

Midget A Hawks cruise to Tri-County Championship

By Jake Courtepatte

An 11th win in a row was the clincher for the midget A Caledon Hawks to take home the Tri-County championship trophy. After missing out on an OMHA provincial berth by two points in a preliminary round-robin, the Hawks swept both the Flamborough Sabres and Woolwich Wildcats in back-to-back series' to claim the title on home ice at Caledon East Sunday.

Up four points to none in the first-to-six championship series, Tyler Giancos proved early that the Hawks were the dominant team. Nine seconds into Game 3, Giancos opened the scoring on a streaking play right from centre ice.

The defence played their part shortly after, killing off a five-on-three penalty in which the Wildcats never had a chance to get settled. However, back on the penalty kill late in the first period, goaltender Dalton Cooke was steamed when he felt he was interfered with inside of his crease. His arguments fell on deaf ears, and the Wildcats tied the game at one.

It took less than a minute for the Hawks to regain the lead, when Nicolas Saville made a nice tip-in through the five-hole on a blue line shot from Joseph Filice.

The score remained stagnant through the second period, with the goaltenders on both ends standing tall, and the Hawks 15 minutes away from a championship.

Play got chippy in the final frame for both sides, but it was a five-on-five situation when Sam Siskos took advantage of a fanned clearing attempt and sent a wrister over the Woolwich tender's shoulder to make it 3-1.

The Wildcats made it a one-goal game once more, but the nail in the coffin was a Jonathon Sunseri goal during some chaos in front of the net to restore the two-goal lead with less than 10 minutes to go.

A power play with five minutes left on the clock helped the Hawks shut down the Wildcats for the rest of the game, with a final score of 4-2.

The Hawks, who finished the season with an astounding 53-8-3 record, add the league championship to a trophy collection that already consists of an early bird tournament win in New York, a second in Bradford, a Regional Silver stick win in Newmarket and an International Silver Stick win in Sarnia.



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