

WMHA GAME OF THE WEEK

FEBRUARY 28TH 2010

MINOR PEEWEE AA

STARS VS CANADIANS

'Canadians move on with win over Stars'

East Selkirk--

Moving quickly into the brackets of the Minor Pee wee AA playoffs, the St. James Canadians headed into Sunday's contest against the North West Stars with a chance to be the first team slated for semi final action. While their impressive 5-1 win put them into the final four, they were joined later in the day by the River East Marauders and Pembina Trails Twins as they each won their second straight to sweep their best of three series.

A gorgeous powerplay goal by Johnathon Morrow that flew into the top half of the net behind Jordan Krenkevich opened the scoring just minutes in. The penalty box was filled early and often during the game and seconds after the Canadian powerplay goal the Stars were short a man once again. After a St. James penalty put the teams at four a side, Stars forward Sam Batt drove in close and forced Stephan Laurin to make a low blocker save. Laurin stayed busy with some hard work in the Canadian zone by Ryleigh Houstin and Chase Berezowski that had them firing shots from just outside the crease. Chase Brakel was able to increase the Canadian lead with another powerplay goal again off the rush that was placed perfectly under the crossbar to beat Krenkevich. With the St. James squad up by three, Nolan Patrick slipped in another to make the lead four heading into the first intermission.



Jordan Krenkevich made an early stand in the Stars goal and turned aside Liam Kells who had two quality chances in the high slot. More action in the penalty box led to two more lengthy stints of 4on4 hockey. The extra space led to some exciting rushes but each netminder was able to weather the storm until even strength play resumed. One of the Stars best chances to get onto the scoreboard came shorthanded when their leading goal scorer Vincent Loschiavo broke in but his blast sailed just wide of the



Canadian net. With the puck control battle being won by the Canadians, the Stars used their physical play to hold them to the outside and prevent any major scoring chances in the final minutes of the period.

Dylan Myskiw entered the game in goal for the Stars coming out of the intermission and was almost tested early when Nolan Patrick looked to be in alone but a nice back check from Vincent Loschiavo prevented Patrick from getting a quality shot away. The save of the game belonged to Myskiw as he slid across to the side of the net where Shane Bigourdin received a pass from Sam Diamond. Bigourdin looked to have an open cage when the glove of Myskiw stole the puck out of mid air. The Canadians did get one past Myskiw on a pretty passing play that Chase Brakel finished off for the commanding five goal lead. Elijah Caparros was able to break the shut out bid for Stephan Laurin when he broke in on a late break away that he fired into the Canadian goal. With some powerplay time of their own which included a late 5on3, the Stars fought to get another on the board but were unable to get a second past Laurin.

With three of four teams already set for semi final action, the Selkirk Fishermen and APHA Rangers will fight for the fourth and final spot on Wednesday March 3rd at the Selkirk Rec Center. Puck will drop at 6:15pm.

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