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Minor Atoms shellack Caledon club by 6-1

by Karen McCarthy

Acton Minor Atoms took control of their first OMHA playoff game against Caledon right from the start on Wednesday, Jan. 30, with two goals in the first period, and coasted to a big 6-1 win.

Dylan Creasey and Colton Burgan put the Acton club in the driver's seat with the first two goals, Riley McGilloway assisting on the Creasey goal and Burgan's marker unassisted.

Squeezed from semi-finals

by Karen McCarthy

Acton Minor Atoms made it to the semi-finals of a weekend tournament in North York by winning two of their first three games but were edged out of the medals by losing 4-3 to Barrie in semi-final overtime.

Acton's first game against North London on Friday was a 2-1 loss, Riley McGilloway scoring their lone goal. However, the team came back strong to post a 4-1 win over North York Saturday morning. McGilloway and Dylan Creasey each scored two goals in the victory with assists going to Matt Murray-MacMillan, Bradley Kri, McGilloway and Jessy Kuenzig.

Saturday afternoon was a must-win situation to make the semi-finals and the Acton club did just that by blanking Waterloo 4-0, finishing first in their group. Dirk Van Soelen evoked magic in goal to earn the shut-out. Brandyn McCarthy started off the scoring with help from Bradley Kri. Riley McGilloway bagged the second goal assisted

in the second period they didn't let up as McGilloway scored two goals, one on a powerplay assisted by Jessy Kuenzig, for a 4-0 lead.

The Acton club bagged two more markers in the third stanza, Burgan getting his second unassisted and Tyler Hillhouse bagged the sixth goal with help from McGilloway and Burgan.

Caledon got one back in the third but Acton came away with a big 6-1 win on home ice.

by McCarthy in the second period and Jessy Kuenzig and McCarthy each scored unassisted markers in the third to complete the scoring.

In the semi-final game against Barrie, a really exciting game to watch, both teams played their hearts out and Joss Warren played an excellent game in goal.

Acton started off the scoring in the first period with a goal by Brandyn McCarthy, assisted by Colton Burgan and Bradley Kri. But Barrie would also score and the period ended tied at one.

Barrie scored in the second period and they had the lead going into the third. Acton scored early in the third period to tie it up with a goal by Tyler Hillhouse from Dylan Creasey. Then about a minute later Dylan Creasey skated the puck down the ice and scored to put Acton ahead.

But with just over two seconds left in the game Barrie scored to force overtime. In overtime the play got down to one man a side with the face off in Acton's end. Barrie scored to advance to the finals.



PEEWEE POWER: The Nellis Construction Select Pee wee team won two of their three games at the 32nd Acton House League Hockey Pee wee tournament on the weekend, losing the championship in a 4-1 game with Oakville. The team includes, front from left: Spencer Veness, Michael Kellas, Clarke Murray, Patrick Eagan, Todd Ferreira and Cory Tennier. Middle: George Hunak, Alex Hunak, Sebastian Mena, Dylan McPhail, John Traversa, Jordan LaRose, Brian Many, Dean McKerracher. Back: Paul Chadwick, Dan Elgar, Jim Blair, Jason Douthright, Craig Kirkwood, David Garvie, John Kirkwood and Ted Saelzer. Absent: David Gardener. - Submitted photo

Acton Club in tourney finals

By FRANCES NIBLOCK
The New Tanner

Despite a slight case of hometown nerves and some BIG opponents, Acton's Nellis Construction Select hockey team did very well in the Acton House League Hockey Association's 32nd annual Pee wee tournament in Acton on the weekend.

After winning two games, the team dropped a 4-1 loss to Oakville's Fastfrate in the fast-paced championship on Sunday.

Coach Paul Chadwick said the team "did me proud," in all three of their games, especially the final with Fastfrate, a big, fast, heavy-hitting team.

"Our guys did an outstanding job rising to a high level of play," Chadwick said on Monday.

"I think we kind of went in there - the coaches knew the size of the Oakville team - and we felt we might be facing an uphill battle, but we didn't really let the guys know that," he said.

Chadwick said in the tournament opener on Friday against the Milton Winterhawks, a nervous Acton squad came out a little slow but then picked up the pace for a 4-1 win.

Acton drew first blood in the opener with a power-play goal, unassisted, from David Garvie.

Team captain Dylan McPhail scored with help from David Gardener to give Acton a 2-0 lead and then Craig Kirkwood made it 3-0, with help by Michael Kellas

and John Traversa.

Milton got on the scoreboard in the final minutes of the third period, but then Acton's Jordan LaRose, chosen game MVP, scored on a Kirkwood pass for the 4-1 win.

In game two, a 4-2 win over the Grimsby Grizzlies, it was clear who ever scored the third goal in the game was going to be the winner.

McPhail opened the scoring with help from Garvie in the first period and jumped to a second period 2-0 lead with a goal from Daniel Elgar, assisted by Garvie who was

named game MVP.

Milton scored two goals in just under two minutes to tie it up. Acton's Kirkwood made it 3-1 with help from Brian Many and then Gardener scored, assisted by Elgar for the win.

Chadwick said Acton was outhit, but not outskated, in the championship final against Oakville Fastfrate.

"They knew they were going to get hit and be knocked over, but they still went after them," Chadwick said, proud that none of his team backed down.

Oakville jumped ahead with two goals in the second period and two in the third - one on an empty net - before Acton's LaRose scored with help from Elgar to give Oakville the 4-1 win.

Goalie Spencer Veness was named Acton's MVP in the final.

The Oakville Hound Dogs edged Barrie's Hutchinson Welding 4-3 for the J.T. Division championship and Oakville's Vanchem Wolfpack blanked Thorold Hawks 5-0 for the B.W. Division championship.



PROUD PEEWEE: Nellis Construction Pee wee player Jordan LaRose garnered the MVP award, presented by volunteer Diane Chadwick and league official Bill Waites, after his team defeated the Milton Winterhawks 4-1 on Friday in the first game of the Acton House League Hockey Association's 32nd annual Pee wee tournament in Acton.

- Frances Niblock photo



LET'S PLAY: Miss Acton Amanda Nielsen, with League official John Toebes, prepares to drop the ceremonial puck for Acton's Dylan McPhail (left) and Milton's Justin Moir to open the 32nd Acton House League Hockey Pee wee tournament on Friday

- Frances Niblock photo