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Barlow's scoring shifts into high gear

by JESSE FRANK

A couple of games seemed more like demonstrations of offensive prowess by the Joel Barlow High boys varsity soccer team last week.

In what turned out to be their two highest tallies of the season, the Falcons outscored the competition 16-0. Defensively they did not fare badly either, not surrendering a single goal.

The Falcons followed up an 8-0 win against New Fairfield on Thursday, Sept. 27, with an 8-0 pounding of Stratford on Saturday to improve to 4-1-2 on the season.

When Barlow took the field against New Fairfield it looked to build on momentum from its win earlier in the week against Weston. This did not seem to be a problem as the Falcons managed six first-half goals.

Senior Dylan Stone continued his fantastic season by scoring four of them outright and getting three assists in the win. Senior and fellow co-captain Scott St. Cyr continued to defend his All-New England stature as he was credited with one goal and five assists.

"We are starting to get good opportunities and more people forward," said St. Cyr. "The offense is really starting to click."

The Falcons picked up right where they left off when they took on Stratford. A cross by St. Cyr allowed junior Alex Pelzar to put the Falcons ahead only 58 seconds into the game.

Junior Mike Flynn continued his fine play as he contributed two goals in Barlow's offensive explosion. Sophomore Dan Goldman, who has shown steady improvement as the season has progressed, also scored his first two goals of the season.

The finale to a dominant first half occurred with 16 seconds left as Barlow showed its depth when freshman Sean Basak-Smith made it 7-0. St. Cyr added a goal in the second half to make the final 8-0.

In the game Stone had four assists and a goal, and St. Cyr had five assists and a goal. The latter is credited with 13 assists in the last three games, a testament to his hard work on the field.

Coach Paul Winstanley was pleased with the team's recent development after the game.

"The last few games have been solid team efforts," he noted. "We wanted to get the team into the attacking half of the field to get more chances. We created great efforts this way, but still have a ways to go."

Lost in the offensive dominance was the play of goalie Cody Hickok and the Barlow defense. Adding two more shutouts to his credit, he is one away from tying the all-time record for a Barlow keeper.

Senior James Wayne said he feels the team has been playing well as a unit.

"It feels good to put some in the back of the net, and we have been playing good team soccer," said Wayne. "We have some dangerous tests in the future and need to stay focused."

Barlow's next home game is Friday at 6 p.m. against Immaculate.

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