

Barons Stung By Philadelphia

PHILADELPHIA (UPI) — After Friday, the Cleveland Barons might suggest to NHL officials that the Philadelphia Flyers be renamed the bees or the mosquitoes.

Stinging the Barons at every opportunity and swarming all over goalie Gary Edwards, the Flyers got two goals and an assist from Bobby Clarke to defeat Cleveland, 7-2, and regain first place in the Patrick Division.

The Flyers, who lead the New York Islanders by one point with two games in hand, were coming off a lachrymose 7-1 loss to Detroit Wednesday and quickly went to work erasing that memory in the unusual Friday matinee.

"In Detroit, we weren't that intense and they just outmuscled us in the corner," said center Orest Kindrachuk, who contributed three assists. "When you lose like that, you've got to bounce back right away."

And bounce they did, hitting the Barons at every opportunity when the visitors had the puck. On offense, the Flyers made a habit of setting up in front of Edwards, who had to face 41 shots in the first two periods.

The Flyers started quickly with three goals. Clarke opened the scoring at 25 seconds on a tip-in that went off Edwards' right shoulder. Reggie Leach then tipped in a shot from the point by Kevin McCarthy and Barry Dean scored on a scramble from in front.

Those close range goals and the Flyers offense got Edwards so frustrated in the second period that he stung back — whacking Kindrachuk and drawing a minor penalty.

"It's a cumulative thing that's been happening for about six years, not just with Kindrachuk but with all of them," Edwards said afterward. "Clarke, (Gary) Dornhoefer and some other Flyers, they always come in on you and push you around."

The first period ended with a free-for-all that resulted in 96 penalty minutes and the ejection of four defensemen — Philadelphia's Rick LaPointe and Andre DuPont and Cleveland's Mike Christie and Randy Holt.

Cleveland Coach Jack Evans wasn't as angry over the fights as he was over the goals.

"Those goals were rather soft — I didn't think much of them," Evans said. "Clarke's goal shouldn't have been allowed. He had the stick over his head."

Tom Bladen and Don Saleski added second period goals while Clarke and Bob Dailey scored in the final period. Dave Gardner scored a first period goal and Rick Hampton tallied the final Cleveland score.

"We were challenging them pretty good," Flyers Coach Fred Shero said. "We were bumping back whenever we had to. Bernie (Parent) was sharp when he had to be and saved some goals."

In a rare Friday matinee performance, a veritable "Chorus Line" of Philadelphia Flyers took turns porading past beleaguered Cleveland goalie Gary Edwards.

Swarming at every opportunity, the Flyers got two goals and an assist from Bobby Clarke to maul the Barons, 7-2, and regain first place in the Patrick Division.

The Flyers were coming off a lachrymose 7-1 loss to Detroit Wednesday and quickly went to work erasing that bitter memory by firing 41 shots at Edwards in the first two periods alone.

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and Barry Dean scored on a scramble from in front.

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