

# Linz with blowout

**Dornbirn/12-23-2016 – Two days before Christmas the EHC LIWEST Black Wings Linz gave themselves an early Christmas gift: With a clear 6:1-victory at the Dornbirner Eishockey Club - the latter still low on players - Linz secured their top 3-spot in the table.**

No chance for Christmas peace Friday night in the Dornbirner Messestadion! Both teams were highly motivated when they kicked off their last game before the holidays. In the first few minutes the Bulldogs were pressing hard, Linz was simply holding against with a solid defense. Nine minutes into the game the guests had their first scoring opportunity, and turned it to account. Vorarlberg native Fabio Hofer (9.) scored the first Linz-goal against his former club. Soon after Hofer almost had a second goal, but got denied by DEC-goalie Hardy. The match was pretty open for a while, with several chances on both sides. But Dornbirn's defense was lacking concentration, a fact that the visiting team took advantage of: Stefan Spannring (16.), who snatched the puck at the blue line and overcame Hardy single-handed, was the second former Bulldog, who scored against his old team. And it got even worse. Linz' Rick Schofield (19./sh) made for the 3:0 in the first period - a shorty.

## **Disaster for DEC**

In the second period the Bulldogs, who were still missing some players due to injury, tried to come back. Livingston almost scored a shorthanded goal, if it wasn't for Linz-goalie Ouzas, who performed a big-safe. Just when Dornbirn had all five players back on the ice, Curtis Loik (24.) took care of the 4:0. Brian Lebler (27.), returning from the penalty box, made for the fifth goal three minutes later. At this point Bulldogs-goalie Florian Hardy - frustrated but unblamable - got replaced by Thomas Stroj, who did a good job for the remainder of the game. The home team kept on fighting, but it didn't pay off. Finally Cody Sylvester (31.) scored a goal for Dornbirn, but eventually Linz' Daniel Oberkofler (43.) raised the score to 6:1 in a one-sided match.

Friday, December 23, 2016 (Erste Bank Eishockey Liga):

**Dornbirner Eishockey Club – EHC LIWEST Black Wings Linz 1:6 (0:3, 1:2, 0:1)**

Dornbirner Messestadion, 2.910 spectators

Officials: Gamper, Stolc; Schauer, Sparer;

Goals:

DEC: 1:5 Cody Sylvester (31.)

BWL: 0:1 Hofer(9.), 0:2 Spannring (16.), 0:3 Schofield (19./sh), 0:4 Loik (24.), 0:5 Lebler (27.), 1:6 Oberkofler (43.)

Penalties:

DEC: 4 min.

BWL: 4 min.

Line-Up:

DEC: Hardy (27. Stroj) – Schmidt, Mangan; Connelly, Caruso; Crawford, Konradshaim; Siutz – Cody Sylvester, Arniel, Grabher Meier; Macierzynski, McBride, D'Alvise; Livingston, Häußle, Dominic Haberl; Daniel Ban;

BWL: Ouzas – D'Aversa, Piche; Dorion, Robert Lukas; Palin, Altmann; Fechtig, Kirchschräger – DaSilva, McLean, Lebler; Hofer, Potulny, Broda; Loik, Moderer, Franz; Patrick Spannring, Schofield, Oberkofler;