Lions brought to their knees

Lee Valley Lions 2
Bracknell Hornets 6

LEE Valley Lions were stung by the Bracknell Hornets as they suffered yet another defeat in their comeback season.

The Lions produced a gutsy performance, dragging themselves back onto level terms after going 2-0 down, before eventually losing.

Bracknell Hornets had taken the lead with a goal from Carl Graham, assisted by Craig Tribe and in the second period the Lions failed to capitalise on a glorious opportunity with two Lions in the sin bin, but the five on three advantage was wasted.

And with the Hornets back at full strength, 21-year-old Stefan Nubert had to repel a frenzy of Hornets shots. But something had to give and after 32mins Bracknell notched their second.

The Lions hit back less than a minute later with their first goal, courtesy of Dan Sampson, assisted by Ben Osborne and Darren Wakeling, before Osborne and Sampson combined to level.
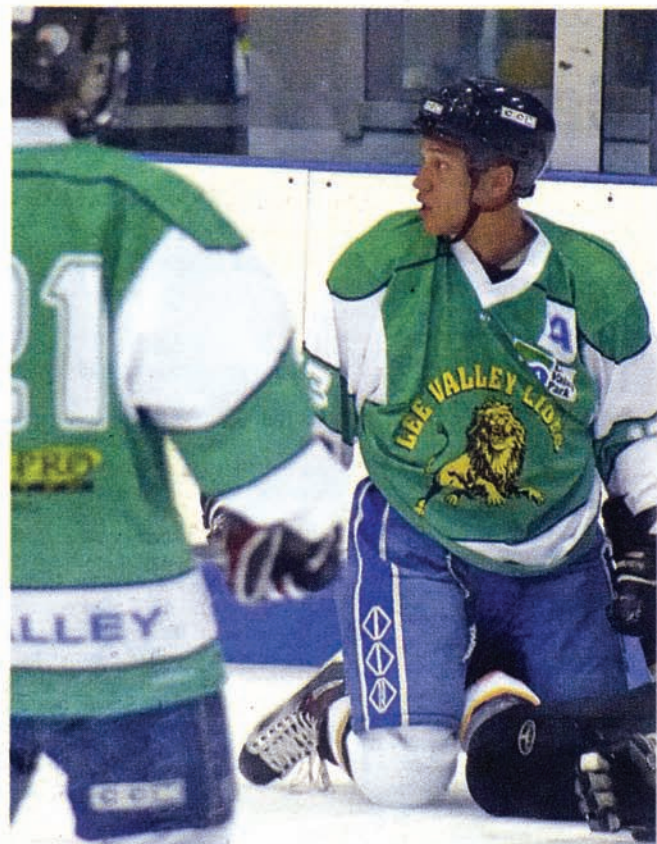
The Hornets, however, were quick to seek revenge and scored a weak third goal while Kevin Murphy was in the sin bin.

And in the second period, with Mark Swaine and Romanas Fedotovas in the penalty box, the Hornets ran rings round the remaining Lions. As morale dropped, Hornets attacked, finishing 6-2 as tensions broke out.

TEAM: Nubert, Murphy, Whitney, Sampson, Courtney, Bellamy, Beeson, Murphy, Braithwaite, Hodge, Swaine, Coyston, Fedotovas, O'Neill, Osborne, Wakeling, Scott-Joseph, Courtman.

● The Lee Valley Lions are next in action at the Lee Valley Ice Centre on 26th November against last season's league champions, Invicta Dynamos. Face-off is 5.45pm.

● Lions' Nick Braithwaite and Paul O'Neill put their bodies on the line.
Pic courtesy of Lee Valley Lions