

Acton Peewee Tanners Silver Stick champions

Chalk up 4 victories to clinch crown in Midland

By Gord Fritz

While most families were out fighting the mad rush of Boxing Week shoppers, the Acton Galvcast Peewee BB Tanners were setting out for Midland to compete in the "34th Annual West Central Regional Silverstick Tournament." And they came home Peewee Champions with wins over Clarington, Owen Sound, Bradford and Barrie.

On December 27, the Tanners faced the Clarington Toros. With just over three minutes to play in the first period, Adam Duval fired off a bullet from the blue line through the Toro netminder to open up Acton's scoring for the tournament.

Two additional goals in the second period gave the Tanners a three-goal edge. Acton's second was set up by Greg Wells who positioned the puck onto the blade of Josh Tremblay who in turn slid the rubber under the Clarington goalie. The stick-to-stick passes from Greg Wells to Josh Tremblay to Ryan Dunlevy allowed him to ruffle Clarington's mesh with a well-placed wrist shot.

Acton marked up two further notches in the third period when Tyler Christopher passed the rubber from the blue line to an awaiting Mitchell Brake who also managed to find the opening in the Toro wall, sinking the puck deep into the netting. Acton's final came via Greg Wells and Josh Tremblay who provided Ryan Dunlevy the necessary artillery to fire off one more final shot.

Acton's Mitchell Christopher was on top of his game warding off the Toros offensive drives.

Final score: Acton 5 – Clarington 1.

Blank Owen Sound

That same night the Peewee Tanners battled with the Owen Sound Terriers. The Terriers were let off their leash in the first period with both teams exchanging play that resulted in a scoreless period.

It wasn't until the second

Face Barrie

On the morning of Dec. 28, the Tanners faced the Barrie Colts in this what was to be a much different game. With a new set of officials on the ice and a strictly enforced zero tolerance policy, the Tanners watched a fair share of



Acton's Peewee BB Tanners defeat Barrie Colts in final

period that Greg Wells set up Ryan Dunlevy for the first marker of the game. Acton's second goal in the second came via Josh Tremblay allowing Mitchell Brake to pump one more into the Terrier doghouse.

The third period saw Acton take command of the Terriers with Greg Wells sinking the third goal deep into the Owen Sound net courtesy of passes from TJ Baker and Matt Fritz. Solidifying their lead was Josh Tremblay who fed the rubber to Ryan Dunlevy who once more wasted no time in sinking it deep into the Owen Sound doghouse. Acton finished muzzling the Terriers with Josh Tremblay feeding Adam Duval who fired off the final blast of rubber.

Playing in goal for Acton was netmaster Greg Slowka who earned himself a well-deserved shutout.

Final Score: Acton 5 – Owen Sound 0.

the game from the penalty box.

The Colts got two up on the Tanners before Acton's Ryan Dunlevy sank one in the netting on a Josh Tremblay set up, narrowing the gap. A scoreless second period came and went with both teams exchanging opportunities. Barrie finished the game with two more notches on the scoreboard in the third.

Acton's final marker came courtesy of Josh Tremblay who placed the puck into Barrie's top corner on passes from Ryan Dunlevy and Adam Duval.

Mitchell Christopher keep the Tanners in the game.

Final score: Barrie 4 – Acton 2.

Pick up Wildcard

As a result of tournament standings the Tanners picked up the wildcard slot for the semi-finals and in a late night game were pitted against the first place round robin winning Bradford Bulldogs.

Coming off a tough loss, a refocused Tanner team hit the ice ready to play hockey and were first on the scoreboard when Ryan Dunlevy punched one into the Bulldogs cage, courtesy

of passes from Greg Wells and TJ Baker. This was the night for Greg Wells who would play an integral part in all of his team's goals.

The second period saw the Tanners get a two-goal edge courtesy of the Josh Tremblay wrist shot on a pass from Greg Wells. Goals number three and four would come via the slick shots of Ryan Dunlevy on the passes received from Greg Wells.

Acton's final marker started from a Greg Wells pass to Mitchell Brake who stealthily slid the puck through the Bulldogs net minder splayed pads.

A rock solid performance by Greg Slowka in the nets secured the team's advancement to the championship game.

Final score: Acton 5 – Bradford 2.

Meet Barrie in finals

On New Year's Eve the Peewee BB Tanners returned to Midland to face the Barrie Colts again for the Peewee championship game. A solid adversary, the Barrie Colts stood between Acton and the championship.

After a scoreless first period that saw each team test each other's capabilities to the "ninth" degree,

at 10:55 in the second, Ryan Dunlevy fired off a precisely placed wrist shot under the crossbar on slick passes from Greg Wells and Josh Tremblay. Not to be outdone, Barrie launched an offensive drive minutes later that succeeded in its mission of matching up the numbers. Once again the offensive, defensive and goaltending abilities of each team were put to the test but the score remained 1-1.

The score remained tied during the third period until, with 3:03 remaining, a stick-to-stick feed of the puck through an amassing Colt defence, by Greg Wells and Mitchell Christopher to Josh Tremblay allowed him, with a flip of his wrist to beat the glove hand of the Colt netminder putting Acton ahead 2-1.

Barrie now launched a die-hard attempt to even up the match with an extra Colt sniper on the ice in lieu of the netminder.

Mitchell Christopher, "stood on his head" protecting the Acton mesh with outstanding goal-keeping keeping the Colts at bay, much to the chagrin of the Colts and their fans. Then, with just 15.5 seconds remaining, Ryan Dunlevy managed to inter-

cept a Colt pass and carve his way through a sea of white and fire off one final shot down the ice into an empty Barrie net to secure Acton's victory.

Final score: Acton 3 – Barrie 1.

With the knowledge and skills acquired from the coaching staff of Mark Duval, Randy Wells, Pat Martin and Darcy Brake, a concerted team effort was put forth by each and every member of the team to secure this victory. An exceptional performance by the offensive team of Wyatt Martin, Jeff Curry, Josh Tremblay, Mitchell Brake, Ryan Dunlevy, Greg Wells, Nick Vandereyken, Evan Oulton and Michael Evans ensured that shots were effectively set up and delivered.

The tenacious defensive team of Tyler Christopher, Adam Duval, Jakob MacPherson, Gavin Ragan, TJ Baker and Matt Fritz maintained a wall of resistance impenetrable to their adversaries. Finally, the goal tending expertise of Greg Slowka and Mitchell Christopher provided the final measure of security for the team.

Congratulations Tanners.