Lions are tamed

THERE was little for Lee Valley Lions to cheer after they slipped to a couple of defeats in their weekend double-header against Bracknell Hornets.

On Saturday the Lions despite holding home territory went down 6-2 in the end to the Hornets.

The writing looked on the cards early on as Bracknell opened up the Lions' defence from the start.

Ashley Skinns opened the scoring for the visitors on 12:45, before simple tap-ins from Lee Hardy and Craig Tribe put the visitors 3-0 up after the first period.

The second session was the Lions' best as they won the period 1–0, thanks to a great goal from Michael Jacobs.

The third period however *belong*ed to Bracknell, scoring three unanswered goals before a late consolation from Scott Beeson gave a final score of 6-2, which is how the previous two encounters between the sides had finished.

Despite breaking that sequence, things didn't get much better for the Lions

MAS-TER : Andrzej Maslak who scored on Saturday and was man of the match on Sunday
(Picture: Julianne Bonner)

the following night as they went down 9-5.

It did not start well for Lee Valley as James Hatfull was sent to the sin bin at 01:30 for hooking and just 21 seconds later Bracknell scored their first powerplay goal.

The lead rose to 2-0 at 03:39 after errors from Hatfull and

Justin Grant resulted in an own goal that was credited to Bracknell's high-scoring Craig Tribe.

The Lions soon put the mistake behind them and hit back with goals from Ben Williams and Stas Profokiev brought them back to 2-2.

Bracknell's captain James Galazzi was due to receive two minutes for slashing when Lee Valley's Andrzej Maslak broke away, took the puck up the ice and slotted it neatly in the top corner to put the Lions 3-2 ahead.

Both sides continued to exchange scores after that, with Jon Anderson levelling things up for the hosts before Ben Williams put the east Londoners back in front.

The advantage didn't last long though as first Craig Tribe made it 4-4, before further goals from Chris Beauclerk, Tribe, Hardy and Anderson put Bracknell in the box-seat at 8-4.

Profokiev scored for the Lions at 58:01 on a delayed penalty, but it was too little too late as the hosts rounded off the scoring with a goal from Tony Barclay.