

Rowe double foils upset win by Brothers against Saints

HOCKEY heavyweights Saints survived a potential shock loss to Brothers on Saturday night after clawing back a 2-0 deficit to draw the game.

Brothers, who have won four games compared with Saints' 11 after 15 rounds of the Cairns Hockey Association's men's classic league, leapt to a 2-0 halftime lead.

Jack Duncan scored Brothers' first goal within six minutes of the start and Byron Jones snared their second minutes before the half-time.

But Peter Rowe was hailed Saints' saviour after bagging two goals, the equaliser coming in the 55th minute.

Brothers' efforts became more

valiant after Joel Govan, Michael Shaw and Brett Whitmee all pulled out of the match for personal and injury reasons.

Saints coach Chris Ireland said his team were missing five senior players and had to plug the gaps with reserve-grade and under-16 players.

He also said a stirring halftime

talk boosted morale and put his troops back on track to compete.

"I basically just said we've got to go back to our game plan, we were falling into Brothers' hands," Ireland said.

"The younger guys are realising they can play at this division and as long as we play the full 60 minutes, whatever the score is, so be it."

In the other game on Saturday night, Souths drew with Trinity Stingers 5-5.

Gary Tippet scored three goals for Souths and teammates Todd Gill and Mason Bombadieri got one each.

Tony Flynn scored three goals for the Stingers and Nathan Gil grabbed two.