

## Peewees end season with win

On March 18, the Galvcast Peewee BB Tanners travelled to Burlington to square off against the Eagles in this, their last game of the season. Since the Tanners had dominated their season series, the Eagles were eager to avenge

their losses.

A scoreless first period came and went. The Eagles extended their talons and breached Acton's cage for the first marker of the game early in the second. Not to be outdone, Josh Tremblay evened up the

tally with a neatly placed top shelfer courtesy of the stick work of Jake MacPherson and Greg Wells.

The third period however was all Tanners as the now pumped-up team carved up the Eagle ice during their saturation of the Eagle mesh with rubber. Greg Wells would find the hole between the Burlington netminder's pads to give Acton its second notch thanks to the puck feed from Gavin Ragan.

Burlington would manage one final marker to tie up the game but Mitchell Brake gave Acton its go-ahead marker thanks to Josh Tremblay who supplied him the ammo to fire off a shot through the bulls-eye. Not minutes later amidst a strong Eagle presence out front of the Burlington net, Josh Tremblay found and fed Mitchell Brake the rubber. Brake would once again find the unguarded mesh and waste no time in punching in the rubber.

In the dying minutes of the game, and with an extra Eagle sniper on the ice, Greg Wells managed to intercept a Burlington offensive drive and deftly feed the rubber to an awaiting Mitchell Brake who fired it off into the unguarded Eagles nest to secure not only a hat trick but the Tanners victory as well.

Final Score: Acton 5 - Burlington 2.

## Port Perry takes OMHA semi-final from Bantams in three straight

By Edith McDonell

A fast-skating, well-disciplined and organized Port Perry team were too much for the Acton Firefighters Bantam AE Tanners in the OMHA semi-final playoffs. Port Perry took the series in three straight games.

The first game was originally scheduled in Port Perry on Thursday, March 1 but had to be cancelled due to the snowstorm so the first game was played in Acton on the Saturday night.

The Tanners came out looking strong in the first period jumping ahead 1:0 with an unassisted goal from Brandon Masini who did some great puck handling to work his way through the defense then deke the goalie and find the net. Jesse Harris contributed in net to hold Port Perry scoreless.

The second period would not prove to be as kind to the Tanners as Port Perry upped the intensity and produced 6 goals. Brandon Masini countered with his second goal of the game assisted by Jesse Spurrell and Brandon Lockyer. The Port Perry team had the game in hand and shut down all Tanner attempts to score. They won 9-2.

### Second game closer

The second game took Acton into snowblown Port Perry country on Monday, March 5 with Tanners knowing they had to put everything they could against this team. The first period saw strong play by the Tanners with several nice pick-offs by Josh McDonell and Ellis Lavallee. Colton Wiens covered the net mak-

ing three huge saves early on. However, a pass back into Acton's zone was intercepted and led to Port Perry's first goal with only one minute of the period remaining. Best check of this game was awarded to John White who laid down an NHL quality hip check along the boards.

Several nice set-ups by the Tanners in the second period created exciting moments but did not produce any goals. The Port Perry team seemed to have the edge on speed and control of the puck to pull ahead 3-0 as the period ended.

Huge cheers arose from Acton fans in the third as Josh McDonell waved his stick in the air cheering following what appeared to be a short-handed goal. The referee called it off since neither linesman could confirm the goal and Josh himself admits that it did not go in. This was somewhat disappointing as the game concluded with a 4-0 win for Port Perry.

### Back to Port Perry

Since Port Perry had home ice advantage, Thursday, March 8 meant another trek to their arena. Acton began the scoring early with a goal by Josh McDonell for his first of this series assisted by Jacob Dougan. Guarding the one goal lead included some great penalty killing mid-period and a fabulous glove save by netminder Colton Wiens. Despite aggressive offensive play and strong defensive coverage from AJ McConville, Ellis Lavallee, Stephan Smelsky, Brandon Lockyer and Tyler Townsley, Port Perry was able to break through to tie the game then move ahead 2-1 as the period ended.

The Tanners could not

keep up the pace and Port Perry took advantage to pad their lead up to 4-1 in the second period.

As the teams returned to the ice for the final period, the Tanners looked charged and ready. With a 5 on 3 power play advantage, a well-placed shot from Josh McDonell to Ellis Lavallee, parked at the corner of the net, cut the lead to two goals. The Tanners were not giving up yet and continued pressure produced another goal with an almost identical set-up to the previous goal from Josh to Ellis and in. An assist was also awarded to Brandon Lockyer.

The next 11 minutes of hockey were definitely nail-biting and heart-stopping excitement. One more goal would create a tie. The Tanners were able to hold Port Perry from scoring but try as they might with some very impressive rushes and good puck handling, they couldn't get the tying goal. They pulled the goalie in the final two minutes and created more opportunities but Port Perry held on and eventually scored an empty-netter for a 5-3 finish.

Congratulations to the entire team for a season which most parents and on-lookers would not have imagined at the onset. Also, thank you to the coaches and team staff for their time and dedication including Mark Lockyer (coach), Gary Fletcher (assistant coach), Mark Wiens (trainer), Barb Burrows (trainer) and of course Wendy Spurrell (manager) who made sure everyone knew when and where to be. To the boys, keep up the good work and definitely take this team's motto with you: "Never Give Up!"

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