

Ike tops Farmington Hills at showcase

ROCHESTER — It seems as though every game that the Eisenhower hockey team plays, another bright spot emerges from its roster.

On Saturday, it was

Jake Schmidt's turn

H.S. Boys Hockey

to play the hero. The senior forward netted the game-winning goal in a 5-2 victory over Farmington Hills Unified at the Macomb Area Conference/Oakland Activities Association showcase.

Eisenhower (14-2-2 overall) represented the No. 2 seed from the MAC, while the Flyers (10-6-2) were the No. 3 seed from the OAA.

The Eagles also got goals from senior forwards Stefan Trentacosta, Zach Halloran, Marc Havrilla and Brock Brothers. It was Schmidt's second-period tally which proved the most important — and the most unconventional. An unfortunate bounce cost Farmington dearly.

"The draw went back to their guy, and he tried to wing it around the glass," Schmidt explained. "(The puck) hit a stanchion and kind of popped right back out."

Suddenly, the failed clearing attempt left Schmidt with an unabated shot on Flyers goalie Hunter Myers; Schmidt put it in with just 6.5 seconds left in the period.

Trentacosta opened the scoring with an incredible play at 12:44 of the second. Ike defenseman Alex Schnieder tossed the puck from his own zone high through the air toward center ice. Trentacosta grabbed the puck out of midair, crossed over the Flyers blue line, and snapped a shot over Myers' shoulder at 12:44.

While Eisenhower coach Bob Hall downplayed the amazing nature of the play, he nonetheless found it a noteworthy moment.

"I think there are more guys in the MAC and OAA than you think that could do something like that," Hall said. "It was a very nice play. It was toward the end of (Trentacosta's) shift and he was tired, but he got the shot on net and picked the corner."

The Eagles went ahead 2-0 at 8:06. Halloran took a wrist shot that slipped between Myers' legs and in.

Schmidt's tally gave Ike a 3-0 lead after two.

The Flyers, however, were not ready to go quietly.

Farmington scored twice in the first five minutes of the third period, including a power play marker at 12:27.

Ike were able to weather the storm — thanks to some spectacular goal-tending from senior Erik Rodak — and put the game out of reach soon after.

Havrilla put home a rebound at 4:10 for a 4-2 lead; Brothers closed the game out with an empty-netter with 28 seconds left to play.

The ability to stay in control was a testament to the team's will, according to Schmidt.

"Most teams, when they're down they come out swinging, trying to do everything they can to get back in the game," Schmidt said. "We let up just a little bit, but we picked it back up before the end of the game."

The first period ended in a scoreless tie, following strong performances by both goalies.

Eisenhower enjoyed a pair of power plays; it failed to convert but had a number of quality chances. A bomb from Trentacosta on the first man advantage appeared to be destined for the back of the net, but Myers lunged headfirst and stopped the shot with his mask.

Not to be outdone, Rodak had to be sharp on a number of Flyers chances in the period. He made one incredible glove save in particular, robbing Shane Moran at 3:08. It was just one of 37 saves he made to bolster the Eisenhower defense, which was tested with seven shorthanded situations.

"They were on the power play quite a bit, but we trusted our defenders," Hall said. "Erik did a great job in net for us today. We do have depth, which is crucial. Not only our guys here, but we have guys on our junior varsity that can come up and play at any time."

TROY 8, L'ANSE CREUSE 0: D.J. Myers scored three goals for the Colts; the Lancers dropped to 7-10 overall with the loss.

ROCHESTER UNITED 3, ROMEO 1: Junior forward Jeremy Speer scored, with an assist from senior Greg Balsam, to break up the shutout attempt. Romeo is 7-11-1 overall.

ANCHOR BAY 6, BIRMINGHAM UNITED 6: Junior forward Matt Kaiser scored three goals to lead Anchor Bay in a wild, back-and-forth game. Senior teammate Jason Kammerer scored two goals and two assists for the Tars (8-11). Senior Andrew Lahr also added a goal, while senior defenseman Matt Steyer had a pair of assists for Anchor Bay. Birmingham scored with 33 seconds left in the game to salvage a tie.

L'ANSE CREUSE NORTH 3, FARMINGTON 0: Senior goalie Ian Fish made 27 saves for his fourth shutout of the season, helping LCN improve to 10-7 overall. Senior forward Evan Corbett scored his 25th goal of the season, while classmates Robert Ochmanski and Nick Hendee also tallied goals for the Crusaders.

TROY ATHENS 7, WARREN-MOTT 4: Senior forward Matt Dean scored for the Marauders, who fell to 1-12 overall. Sophomore Shane Mackin and freshman Kenny Edwards also scored for Warren Mott; sophomore defenseman Brandon Mezuk added a pair of assists.

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STONEY CREEK 5, CHIPPEWA VALLEY 2: Zach Greiner scored a goal and an assist for Chippewa Valley, which dropped to 5-10-2 overall. Alex Wodnicki also scored for Chippewa Valley.

WEST BLOOMFIELD 5, FRASER 4: Freshman forward Warren Goumare scored twice for the Ramblers, who are now 7-11-1 on the year. Senior Connor Gordley notched a goal and two assists for Fraser; teammate Charlie Haymond also scored a goal.

BLOOMFIELD UNITED 8, UTICA 2: Junior forwards Josh Pannebecker and Harrison Flores scored for the Chieftains, now 4-13-1 overall. Senior forward Nathan Phillips also chipped in with a pair of assists.