

William Tennent rallies to eliminate Pennsbury

By Bill McFarland, correspondent | Posted: Tuesday, March 1, 2016 11:45 pm

WARMINSTER — It took a two-point deficit, a lineup change and a tongue lashing before William Tennent finally got its act together.

Trailing by two goals just nine minutes into the game, Panthers coach Nick D'Aurizio called a timeout, replaced starting goalie Bryan Davis with Eric Lineman and yelled at his players.

Second-seeded Tennent responded by scoring five unanswered goals to claim a 5-2 victory over 12th-seed Pennsbury on Tuesday night in a first-round game in the Class AA division of the Flyers Cup at Bucks County Ice Sports Center.

The Panthers advanced to face the winner of Wednesday's game between fourth-seeded Ridley and 13th-seeded Haverford on Friday, 8:45 p.m., at the Ice Works in Aston.

"Bad starts have plagued us all year, and it happened again tonight," D'Aurizio said. "We only had one shot (on the goal) in the first nine minutes. I had to pull the goalie. I hated to do it, but you have to do it in that situation. It wasn't Bryan Davis' fault. But I had to wake up the team because I did not like what I was watching."

And what did the coach say to the team that could be printed?

"I reminded the seniors that it could be their last game and that they didn't want to go out the way we were playing," D'Aurizio said. "I challenged them, and I think we got 11 shots in the last eight or nine minutes (in the first period). I got them back on their heels. I'm very happy with the way that they came back."

The Panthers outshot the Falcons by a 2-1 margin through most of the game.

Pennsbury got on the board first when Jake Sieger scored one minute into the clash. Teammate Ryan Michael scored eight minutes later to give the Falcons a 2-0 lead.

"That was the plan from the beginning," said Pennsbury coach Joe Deery, about jumping off to an early lead and forcing Tennent to play from behind.

Charlie Feeney and Bobby Markus scored in the second period as the Panthers evened the score at 2



William Tennent's Brett Goldstein controls the puck as Pennsbury's John Bezilla defends Tuesday, March 1, 2016, during the "2016" Flyers Cup Championships at the Bucks County Ice Sports Center, in Warminster. The Panthers went on to win the game 5-2.

heading into the last period. Tennent outshot Pennsbury 17-8 in that stanza and had a 28-14 overall advantage in shots on goal after two periods.

Penalties hurt the Falcons in the third period. Actually, both sides sent lots of players to the box in the third period — as many as five players were sitting on at least one occasion — but the Panthers took advantage of the power plays in that final frame.

“We’ve been a very good power-play team all year,” D’Aurizio said. “If we can stay out of the box more than the other team, we can come out on top. I think that the referees did a good job. They let the kids play a little, but when things got out of control (toward the end), they called the right penalties.”

“Penalties have killed us all year,” Deery said. “We can’t play a team as good as (Tennent), be even at 2-2 and then get penalties. I think they had two five-on-threes.”

One of them was with 9:25 left in the game. Sieger and Anthony Bench were in the box for the Falcons when Brett Goldstein scored the go-ahead goal for Tennent.

One minute later, Jack McKeever scored an insurance goal, as Tennent took a 4-2 lead to pretty much put the game on ice. Tim McMonogale scored the last goal with 45 seconds left.

Considering the disadvantage in the shots on goal (41-19), Pennsbury goalkeeper Trevor Schadler collected 36 saves.

“That was the best game that I’ve seen (Schadler) play all year,” D’Aurizio said. “We had breakaways all night — Alec Dugan had at least two of them — but (Schadler) stopped them. He kept (Pennsbury) in the game.”

“(Schadler) played one of his better games of the year,” Deery said. “He doesn’t deserve to go out like this. I’m very proud of him.”