

Ice hockey – Capitals caught by Storm as play-off hopes slide

☒ Elite League: Braehead Clan 2, Sheffield Steelers 3; Cardiff Devils, Dundee Stars; Manchester Storm 4, Edinburgh Capitals 0; Coventry Blaze 3, Fife Flyers 4 (after overtime).

Bottom club Edinburgh Capitals were hit by a four-goal blast from Manchester Storm with Darian Dziurzynski netted a treble and Mark Heatley a single to further dent their play-off hopes.

Dundee Stars were level with champions-elect Cardiff Devils after 23 minutes but were then hit by three straight goals.

Mark Richardson had put the Elite League pace-setters ahead after 48 seconds of the middle session and Cale Tenaka levelled less than three minutes later.

But a Joey Haddad double and a single from Josh Batch ended the contest in which Dundee's netminder Joe Fallon and his back-up Craig Holland dealt with 40 shots and Ben Bowns received 22.

Elsewhere, Coventry Blaze, who are also in the chase to claim a play-off position, were dumped by a strike from Carlo Finucci after 3min 28sec of sudden-death overtime.

Earlier, Ross Venus fired Blaze ahead after 13 minutes and Flyers' captain Ryan Dingle levelled 53 seconds into the middle session.

Dingle netted a second 33 seconds into the third and Finucci scored an unassisted goal just over a minute later to increase the lead to 3-1.

Blaze powered back with goals from Brett Robinson after 46 minutes and Shawn Boutin four minutes later to set up a grandstand finish.

Matt Keith netted a double but Braehead Clan were edged 3-2 by high-flying Sheffield Steelers in Glasgow after being 1-0 after 14 minutes.

The home side were then hit by three unanswered goals in a 20 minute spell from a Robert Dowd double and a singer from John Alexander.

Keith's second power play goal made it 3-2 with less than seven minutes remaining but Clan were unable to find a leveller.