

Ice hockey – Khristich bugged by defeat



Frustrated coach Dmitri Khristich whose side prop up the Elite League

Edinburgh Capitals coach Dmitri Khristich hopes some of his injured or sick players will return to duty as he starts a three-game Elite League road trip.

The Ukrainian, who has played more than 811 games in the world's top ice hockey league, takes his men to Coventry Blaze on Wednesday, Milton Keynes Lightning on Thursday and Elite League pace-setters Manchester Storm on Saturday.

Then Capitals entertain Belfast Giants on Sunday (6.30pm).

The trip comes as misfiring Edinburgh prop up the 12-strong table with two points from seven games following a nightmare run of five straight league defeats.

Dundee Stars are above them on six points from eight starts and Braehead are tenth with eight points from 11 games.

Then it's Milton Keynes who whipped short-benched Capitals 5-2 at Murrayfield on Sunday.

The fed-up coach could have four players out through injury and a bug which has hit the dressing-room in the last two weeks.

Missing on Sunday were defenceman Michael D'Orazio who has concussion and Dylan Anderson is hurt.

Igor Valeyev was sidelined with flu and Sergei Banashkov felt unwell during Saturday's 5-2 defeat at Nottingham Panthers.

Khristich said: "We need to get guys back but we're conceding

bad goals.

“Everybody in the team is making mistakes and it needs to stop.”