

CLASS A

MAHTOMEDI ZEPHYRS

Program info

Conference: Classic Suburban
 Section: 4A
 Record: 22-4-2
 State trips: 1992, 94, 97, 98, 2001, 09
 Coach: Jeff Poeschl
 Assistants: Jeff Mars, Craig Mickleson, Tom Strelow, Russ Becker

Top players

Scorers	G	A	Pts
Charlie Adams	19	34	53
Ben Marshall	21	29	50
Brandon Zurn	26	23	49
Brian Houdek	13	23	36
Ben Holker	13	10	23

Goalies	W-L-T	GA	SV
Brad Wohlers	17-4-1	2.62	.886

Full roster

#	Name	Gr	Pos
1	Sawyer Marshall	9	G
3	Charlie Adams	11	F
4	Mike McDonald	12	D
5	David Rose	12	D
6	Jordan Dittberner	11	D
7	Tanner Jordan	9	F
8	Aaron Bartholomew	11	F
9	Josh Erickson	11	D
10	Ryan Gregory	11	F
11	Conner Mars	10	F
14	Ben Marshall	10	D
15	Matt Moberg	10	D
16	Ben Holker	12	F
17	Brian Houdek	12	F
18	Aaron Browne	12	F
19	Blake Martin	11	D
20	Peter Gorman	11	D
21	Mike Rose	10	F
22	Brandon Zurn	11	F
29	Nick Montanari	12	F
30	Brad Wohlers	11	G
33	Tanner Marcotte	11	G

Road to the X

Section 4A quarterfinals, 2/27
 Mahtomedi 4, St. Paul A/MPA 0

Wohlers 24 saves

Section 4A semifinals, 3/3
 Mahtomedi 4, South St. Paul 1

Montanari 1 goal, 1 assist

Section 4A finals, 3/6
 Mahtomedi 4, St. Thomas A 1

Wohlers 48 saves

Zurn 2 goals

St. Thomas Academy had been to four straight state tournaments, winning two titles in that stretch and were favored to get back again out of Section 4A, with only teams they'd already beaten standing in the way.

Not so fast.

The Mahtomedi Zephyrs weren't ready to let the Cadets just walk their way into the X. Behind an amazing 48-save effort from junior goalie Brad Wohlers, the Zephyrs upset STA in the Section 4A finals, 4-1, sending Mahtomedi to state.

The Cadets had already beaten and tied Mahtomedi during the regular season, as both play in the tough Classic Suburban (along with Hill-Murray, South St. Paul and others). But they couldn't finish off the sweep over the plucky Zephyrs.

At the beginning of the season,



Photo by Ben Stewart

Ben Marshall (14) is a dual threat on the blue line as just a sophomore for Mahtomedi.



Photo by Ben Stewart

Junior goalie Brad Wohlers (30) really came on in the section tournament.

Zephyrs' coach Jeff Poeschl said there were three keys to his team's season: hard work, character and fun. Odds are the first two led to the latter.

Mahtomedi's tournament run may have been unexpected, as the anchors of the team are generally underclassmen. Wohlers, who came on in the section playoffs, is just a junior, as is leading scorers Charle Adams (19-34-53) and Brandon Zurn (26-23-49). Stellar

offensive defenseman Ben Marshall (21-29-50) is just a sophomore.

Marshall recently committed to the University of Minnesota and has played plenty of top-level hockey in Minnesota and USA select teams. Poeschl wasn't afraid to predict that his super soph will one day be an NHL draft pick. He has great end-to-end speed and vision.

There are several key senior contributors, as well, including big, physical defenseman Mike McDonald and forwards Ben Holker, Brian Housek and Nick Montanari.

Mahtomedi's late surge didn't earn it a topp-four seed, but they are likely a team no one wants to see. ■



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