

CC coasts to win

BY BRAD EMOUS
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Defending state Class A hockey champion Redford Catholic Central would have no part in any upset plans by Livonia Franklin in Monday's regional opener.

The top-ranked Shamrocks, who watched Farmington Unified hand Redford Unified its first loss of the season in the opener of a double-header at Redford Ice Arena, moved to 22-2 overall with a 10-0 victory over the Patriots.

The game was stopped with 7:29 to go when Brett John scored to invoke the 10-goal mercy rule.

Franklin finished its season 12-10-3 overall.

"You're always surprised when the playoffs start," CC coach Gordie St. John said. "Franklin was feisty, they worked hard and skated hard. They did a nice job. They never quit and they have gutsy kids."

The Shamrocks unloaded 50 shots on Franklin goaltenders Rob Williams and Chris Garbutt. The Patriots had just five shots on the CC net.

HOCKEY

"CC is an excellent hockey team all the way down," Franklin coach Terry Jobbitt said. "We've got talent, but we're young. Everybody went over and above for us as far as effort, desire and pride. I'm probably more proud of this team than any other game this season even though we got beat 10-0."

"Both our goalies, our defensemen and our forwards played extremely well. But also lost three key players to injury and that doesn't help either."

"But the bottom line is that we just got out-talented." Senior Brandon Kaleniecki led the CC offensive assault with three goals and two assists. Junior Jared Ross contributed two goals and two assists, while John and Mike Ratigan, both juniors, had two goals and one assist apiece.

Other CC offensive producers included Dave Moss, who recorded four assists, and Ryan Yost, who chipped in with one goal and two assists. Shamrocks Andrew Eggert,

Joe Hillebrand, Brian Williams, Joe Moreau and Derek Genrich each contributed one assist.

Meanwhile, St. John was stunned by Farmington Unified's 4-2 win over Redford Unified in the first game.

CC at Farmington Unified (18-6-1) will meet 8 tonight in the regional semifinals at Redford Ice Arena.

"I was shocked," the CC coach said. "I hadn't seen Farmington play, but I know Redford had won about 23 in a row and I expected them to come out like tigers."

"I'm sure all the talk for them three games ago was that if both our teams (CC and Redford Unified) got there... that was going to be the game. I'm guessing maybe they got caught looking ahead."

"But I'm looking forward to playing Farmington because if they can beat Redford, they can play the game."

CC's big key in repeating its state title run is defense.

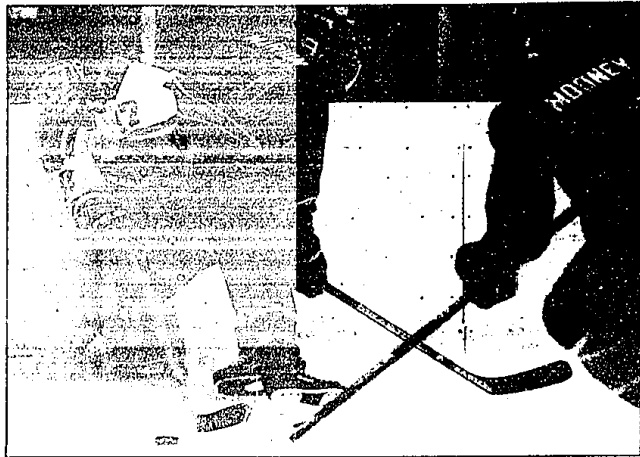
"We really have to pay attention in our defensive zone," St. John said. "We've got to work on our defensive zone coverage and breakout."

Offensively I think we'll be OK.

The Shamrocks were more than good enough on both ends against the Patriots.

"I feel bad for the seniors, guys who went to the wall for me two, three and four years," Jobbitt said. "My assistant coach, Tim Olchanski, is also resigning. He's going to school and he's going to be with his family. He's been there since 1991."

"It's tough to lose my right



STAFF PHOTO BY ERYAN MITCHELL

Regional hockey action: Redford Unified's Jason Moul is tied up by Farmington's Brian Marion as teammate Danny Mooney goes for the puck. The Flyers won, 4-2.

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played a heckuva game," said McLean, who made 35 saves. "It was a fun game. We were a little scared at first, but after the first period, we took it to them."

RU pulled Pregel, who had 23 saves, in favor of an extra attacker with 1:40 left. But Flyers' forward Brad Heraghty ended RU's chances with an empty-net goal to ice the win.

"When we started the period, I think our kids felt it was a matter of time (before they scored)," said Mazzoni. "Then the clock

started working against us. But we stayed focused and disciplined. We just couldn't score."

RU came out flying and took a 1-0 lead with just 36 seconds gone in the game. Forward Jason Moul tipped Dave Sellin's shot from the point into the crease where forward Dave Aird slipped it into an open net.

Farmington tied it at 1-1 with 5:21 gone when forward Matt Leo tipped Patterson's pass over Pregel. RU regained the lead with 3:31 left on another tip

play; Brad Johnson deflected Justin Rosin's shot past McLean with Sellin earning another assist.

Leo and Patterson connected, on the same play again midway through the second in which Farmington took the momentum away from RU.

"The first one was a give-and-go, and I got my stick on it," said Leo. "The second one, Ross put it in front, and I tipped it in. But Logan was the difference. He played a great game."

Whalers win 12th straight

Sixty minutes of playing time on the ice, but it only took 20 seconds of that to make the difference for the Plymouth Whalers.

Who, by the way, remain the hottest thing on skates — at least in the Ontario Hockey League. The Whalers won their 12th straight Sunday by scoring twice in 20 seconds of the third period, beating the host Windsor Spitfires 3-2.

Combined with Saturday's 6-1 trouncing of the Spits at Compuware Arena, the Whalers improved their West Division-leading record to 38-17-4; their 81 points is second in the OHL, only to Ottawa's 88.

Plymouth has now won 12 straight; indeed, the Whalers went through the entire month of February without a loss. Since mid-January, they have won 15 of 16 games, with only a 2-1 loss to Ottawa Jan. 29 to mar their record.

On Sunday, a power-play goal by Windsor's Jeff Martin gave the Spits a 2-1 lead with 10:30 left in the second period.

The Whalers overcame that at 4:26 of the third, when Tomas Kurka notched his 31st goal of the season to tie it at 2-2. Justin Williams assisted.

Twenty seconds later, Andre Robichaud made his second goal of the season a game-winner; it was unassisted. Windsor could not get the equalizer after that against a tough Whaler defense anchored by Rob Zepp in goal. Zepp stopped 28 of 28 shots.

Ryan Aschaber was in goal for Windsor, saving 20 of 23 shots.

The Spitfires opened the scoring, getting a goal from Ryan Courtney 10:39 into the opening period. The Whalers knotted it at 14:19 of the first when Shaun Fisher scored on the power play, assisted by Kurka.

On Saturday at Compuware, Eric Goody scored two goals and assisted on two others to lead the Whalers.

Stephen Morris also scored twice for the Whalers, with Williams and Kurka also getting goals. Zepp made 23 saves in earning the win.

AMBASSADORE WIN SHOOTOUT: Goals by Dan Knapp and D.J. Vogt in the extra session boosted the Compuware Ambassadors to a 3-2 win over the Cleve 1 Barons at Compuware Arena Feb. 23.

It was the fifth win in 10 games for Compuware, which leads the Eastern Division in the North American Hockey League. On Feb. 25, the Ambassadors lost to the 500 Rawasin Casino Indians 2-1 in overtime.

On Feb. 26, the Ambassadors avenged their loss to the Indians with a 3-0 win. Mark Cannon scored two goals and Craig Kowalski stopped 30 shots for Compuware to earn his fourth shutout.

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KATHRYN A. DORNAN, City Clerk

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Oakland County, Michigan
FILING DEADLINE FOR BOARD OF EDUCATION POSITIONS

A candidate who wishes to seek a position on the Farmington Public Schools Board must file a Nominating Petition and an Affidavit of Eligibility no later than 4:00 p.m. on MONDAY, APRIL 10, 2000. The number of signatures required is 20.

The Regular School Board Election will be held on Monday, June 12, 2000. Two positions on the Farmington Public School Board will be filled at the election. Both positions are four-year terms ending June 30, 2004.

Petition and affidavit forms can be obtained at the Lewis Schulman Administrative Center, 32500 Shiuawassee, Farmington, Michigan 48338-2863. Office hours are Monday through Friday, 7:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

BOBBIE D. FELDMAN
Secretary, Board of Education

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