



2009-2010 New Ulm Eagles Boys' Hockey Season in Review As Gathered by New Ulm Sports Central

Articles published on websites of New Ulm Daily Journal or occasionally in other newspapers.

Eagles happy with state showing

By Jim Bastian, Journal Sports Writer

POSTED: March 14, 2010

NEW ULM - New Ulm Eagle boy's hockey coach Erik Setterholm said that he was "pretty happy" with the way that his team played in the state tournament.

"In the game against Breck [which has four players who will play D-I college hockey] we were completely outmatched," he said. "But we played hard and that is all that I ever asked of a team."

Setterholm was asked if his team would have played their best game of the season could they have beaten Breck, the defending Class "A" state champion?

"No," he said. "They have tremendous talent on that. They had four players who will play D-I college hockey next year to our zero. That is tough to play against."

In the game against Rochester Lourdes, a team that they lost to 8-2 during the regular season, Setterholm felt that his team got wore down by Lourdes, especially in the third period of a 4-2 loss.

"We did have the lead early-we made the most of our opportunities but they had more opportunities than we did," Setterholm said. "And if [Blake] Burgau [New Ulm goalie] did not show up for that game, we would not have been in that game either."

Burgau faced a total of 81 shots on goal in two state tournament games.

And Burgau received a lot of praise from the media covering the state tournament.

The website mnhockeyhub.com named him the third star in the 11-1 loss to Breck as he stopped 41 of 52 Breck shots on goal.

And the shots on goal by Breck were not the kind that he saw in the South Central Conference. These were quality shots that he made with a quick glove. Mnhockeyhub.com said that he was New Ulm's best player on the ice and had a spectacular glove.

"None of our players have seen players like we saw in the state tournament," Setterholm said. "I told the reporters from the Twin Cities after the loss to Breck that we have not played anyone like that. I believe that there is not a better team than Breck in Class "A".

TOUGH TO JUMP TO STATE TEAMS: It is no secret that a team coming from Section 3A is going to have its hands full in the state tournament.

In the last three years, Section 3A has gone 1-6 in state games and has been outscored 39-8.

"I think that other than the ranked teams in the state tournament that we can play with the unranked teams in the state tournament," Setterholm said. "And we are always looking to play the stronger programs for our nonconference games. You only get better by playing better teams.

"We want to get Albert Lea back on our schedule. We have Lourdes and Delano on the schedule. We want to play tough teams but state tournament teams play tough teams each game in their conference. We do not have that - our conference games do not help us any."

STRONG TEAM NEXT YEAR: New Ulm will be the Section 3A pick next year with the return of Burgau in nets along with Kaleb Juntunen (18 goals and 16 assists), Brody Peterson 20-13, Adam Loose (14-16), Aaron Pfaff (10-7), Jeff Banal (7-8) and Zach Hoffmann (7-21).

The New Ulm Junior Varsity also was successful with 17 wins this past season.

CAMERAS IN LOCKER ROOM: If you watched the Eagles game with Breck, you saw the Channel 45 cameras in the New Ulm locker room before the game with Breck. Setterholm said that it was a little different.

"Normally I am wearing out the carpet in the middle of the room pacing back and forth. The kids got through it."

The Breck/New Ulm game was also a highlight on ESPN.

SETTERHOLM HAS COMPANY: For 18 years, Setterholm was in the New Ulm boy's hockey record books as the only New Ulm High School player to score a goal in a state tournament.

Now he is joined by Kaleb Juntunen, Aaron Pfaff and Bryan Kehren as Eagles who have scored goals in the state tournament.

Hopefully, more players will be added next season.

New Ulm's season ends at state tournament

By Jeremy Behnke — Journal Sports Editor

POSTED: March 12, 2010

MINNEAPOLIS - While things were looking good for New Ulm after the first two periods of Thursday's consolation game against Rochester Lourdes, the other Eagles team showed up in the third period and scored three goals in that stretch.

That helped Lourdes defeat New Ulm 4-2 at Mariucci Arena in the consolation bracket, ending New Ulm's record at 16-11-1 on the season.

For the second straight game, New Ulm was dominated in the shots on goal category. Lourdes outshot New Ulm 34-18.

"We wanted to put a lot of pucks on the net today, and we really didn't do that," New Ulm coach Erik Setterholm said. "We had a couple opportunities and we did make the most of them, but we were on our heels most of the day, they really came at us hard."

New Ulm goalie Blake Burgau had 30 saves against Lourdes and he finished with 74 for the two games.

New Ulm's Aaron Pfaff scored the game's first goal after he beat Lourdes' goalie Mark Greve at the 4:02 mark. It was New Ulm's second goal of the tournament and the first lead for New Ulm at the state tourney. Jeff Banal was credited with the assist.

New Ulm's goal was the only goal in the first period as Lourdes outshot New Ulm 7-6 in the first 17 minutes.

But in the second period, Lourdes evened things up when Alex Kurth scored a power play goal at 4:55. Rory Vesel assisted on the goal.

Bryan Kehren helped New Ulm re-take the lead after he put one past Greve to make it 2-1 in favor of New Ulm. Zach Fischer assisted on the goal at the 14:39 mark.

New Ulm led 2-1 after two periods despite being outshot 26-11 at that point.

Setterholm said it was important for the Eagles to keep up the intensity in the third period.

"Oh definitely, we had a lead and we knew they weren't going away," he said. "Burgau played amazing again and how many shots can we expect him to stop in two games? I'm just proud of the guys the way they played and hung in there against some really good competition.

In the third period, Lourdes tied the game at 2 on a goal by Vesel at the 2:49 mark.

Later, New Ulm had a power play opportunity that led to no goal, and Lourdes responded with a power play goal by Alec Brandup to take its first lead of the game at the 9:17 mark. Both Brandup's and Vesel's goal were unassisted.

Then with 4:38 left, Lourdes put the game out of reach when it went up 4-2 on a goal by Brian Wasz.



Staff photo by Steve Muscatello

New Ulm's Aaron Pfaff gets the puck past Rochester Lourdes goalie Mark Greve during their consolation game Thursday at Mariucci Arena, University of Minnesota in Minneapolis. For more photos of this event, go to cu.nujournal.com



New Ulm pulled goalie Burgau late in the game but it was to no avail. Lourdes advances to face Virginia at 10 a.m. Saturday at Mariucci Arena.

Breck dominates Eagles, 11-1

Class A Boys State Hockey Tournament • Xcel Energy Center

By Jeremy Behnke, Journal Sports Editor

POSTED: March 11, 2010

ST. PAUL - It has been 18 years since the New Ulm boys hockey team has appeared in a state tournament game.

Wednesday, the Eagles broke that long and met the Breck Mustangs, the No. 1 seed in the tournament

At first, the Eagles looked like tournament veterans early on, keeping Breck off the board and limiting the Mustangs' scoring chances for most of the first period.

But Breck finally got on the board, and a big second period crushed the Eagles hopes of getting back into the game.

New Ulm lost 11-1 to the Mustangs at Xcel Energy Center.

The Eagles (16-10-1) will face the loser of Rochester Lourdes and Warroad in the consolation bracket at noon today at Mariucci Arena on the campus of University of Minnesota.

Breck improves its record to 27-2 and will face the winner of Lourdes and Warroad at 1 p.m. Friday.

"I thought we played a pretty good first period and we did everything we wanted to in that first period," New Ulm coach Erik Setterholm said. "They capitalized on a couple of really good opportunities and we had some big saves out of our goaltender."



Staff photo by Steve Muscatello
New Ulm defenseman Zach Hoffmann stops the puck as Breck's Tyson Fulton (23) and Nate Traina (19) during the Eagles' loss in the opening round of the Class A State Tournament Wednesday at the Xcel Center in St. Paul. For more photos of this event, go to <http://cu.njournal.com>

After that, the Eagles were doomed.

Ben Gislason found the back of the net when he scored at the 10:19 mark. Fulton and Riley Borer were credited with the assists.

Staff photo by Steve Muscatello

New Ulm defenseman Zach Hoffmann stops the puck as Breck's Tyson Fulton (23) and Nate Traina (19) during the Eagles' loss in the opening round of the Class A State Tournament Wednesday at the Xcel Center in St. Paul.

For more photos of this event, go to <http://cu.njournal.com>

Breck nearly scored the game's first goal with 8:37 remaining after the Mustangs forced New Ulm goalie Blake Burgau to scramble for a loose puck in front of the net. After an instant replay, it was ruled that Burgau recovered the puck just in front of the red line to keep the game scoreless. He finished the game with 41 saves.

Breck finally got on the board with 4:41 remaining when Riley Borer scored on an assist from Cameron Born. Less than a minute later, Mike Morin scored on a breakaway that put the Mustangs up 2-0 with 4:02 left in the first period.

But the second period was a stretch of 18 minutes that the Eagles would like to forget.

In the second period, it took Tyson Fulton all of 28 seconds to put the Mustangs up 3-0 when he scored unassisted.

Conor Andriele put the Mustangs up 4-0 when he scored on assists from Cameron Born and Wesley Iverson at the 7:37 mark. Eight seconds later, the Mustangs took the faceoff and nearly scored on a one-timer that was gloved by Burgau.

Grant Opperman then took a breakaway the length of the ice to beat Burgau at 11:24 to put the Mustangs up 6-0. Less than a minute later, Breck again found the back of the net, this time on a goal by Grant Opperman to go up 8-0.

A wrap-around goal by Wesley Iverson made it 8-0 Breck at the 12-minute mark and 16 seconds

later Anderle scored again unassisted to give the Mustangs a 9-0 edge, which is where it went into the second intermission.

The seven goals scored by Breck tied a state tournament record.

"We haven't been on the other end of that all season," Setterholm said. "We didn't play anybody that good either. I just said we gotta keep our heads up and nobody lets us say 'hey, we don't wanna play tomorrow.' We just gotta be focused on doing our job [today]."

Breck added its 10th goal in the third period by Austin Rudnick.

New Ulm's Kaleb Juntenen scored the only goal for the Eagles on assist from Adam Loose. Brody Peterson and the Mustangs added a goal with eight seconds remaining.

Fact Box

Breck 2 7 2 - 11

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Scoring

1st period

Breck: Borer (Fulton) 12:19

Breck: Morin (Fulton, Borer) 12:58

2nd period

Breck: Fulton :28

Breck: Andrl (Iverson, Born), 7:37

Breck: Gislason (Fulton, Borer) 10:19

Breck: Opperman (Traina) 11:24

Breck: Anderle (Fulton) 11:51

Breck: Iverson (Nystedt) 12:00

Breck: Anderle 12:16.

3rd period

Breck: Rudnick (Nystedt, Ziedler) SH, 5:55

New Ulm: Juntenen (Peterson, Loose) 12:51

Breck: Yates (Rudnick) 17:52

Breck 11, New Ulm 1

Last update: March 10, 2010 - 11:03 PM

POSTED MINNEAPOLIS TRIBUNE

Through much of the first period in Wednesday's first late 1A quarterfinal, New Ulm hung in against top-seeded Breck. Timely saves, a couple of breaks and even a few chances of their own gave the Eagles hope through a scoreless first 12 minutes.

But then inevitability transformed into reality as fast as Breck's top line gets up and down the ice. In the next 17 minutes -- a period worth of ice time -- the Mustangs blistered New Ulm for nine goals. Seven of them came in the second period, tying a state record. The last five came in a span of less than two minutes on the way to an 11-1 victory.

"I like it when that happens," Breck coach Les Larson said, drawing a few laughs with his understatement.

He wasn't thrilled, though, with the start. Larson wanted the Mustangs to be quick out of the gate, but their burst proved worth the wait. Top line forward Riley Borer started the scoring at 12:19 of the first and, 39 seconds later, linemate Mike Morin turned a 2-on-2 into a breakaway with a burst of speed, then scored on a backhand.

And that was just the beginning. Eagles coach Erik Setterholm said he felt good about his own team's start but worried that trouble could be around the corner.

"We played Duluth Marshall pretty tough in their own building, and they're always regarded as a good [Class 1A team]. They're nowhere near the intensity of Breck," Setterholm said. "We played [1A tournament team] Rochester Lourdes, and Lourdes came at us pretty hard. But again, nothing like Breck.

Eagles prep for Breck

By Jim Bastian — Journal Sports Writer
POSTED: March 9, 2010

NEW ULM - It will be David versus Goliath when the New Ulm Eagle boy's hockey team meets the top team in Class A in Breck in the first round of the Minnesota State High School Hockey Tournament beginning Wednesday at the Xcel Center.

The Eagles, 16-9-1 will face Breck, the defending state Class A champion, which comes in with a 26-2 record.

The game is scheduled to start at 6 p.m. and can be seen on KSTC Channel 45.

New Ulm goalie Blake Bergau said that "it would be a huge upset if we won. We are just going to have to come out and skate hard."

New Ulm coach Erik Setterholm knows that Breck can put the puck on the net.

"They score a lot of goals," he said about the Mustangs, who have outscored opponents 158-34 this season. "They won state last year and they did not graduate a lot of players from that team. They are one of the best teams in the state be it Class A or Class AA."

The Mustangs are led in scoring by Tyson Fulton, who has scored 33 goals and added 44 assists to his mark. Mike Morlin and Chase Nystedt are players who have scored 29 and 26 goals respectively.

Setterholm said that he will prepare his team first by trying to shake off the nervousness that he knows that the players will have.

"It is great that we won the sectional title but we now have to play some hockey," he said. "We are going to have to work very hard especially against the No. 1 team in the state.



Staff photo by Mark Newsom
New Ulm junior goalie Blake Bergau has been solid for the Eagles' this season. The Eagles play in the Class A State Tournament Wednesday against Breck.

"We may be star-struck when we play in the tournament. This is something that we have always wanted to achieve as a team."

Setterholm agreed that Section 3A has not gotten a lot of respect from around the state as far as hockey is concerned.

"There is no question that our section is weaker than others around Minnesota.," he said. "A lot of the other sections have a couple of power houses in them. Our section has a couple of teams that are competitive but probably not on that next level."

Setterholm said that his team will leave this afternoon for St. Paul for the State Tournament banquet. They will watch most of the first game of the tournament.

"That will hopefully calm the nerves a little bit," Setterholm said. "The kids can get their minds on hockey and where it needs to be."

Setterholm played on the last New Ulm High School boys hockey team that made it to state in 1992. He said that he wants the kids to enjoy all of the moments of the tournament.

"We are one of just 16 teams that are still playing hockey," he said.

X-cellent!!! *Eagles qualify for state*

By Jim Bastian, Journal Sports Writer

POSTED: March 6, 2010

ST. PETER - In 1992, Erik Setterholm played for the New Ulm Eagles hockey team in their last appearance in a Minnesota State High School Hockey Tournament. Eighteen years later, he will be coaching them in one.

Kaleb Juntunen and Jeff Banal spun Litchfield turnovers in their own end into third period goals as New Ulm captured the Section 3A hockey tournament with a 5-2 win over the Dragons at Don Roberts Ice Arena at Gustavus Adolphus College.

Adam Loose scored two goals in the first period and Brody Peterson added a second period goal on a penalty shot as the Eagles broke a three-year sectional final hex.

Blake Burgau held the Dragons in check stopping 22 of 24 enemy shots.

New Ulm (16-9-1) will play in the Minnesota State Hockey Tournament beginning Wednesday at the Excel Center. Pairings and seedings will be announced Sunday afternoon.

"I cannot explain how big this is," Setterholm said. "When I played in it, it was great but this is something special. Just as easy as saying that we lost three sectional finals, we could also say that we could have won three sectional finals,"

The Eagles got on the board first with the teams playing four-on-four hockey when Loose collected his first goal of the game when he found the puck in a scramble in front of Dragon goalie Bryce Johnson and snuck the puck under Johnson's stick for a 1-0 lead at the 6:02 mark.

But the Dragons tied the game just over seven minutes later when Nate Adams took a centering pass from John Raisanen and lifted it over Burgau at the 13:47 mark.



Staff photo by Mark Newsom

Members of the New Ulm Eagles boys hockey team celebrate after winning the Section 3A Boys Hockey Championship Game against Litchfield/Dassel-Cokato Friday evening at Gustavus Adolphus College in St. Peter. For more photos of

However, Loose and the Eagles struck three minutes later when he again found himself in front of the Litchfield net and again put the puck by Johnson at the 16:24 mark.

"He [Loose] is a scrapper - he is a go-getter," Setterholm said. "He is in every game that we play. He played well."

The Eagles increased that lead to 3-1 in the second period on a Peterson goal off of a penalty shot.

With 9:58 left in the second period, Peterson broke in alone on Johnson and was hauled down by a Dragon defender. On the ensuing penalty shot, Peterson deked Johnson and beat him on his stick side for a 3-1 lead.

"I think that that may have been one of the turning points of the game," Setterholm said.

The goal gave the Eagles two goal lead which was big because Litchfield cut the lead to 3-2 at the 11:56 mark when Brandon Dewolf scored on a wrist shot just under the bar.

But that was as close as Litchfield would come as the Eagles scored twice in the final period to salt the game away.

Juntunen stole the puck from a Litchfield skater just inside the Dragon blueline and beat Johnson for a short-handed goal at the 7:50 mark.

Less than two minutes later, with the Dragons on the power play, Jeff Banal took a pretty pass from Peterson and put the Eagles into the state tournament at the 9:46 mark.

"This was a total team effort," Setterholm said. "Blake [Burgau] did a great job in goal for us tonight.

For Burgau, the win was for not only his team but his older brothers.

"I have watched three older brothers go through the system," he said. "They have all lost in sectional finals. Now we have won."

Eagles, Litchfield ready to battle

By Jim Bastian, Journal Sports Writer

POSTED: March 4, 2010

NEW ULM - Two hockey teams that are familiar with each other, especially around tournament time, will meet Friday night at 7:30 p.m. with a berth in the Minnesota State High School Hockey Tournament on the line.

The New Ulm Eagles, 15-9-1 will meet Litchfield, 16-9-1 at Don Roberts Arena at Gustavus Adolphus College for the Section 3A title.

New Ulm and Litchfield have played twice in the sectional tournament. In 2008, Litchfield beat New Ulm 3-1 in the finals with New Ulm winning last year in a sectional semifinal game by a 5-3 score.

For the Eagles, who hold a 9-2 win along with a 6-6 tie this year with Litchfield, the game is one that has sparked a rivalry between two teams that used to play in the same hockey conference.

And even though New Ulm has that win and tie with Litchfield, Eagle coach Erik Setterholm, who has brought his team to its fourth straight sectional title game, the two games in the regular season are out the door.

"The 9-2 game was a case of where everything went our way and the tie game, we were up 4-2 and they scored four goals before we tied them," he said. "This game should make for a pretty good [sectional] final."

Litchfield is led by one of the best players in the section in Nate Adams, who has scored 24 goals and added 22 assists. Jeff Janckila has 14 goals with Andy Hiataja, Quin Impola and Eric Kvisto each with 11 goals.

Both teams have tournament experience but for the Eagles, this is a chance to erase three straight years of sectional frustration. New Ulm has lost final games to Albert Lea, Litchfield and last year to Hutchinson.

Setterholm said that those games are not on the kids' minds.

"We just take it in stride," he said. "We have gotten to the finals now we just need to figure out a way to take one more step.

"We need to play a good, up and down the ice, both ends of the ice," he said. "That sectional final game, anything can happen. We need to get to a quick start and get to their goaltender fast. He is a good goalie if he gets confident. We need to get a lot of shots on him and hope for rebounds. We need to play our game and whatever happens, happens."

Eagles advance to section finals

By Jim Bastian — Journal Sports Writer

POSTED: March 3, 2010

NEW ULM - It took the Zamboni driver at the New Ulm Civic Center about 12 minutes to finish the ice prior to the Luverne-New Ulm Section 3A semi-final hockey game Tuesday night.

It took about that same length of time for the New Ulm Eagles' hockey team to finish Luverne.

The Eagles scored seven goals in the first 15 minutes of the first period as they hammered Luverne 11-1 before a standing-room only crowd.

Kaleb Juntunen, Brody Peterson, Aaron Pfaff and Jeff Banal each scored two goals with Zach Muncie. Adam Loose and Bryan Kehren each adding a goal.

Peterson and Zach Hoffmann each had three assists with Tyler Traulich, Zach Fischer and Pfaff each adding two helpers.

Three of New Ulm goals were shorthanded while four were on the power play as the Eagles dominated Luverne who refused to shake hands with New Ulm after the game.

New Ulm goalie Blake Burgau stopped 22 of 23 shots as the Eagles fired 42 shots on two Luverne goalies.

New Ulm will now face Litchfield Friday night at Gustavus Adolphus at 7:30 p.m. for the Section 3A championship.

Litchfield/Dassel-Cokato defeated Hutchinson 2-1 in Hutchinson.

"We like to come out strong and put some goals in and take a team out of the game," New Ulm coach Erik Setterholm said. "We did that tonight - we had some things that bothered us all week about this game - they gave us the fifth seed and they didn't want to play us on Saturday. We were fired up."

New Ulm scored twice while Luverne was on the same power play with Traulich in the box for tripping.

Juntunen and Peterson scored goals on Luverne turnovers just over a minute apart before Aaron Pfaff countered Luverne's only score of the night for a 3-1 lead.



Staff photo by Steve Muscatello

New Ulm's Brody Peterson (5) gets the puck past Luverne goalie Nathan Thompson during the first period of the Eagles' Section 3A playoff win Tuesday at the New Ulm Civic Center. For more photos of this event, go to <http://cu.nujournal.com>

That started four New Ulm goals in the next eight minutes to realistically end the game.

Goals from Juntunen, Peterson and Pfaff along with a Banal slap shot gave New Ulm a comfortable 7-1 lead after the first 17 minutes.

"We scored seven goals but Blake had to stop a 2-on-1 and a breakaway. We cannot have that," Setterholm said. "I am not sure if that is the most goals that we have scored in a period."

The Eagles added three more goals in the second period against Austin VanSanten who replaced starter Nathan Thompson after the first period.

Zach Munce made it 8-1 just 32 seconds into that period before Banal and Adam Loose added scores for a huge 10-1 lead going into the final period.

Kehren closed out the scoring for the Eagles at the 13:45 mark of the third period.

"We can play better than we did tonight." Setterholm said. "We need to go out and play the kind of hockey that I know this team can play. If we do that, we can win and if we do not, anyone can beat us."

New Ulm boys face Luverne

By Jim Bastian, Journal Sports Writer

POSTED: February 28, 2010

NEW ULM - The Luverne Cardinals boy's hockey team (11-12-1) enters their Section 3A semi-final playoff game with New Ulm Tuesday night riding an 11-3-1 make in their last 14 games.

"We started out 0-9 with a young team," said Luverne coach Tony Sandbulte whose team has just one senior on it.

Luverne beat Redwood Valley 6-3 Thursday in tournament play after having lost twice to Redwood Valley by 7-1 scores.



"We have big expectations for our team," he said. "We have been playing well as of late. We took advantage of our chances [against Redwood]."

Luverne is led by Connor Fitzer who has scored 17 goals with Zach Dingman second with 14 goals.

"The kids are ready to play - they want to be out on the ice and that is all that we can asked for," Sandbulte said. "We have balanced scoring and we have a lot of players who can score at any time."

Sandbulte feels that they key to Tuesday's 7 p.m. game at the New Ulm Civic Center will be "coming in with the attitude that we have nothing to lose - we will leave it all on the ice."

Incidentally, when the sectional seedings were made last week, Luverne seeded New Ulm fifth in the section.

New Ulm wins big

By Jim Bastian — Journal Sports Writer

POSTED: February 26, 2010

NEW ULM - Zach Fischer recorded his first hat trick of the season and Adam Loose added two goals as the New Ulm Eagles opened Section 3A play with an 8-0 pasting of Windom Thursday night at the New Ulm Civic Center.

Jeff Banal, Aaron Pfaff and Zach Hoffmann all got in on the goal parade as New Ulm outshot Window 60-16 in the game.

Hoffmann added three assists.

New Ulm will now host Luverne Tuesday night at 7 p.m. in a Section 3A semifinal game. Luverne, seeded seventh, upset second-seeded Redwood Valley 6-3 Thursday.

"We wanted to take them out of the game right away," New Ulm head coach Erik Setterholm said. "They had some players who can really wheel and deal. We did start slow in the first four minutes but after we got a few shifts under their belt, we got going."

Fischer got New Ulm up and running scoring the first two goals of the game, both coming off assists from Hoffmann. Fischer's first score came on a New Ulm power play at the 7:30 mark while his second came off of a slap shot from the high slot that beat Windom goalie Ethan Villeneuve just over a minute later.

Fischer said that the team came out focused and never looked back.

"We had a good, hard week of practice," said the senior wing. "We buried some pucks in that period and we passed well."

Loose collected the first of his two goals less than a minute after Fischer's score on assists from Kaleb Juntunen and Mitch Turbes for a 3-0 lead before Banal beat Villeneuve on a bad angle wrist shot at the 15:40 mark for a 4-0 cushion.

New Ulm put three more goals on the board in the second period for a 7-0 lead.

Loose beat Villeneuve after sustained pressure in the Windom end for a score at the 3:39 mark.

Aaron Pfaff scored the second power-play goal of the game for New Ulm seven minutes later with Hoffmann closing out the scoring in the second period for New Ulm off of assists from Fischer and Bryan Kehren.

While the Eagles offense was in high gear, New Ulm goalie Blake Burgau made some key stops in the period, one coming when he stopped Windom's Nick Eisenmenger on a breakaway.

The Eagles, who held a 41-15 shot advantage after two periods, continued to put pressure on the Windom defense in the third period.

The final goal for New Ulm came when Fischer teed up the puck just inside the blue line on a slap that left a vapor trail as it got by Villeneuve for an 8-0 lead just 35 seconds into the final period.

"He had a couple of blasts off of slap shots," Setterholm said. "He usually scores his goals from in front of the net. But he has a rocket slap shot. When he gets that shot off, anything can happen."

Setterholm was again happy with the overall team play he had.

"It was a total team effort right down to Burgau," he said. "He did not see as many shots as they did but he saw some breakaways and he made some key stops."

Staff photo by Steve Muscatello

New Ulm's Aaron Pfaff shoots the puck as Windom goalie Ethan Villeneuve (35) looks on during the Eagles' Section 3A playoff win Thursday at the New Ulm Civic Center. Pfaff scored on the play. For more photos of this event, go to <http://cu.nujournal.com>

Fischer said that despite the relatively easy 8-0 win that the Eagles have not played their best hockey yet.

"We are stepping our way up to playing better each game," Fischer said. "We are pretty confident now. That hard work in practices carries over to games."

WINDOM0 0 0 – 0

NEW ULM4 3 1 - 8

FIRST PERIOD: NU: Fischer (Hoffmann) 7:30 PP. NU: Fischer (Hoffmann) 8:43. NU: Loose (Juntunen, Turbes) 9:39. NU: Banal (O'Connor) 10:40.

SECOND PERIOD: NU:Loose (Hoffmann) 3:39. NU:Pfaff (Portner) 10:44 PP. NU: Hoffmann (Fischer, Kenren) 11:50.

THIRD PERIOD: NU: Fischer (Turbes) :35.

Eagles close regular season with win

By Jim Bastian — Journal Sports Writer

POSTED: February 20, 2010

NEW ULM - Brody Peterson scored two goals and added two assists as the New Ulm Eagles closed out their regular season with a convincing 5-1 win over LeSueur-Henderson/St. Peter Friday at the New Ulm Civic Center.

Kaleb Juntunen, Adam Loose and Zach Hoffmann each added goals. Juntunen was credited with three assists while Loose added two.

The Eagles, who will host Windom next Thursday in Section 3A hockey, outshot LHSP 57-17 in the game with the Bulldogs' Lance Willson getting the only puck by New Ulm goalie Blake Burgau who stopped 17 of the 18 shots that he faced.

For New Ulm coach Erik Setterholm, the two wins in the last two games is the way he wanted is team playing going into tournament time.

"We needed to take care of business tonight and win the [South Central] Conference," he said. "It is hard to play back-to-back games. We did alright."

In Thursday's win over Waseca, Quinn O'Connor scored two goals. Friday the Eagles' scoring balance showed with sophomore Brody Peterson getting two goals.

His first goal off a pretty pass from Loose and gave New Ulm a 2-0 lead in the first period with his second score coming off assists from Juntunen and O'Connor for a 4-1 lead with less than two minutes to go in the second period.

"That [balanced scoring] is what is going to get you over the hump," Setterholm said. "You cannot rely on just one player and he gets keyed on. For us, whoever puts the puck in the net, so be it."

Juntunen got the Eagle Express off and running in the first period when his wrist shot beat Bulldog goalie Chris Amsden before Peterson made it 2-0 seven minutes later.

The Eagles' only hiccup in the game came in the second period and when they were shorthanded as Willson scored a power-play goal to cut the lead to 2-1 early in the second period.

But that was as close as the visitors would get as Loose and Peterson scored goals less than three minutes apart for a 4-1 lead.

Loose's goal came while he was being upended by a Bulldog defenseman.

"We moved the puck well tonight," Setterholm said. "I think that our legs were not as fresh as they were Thursday so we moved the puck well - we had some real pretty goals."

New Ulm added its fifth goal of the game in the third period on a power play with Hoffmann getting the puck by Amsden off passes from Loose and O'Connor.

Setterholm said that the team has been moving the puck well recently.

"We were griping about not moving the puck but tonight we were cycling down low and getting some point blank shots right in front of the net."

New Ulm ends its regular season at 13-9-1 and 6-0 in the SCC.

Eagles stay perfect in conference

By Jim Bastian — Journal Sports Writer

POSTED: February 19, 2010

NEW ULM - When you get into the postseason in hockey, a hot goalie can carry you far.

So can solid special teams play.

Thursday night, the New Ulm Eagle boy's hockey team scored four of their six goals on the power play and killed all five Waseca man advantages as they improved their South Central Conference record to 5-0 and their overall mark to 12-9-1 with a 6-2 win over the Bluejays at the New Ulm Civic Center.

Quinn O'Connor scored two goals with Zach Fischer, Jeff Banal, Kaleb Juntunen and Shane Traulich each scored once.

Zach Hoffmann had three assists with Adam Loose and Banal each adding two helpers.

Blake Malecha, the leading goal scorer in the SCC and Patrick O'Neil scored the Waseca goals.

New Ulm goalie Blake Burgau stopped 22 of 24 Waseca shots.

For the Eagles and head coach Erik Setterholm, it was the success of the special teams that keyed the win.

"That can be the intangibles - you have to play them no matter," Setterholm said. "You will be on the penalty kill or the power play and you need to do them well."

The Eagles, who host LSHSP tonight in the last game of the regular season, took a 1-0 lead just over three minutes into the game when O'Connor put the puck by Waseca goalie Alex Cooper on a wrist shot.

That was the only goal of the period despite the fact that New Ulm controlled the period as it outshot Waseca 17-5 in the first 17 minutes.

Waseca had an apparent goal wiped out by an off-side whistle but scored just 16 seconds later when the top scorer in the conference, Malecha, beat Burgau with a nifty backhand.

But the Eagles responded with four straight goals in that second period to realistically salt the game away.

Fischer scored his team-leading 15th goal when he managed to slip the puck by Cooper on the power play for a 2-1 lead at the 3:54 mark.

Just under four minutes later, sophomore Banal upped the lead to 3-1 before the New Ulm special teams struck again. With Waseca's Carter Hanson in the penalty box for interference, O'Connor rifled a slap shot from just inside the blue line at the 11:04 mark.

"He (O'Connor) has been shooting the puck a lot," Setterholm said. "He does a real good job of running our power play."



Staff photo by Steve Muscatello
New Ulm's Zach Fischer (8) crashes the net looking for a rebound as Waseca's Theo Helms (15), Pat Flor (13) and goalie Alex Cooper look on during the second period Thursday at the New Ulm Civic Center. For more photos of this event, go to <http://cu.nujournal.com>

Four minutes later, the Bluejays found themselves shorthanded again when Brad McIntosh was sitting for roughing with the Eagles again saying thank you.

Juntunen made them pay the price at the 14:54 mark for a comfortable 5-1 lead.

It was also a period where the Eagles poured cold water on all three Waseca power plays.

"Our power play has come around lately," Setterholm said. "We moved the puck well. But what I like better was the fact that we were able to kill off their power plays. We have a couple of sets of penalty killers who are petty good."

New Ulm outshot Waseca 22-9 in the second period and held a 54-24 advantage for the game.

"That is my motto - shoot the puck on net and good things will happen," Setterholm said.

Thus far, the Eagles have outshot opponents 794-595.

The Eagles closed out the scoring early in the third period when Shane Traulich scored the fourth power-play goal for New Ulm at the 3:24 mark.

Patrick O'Neil scored the Bluejays' second goal at the 11:53 mark.

The New Ulm JV won 3-0.

Eagle Boys Seeded Third

POSTED: February 18, 2010

*By Jim Bastian
Journal Sports Writer*

The Eagle boy's hockey team has been seeded third in the Section 3A tournament behind top-seeded Hutchinson and Redwood Valley.

New Ulm coach Erik Setterholm said that he was happy with the third seed that his team received.

"I thought that we should be in the top four," he said. "And the No. 3 seed on paper looks to be alright."

New Ulm will host Windom in the first round of playoffs beginning on Thursday, February 25th.

"We just need to play well and we need to start doing that tonight," he said. "We need to take two straight wins into the playoffs. The kids know that we need to take care of business."

He was surprised that Hutchinson got the top seed.

"A lot of people voted Hutch one and Litchfield two and here we are sitting and thinking that we are the only team in the section to beat both of them. You wonder what is happening but that is what you get in this section.

"We just need to come ready to play each game beginning tonight," Setterholm said. "I think that the kids are ready for the run."

Eagle boys skate to 6-6 tie

POSTED: February 16, 2010

LITCHFIELD - New Ulm and Litchfield/Dassel-Cokato skated to a 6-6 tie in nonconference boys hockey action Monday.

Kaleb Juntunen had two goals for the Eagles. Zach Fischer, Zach Munce, Ryan Portner and Brody Peterson each had a goal.

Blake Burgau had 38 saves in goal.

Boys Hockey | Lourdes 8, New Ulm 2

2/12/2010 8:20:24 AM

By [Jason Feldman](#)

The Post-Bulletin, Rochester MN

Rochester Lourdes moved up in the Class A state polls, even after a stretch of two losses and a tie in three games.

Those losses were close, one by a goal, the other by two goals, to the No. 1- and No. 2-ranked teams in the state. The tie came against Section 1A rival New Prague.

Lourdes, up from No. 13 to No. 8 in the state Class A poll, rebounded well from those two close losses by rolling past New Ulm, 8-2, at Graham Arena I on Thursday night. The win came just 24 hours after a close 5-3 loss to No. 2 St. Thomas Academy on Wednesday.

"Coming off a night like (Wednesday) this was a good night for our boys," Lourdes coach Josh Spaniol said. "We didn't play a full 51 minutes, but it was a good effort and we took another step toward hopefully getting that No. 1 seed (in the section playoffs)."

The victory was an important one for Lourdes (13-7-3 overall), which has just two games remaining in the regular season. Not only does it give the Eagles a shot of confidence, but every win is key now as they are chasing the top seed in the Section 1A tournament, which begins Feb. 23. Lourdes is one of four or five teams in Section 1A that could make an argument to be the top seed.

Lourdes scored twice in the first period Thursday and broke it open with four goals in the second. Three Eagles had two-goal games: Alex Dewitz, Brandyn Chezick and Alex Funk. Funk had one assist for a three-point game. Dewitz, who scored his first goal on a penalty shot, played a very good all-around game, Spaniol said. Ryan Nicolay had a goal while Jason Samuelson had a big night with a goal and three assists. Conner Nellans, Rory Vesel, Alec Brandrup and Landon Farrell had one assist each.

Minnehaha skates by New Ulm

POSTED: February 7, 2010 New Ulm Journal

RICHFIELD - The New Ulm boys hockey team lost to Minnehaha Academy 3-1. New Ulm did not report any stats.

LINE SCORE: (as reported via [Minensota_Scores.net](#))

	1	2	3	F
New Ulm	0	0	1	1
Minnehaha Academy	2	0	1	3

GAME NOTES: Alex Eide, senior, forward 2 goals
Peter Knutson, senior, center, 1 goal and 2 assists

SCORING SUMMARY: First: M-Eide (P. Knutson, Wichelmann), 14:14; M-Eide (P. Knutson, Wichelmann), 15:59, pp. Third: N-Fischer (Kehren), 8:40; M-P. Knutson (Fabie, Wolpert), 16:58, en. Saves: N-Burgau 12-3-12--27; M-Lundeen 9-13-9--31.

Marshall defeats New Ulm in OT

POSTED: February 5, 2010 New Ulm Journal

MARSHALL - The New Ulm boys hockey team dropped an important section match to Marshall 3-2 in overtime Thursday.

New Ulm took a 2-1 lead after the first period on goals from Aaron Pfaff and Brody Peterson. Quinn O'Connor and Adam Loose had assists. Those were the only goals of the game for the Eagles.

Marshall tied the game in the third and the Tigers scored at the 3:30 mark in overtime.

Blake Burgau had 19 saves in goal for the the Eagles.

Eagles skate to win

By Jeremy Behnke

POSTED: February 2, 2010

(Hockey Box Score End of Article Courtesy of Rochester Post Bulletin)

NEW ULM - After some tinkering with the line-up, the New Ulm boys hockey team may be hitting their stride and getting in gear for the playoffs.

On Monday, the Eagles had another successful outing with a 3-1 win over Dodge County. New Ulm is now 11-6 overall and has won seven straight games since the Duluth Marshall Tournament.

"We started to play, we got new lines after the [Duluth] Marshall Tournament and it just seems like they're clicking," New Ulm's Kaleb Juntunen said.

Juntunen scored two goals. He scored the go-ahead goal in the first period and the insurance goal in the third, and the Eagles look to make it eight straight at Marshall Thursday.

New Ulm took a 1-0 lead in the first period after Ryan Portner's one-timer found the back of the net on an assist from Jeff Banal.

The Wildcats evened the score on Shane McWhirter's goal, but two minutes later the Eagles regained the advantage thanks to Juntunen's wrist shot.

"We got the power play, and our coach tells us to work it low and then bring it out to the top," he said. "That's exactly what happened and luckily I got the shot through and it went in."

Juntunen's goal came off an assist from Shane Traulich and Zach Fischer.

After a scoreless second period, Juntunen scored on a break-away that all but sealed the deal for the Eagles. Brody Peterson and Adam Loose were credited with assists on the play.



Staff photo by Steve Muscatello

New Ulm's Kaleb Juntunen watches as his shot gets past the Dodge County goalie during the third period of the Eagles' win Monday at the New Ulm Civic Center. For more photos of this event, go to <http://cu.nujournal.com>

"We got a nice breakout, that was probably the cleanest breakout we've had all game," he said. "Brody took it out and he gave it to Loose and we isolated the defensemen."

New Ulm's Blake Burgau earned the win in the nets for the Eagles.

New Ulm 3, Dodge County 1

New Ulm: Kaleb Juntunen 2 goals; Ryan Portner 1 goal; Zach Fisher 1 assist; Adam Loose 1 assist; Brody Peterson 1 assist; Blake Burgau 31 saves.

Dodge County: Shane McWhirter 1 goal; Austin Head 1 assist; Dustin Stevens 26 saves.

New Ulm rallies to beat Northfield

By Jim Bastian — Journal Sports Writer

POSTED: January 29, 2010



Staff photo by Mary Roufs
New Ulm High School's Bryan Kehren(6) gets the puck up the ice against a Northfield defender during the first period of the game on Thursday night at the New Ulm Civic Center. For more photos of this event, go to <http://cu.nujournal.com>

NEW ULM - A made penalty shot can give a team a lift.

Stopping an opposition 5-on-3 for almost two minutes can lift that team even more.

Thursday night, the New Ulm boy's hockey team did both as Kaleb Juntunen's penalty shot in the second period to tie the game at 1-1.

That sparked two more New Ulm goals that came just over two minutes apart. New Ulm improved to 10-6 on the season with a 4-1 win over Northfield in a non-conference game at the New Ulm Civic Center.

Juntunen's goal was aided by goals from Shane Traulich, Zach Hoffmann and Adam Loose.

Brody Peterson and Juntunen each had two assists.

New Ulm coach Erik Setterholm said that Juntunen's goal was the fourth penalty shot this year for the Eagles and was something his team needed.

"It was huge," he said. "We have now scored on two of the (penalty) shots this season. His goal really got us going. We were looking for something to get by their goalie and when he did that, everyone kind of got energized by that."

While Juntunen's score jump-started the Eagles' offense. New Ulm's ability to hold off a two-man Northfield advantage was as important.

That came early in the third period with the Eagles holding a delicate 3-1 lead with the Raiders having a two-man advantage for 1:44.

A goal from Northfield at that point would possibly turn the momentum towards the Raiders.

But the Eagles' special teams and New Ulm goalie Blake Burgau rose to the challenge.

Not only did the Eagles kill both penalties but they added an insurance goal from Loose who beat Raider goalie Nate Finger at the 10:51 mark.

"That was the game," Setterholm said. "To kill that off with 10 minutes left in the third period, they could have scored two goals on that power play real easily. That was big. We dodged a bullet there."

After a scoreless first period, freshman Andrew Scofield - one of the leading scorers in the Missota Conference - got the Raiders on the board at the 8:07 mark for a 1-0 lead.

"We knew that we could not give him too many looks at the puck," Setterholm said. "He is right around 20 goals this season."

New Ulm was able to kill off all four Northfield power plays and did score seconds after the second Raider power play fizzed.

That came on a Traulich goal that gave the Eagles a 2-1 lead. It was a lead that they never lost.

Hoffmann upped the lead to 3-1 on a power play score. From there, the Eagles and particularly Burgau, did the rest.

"He (Burgau) played lights out," Setterholm said. "If you have a good goaltender, you are in every game. He really stepped up especially in that third period."

Northfield fired 11 shots on Burgau that period with Burgau stopping them all. For the game, the Eagles outshot Northfield 34-27.

The New Ulm JV won 3-2.



New Ulm tops Austin boys hockey team

By [Rocky Hulne](#) ([Contact](#)) | Austin Daily Herald

Originally published 11:19 p.m., January 26, 2010

See Hockey Box Score at End of Story

Just when it looked like they were ready to make a move, things went bad for the Austin boys hockey team in a 6-2 loss to New Ulm in Riverside Arena Tuesday.

After Austin's Codie Miller scored on a power play slap shot to pull the Packers (6-9 overall) within a score of 3-2, New Ulm (9-7 overall) scored two goals over the next two minutes.

Adam Lose started the rally by angling a slap shot around Austin goalie Aaron Dooley, who had 50 saves, and Zach Hoffman scored on a rebound to make it 5-2.

"We were in it, but we were slow," Austin head coach Tim Peterson said. "It hurt us not having practice yesterday after getting a hard nosed win (over Waseca) Saturday. It was tough to jump right back into playing again."

The Packers didn't have any penalties in the first period, but Austin committed five penalties over the last two periods, which allowed the Eagles to score three power play goals — including two in the third period.

"We battled hard but we had some unfortunate mistakes and got into penalty trouble in the third period. It's not how we wanted things to go," Peterson said. "We played well in spurts. We've got some stuff to work on and they'll work hard."

The Packers got a big lift at the end of the second period when Dooley stopped Lose on a penalty shot after Lose was taken down on a breakaway.

But it was Austin's missed chances that stuck out the most in the loss. Early in the second period, Austin almost took a 2-1 lead when they had a shot trickle in front of the net and it just missed going in.

The Packers almost scored again at the end of the second period when Miller had a breakaway stopped by New Ulm goalie Blake Burgau as the buzzer sounded. Miller got free on a solid outlet pass from Isaac Gorman.

"The (close plays) are magnified, but we've struggled a little bit with finishing this year so it kind of seems normal, unfortunately," Peterson said. "We'll keep working on it in practice and hopefully we'll start getting some more goals."

Austin's first goal came from Adam McMasters in the first period when he knocked one in from point blank.

Austin beat Waseca 2-1 on Saturday and will host Rochester Mayo Thursday and travel to Mankato West Saturday.

"I knew this one (against New Ulm) was winnable and I honestly think our next two are winnable so hopefully we'll get right back on that winning track on Thursday," Peterson said.

New Ulm 1 2 3 — 6
Austin1 0 1 — 2

First period

(N) 7:41 Zach Munce (Zach Fischer, Bryan Kehren)

(A) 8:58 Adam McMasters (Isaac Gorman)

Second period

(N) 6:00 Zach Hoffmann (Fischer)

(N) 9:04 Fischer (Quinn O'Connor) (PP)

Third period

(A) 7:57 Codie Miller (McMasters) (PP)

(N) 8:28 Adam Loose

(N) 9:47 Hoffmann (O'Connor, Loose) (PP)

(N) 14:06 Fischer (O'Connor, Loose) (PP)

Shots on goal: Austin — 27; New Ulm — 56

Power plays: Austin — 0-for-3; New Ulm — 3-for-5

New Ulm blanks Windom

By Jim Bastian — Journal Sports Writer

POSTED: January 13, 2010

NEW ULM - New Ulm boy's hockey coach Erik Setterholm was worried going into Tuesday's non-conference match-up at home with Windom.

After all, it had been nine days since the Eagles last game - a 10-0 win over Fairmont - due to weather postponements.

But New Ulm shook off any rust that it may have had with two first period goals and three more scores in the second period as the Eagles rolled by Windom 6-0 at the New Ulm Civic Center.

Kaleb Juntunen recorded a hat trick while Adam Loose netted two goals. Zach Fischer also added a goal with Zach Hoffmann adding two assists.

New Ulm goalie Blake Burgau stopped all 18 Windom shots as New Ulm outshot Windom 39-18 for the game.

"This was a big win for us on our home ice," Setterholm said. "We have not been at home much this year. It was nice to play in front of our fans - this was a good needed win for us."

And New Ulm did not disappoint its fans as it completely dominated Windom in all three periods with the play being mostly in the Windom zone.

Windom's closest thing to a goal was a shot that hit the pipe early in the third period.



Staff photo by Steve Muscatello

New Ulm's Quinn O'Connor (left) launches a shot as Windom goalie Ethan Villeneuve looks to make a save during the third period of the Eagles' win Tuesday at the New Ulm Civic Center. For more photos of this event, go to <http://cu.nujournal.com>

Meanwhile, New Ulm skaters were shelling Windom goalie Ethan Villemueve from the get-go with 11 shots in the first period with two of them - the first of three goals by Juntunen and a Fischer backhand shot - finding the back of the net for a 2-0 New Ulm lead.

The Eagles, who host Litchfield in a big non-conference and sectional match-up Thursday, continued the pressure with three more goals in the second period as they scored within a four minute span.

Back-to-back goals from Loose that came around three minutes apart lifted New Ulm to a 4-0 lead before Juntunen made it 5-0 at the 15:26 mark for a comfortable 5-0 lead.

"Those goals make me feel pretty good because we are looking at getting something out of that first line," Setterholm said. "Last year Loose and Juntunen were on a line with Kyle Reinarts and they had a lot of success. So we are trying to rekindle that line. It is good to see that line have success."

Juntunen got his hat trick just under five minutes into the third period for a 6-0 lead that put running time into effect.

"That was our game plan," Setterholm said. "When I talked to the team before the game, I told them that we need to dump as many pucks as we can on the net and go hard. He [Villemueve] has a hard time with rebounds. We put a lot of pucks on their net and kept them off of Burgau."

The Eagles now ready themselves for a much tougher game Thursday with Litchfield.

"This is a huge game for us for the section," Setterholm said. "We have them at home so hopefully we can take advantage of the home ice."

New Ulm ices Fairmont Area

Jason Wilcox – Fairmont Sentinel Sports Writer
POSTED: January 6, 2010

Note the hockey box score at end of this article.

FAIRMONT - Sophomore center Brody Peterson scored two first-period goals as the New Ulm Eagle boys hockey squad pocketed a win Tuesday night at Martin County Arena.

Peterson converted on back-to-back scores, later adding a second-period assist, as the Eagles stayed unbeaten in the South Central Conference action with a 10-0 decision over Fairmont Area in Fairmont.

The Eagles scored seven first-period goals, including three on the power play, and never looked back.

"We (coaches) challenged the team to improve in the second and third. ... New Ulm came out strong and we came out flat in the first," said Cardinal head coach Bryan Wilken.

Aaron Pfaff scored at 14:47 of the first by slapping home the puck from the slot past the low glove side of Cardinal goalie Ryan Rivers via a Ryan Portner assist.

Tyler Traulich then scored on the power play at 12:41 from Kaleb Juntunen as Juntunen's original shot from the right circle was redirected by Traulich for the score.

Mitch Turbes then chipped home an unassisted second effort rebound at 11:52, before Zach Fischer scored the first of his two goals.

Fischer came up with an unassisted backhand in front at 7:23, before Peterson scored his first goal on the power play at 5:02. Peterson rifled the puck into the back of the net quickly from close range from Turbes, before he scored again at 1:49.

Peterson's second goal came via a long pass from Turbes in his own zone, finding Peterson coming up the middle of the ice and he scored high past Rivers for the 6-0 lead at 1:49.

Fischer tallied his second goal of the period, on the power play from Bryan Kehren and Zach Munce with 37 seconds to play.

The Eagles lone second period score came from Shane Traulich via feeds from Peterson and Adam Loose at 11:25. Traulich's one-timer from the left circle found its way past Rivers' glove.

In the third frame, Jeff Banal scored from a difficult angle on a shot from the left circle that just found its way inside the right pipe for the unassisted score at 13:54.

Tim Kehren then closed out the scoring at 12:15 from Jason Rolloff on a high one-timer.

The Cardinals' three best chances to score came in the second period when Kolton Dilly, Kellen Fausch and Luke Sandersfeld were all denied by Eagle goalie Blake Burgau who netted the shutout with 12 saves.

Rivers made 29 saves for the Cardinals.

New Ulm netted a 6-0 win over Fairmont Area's junior varsity team. Cody Harder had 40 saves for the Cardinals and the hosts (1-4) had 13 shots on goal.



DEFLECTION — Fairmont Area goaltender Ryan Rivers deflects the puck away from the net during prep hockey action at Martin County Arena in Fairmont as teammates Richie Haycraft (20) and Ross Wilken (back) provide assistance on the play. Rivers made 29 saves against New Ulm on Tuesday night. (Photo by Chip Pearson)

BOX SCORE

New Ulm7 1 2 - 10

Fairmont 0 0 0 - 0

SCORING PLAYS

1st Period

NU - Aaron Pfaff (Ryan Portner), 14:47.

NU - Tyler Traulich (Kaleb Juntunen), 12:41, pp.

NU - Mitch Turbes (unassisted), 11:52.

NU - Zach Fischer (unassisted), 7:23.

NU - Brody Peterson (unassisted), 5:02, pp.

NU - Peterson (Turbes), 1:49.

NU - Fischer (Bryan Kehren, Zach Munce), 0:37, pp.

2nd Period

NU - Shane Traulich (Peterson, Adam Loose), 11:25.

3rd Period

NU - Jeff Banal (unassisted), 13:54.

NU - Tim Kehren (Jason Rolloff), 12:15.

Shots on goal: Fairmont Area 2-7-3-12; New Ulm 17-9-13-39.

Saves: Ryan Rivers (FA) 10-8-11-29. Blake Burgau (NU) 2-7-3-12.

Penalties: Fairmont Area 6 for 12 minutes; New Ulm 3 for 6 minutes.

Power plays: Fairmont Area 0-2; New Ulm 3-5.

Eagle boys win SCC hockey game

POSTED: January 6, 2010 New Ulm Journal

FAIRMONT - Sophomore center Brody Peterson scored two first period goals as the New Ulm Eagle boys hockey squad pocketed a win Tuesday in Martin County Arena.

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Rivers made 29 saves for the Cardinals.

Continue scrolling for other results

Eagles go 1-2 at tourney

POSTED: December 31, 2009

DULUTH - The New Ulm boys hockey team went 1-2 at the Duluth Marshall Hilltopper Tournament over the week.

On Monday, the Eagles fell to Appleton, Wis. 8-1. Adam Loose scored the goal and Blake Burgau had 26 saves. Tuesday they beat Proctor 2-1. Brody Peterson and Kaleb Juntunen had the goals. Burgau had 27 saves.

New Ulm ended the tournament with a 6-3 loss to Duluth Marshall Wednesday. Juntunen, Peterson and Aaron Pfaff each had a goal. Burgau had 34 saves in goal.

New Ulm boys knock off Hutch in overtime

PUBLISHED Wednesday, Dec. 23, 2009 by New Ulm Journal (not posted on Journal website)

HUTCHINSON – New Ulm defeated Hutchinson 3-2 in overtime Tuesday in non-conference boys' hockey.

Zach Munce scored two goals for New Ulm. Zach Fischer had two assists. Brody Peterson also scored a goal. Goalie Blake Burgau had 31 saves. *Re-typed by New Ulm Sports Central with minor alterations.*

Stumbling out of the gate

Posted: Thursday, December 17, 2009 11:27 pm WASECA COUNTY NEWS

By ZACH HACKER
Sports Editor

WASECA — Slow starts have been haunting the Waseca boys hockey team all season.

A 3-0 hole against Albert Lea resulted in a 4-3 overtime loss. The Jays trailed 2-1 Tuesday night before scoring two in the third to escape with a 3-2 win over Fairmont.

Thursday night was no different for the Jays as they fell behind 5-0 en route to a 8-3 South Central Conference loss to New Ulm.

“Again, off to a bad start,” said Waseca coach Chris Prescott. “That period killed us. The first period’s been killing us all year. We’ve just got to find something that gets us pumped up and ready to go in the first period.”

New Ulm was able to take the 5-0 advantage after getting off the first 14 shots on goal. The Eagles scored their fifth on that 14th shot on goal. From that point forward, the Jays were able to out-shoot their opponents 35-25 and the score was even at 3-3.

“We changed things up a little bit,” Prescott said. “They came at us hard. We changed out the break out and it started working for us. We started getting some pressure on them. I think by the third period the shots were pretty darn close. We caught right up to them. We played hard.”

Waseca put its first dent in the home side of the scoreboard 14:49 into the first period. Blake Malecha got the rebound and slipped it past the New Ulm goalie to set the score at 5-1 in favor of the visitors with one period in the books.

The Bluejays came out looking much stronger in the second period and evened New Ulm’s total of eight shots on goal



County News/Zach Hacker
Waseca's Blake Malecha fights off a pair of New Ulm defenders to control the puck in the

in the frame. Unfortunately, the Eagles were able to add two goals late in the period to extend their lead to 7-1.

Pat O'Neil got Waseca back in the scoring mix in the waning seconds of the period. He went top shelf for the Bluejays' second goal of the contest to make the score 7-2 after two.

That momentum shifted over into the third. The Jays' third goal came just 1:31 into the final frame when Malecha took the center pass from Brad McIntosh and knocked it in back-handed for the Waseca score.

New Ulm added one more late to make the score 8-3. The Eagles edged the Jays in shots at 39-35.

Prescott thought the game could have been a different story had the first half gone better, but the Jays' trend of starting slow is something that needs to be fixed.

"There's no excuses for it," he said. "We just have to be ready. You can't go back on a game. We need to get these guys trained to be ready in the first period and be ready to go. That's the bottom line. There's nothing we can do different. We just have to get it in their heads that we've got to go out there and play hard right away."

The Jays will have a chance to get back in the win column at 5 p.m. Saturday when they take on Worthington on the road.

Eagles boys win SCC battle with Waseca

POSTED: December 18, 2009 New Ulm Journal

New Ulm 8, Waseca 3

WASECA - The New Ulm boys hockey team picked up a win on Thursday as the Eagles beat Waseca 8-3 in a South Central Conference game.

Zach Fischer and Brody Peterson each scored two points for New Ulm. Jeff Banal, Mitch Turbes, Kaleb Juntunen, and Jason Rolloff all scored goals and added to the New Ulm win.

Goalie Blake Burgau stopped 35 shots.

Eagle boys fall to Marshall

By Jim Bastian, Journal Sports Writer

POSTED: December 11, 2009

NEW ULM - Sometimes, statistics do not tell the true story.

Thursday night, the New Ulm Eagle boy's hockey more than doubled holding a commanding 37-16 advantage over the Tigers.

But Marshall goalie Mitch Champion stopped 35 of New Ulm's shots as the Tigers jumped to a 3-0 lead and hung on to top the Eagles 3-2 in non-conference hockey.

Shane Kunde scored a pair of goals with Aaron Antony adding a goal.

Adam Loose and Zach Hoffmann netted the Eagle scores.

Staff photo by Steve Muscatello

New Ulm's Aaron Pfaff (right) takes a shot on goal as Marshall's Evan VanderZiel defends on the play during the first period Thursday at the New Ulm Civic Center. For more photos of this event, go to <http://cu.nujournal.com>

For New Ulm coach Erik Setterholm, getting behind by three goals - two of them from Marshall power plays - was not what he drew up before the game.

"That was not in the game plan," he said. "I do not care who you play, you cannot give a team a couple goal lead. It is hard to come back."

But the Tigers did that with a first period power play goal.

With the Eagles' Jeff Banal in the penalty box, Kunde got the Tigers on the board. After New Ulm goalie Blake Burgau (16 saves in the game) initially stopped a Brian Willett shot, Kunde was there to put the rebound by Burgau at the 2:33 mark

While the Tigers were able to capitalize on their power play in the first period, the Eagles failed on their two man advantages in the opening period.

Marshall added two more goals in the second period - the first on a power play goal from Antony at the 2:53 mark when he was able to slide the puck by Burgau on a rebound for a 2-0 lead before Kunde earned his second goal of the night when he scored an unassisted goal at the 7:13 mark after a scramble in front of the New Ulm net.

But the Eagles responded with their first goal of the night at the 8:08 mark on Loose's goal and then cut the lead to 3-2 off of a power play score courtesy of Hoffmann at the 11:50 mark.

Despite out-shooting the Tigers 29-14 through the first two periods, the Eagles trailed by a goal.

Setterholm said that it was not a case of the Eagles coming out flat in the game but rather something else.

"We have some team issues going on right now," he said. "That is what happens when you have a lot of guys playing me-me-me hockey or I-I-I hockey. That does not work. You do not score any goals that way.

"We have guys trying to do things themselves and that does not happen," Setterholm said about his team that has recorded just one win thus far this season.

New Ulm also failed to take advantage of seven power plays that it had in the game, scoring on just one of them.

The bulk of the credit for that goes to Tiger goalie Mitch Champion who made several great saves including halting point-blank shots from Zach Fischer and Zach Munce in the third period.

Champion was also able to weather a 6-on-4 New Ulm advantage with less than a minute left in the game. With Antony in the penalty box with just 37 seconds left in the game, New Ulm pulled Burgau for an extra attacker but failed to score.

"We made the most of a power play - we hit a couple of pipes also," Setterholm said. "We had our shots but a lot of those shots were from one guy and not a pass. You have to make [Champion] move. You don't make him move, he will stop most of them."



Burgau also played well for the Eagles in net stopping a rare penalty shot in the third period.

Setterholm knows that the team needs to change their mindset quickly as they have a tough road game at Faribault on Saturday.

"We still have our leading scorer sitting on the bench but we have a couple of players who think that they are the leading scorer but they are not. Until they figure it out, this is what we are going to get."

The New Ulm JV won 4-1.

MARSHALL... 1-2-0 – 3

NEW ULM 0-2-0 – 2

FIRST PERIOD: M - Shane Kunde (Willett, Haukom) 2:33 PP.

SECOND PERIOD: M - Aaron Antony (Deutz, #Martz) 2:53 PP. M-Kunde (unassisted), NU - Adam Loose (Hoffmann, O'Connor) 8:08. NU - Zach Hoffmann (O'Connor) 11:50.

REPRINTED from Jim Bastian Column, New Ulm Journal, Saturday, Dec. 6, 2009

EAGLE BOY'S HOCKEY GETS ROAD WIN: The New Ulm Eagle boy's hockey team saw three players return for their road game with LeSueur-Henderson/St. Peter as the Eagles downed the Bulldogs 6-3.

"We did not change our lines," said coach Erik Setterholm with the return of the players. "We just added a line and that gave everyone a little rest."

New Ulm played with just 10 skaters in a 1-0 loss to New Prague last week.

Setterholm said that it is tough to win on the road.

"We play on a rink like we play at home and then we go and play on a rink that is cold and dark," he said. "It is not very nice."

Setterholm said there were only two or three penalties whistled on the Eagles which had him happy.

"It was good," he said. "We did an amazing job last year of staying out of the penalty box."

The Eagles have some big games coming up next with contests at Delano and Litchfield before returning home for a Thursday game with Marshall and then a road trip to Faribault.

"Faribault is the favorite to go to state in Section 1A," Setterholm said. "That game will be a big-time measuring stick for us. The game with Delano is also one where we can put our name on the map. They have been ranked the last two years."

Then the Eagles have a game in Litchfield.

"That is going to be tough," he said. "Then we have Marshall at home on Thursday and they are never easy. They bring a pretty good team."

Marshall is averaging seven goals a game so far.

"We have a team that can also score a lot of goals in a game." Setterholm said.

The loss of Kyle Reinarts from last year's team is affecting the play of the Eagles' special teams this year.

"He ran our power play," Setterholm said. "He did a good job with that and put a lot of pucks on net and we have some kids that may have the skill that he had but we need to have them step up and be the leader on that power play because I think that about half of Kyle's goals last year came off of the power play."

New Ulm Stops Bulldogs, 6-3

POSTED: December 4, 2009 New Ulm Journal

LE SUEUR - The New Ulm boys hockey team picked up its first win of the season as the Eagles defeated LeSueur-Henderson/St. Peter 6-3 in South Central Conference play.

Brody Peterson and Aaron Pfaff each had two goals. Zach Munce and Dylan Schreckenberg had the other goals for New Ulm.

Blake Burgau had 15 saves in goal.

2009-2010 New Ulm Eagles Boys' Hockey Season in Review



New Prague Skates Past New Ulm

POSTED: December 2, 2009

By Jim Bastian, Journal Sports Writer

NEW ULM - If there is such a thing as a moral victory in your first game of the season, the New Ulm Eagle boy's hockey team had one Tuesday night.

New Ulm had just 10 skaters and was missing its top two returning scorers, and the Eagles fell 3-1 to New Prague in non-conference play.

Junior goaltender Blake Burgau stopped 28 of 31 Trojan shots while Zach Munce scored the lone New Ulm goal on an assist from Aaron Pfaff.

New Prague goalie Joe Morris recorded 28 saves in the game.

Eagle coach Erik Setterholm had nothing but praise for his team's effort in the game.

"The only thing that I can say is that was one heck of an effort by the 10 skaters that we had and our goaltender that we had on the ice tonight," he said. "They played their hearts out tonight and the game was winnable. Our team played well - all of them."

New Prague, expected to finish near the top of the Missota Conference this season, turned an Eagle turnover in their own end into a 1-0 lead when Chris Meyer put a rebound by Burgau.

The Trojans added two goals in the second period for a 3-0 lead going into the final period.

"We wanted to win that third period," Setterholm said. "We played a lot of young guys tonight and they are going to make mistakes. But we said after that second period that we wanted to win that [third] period. We won that period 1-0."

The goal came on a scramble in front of the Trojan net and came when Munce and Pfaff teamed up for the initial goal of the season.

While the Eagles won that final period, they faced a task of playing shorthanded with a lot of inexperienced players on the ice that forced Setterholm to mix-and-match during the game.

"I could not match any of our lines up and our power play, we could never have a power play unit," he said. "Our power play struggled tonight -we had chances [the Eagles were 0-for-5 on the power play and did not get a shot on goal when they had a 5-on-3 advantage for just under a minute]."

He was happy with his team's discipline in the game as they were only whistled for one penalty.

"That is great and something that we want to keep doing for the rest of the season," Setterholm said.

And Burgau played a solid game in the nets. He stopped a 2-0 New Prague rush in the second period.

"He made some nice saves in the game," Setterholm said. "And he is going to be expected to do that this season and he expects himself to do that as well. He knew that he had to come up big tonight because he was going to face some rubber."

The loss may well be a lesson in how good the Eagles can be when they get back their full complement of players.

"Most of the skaters that we had on the ice tonight have not played varsity hockey at all," Setterholm said. "Down the road at the end of the year, we are going to have skaters that will have had some pretty extensive ice time."

The Eagle JV lost 7-0 to New Prague.

Eagles looking to finally make it to state tourney

By Jim Bastian — Journal Sports Writer

POSTED: November 29, 2009



NEW ULM -The New Ulm boy's hockey team hopes that they can shed the "Groundhog Day" syndrome that has followed them for the past three seasons.

In the movie "Groundhog Day", the same things keep happening over and over to a person.

For the New Ulm hockey team, it has been three straight trips to the Section 3A finals and three straight losses in those games.

Eagles' head coach Erik Setterholm expects this year's team to be strong again.

"I expect this team to be as good as last year's 22-5-1 team by the end of the season," he said. "We are a lot younger than last year's team and we have some pretty skilled players. It is just a matter of them growing up and some of the juniors to play more like seniors."

One of the juniors who will be counted on heavily is goaltender Blake Burgau.

"We have a lot of sophomores who can step up and play well and we have five or six defensemen that can help us," said Burgau, who posted a 8-3-1 record last season along with a 1.87 goals against average. "And the players who are back from last year will be good again."

Gone is leading scorer Kyle Reinarts but back are two of his first-line teammates in Kaleb Juntunen (23 goals, 20 assists) and Adam Loose (18 goals along with 19 assists).

Senior defenseman Zach Fischer (16 goals and 12 assists) is also back.

"We do not know right now who is going to replace Kyle," Setterholm said. "That is going to be hard to do."

Burgau felt that the early question mark for the Eagles will be the defense.

"But that is usually the question early in the season," he said. "That will work out and we will be fine."

He also feels that the one thing that the Eagles need to work on is finishing games.

"We need to play all three periods in order to win the games," he said. "We have players who can score."

But Burgau also knows that the Eagles' season will ultimately be defined by how they do in the postseason having that three-game losing streak in sectional finals hanging over their heads.

"It is in the back of our minds," he said. "But I think that this team has the ability to get there and win."

Setterholm looks for his team along with Hutchinson, Litchfield and Redwood Valley to be fighting for Section 3A honors.