

St. Michael Thunder hockey off to .500 start for the season

By Jake Courtepatte

Three games into the ROPSSAA season, the St. Michael Catholic Secondary School varsity hockey team out of Bolton were off to a strong start after a 5-1 stomping of Loyola last Monday.

They took on the St. Thomas Aquinas Raiders last Thursday, looking to cement their position atop the Tier1 North Division.

Meanwhile, the Raiders were looking for their first win of the season after ending in a tie a week earlier.

Aquinas came out ready to play, taking a 2-0 lead just four minutes into the opening frame.

St. Mike's team got their first real chance of the game with an extended five-on-three powerplay shortly after, but were unable to capitalize.

However, while still pressing after returning to full strength, a scramble in front found the puck in the back of the net to cut the lead in half.

The Raiders restored the two-goal lead before the end of the period, beating the Thunder goaltender low on the glove side.

After exchanging goals in the second, the St. Mike crew once again made the action interesting in the third period.

Just nine seconds in, a St. Mike's goal celebration was cut short by being called off for a kicking motion.

But they didn't back down, storming back with a legitimate goal 30 seconds later for a 4-3 score.

With just more than 10 minutes remaining, a pretty wraparound Thunder goal tied the game at four apiece.

Unfortunately, St. Mike would shoot themselves in the foot with a five-on-three penalty kill of their own, when a shot from the point found its way through traffic into the Thunder net.

An empty net with one minute left solved nothing, as the Thunder's record fell to 2-2 on the season.

Despite the loss, the Thunder maintained the top spot in the division with four points.



The St. Michael Thunder lost 5-4 to St. Thomas Aquinas last Thursday in Brampton. Their season record fell to 2-2.