

Acton Peewee AE Tanners Silver Stick Regional Champs

Clip Belleville 5-2 in championship game

The Acton Peewee AE Tanners won the Silver Stick Regional Tournament with a 5-2 victory over the Belleville Bulls on the December 10 and 11 weekend.

Facing a Belleville Bull hockey club who earlier handed them their only tournament defeat, the Peewee AE Tanners came to play when it mattered most.

After a scoreless opening frame and down a man early in the second, the Tanners Mitchell Brake gained control of the puck in the neutral zone and skated through the opposition to score a short handed goal on a nifty backhand and put the Tanners up 1-0. These two evenly matched teams traded opportunities until early in the third period when Belleville tied

the game on a goal mouth scramble.

With a little over five minutes remaining, Gregory Wells taking a feed from Jacob Box, swooped in from the wing and slid the puck under a sprawling Belleville netminder to give the Tanners the lead 2-1. With the momentum now on the side of the Tanners, Gregory Wells notched the winner just 31 seconds later sliding the puck into an open net.

Belleville pouring it on late, came within one goal of tying it up but with just over a minute left the Tanners led by Eric Butson and



SILVER STICK CHAMPIONS: Playing with a "fiery spirit" the Acton Peewee Tanners competed in the third annual Highland Storm International Silver Stick "AE" Regional Tournament in Minden and Haliburton and emerged tournament champions. Team members include: Front row: Greg Slowka, Mitchell Christopher. Second row: Jeff Curry, Dylan Bickers, Eric Butson, Jake Box, Jonathon Paquin-Felske, Mitchell Brake, Gavin Ragan. Third row: Cameron Carr, Jeff Mah, Ben Roelofson, Gregory Wells, Wyatt Martin, Jake Macpherson. Fourth row: Head Coach-Mark Duval, Adam Duval, assistant coaches-Brad Macpherson and Randy Box, trainer-Pat Martin. Missing from the picture is Manager-Tammi Bickers. - Submitted photo

Mitchell Brake scored into open nets to record a 5-2

victory.

Mitchell Brake was named the game MVP for Acton but to a man the entire squad played hard throughout and their Championship success was truly a team effort.

Shut out Paris

The Tanners began their Championship run with a 4-0 win against the Paris Wolfpack. The game was never in doubt as Acton pressured early and scored twice in the first period. Acton goals were notched by Mitchell Brake, Adam Duval, Jacob Box and Eric Butson. The Acton shutout was recorded by Mitchell Christopher.

The Tanners ran into penalty trouble in their only tournament loss while facing the Belleville Bulls in the round robin portion of the tournament. With a 1-0 Bulls lead early in the second period, the Tanners were down two men when the Bulls capitalized to take a 2-0 lead. The Tanners Eric Butson got one back while short handed just 22 seconds later on a great second effort to make the score 2-1. Belleville still

on the power play got that one back 30 seconds later as a Bull stood all alone on the doorstep to tap in a rebound over a helpless Greg Slowka.

The teams traded goals late in the game with the Acton marker being scored by Ben Roelofson making the final 4-2 and setting up an exciting tournament finale.

Blank Stirling

A more focused group of Tanners faced the Stirling Blues later that afternoon with a playoff berth on the line. Led on goals by Eric Butson and Dylan Bickers, who both scored in the games opening minutes, the Tanners took charge from the opening face-off. Mitchell Brake scored two third period goals to cap the scoring at 4-0. Mitchell Christopher was solid between the pipes while recording his second shut-out of the tournament.

The win gave the Acton Tanners second place in the Lemieux Division (behind Belleville) and a semi-final date with the host Highland Storm who placed first in the Howe Division.

The Highland Storm took the first period of the semi-final by storm pressuring the Tanners throughout and in doing so scored the games first goal late in the first period. Acton's Mitchell Brake scored to tie the contest at 1-1 only to see the Storm take the lead with three minutes left in the second frame.

A storm was brewing at the Minden Arena however, but it was on the Tanner's side as Highland's short bench proved to be its Achilles heel. Acton pounded the Storm throughout the remainder of the contest.

Gregory Wells tied the game at 2-2 with assists to Adam Duval and Wyatt Martin forty seconds into the third period. With ten minutes remaining in the contest, Adam Duval gave the Tanners the lead for good ensuring a return date with Belleville who earlier in the day defeated Napanee to advance to the tournament final.

The Tanners now qualify for the Silver Stick tournament in Pelham on January 12-15, 2006.

SPORTS

DEADLINE IS MONDAY AT 12 NOON

Atom BB Tanners edged by Fergus but down Storm

Late Saturday afternoon, December 17, the Acton Atom BB Tanners challenged the Fergus Highlanders on their home ice and were shaded 3-2. The next day, however, the Tanners were on their game and nudged the Guelph Storm, 3-2.

Walter Kirkness opened up the Tanner scoring in the first period on a great pass from Michael Fatrdla in the game against Fergus. The Highlanders then tied it up. The second period saw end-on-end play. There were many drives to the Fergus net by the Tanners.

The Tanners trailed by two in the third period, when Ryan Dunlevy set up Bradley Bollert to score. Despite their

efforts the remaining forward players, David Bickers, Carter Ebbinge, Michael Evans, Billy Mowat, and Evan Oulton, the Tanners were unable to capture another elusive goal to tie up the game.

Acton drilled 26 shots on the Fergus net.

Both Mason Overland and Billy Reid shared goal duties this game and were assisted on defence by TJ Baker, Michael Fatrdla, Matt Fritz, Brodie MacFarlane, and Dylan Schouten.

Final Score: Fergus 3 - Acton 2.

Beat Storm

In a Sunday afternoon home game, the Atom BB Tanners met the Guelph Storm.

The first Tanner goal was

passed up by Bradley Bollert to Ryan Dunlevy who fired the puck in to tie the game. The BB's took the chill out of the arena by putting the heat on the Storm in the second period. At 8:22, Michael Evans put the Tanners ahead. The assists went to Walter Kirkness and TJ Baker who set up this great play.

With 2:42 remaining in the second, TJ Baker winged it pass the Storm goalie. Once again, he was set up by Walter Kirkness and Michael Evans in another example of what this team can do.

Billy Reid stood firm in net, facing 19 shots. Billy Mowat, David Bickers, Carter Ebbinge, Brodie MacFarlane and Evan Oulton assisted in the 20 shots that were fired by the Tanners team on the Storm net. Dylan Schouten, Matt Fritz and Michael Fatrdla held their ground on defence to assist in the Tanner win.

Final Score: Acton 3 - Guelph 2.

The Tanners head to Burlington December 23, then to Midland for the Silver Stick Tournament December 29, 30 and 31. As 2005 draws to a close, The Atom BB Tanner team would like to thank their sponsors and supporters.

AHS girls lose to St. Thomas Aquinas

The Acton High School girls' hockey team hosted St. Thomas Aquinas of Oakville on Tuesday, December 13.

St. Thomas opened the game up with three goals in the first period. The second period was scoreless.

In the third period Amanda Schroeder scored twice to make the score 3-2 for the visitors. However, Thomas Aquinas came back with two more goals.

Acton's Jody Howard scored one more goal to make the final score 5-3 for St. Thomas Aquinas. Earning assists were Jenn Essiembre and Monique Lalonde.

Bantam AE Tanner, Woolwich play to tie in 'superb' game

The Acton Tanners Bantam AE team played a superb game against a fast, hard-hitting Woolwich club on Dec. 12 and settled for a 3-3 tie.

Acton came out strong in the scoreless first period. In the second period, the Tanners really poured it on with Josh McDonnell taking a great pass from Matthew Allain and pocketing Acton's first goal at 11:20. Not long after, Acton dumped another one in with a wrap around shot by Matthew Allain with lots of patient assistance from Dayne Black and Brandon Masini.

Woolwich soon countered with a goal of their own to put the score at 2-1 for Acton.

The third period was the most exciting the Tanners have given their fans yet! The score remained 2-1 for the Tanners until with 4:30 remaining in the game Woolwich tied things up, then promptly popped in the go-ahead goal at 3:57.

The Tanners refused to give up what had been their best game of the season. With the Acton goalie pulled, Woolwich took a penalty giving the Tanners a 6 to 4 player advantage. They took advantage of it.

At 0:01, Acton's Brandon Masini stuffed in the tying goal in the midst of players at the net. The crowd went wild!

Great game for the Tanners.