

SPORTS & LEISURE

At annual Christmas tournament

Youngsters work overtime

No blowouts and high drama were the rule as the Georgetown Minor Hockey Association's 11th-annual Christmas Tournament finished up with nine overtime games, four shootouts and four other one-goal contests on championship Saturday at the Mold-Masters SportsPlex.

Junior Tyke

First-period goals by Sullivan Murphy, Callum Forbes and MVP Tyler Vaccari were enough for the Maple Leafs to get by the Bruins 3-2 in the championship game of the Timbits' Junior Tyke division. Matthew Gannon and Eric Bertrand replied for the Bruins and Coleman Campbell was named MVP.

In the Timbits' consolation final, the Flyers were the winners. No details were available.

Senior Tyke

Jacob Warrington scored seven times to lead the Sharks to a 9-7 comeback victory over the Red Wings in the Senior Tyke final. Jack Panijan and Mason McDermot added single markers. Jessica Mellace fired in a hat trick for the Wings, with Cameron Cherwaiko and Sarah Fillier netting two apiece.

Noah Stevenson potted his second of the afternoon in overtime as the Maple Leafs prevailed 4-3 against the Blackhawks in the Senior Tyke third-place game.

Maple Leafs: Stevenson (2G, A); Cameron Hahnfeld (G, A); Jeevan Kapila (G); Max Kossel, Michael Veloso, Nicholas DeGrazia, Kyle Doobay (A). **Blackhawks:** Dawson Lirette, Liam Burgoyne, Michael Russiani (G); Matthew McDonough,

Spencer McPherson, Alec Whittal, Emma Danaher (A).

Novice Blue

It required a shootout before the Joy Nolan Royal LePage Red Wings skated to a 2-1 victory over the Sports Unlimited Maple Leafs in the Novice Blue championship. Ryan Davies, Garrett McGill and Nicholas Woolley scored in the shootout for the champs and Davies also tallied in regulation. Troy Bowman had the Leaf goal.

On the consolation side, the Sharks held on to defeat the Tri-Plus Financial Blackhawks 7-6.

Sharks: Austin Lake, Victoria Licastro, Cameron O'Rourke (2G); Liam Waye (G); William Couckytut (2A); Georgia Davies (A). **TPFB:** Justin Lochert (5G); Matt Barwell (G); Nolan Frew, Anthony Barone, Jeremy Cross (A).

Novice White

Michael Banks tied the game late in regulation and then registered the shootout winner for the Chrysler Jeep Red Wings in their 4-3 triumph over the Stars for the Novice White title. Josh Greyerbiehl, Connor Harper and Eric Taylor also scored for the Wings and goalie Neil Leopardi was the MVP. Matthew Boorman (2) and Courtney Maud had the Stars' goals.

A hat trick by Adam Young was all the Praxair Flyers needed to claim consolation honours over the Balloons on the Go Canadiens. **PF:** Young (3G); Liam Osborne, Marshall Gillis (A). **BOTGC:** Grant Zahara (G); Matthew Latimer (A).



Nick Belvedere (3) of the Marketplace Dental Centre Blackhawks duels with Brendon Ward of the Sportvision TV Canadiens during preliminary round action in the Atom White division of the Georgetown Minor Hockey Association's Christmas House League Tournament at the Mold-Masters SportsPlex. Photo by Eamonn Maher

Atom Blue

Luke Warkentin found the net twice for the Overhead Door Flyers in their 2-1 win over the Whiteoak Transport Bruins in the Atom Blue final. Daniel Clifford scored for the Bruins.

Another thrilling finish happened in the

consolation final as Nathan Craig got his second goal of the game in double OT for the Georgetown Marketplace Sharks as they edged the PA Pharmacy Stars 2-1. Richard Smith had opened the scoring for the Stars.

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Raiders win Showcase

Considered the favourites to take top spot in the 16-team Newmarket Jr. A Showcase Tournament this past week, the Georgetown Raiders hardly found their six-game journey to the championship to be an easy one.

The Raiders fell behind in each of their first four games and then needed three overtime periods on Saturday to come back and defeat the New York Bobcats 5-4 on a goal by Ryan Ford in the semi-final.

Later that evening, Georgetown outgunned the host Hurricanes 7-5 as the 20-year-old Ford scored twice more and Adam DeJong contributed four points to the victory.

Counting the three straight OHA Provincial Jr. A Hockey League wins before Christmas, the Raiders have now won nine games in a row and coach James Richmond would like to see that trend continue over the final month of the campaign.

"I think the guys really came together well over the break, because all they did was go to the rink and spend time as a team," said Richmond, who took over the bench duties in November. "It was a good bonding exercise. We made it a little more difficult on ourselves than I would have liked, but winning breeds success and it should be interesting to see how we play the rest of the way."

Starting netminder Keaton Hartigan returned from an ankle injury and posted

the W in the championship game at Newmarket. The 20-year-old from Kitchener was also in the nets for a double-OT win for the Raiders in the quarter-finals as he and backup Marc Stuart shared the workload through the tourney, which was smaller in size than in past years. Ten of the teams entered were from the U.S. and only one made the semi-finals, while none of the remaining Ontario teams sport an above-.500 record in their respective leagues.

Matt Carter, Greg Lever, DeJong, Kyle Schwende and Jeremy Whelan also scored for Georgetown in the final against Newmarket. Goalie Brian Mahoney-Wilson, who played here briefly earlier this season before being dealt to the Hurricanes, took the loss.

After gaining possession of fourth place in the OPJHL's West Division with a 7-3 win over Burlington on Dec. 23, the Raiders will have a tough time gaining on the three teams ahead of them even if they were to win all of their 13 remaining games. Third-place Hamilton is 10 points up on Georgetown and the division's front-runners, the Oakville Blades, have won 14 consecutive starts.

This weekend, the 21-9-3-3 Raiders travel to Milton Friday evening and on Saturday they'll host the Blades, whom they're 0-4-0-0 against this season. Game time at the Alcott Arena is 7:30 p.m.



Justin Lochert (12) of the TriPlus Financial Blackhawks wires a shot past Dodge Caravan Kids Flyers' goalie Quinn Downtown in their match Friday. Photo by Ted Brown



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