RoughRiders tumble in Dubuque, 4-1

Written by Metro Sports Report Saturday, 28 March 2015 21:37 -

DUBUQUE - The Cedar Rapids RoughRiders did not have enough "power" in their power plays in a key USHL game against the Dubuque Fighting Saints Saturday night.

The RoughRiders had nine power plays in Saturday's game and converted only once in a 4-1 loss to Dubuque before 3,088 fans at the Mystique Ice Center in Dubuque.

The RoughRiders fell five points behind Youngstown in the chase for the Eastern Conference title with only a handful of games left in the regular season.

Youngstown won Saturday night and has a 37-14-5 record for 79 points with four games left. Cedar Rapids fell to 37-18-0 for 74 points with five games left in their regular season.

Muskegon and Dubuque are both 33-18-4 for 70 points with five games left. The RoughRiders have clinched a spot in the USHL playoffs, but it remains to be seen if they'll finish 1st, 2nd, 3rd or 4th in their own conference.

Dubuque scored midway through the first period, but Erik Foley countered for Cedar Rapids on a power play to make it 1-1 at the 11:35 mark of the stanza. Dylan McLaughlin and Andrew Oglivie collected assists on Foley's goal.

The Fighting Saints took a 2-1 lead late in the first period and tacked on two power-play goals in the second period for their 4-1 advantage. The Saints were 2-for-5 on power plays, compared to 1-for-9 for the RoughRiders.

Ben Blacker was touched for all four goals by Dubuque in 21 minutes, 38 seconds. Ryan Larkin relieved Blacker in the second period and pitched a

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shutout the rest of the way, stopping all 12 shots he faced.

The RoughRiders host Lincoln Wednesday night.

Cedar Rapids 1 0 0 - 1 Dubuque 2 2 0 - 4

DUB - Mitchell Smith (Gordie Green)

CR - Erik Foley (power play) (Dylan McLaughlin, Andrew Oglevie)

DUB - Hayden Shaw (Nate Sucese, Wyatt Ege)

DUB - Robby Jackson (power play) (Brett Boeing, Hayden Shaw)

DUB - Evan Smith (power play) (Hayden Shaw, Wyatt Ege)