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Goaltender Gord Frey takes rough ride in Ontario Cup final

United's Luchy loses golden touch

By ROCKY GRIMMER
Times staff writer

Luchy Deluca learned that heroics don't last too long as Mississauga Atlas Metal Stamping United lost 5-3 to Oakville in the Ontario Cup final last weekend.

Deluca stole the show in the semi-final two weeks ago when his winning goal against Woburn Wolves put United into the major bantam Cup final against Oakville last Sunday in Burlington.

In the final it looked as if Deluca would once again make a name for himself.

At the 38 minute mark of the first-half and Oakville ahead 1-0, Deluca was pulled down

in the penalty area and United got a penalty shot out of it.

Deluca hadn't missed a penalty shot all season and looked like an easy bet to tie the game.

But his shot sailed over the crossbar. Five minutes later, Oakville scored two more goals that propelled them onto victory.

"I was aiming for the top right hand corner, but the ball was sort of light and I didn't think it would go so high," said Deluca. "I was really mad (with myself) after that. I blew a big chance to tie the score."

Certainly Deluca's miss came at a crucial time, but he wasn't the only

player guilty of a miss. The entire United team missed out on playing coherent soccer in the first-half.

Although United is notoriously slow at getting started, giving up three goals in 45 minutes was something United has never done this season. In 15 matches prior to the final, United has only lost once.

When Oakville's Ian Fraser scored in the second half to put his team ahead 4-0, the outcome of the match seemed a foregone conclusion.

But a thundering 25-yard shot by Nenad Bosak and a goal by Deluca put United back in the game. "Most other teams would

have given up," said captain Simon Mahdessian. "but we still felt we had a chance." Even United coach Graham Fielding saw enough hope to turn around to the crowd and smile.

That flickering chance was all but extinguished when Mike Roe put Oakville ahead 5-2.

"We gave them the chances," said Fielding. "We were backing off from their fast forwards and giving them that extra yard of space. We should have been up against them to stop their attacks."

United's back three were continually caught square. Two of Oakville's goals came from a striker

breaking clean through United's defence. Oakville coach Kevin Muldoon saw this as a tactical error on Fielding's part.

"The way he (Fielding) played his defence, with three players (instead of the usual four), left space for us to take advantage

of," he said. "But it was tight at the end. United is the best team we've played all year."

It was John Davis' goal 14 minutes from the end that made it tight, but it wasn't enough to stop Oakville from advancing into the Eastern Canadian championships in Nova

Scotia Aug. 10.

For Fielding, the loss helped him make his mind about his future in soccer. "I'll probably quit at the end of the season," said Fielding, who has coached in Mississauga for 11 years. "I'll take off at least three years and then maybe come back to coaching."

Jet United off to good start

Mississauga Travel Jet United got off to a great start in the second-half of the season by jumping to the top of the Peel-Halton mosquito league.

United whipped Martingrove 5-2 last Thursday at Martingrove to take 22 points from 12 games. United is in a three-way tie for first place with Malton and Dundas.

"With our top conditioning we are really playing well," said United coach Vic Stampatori. "It was a great team effort.

My kids were putting in some fast passing and all the goals were beautiful (efforts)."

Lorenzo Stampatori and Maurice Amar put United 2-1 ahead at half-time. United took advantage of Martingrove's fatigue to score three more goals in the second-half. It was United's second league victory over Martingrove. United won the earlier game 5-0.

United's other goals came from Eddy Christina, who scored

UNITED

twice, and Gary Lockwood.

PEEWEE

Mississauga Good Guy Pools United chalked up four points in Metro and District peewee play. United blanked Oakville 2-0 and edged Croatia 5-3.

Against Oakville, Wayne Thompson and

Billy McKendrick scored a goal each with Ralph Torre getting the shutout.




MINOR PEEWEE

Art Magic Carpentry kept its top spot in the Metro District minor peewee league by hammering Richmond Hill 9-1.

Bill Coulter led United with four goals. Adrian Reynolds and Jamie Dasilver scored two goals apiece with Colin Hahnfeld adding a single.

KICKS

Jeff Stephen's soccer tips

Receiving the ball at head height

Goalkeeping

Goalkeepers must concentrate on the play at all times. Be especially alert whenever play is in or around your penalty area.

- Move to get in line with the path of the ball
- Watch ball and raise hands with fingers wide-spread
- Catch ball and bring to chest
- Will you pause or quickly start an attack?

Jeff Stephen is a professional soccer coach with Soccer International. For more soccer information call 239-9715.