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Haverhill eliminates boys soccer team

By Stephen Tobey

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ACTON, MASS. -

The Acton-Boxborough boys soccer team's season ended with a 2-0 loss to Haverhill in an MIAA Division 1 North quarterfinal match on Tuesday.

After a scoreless first half, Haverhill pressured the Colonials' net in the early moments of the second half. With 25:10 remaining, shortly after two of the Hillies' shots hit the posts, Peter Maranto found the back of the net to put Haverhill in the lead.

Four minutes later, Stallone Majuru gave the Hillies a two-goal lead.

"We knew it would be a tough game against a great team," said Haverhill coach John Coppola, whose team will take a 15-3-2 record into the semifinals. "A-B has a great program and it's a very well-coached, disciplined team."

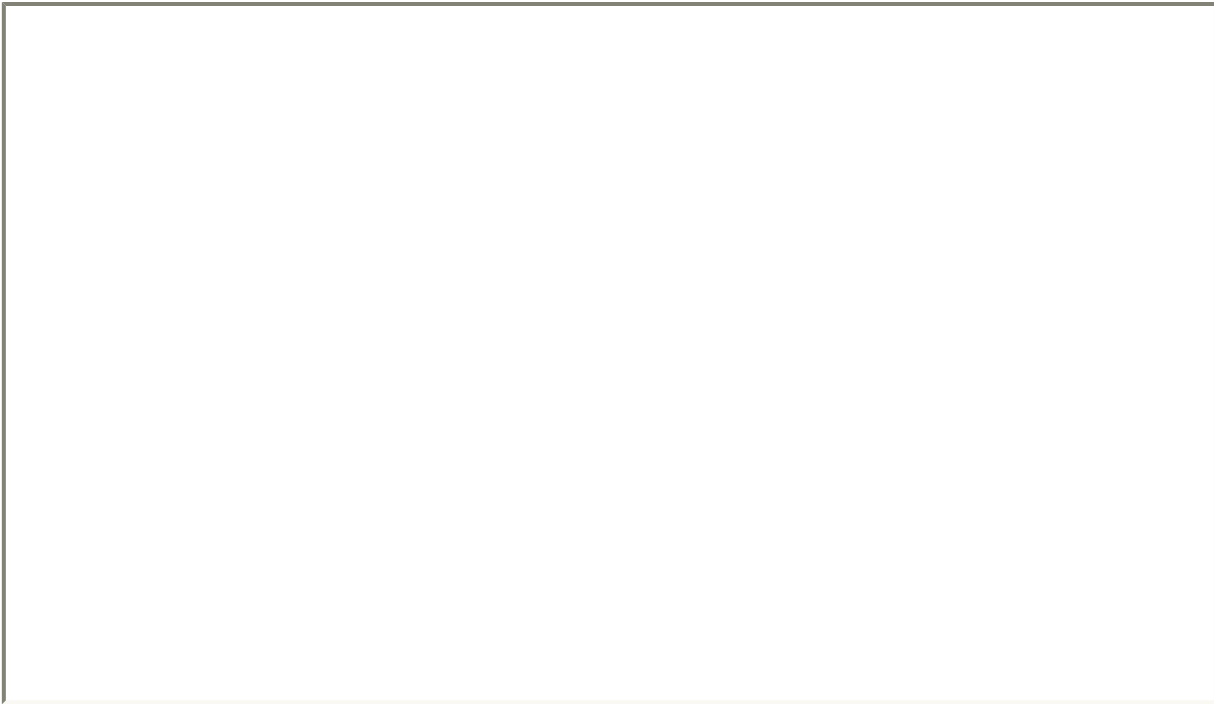
A-B (12-2-6) had two solid chances in the final 20 minutes, but Jay Hayward had a direct kick saved and with 11 remaining Chris Gayowski's shot to the lower left corner was also saved.

"They were a strong team," said A-B coach David Baumritter. "They were first to the ball. They had two good defensive players. It was a little bit of an off night for us, but I'm not sure how much of that was because of them."

This was the second straight season A-B reached the sectional quarterfinals. Last year, A-B lost to Lexington.

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