Riders hang on to edge Muskegon

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MUSKEGON, Mich. - Erik Foley netted the tiebreaking goal early in the second period and goaltender Ryan Larkin made it stand up as the Cedar Rapids RoughRiders downed Muskegon, 3-2, Friday night before 2,654 fans at L.C. Walker Arena.

Larkin stopped 43 of 45 shots as Cedar Rapids had to come up with two penalty kills in the third period to secure the victory.

The Riders jumped to a 2-0 lead before five minutes had been played on goals from Ross Colton and Joe Wegwerth, only to see the hosts score twice before the end of the first period to tie the score.

Cedar Rapids (32-15, 64 points) remained three points ahead of Youngstown for first place in the USHL's Eastern Division. Muskegon is 26-17-3 for 55 points.

The two teams play again Saturday night in Muskegon.

Cedar Rapids 2 1 0 - 3 Muskegon 2 0 0 - 2

Cedar Rapids - Ross Colton (unassisted)
Cedar Rapids - Joe Wegwerth (Zach Court, Mitch Reinke)
Muskegon - Matheson Iacopelli (Ryan Siroky, Joseph Cecconi)
Muskegon - Matej Paulovic (power play) (Matheson Iacopelli, Trevor Hamilton)
Cedar Rapids - Erik Foley (Ross Colton, Cal Burke)