

'AA' midgets earn another shutout over Eagles

Captain's return helps team end a two-game winless skid

By **STEVE LeBLANC**
The Champion

It was an afternoon of big returns for the midget AA Winterhawks Saturday.

Within the confines of Burlington's Appleby Arena, Milton began by welcoming back captain Connor Sweeney. The lanky defenceman had been sidelined for three weeks with a shoulder injury.

Sweeney's stabilizing presence on the blueline and a solid overall effort allowed the midgets to get back in the win column following a tie and loss earlier in the week — which represented their longest stretch without a victory so far this season.

The Milton Toyota sponsored team went ahead four minutes into the contest and was never legitimately challenged en route to blanking the host Eagles 3-0 for the second time in as many meetings this year.

The 9-4-1 Winterhawks — who've already won as many games as they did all last season — provided impressive man-to-man

coverage for much of the afternoon tilt and enjoyed a credible performance from netminder Kyle Goertz.

He battled boredom more than the opposition through the early going, facing a mere three shots in the opening half, but did have to come up big in the third period to preserve the shutout.

Daryl Tielemans' initial tally — a bottom-shelf deposit from close range — stood up as the winner, while insurance markers were recorded by Lee Frittenburg and Kyle Burrell.

Frittenburg deflected a James McIntosh point blast in heavy traffic midway through the second while Burrell intercepted a blueline pass one period later and went in for a breakaway clincher — going upstairs to seal the deal.

Other assists went to Derek Blanchard and Paul Szafer, who's currently on a remarkable 10-game point-scoring run. He's amassed six goals and 11 assists over this span.

Julian Ricci just missed extending his goal-scoring streak to five games, hitting the cross-bar in the opening frame and then shoot-

ing just wide on an odd-man rush in the second.

McIntosh and Ryan Pilarczyk offered solid defense to help suffocate Burlington.

Only five minor penalties were assessed during the contest — though while close, featured little in the way of intensity.

In Orangeville Wednesday, Milton's shortstaffed ranks managed to out-shoot its hosts but were eventually trimmed 5-4.

Blanchard, Ricci and bantam call-up David Tielemans stood out with a goal and an assist each while also denting the twine was Frittenburg.

The Winterhawks played host to Caledon last night at Memorial Arena. Results were not available at press time. Tomorrow they begin a two-game road trip in Flamborough. Thursday they travel to Guelph.

Milton then closes out the month with a home-and-home clash against the traditionally confrontational Georgetown Raiders.

'Hawks gut out tie

Milton's A minor peewees delivered their strongest offensive statement of the season last week — tying Caledon 6-6.

The Dynamic Packaging Winterhawks — who've struggled with production at times this year — were led by a two-goal, one-assist performance by Chris Savoy.

Captain Mike Vipond also tallied twice while chipping in a couple of helpers each were Willy Hunter and Stephen Jackson.

Connor Clark and Brad Mewhinney scored their first goals of the season to aid in the draw.

Nick Nevins was between the pipes.

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