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TRI-COUNTY CHAMPS: Acton's Nellis Construction Novice I Sabres won the championship with a 5-0 victory over Erin/Hillsburgh on Saturday in Acton: Front row, left to right: Greg Henry, Shaun Harkley, Braden Artem, Chris Richard, Ryan O'Connell and Garrett Williams. Middle row: Andrew Marcoux, Craig Kirkwood, Daniel Woolford, Daniel Kearns and Anthony Kri. Back row: Edgar Williams (assistant coach), Mike Marcoux, Brad Ethier, Brad Lane, Kyle Fellows, Josh Marcoux (assistant coach), Matt Marcoux (trainer), John Kirkwood (manager). Missing is James Burgie.

Novice I Sabres Tri-County champs

By **FRANCES NIBLOCK**
 The New Tanner

Acton Nellis Construction Novice Sabre I goalie Spencer Veness had a shutout against Erin/Hillsburgh as his team took the OMHA Tri-County Harrison division championship with a 5-0 win on Saturday in Acton to take

the series 2 games to 1. The Sabres outshot and outskated Erin/Hillsburgh and escaped their home game-losing curse. After a scoreless first period Anthony Kri scored the first of his two goals, with help from Braden Artem to put Acton on the scoreboard. Andrew Marcoux made it 2-

0 off a Craig Kirkwood pass. Kri scored again with help from Artem and Shaun Harkley to make it 3-0. Daniel Kerns and Veness set up Garrett Williams who made it 4-0 and Marcoux tipped one in to make it 5-0. "It took us all year to play a game that's perfect and they

played it when they needed to without their head coach on the bench," a jubilant head coach Mike Marcoux said after the game, having watched the game from the end zone. Marcoux and trainer/son Matt Marcoux were suspended following the previous game, but an

appeal overturned the trainer's suspension. Marcoux said he and the trainer were doing nothing more than "inspiring the kids" during the away game in Erin when he was thrown off the bench. Acton dropped the first playoff game 2-1 in Acton. Craig Kirkwood had the Sa-

br'es' lone goal. Sabres' goalie James Burgie blanked Erin/Hillsburgh 4-0 in game 2 with goals from Andrew Marcoux, Greg Henry, Garrett Williams and Braden Artem. Acton advanced to the Tri County final with a perfect 6-0 record.

Novice II Sabres champs too

Jordan Kuenzig's goal off a Riley Graydon pass with 1:40 left in the game clinched the OHMA Tri-County Doherty division championship for the Acton Andy's Restaurant Novice II Sabres on Monday night in Grand Valley. Acton won the game 3-2 to take the best-of-five series three games to two. Grand Valley scored two goals and held Acton scoreless in the first period but the Sabres came back in the second with an unassisted goal from

Sean Nellis to put the Sabres on the scoreboard. John Traversa set up Geoff Baklarz to tie it 2-2 at the end of the second period. Acton played short-handed with just four minutes left in the game after receiving two, 2-minute penalties. The team was penalized for having too many men on the ice when they thought the winning shot had gone in and swarmed onto the ice. Acton was also handed a bench penalty after the referee

took exception to the coach's loud protest of the first penalty. Back at full strength and with less than two minutes left in regular play, Kuenzig scored the winning goal. Michael Krasnay's hat trick and goalie Darren Pezzack's quick reflexes helped to keep the Sabres' championship playoff hopes alive in game five in Acton on Saturday. Acton needed the 6-2 win to tie Grand Valley at two games each with one tie in the

playoffs. After a scoreless first period Grand Valley popped two quick goals in the top of the second. Graydon and Traversa set up Wade Kuiken-Rogers who made it 2-1 and seconds later Krasnay scored with help from Geoff Malcolm to tie it 2-2. Baklarz scored off a Krasnay pass to put Acton in the lead and Krasnay scored two quick goals with help from Malcolm. Kuenzig tipped in a Matt Angel pass to close the game 6-2.

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