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Huskies fall to Cougars in OT

Port Huron Northern blows leads against Macomb Dakota, loses 6-5

BY JASON ALEXANDER
TIMES HERALD
• DECEMBER 24, 2009

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It hasn't been an easy season for the Port Huron Northern [hockey team](#) and it didn't get an easier Wednesday night.

The squad twice held a two-goal advantage, but fell in overtime to Macomb Dakota 6-5 at McMorrان Pavilion.

"Hopefully we can learn from this. We can't let up," forward Darien Haeck said. "This is high school [hockey](#). Anyone can come back."



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MAKING THE PLAY: Port Huron Northern's Ian Markie, left, w to move the puck Wednesday as Dakota's Doug Andrews defends during prep hockey action at McMorrان Pavilion. Northern lost in overtime, 6-5. (By MELISSA WAWZYSKO, Times Herald)



The squad dropped to 3-7 overall and will take a few days off for the holiday, but the young team will get right back to skating next week, even though they won't play another [game](#) until Jan. 2.

"Normally I give them a little time off," Port Huron Northern Coach Bill Warren said. "This time we are going to get right back to skating. We need to work on some things."

The team was solid for most of Wednesday's game, but could never get in a comfortable position.

The [Huskies](#) took a 3-1 lead early in the second period with two goals from Haeck and one from Zack Teraikian, but Macomb Dakota tied the scored within five minutes.

"Our defense didn't do a good job of taking care of the puck in our own zone and it cost us," Warren said.

Northern kept its offensive intact, however, and rallied to score with 3:29 left in the second period on a shorthanded goal by Bobby King.

Just more than two minutes into third period, the Huskies again stretched the lead to two at 5-3 with a goal from Brian Nichols.

It wasn't enough.

The [Cougars](#) answered quickly with a tally from Jeff Monfills at the 10-minute mark.

Monfills struck again with just a minute to go in the game with a backhand score to tie the game at 5.

"That's the team just not knowing the situation," Warren said. "They were able to put on a pressure and get the score."



Macomb Dakota carried momentum into the overtime and scored a goal just over two minutes in as Monfills completed his hat trick.

Contact Jason Alexander at (810) 488-7741 or jalexande4@gannett.com.



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CHASE THE PUCK: A loose puck is seen near Port Huron Northern's Chad Parent and Dakota's Joe Stronayi on Wednesday during the second period inside McMorrان Pavilion (By MELISSA WAWZYSKO, Times Herald)

Advertisement for John Deere EZtrak 2445 lawn mowers. It features two mowers, one with a '200 OFF' tag, and the Tri County Equipment logo with a 'Click now' call to action.

"I think we started to relax a little bit," Haeck said. "They were on us, chasing us. They capitalized on their chances and we didn't."

The Huskies outshot the Cougars 37-23.

Tyler Hughes and Lewis Nowakowski each had two assists for Northern.

"I was happy overall," Warren said. "We did a lot of things right. We'll take more positive out of this than negative."

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