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Attorneys play ex-Blackhawks in charity game

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The Lawyers Hockey Team made a match out of it, but late in the third period the Celebrity All-Stars poured in four goals to run away with Tuesday night's Chicago Legal Clinic Inc. (CLC) charity hockey game at the United Center.

The game, featuring a group of ex-Blackhawks players, came about as part of a fundraiser for CLC that included a dinner, charity auction and tickets to the Blackhawks game against the Nashville Predators later in the night.

Bishop Thomas John Paprocki, co-founder of CLC and the goalie for the Lawyers, said despite his team losing 12-6, he enjoyed playing against former Blackhawks players.

"It's always a thrill to go out on the ice at the United Center," Paprocki said. "For one thing, the ice is so smooth, it's like glass."

The game started out relatively low-scoring with the All-Stars leading 4-2 early in the third period. But the ice tilted in favor of the All-Stars who went on to score eight goals in the final period to make the final score a lopsided 12-6.

Michael K. Goldberg, a partner at Goldberg Law Group LLC and a Lawyers player, said the ex-Blackhawks players' attitudes changed in the third period.

"They were taking it easy on us for a while, but they sort of let us know in the third period why they were the professionals and we were the lawyers," he said.

Goldberg scored two goals for the Lawyers. He said one of his goals came off a shot from the blue line and he put in another off a pass he took in the slot from behind the net.

Former Blackhawks who played in the game included Reg Kerr, Peter Marsh, Grant Mulvey, Troy Murray and Reid Simpson.

One third-period bright spot for the Lawyers came when Kevin M. Magnuson, an associate at Henderson & Lyman, scored off of a pass on a two-on-one chance that started at the blue line.

The Lawyers team plays together regularly in a Chicago adult league called Chicago Masters Hockey League.

Patrick A. Salvi II, a partner at Salvi, Schostock & Pritchard P.C. who plays on the



Ben Speckmann

Former Blackhawks player Reg Kerr (left) defended against Michael K. Goldberg, a partner at Goldberg Law Group LLC and a Lawyers Hockey Team player, during a charity hockey game Tuesday. The money raised went to Chicago Legal Clinic Inc.

Lawyers, said Tuesday's game felt very different from typical games. The Masters Hockey League advertises itself as a league for men who "are balding, (and) developing love handles" on its website.

"We didn't have former NHL players out there with us the last game I played in," Salvi said. "When one of their defensemen got the puck, you couldn't tell if it was an ex-NHL (player) or a regular guy. I would go at him a little bit, and if he did a move that would indicate NHL I'd think, 'OK, I'm going to back off, because he's just going to make me look stupid.'"

Hall-of-famer Bobby Hull attended a buffet dinner and a charity auction for CLC following the charity game.

Edward I. Grossman, co-founder of CLC, conducted a live auction for Blackhawks items including signed jerseys from Hull and current player Marian Hossa. A stick signed by all the members of this year's Blackhawks team went for \$800.

Proceeds from the auction and tickets for

the game and dinner should bring the money raised at the event to between \$5,000 and \$10,000, Grossman said.

"It's a chance for Bishop Tom to have fun and to practice his passion of hockey as well as raise money for the clinic ... which is toward his passion for justice," Grossman said.

Paprocki said the first CLC charity game and fundraiser came four years ago after USA Hockey Magazine wrote an article about him titled, "The Holy Goalie, Bishop Tom Paprocki Saves Goals and Souls."

Someone from the Blackhawks organization saw the article, he said, and gave him the chance to skate with the team.

Eventually, he asked about doing a fundraiser and the team agreed to the charity game and to let CLC sell 200 tickets to a Blackhawks game.

Grossman said CLC provided legal aid to about 40,000 people last year. About 30,000 of those received mortgage-related advice at a CLC help desk in the Daley Center, he said.