

Knights nipped in junior final

ORILLIA, Ont. (CP) — Orillia Travelways, in only their fourth season since jumping to Junior A from Junior B, won the Centennial Cup with a 4-2 victory Saturday over Penticton (B.C.) Knights.

The Knights, who seemed to grow stronger as the week wore on, barely missed in their bid to become the first team from British Columbia to win the national tier 2 Junior A championship. The hometown Travelways took advantage of the weary visitors who were playing their third game in 45 hours.

"Sure we were tired," said Knights coach Rick Kozuback. "But that is no excuse.

"We played well and Orillia scored their goals in bunches of two. Other than that it was a great game.

"We really missed (captain) Ian (Kidd) out there. But Orillia had a good game plan to dump it in and wear us out and it worked."

Kidd turned 21 Saturday and was forced to miss the match due to U.S. National Collegiate Athletic Association regulations which cost a player a year of eligibility for any year in which he plays even one game of organized hockey after he turns 21.

COACH AGREES

North Dakota University has offered Kidd a scholarship for next season and he did not want to jeopardize it. Kozuback supported the decision.

"It's a great feeling," said Orillia coach Gary Marsh, who lost in seven games to Weyburn, Sask., last year. We just had a lot of confidence.

"We had a lot of guys working in the trenches and when you add that to the big games from guys like Adam Lewis and Brian McReynolds and Dennis Schrapp and you have a winner."

The Travelways went undefeated through three round-robin games. The Knights were 1-2 and beat Aurora Tigers in the semifinal Friday night.

It was the Travelways' 46th victory in their last 50 games. They were 46-2-2 since Nov. 8.

The Knights were ranked as the top team in the country coming into the tournament, while Orillia was No. 2.

The Travelways led 2-1 after one period and 4-1 after two, and were able to hold off the surging Knights in the final period.

KEY SAVES

Schrapp, Orillia's goaltender, made several big saves during a two-man Penticton power play in the second period which helped clinch the Travelway victory.

Shots were even at 27 apiece.

McReynolds, with two goals and two assists, was named the first star of the game. Mitch Caouette and Dave Nicholls scored the other Orillia goals.

Tournament leading scorer Joe Murphy and Ed Winnicki had the Knight goals.

Lewis won the Most Valuable Player award. Murphy was named the tournament's most sportsmanlike player.

The all-star team had Lewis at centre, Murphy at left wing and Danton Cole of Aurora at right wing. Defencemen named were Tim Paller from Penticton and Jon Lawson of the Travelways.

Schrapp was named the top goalie in the four-team tournament.

The only other national hockey championship ever won by Orillia was the 1973 Allan Cup, won at home by the Orillia Terriers.

CENTENNIAL CUP

ORILLIA, Ont. (CP) — Cen-
tennial Cup tier 2 Junior A final
Saturday:

SUMMARY

First Period

1. Orillia, McReynolds
(Caouette, Hall) 2:32
 2. Orillia, McReynolds (Mat-
tice, Nicholls) 4:56
 3. Penticton, Murphy (Win-
nicki, Rawson) 7:30
- Penalties — Burnett P,

McCharles O (high-sticking minors), 0:44, Winnicki P (high-sticking), Jacob O (elbowing), McCharles O (boarding) 7:30, Phaneuf P (holding) 10:48, Burnett P (high-sticking) Ziliotto O (roughing) 12:52, Comeau P (slashing) 13:12, Rawson P, McCharles O (slashing minors) 15:35, Burnett P (slashing), Moore O (roughing) 15:51, Brown P (holding) 17:00, Hall O (charging) 17:22, Burnett P (slashing major) 19:49.

Second Period

4. Orillia, Caouette (Nicholls, McReynolds) 11:17

5. Orillia, Nicholls (McReynolds, McCharles) 12:18

Penalties — Burnett P (slashing minor, misconduct) 5:31, Brydges O (holding) 7:27, Depourcqu P (roughing), Lavoy O (roughing double minor) 11:31, Comeau P (slashing) 12:17, Paller P, Jacob O (roughing minors) 14:13, Clarke O (elbowing) 15:42, Schrapp O (roughing) 16:33, Paller P, Ziliotto O (high-sticking minors) 17:01, Hall O (elbowing) 19:24.

Third Period

6. Penticton, Winnicki (Brown, Murphy) 0:18

Penalties — Brost P, Jacob O (slashing minors) 0:04, Burnett P (roughing) 12:34.

Shots on goal by

Orillia	9	13	5—27
Penticton	6	7	14—27

Goal — Orillia: Schrapp;
Penticton: Pizzey.

Attendance — 2,210.