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**TEAMS PREPARE FOR FINAL DAY OF ROUND-ROBIN ACTION
~Monarchs, Bighorns, Hitmen, Ice Hawks still undefeated~**

Jersey Hitmen 4, St. Louis Jr. Blues 3

Goaltenders **Jon Morrow** and **Ryan Morley-Stockton** kept the teams scoreless in the first period. **Will Frederick** put the Hitmen on the board 4:54 into the second period with a power play goal. **Mike Slowikowski** made it 2-0 midway through the period. **Colin Markison** extended the lead to 3-0 with a power play goal at 15:11. **Nick Saracino** got the Blues on the board with 1:37 left in the period. **Paul Zuke** brought the Blues within one 9:31 into the third. A power play goal by **John Wright** at 16:29 tied the game. **Nick Geraci** swung the momentum back to the Hitmen by scoring 35 seconds after Wright, and the Hitmen skated away with a 4-3 victory.

Granite City Lumberjacks 3, Seattle Totems 2

Ryan Gauthier gave Granite City a 1-0 lead with his tally 2:47 into the game. Seattle's perseverance paid off at 18:24 in the second when **Sam Ballenger** tied the game. **Matt Johnson** put Granite City ahead early in the third, but **Taylor Perkins** scored for Seattle at 9:16 to tie the game. **Fred Budinger** scored for the Lumberjacks with 1:53 to play. Despite a late rush by Seattle, the Totems could not convert, and Granite City held on to win.

Dubuque Thunderbirds 6, Northern Cyclones 2

Nate Paulsen, **Mike Fazio**, and **Ryan Howett** all scored in the first period to give Dubuque a 3-0 lead going into the first intermission. **Brett Kastelic** scored a power play goal at 2:45 in the second. The Cyclones responded 23 seconds later when **Kevin Vanous** lit the lamp. **Justin Decowski** pulled the Cyclones within two at 9:45. **Branden Kapella** then scored twice for the Thunderbirds; once at 12:40 in the second and again at 6:32 in the third.

Helena Bighorns 4, El Paso Rhinos 3

Sean Connolly scored twice in the first period for Helena. **A.J. Larranga** gave the Bighorns a 3-0 lead going into the final frame. **Shane Callahan** started off the Rhinos' rally in the third at 6:39, and **Eric La-Bounty** cut the lead to one at 8:13. **Nick Gualano** tied the game at 13:45. The contest appeared to be headed to overtime, but **Steven Shaffroth** put Helena ahead with 41 seconds to play, and time ran out on the Rhinos.

Minnesota Ice Hawks 2, Phoenix Polar Bears 0

The latter half of the second period provided all the offense the Ice Hawks needed to down the Polar Bears. **Korby Anderson** scored at 10:38, and **Shaun Walters** beat the buzzer to pad the lead to two goals. **Alex Bjerck** stopped all 29 shots he faced and **Scott Crowther** turned away 25 in the loss.

New Hampshire Jr. Monarchs 6, New York Bobcats 2

Kyle Beattie and **Adam Shemansky** each scored twice to lead the Monarchs over the Bobcats. Shemansky started off the scoring at 4:28 and **Brian Dumoulin** added another one for the Monarchs at 9:08. **Christian Cangro** put the Bobcats on the board at 14:34. Beattie then scored two power play goals, one at 16:51 and another at 18:35. **Zak Stone** responded 8 seconds after Beattie's second tally. Shemansky scored a power play goal at 9:04 in the second for the period's only goal. **Ryan Corcoran** finished the scoring at 12:01 in the third.