell North turf athletic field project and the current renovation of Hyde Hall, home to PSU's business programs.

Carol is a 1967 alumna of PSU (then Plymouth State College), and an inaugural member of the President's Council, where she served for 15 years. Richard, a retired attorney, served as an adjunct professor in the university's business program for 12 years. Together, they own Wingate Enterprises Consulting.

The Gerkens are only the fifth recipients of the Richard E. Collins Medal since its inception in 2004, joining a distinguished group of previous recipients, including Richard E. Collins, Michael J. Spinelli Jr., Dick Hanaway and Wally and Meredith Stevens.

To learn more about Plymouth State Univervisit www.plymouth.edu.



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