

MISSED IT BY THAT MUCH: Acton Tanners take a shot on goal, just narrowly missing the Woolwich net in this Bantam game played at the Acton Arena on Wednesday evening. - Traci Gardner photo

Major Midget Tanners win, lose and draw

The Acton Major Midget team travelled to Fergus on Saturday, November 29 to face off against their long time rivals the Devils. and won 6-3.

Acton took the lead early with a one timer from just inside the blue line by Steven Wolstenholme helped out by Ryan Faber and Jack Matthews. Jack followed by sinking his first goal as a Tanner since recently joining the team by scooping in a rebound during Acton's power play. David Elop and Jordan Duin also made this scoring possible.

The period would not go scoreless for Fergus as they took advantage of goalie Mike Farrow down on the ice and popped the puck in over him.

The second period saw the Acton boys continue the pressure and taking opportunities as Jordan jumped on another rebound given up by the Fergus goalie to place a quick sharp shot to the back of the net and regain their two goal lead.

Fergus frustration with the Tanners resulted in the ejection of one of their players for a savage slash to Jack Matthews which also took him out of the game. Frustrated or not, Fergus made a short-handed rush to bring the game to within one goal at 3-2.

With only 2 minutes left in the second, a rush from the face off at center ice saw Josh McDonell place a perfect pass to Brandon McCarthy who had time to deke the goalie and score. One more wraparound goal from David Elop finished off the period with the Tanners up 5-2.

The third period looked somewhat bleak for Acton as only 8 skaters and 1 player in the penalty box came onto the ice after the Zamboni left. However, the Tanners played smart and strong picking up another

goal courtesy of the Brandon McCarthy and Josh McDonell duo. Fergus tried to rebound but could only manage one more giving Acton a 6-3 victory.

Goalie Mike Farrow was very determined to make this a win and played terrific in net.

Battalion tough

Acton's home game on Tuesday, Dec. 2 brought the Brampton Battalion to town. Period one had the Tanners holding the visiting team at bay. Goalie Joey Drexler held strong and made several good saves.

Brampton opened scoring in the second with a power play goal followed shortly by another one. The Tanners responded with a great goal as Dave Elop zinged a pass from the corner across in front of the net where Nick Egan timed his deflection perfectly to score. Ryan Faber also got in on the play.

With only three minutes left in the period, Brandon McCarthy popped the puck past the blue line and skated a mad race against the defenceman to place a great shot on net but was robbed by the Battalion goalie. Brampton would leave the second with a two goal advantage as they bounced one in with less than a minute of play left.

Period three would not be kind to the Tanners as Brampton widened their lead to finish off the game with a 6:1 win.

Hespeler Friday

A Friday night game generally does not impress 16 and 17 year olds. That was the feeling out on the ice for the Tanners on December 5 in the Hespeler arena. Hespeler capitalized on this sentiment and took a 1:0 lead in the first period. The situation did not improve as the home team went on a 5 on 3 power play watching two of Tanner's defencemen

go the the box as the period closed.

A huge save on Hespeler's breakaway during power play action by goalie Mike Farrow early in the second did raise some noise. Unfortunately, great stops weren't enough as our boys watched Hespeler pad their lead to 3:0 to close the second. Several quality shots on net by Jesse Kuenzig and Brandon McCarthy near the end raised hopes but gave no reward.

Comeback in third

Third period play opened with a nice pass from Jesse to Brandon waiting in front of the net to break the shut out. One minute later saw Nick Eagan with Brandon down ice racing against a single Hespeler defenceman back and resulted in Brandon notching his second goal. Suddenly, the game was within a one goal difference. Hespeler, however, was also pushing and managed another goal to open their lead to 4-2. Brandon's super-powered skates had some jet left in them as he rushed from the face off past the Dee and in. Hespeler responded and again regained their two goal lead at 5:3.

The Tanners were running out of time but not of determination. Brandon backhanded his fourth of the night into the top corner leaving both the Hespeler players and spectators stunned. A big thank you to the Shamrocks for taking a penalty in the final two minutes of the game allowing Acton to face off six vs four players. A mad scramble to control play in Hespeler's end eventually moved the puck across to Steven Wolstenholme waiting patiently at the far corner of the net to place it where it counts. Another 32 seconds of play secured the tie.

What an awesome comeback!

By Edith McDonell

New hand guns for police

By Frances Niblock

Halton police, "thankful" that they rarely have to use their guns, have switched the handgun carried by the 580 officers of the service.

By Tuesday (December 16) all Halton officers will have completed their two-day training and certification with a new 40-calibre Smith & Wesson semi-automatic pistol, replacing the Berettas that all officers were issued. The old weapons will be destroyed, by being melted down.

"It's a very nice gun," said Halton police spokesman Brian Carr of the new Smith and Wesson M&P 40 weapon.

"Shooting is a skill so if you were a poor shot it's not necessarily going to make you a great shot, but with three different size hand grips, it does make you a little more comfortable if you were having trouble with the Beretta," Carr said on Monday.

Carr said the model of Beretta they were using is no longer being made so they could not get replacement parts and the decision was made to search for a new source.

He said 18 officers tested various models, firing 500 rounds of ammunition each, and the Smith & Wesson was their choice. Through a tender process

the Halton Police Service purchased 625 pistols, holsters and three bullet magazines for each weapon at a cost of \$639 each.

Carr said all officers are tested annually for accuracy over three distances and speed out of the holster.

Asked about how often a Halton officer has drawn or fired their weapon, Carr said they are "thankful it is a rare occasion" and in Halton the main reason is to "put down an animal for humane reasons."

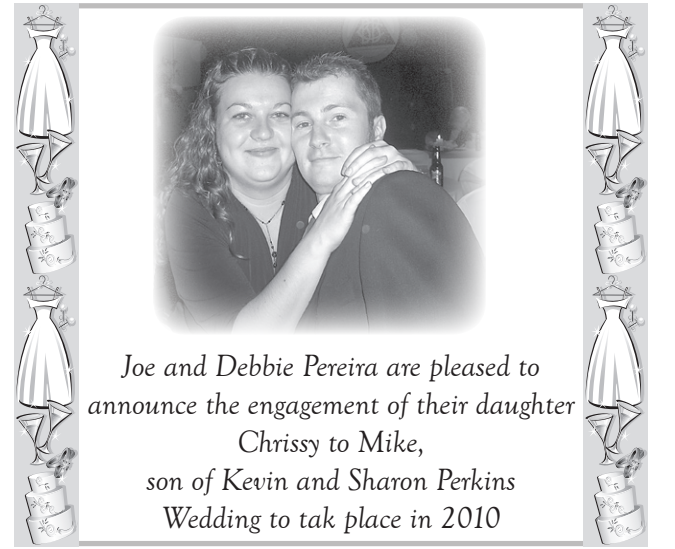
"We did have an unfortunate shooting in Oakville in December 2007 when we took the life of a person who was a threat to police,"

Carr said, adding the only other statistics available at this time were those from January to July 2008, Halton officers fired their pistols four times, all to "put an injured animal out of its misery."

Along with pepper spray, batons and pistols Halton police, since January 2005, also have Tasers to use as a less than lethal use of force.

Six supervisors and the 14 members of the Tactical Rescue Unit have been issued Tasers which shoot probes and also have touch stun capability.

At press time, Carr was unable to provide any information on how often Halton officers have deployed Tasers.



Joe and Debbie Pereira are pleased to announce the engagement of their daughter Chrissy to Mike, son of Kevin and Sharon Perkins Wedding to take place in 2010



The Regional Municipality of Halton
www.halton.ca



An Invitation to Attend a Community Sustainability Forum with Ken Melamed, Mayor of Whistler, B.C.

Whistler's Action for Community Building and Global Change

Mayor Melamed will speak about Whistler's success with Community Sustainability Planning

Thursday, January 8, 2009

Halton Regional Centre Auditorium
1151 Bronte Road, Oakville

- 6:00 - 7:00 p.m. Poster session showcasing various "green" initiatives throughout Halton Region
- 7:00 - 8:30 p.m. Ken Melamed, Mayor of Whistler B.C., speaks about his municipality's inspiring model and shared vision down a long journey to a sustainable future
- 8:30 - 9:00 p.m. Questions and Answers with Ken Melamed

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