

LCN doubles up rival

By **Chuck Klonke**

Special to The Macomb Daily

Not many folks look forward to going to work on Mondays.

Next Monday can't come soon enough for Jon Nader.

Nader coaches hockey at L'Anse Creuse North and he's a teacher at L'Anse Creuse. He'll be able to walk into his workplace with a big smile on his face after the Crusaders broke a 3-3 tie with two goals late in the sec-

ond period and went on to a 6-3 victory against the Lancers in a Ma-

comb Area Conference

H.S. Boys Hockey

crossover game Friday at the Mount Clemens Ice Arena.

"Absolutely," Nader said with a smile when asked if he was anxious to go to school on Monday. "I know a lot of the kids on the team. There

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are a lot great kids and we talk about hockey all the time.

"It's a great administration there, too. They were giving me a hard time today, so I just gave them a little wristband that said 'LCN hockey' on it. It's a good fun rivalry. It doesn't matter who has the best team or who's on a roll, it's going to be a good game."

The Crusaders jumped out to a 2-0 lead on goals by Austin Teed and Nick Hendee. Before the first period ended, L'Anse Creuse tied the game on goals from Tyler Andrews and Gary Hardy. Hardy's goal came with 17 seconds remaining in the period while the Lancers had a 5-on-3 power play.

L'Anse Creuse took a 3-2 lead at 1:21 of the second period on a backhand shot by Shane Sandri.

Teed's second power-play goal of the game at 6:14 of the middle period tied the game at 3-3. Teed was standing at the edge of the crease when he took a perfect pass from Anthony Marchionni. L'Anse Creuse was two men short at the time.

LCN broke the tie at 12:49 when Brandon Alafritz scored from the side of the net. Jessy Jones gave the Crusaders a two-goal cushion, knocking in his own rebound less than two minutes later.

Aaron Wysocki got the only goal of the third period. He scored off Evan Corbett's rebound while LCN was shorthanded.

"We took some dumb penalties," Nader said. "If we stay out of the box and play 5-on-5 we expect to score a lot of goals. We have great goaltending and defense right now and we can put the puck in the net."

Penalties were also troubling to L'Anse Creuse coach Wayne Tollon.

"(L'Anse Creuse North) is a good team, but I'd like to see what would have happened if we had stayed out of the box," he said. "I think it would have been a closer game -- a better up and down game."

"The last three games we've turned it around, but it's been an up and down season for us. One game we'll have 15 penalties, then four, then back up to 15 again. In a game like today when we have 10 to 12 penalties we'll lose."

Tollon felt that the rivalry was a reason that both teams spent a lot of time in the penalty box.

"We try to downplay it as just another game, but we know it isn't and the kids know it isn't," Tollon said.

"You saw the crowd. That's the biggest crowd these kids will play in front of. It's going to be an emotional game."

Nader was happy to see the Crusaders spread the scoring around. It was one of the few games this season that Evan Corbett, who leads the team with 19 goals, didn't score. He did have two assists.

"We got some goals tonight from people who we don't usually get goals from and that was big," Nader said. "I love seeing goals from other people because we need that right now. We've been in a little slump with two straight losses. We needed to win this game because we've got two division games coming up next week."

North had several solid performances in the game.

"Austin Teed got a couple of big goals for us," Nader said. "One of our starting (defensemen) was out and Anthony Marchionni stepped up and made some great passes and hit the back door on (Teed's) second goal. We're looking for kids to step up to the plate and they did that tonight."

Corbett also played a strong game.

"He's a great athlete," Nader said. "Everybody should have a couple of kids like that on their team. He's a great kid on the ice and off and he's a great goal scorer. He makes a difference no matter who he's on the ice with. He's a great backchecker and is the hardest working kid I've ever coached."

Robert Ochmanski collected two assists for LCN. Nick Goyke and Garret Filips each assisted on two of the L'Anse Creuse goals.

John Vanatta was the winning goalie for the Crusaders, who improved to 9-5-0 overall. L'Anse Creuse fell to 6-8-0.