

Minor bantam Selects beat Milton when it counts



The Caledon minor bantam Blackhawk Selects were victorious at the Weekend of Champions for Intra-City last week.

The Caledon minor bantam Blackhawk Selects beat the Milton Winterhawks Saturday in the Weekend of Champions for Intra-City. The kids from Caledon had never beaten their arch nemesis from Milton in the past several years, but they did so Saturday in the championship game, coming from behind for a convincing 6-3 win.

Inspired by stories of stunning historical hockey wins by the 2003 Anaheim Ducks, 1980 U.S.A. Olympic Hockey Team and 1981 Colorado College Tigers, the boys knew that quitting was never going to be an option in this final game. Down early in the first minute on the first shot, the same starting lineup re-grouped and tied it up, never flinching on a nervous moment. Over the course of the next period and a half, the Blackhawks pressed and eventually took a 4-2 lead late in the second.

Milton took an early timeout to try to understand what was happening. It was at that point that the players were told that this was a strategic moment in the game where their opponents had finally understood that Caledon was serious and they had to change their approach. The Blackhawks saw this moment as Milton's panic point. They needed to keep the pressure up on every shift, every shot on net, every point of contact.

Under tremendous pressure, Milton scored a third goal, making the game 4-3 with less than 10 minutes to play. Unflustered, the Blackhawks quickly responded with a goal on a power play and later cemented any thoughts of a comeback with a sixth goal, ending the story with a 6-3 win.

Needless to say, it was bedlam on the ice after the final whistle.

The coaches and the team would like to thank all the dedicated parents, supporters and sponsor Extra Industrial Personnel for an excellent year.

The players include Rajan Heir, Dylan Christian, Michael Aitchison, Eric Seguin, Mattias Biesenthal, Andrew Rybka, Andrew Gravina, Daniel Marrano, Nicholas Greco, Levi Smith, Braydon Besko, Mitchell MacPhee, Alex Cicinelli, Nicholas Zanelli, Ryan Harding, Michael Zambito and Michael Doyle. Coaches included Tom Biesenthal, Mike Doyle, Frank Cicinelli, Jordan Harding and Ged Seguin. The team is managed by the talented Julie Christian.