

Farmington coach sees positives in 3-1 setback

BY NEAL ZIPSER
STAFF WRITER

The answer: Karl Maus, a freshman from Farmington High.

That will be the answer to the trivia question who scored the first goal in the history of the Farmington Flyers hockey program.

Unfortunately for the Flyers, the record book will also show Farmington lost its first game, as Bloomfield Hills Lahser spoiled the historic night at Farmington Hills Ice Arena with a 3-1 victory.

Even though the Flyers lost the game, there were many positives for the first-year program, according to coach Glenn Breuhan.

"The team played tremendous," he said. "We had only been a team for eight days, and I was extremely pleased with the effort and hustle."

The Flyers actually led most of the game in what proved to be a pretty evenly-matched contest.

Maus, who also recorded Farmington's first-ever shot on

HOCKEY

goal 59 seconds into the game, opened the scoring with 4:20 remaining in the first period.

Dan Panock, a sophomore from North Farmington, fed the puck up ice where Maus outdukked a Lahser defenseman for it and drilled it by goaltender Justin Holmes.

The first period had a surprisingly quick pace with hard hitting by both sides.

"They were hitting harder tonight than they had been in the practices and scrimmages," Breuhan said.

For those trivia buffs, the first hit by a Flyer was turned in by Ross Patterson, a junior from North Farmington.

"We have some big guys on defense, and we wanted to start the game by roughing them up and taking them off the puck," said goalie Logan McLean, who stopped all but two of Lahser's 28 shots.

The Knights outplayed the Flyers for the majority of the

first period, but McLean "stood on his head" in the Farmington nets. McLean, a junior from North Farmington, turned away all 10 Lahser shots in the first period.

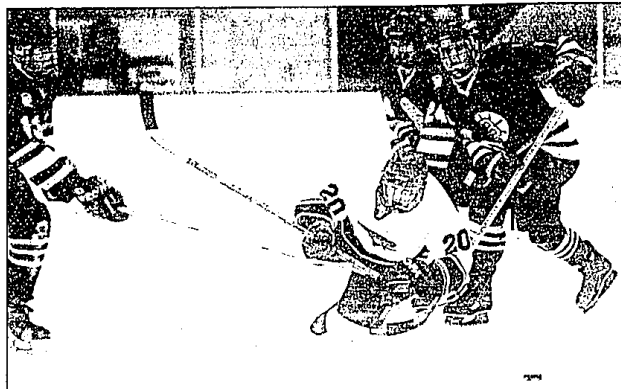
"I was a little nervous but then that went away when I stepped on the ice," McLean said. "The first save wasn't as crisp as I would have liked, but I got comfortable after the first couple of shots."

McLean began the second period by stopping Lahser's Nick Florek on a breakaway. Then McLean robbed Mike Baker twice from point-blank range.

Baker got his revenge on his next shift as he fired a slapshot over McLean's left shoulder at the 8:09 mark of the period.

"That shot from the slot is a tough spot for all goalies," McLean said. "When there's a scramble in front of the net, there's not much you can do. You hope the puck deflects off someone."

The Flyers maintained pressure but failed to get the puck by Holmes in the second period. Farmington recorded 15 of its 30



STAFF PHOTO BY SHARON LEMMEL

Hockey action: Farmington's Chris Hone is tripped up by Lahser's Evan Kelly (left) as Mark Hafele (7) and Mike Baker (24) follow on the play. No penalty was called.

shots in the period.

"We had some quality chances but just couldn't put the puck in the net," Breuhan said.

The third period began with the Knights on their fifth power play of the night. Farmington had one power play for 17 seconds in the second period.

Lahser failed to score but received another power-play advantage when sophomore Jeff Zaidel was whistled for holding.

The Knights took advantage of the extra man when Calvaneso

put a rebound past McLean. Assists were given to Mark Hafele and Ryan McPheters.

"Special teams — power plays and penalty killing — will be something we'll be working more on," Breuhan said. "We have to be more disciplined, but I think tonight we started to get tired at times and when that happens you do things you normally wouldn't do. We certainly spent a lot of time killing penalties which takes a lot out of you."

The Knights added an empty-

net goal by Walter Holmes as the buzzer sounded to end the game.

Breuhan added the team has to improve its conditioning, but overall there were more good things that happened than bad.

"The team will improve as the season progresses and as they get to know each other better," Breuhan said. "We're a young team with only two seniors, and we're learning where everyone is supposed to be."

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