Aurora?s Goodrow plays hero in Sharks' series win

By Jake Courtepatte

Only seven minutes of ice time, but a
memory to last a lifetime.

Aurora native Barclay Goodrow put the
icing on the cake of the NHL's San Jose Sharks' first round series with the
Vegas Golden Knights late last week, burying the overtime winner that marked an
incredible late-game comeback for the Sharks to move on to round two.

Goodrow, a regular fourth-liner on only
his second shift of the extra frame, called it the ?biggest goal of his
career.?

?To be honest, I can't really remember
what just happened,? Goodrow told a massive media scrum following the game. ?It
was a pretty surreal moment.?

With the Sharks down 3 ? 1 late in the
third period, the team went on a five-minute major powerplay that saw them
score four goals to take the lead. The Golden Knights managed to tie it up late
to force the overtime, before Goodrow put the series to bed.

?Game Seven, overtime, NHL playoffs,?
Goodrow told TSN's Ray Ferraro. ?I had tons of energy. I was sitting there most
of the overtime, so when I got the call, I figured I may as well use my fresh
legs, and make it create something.

The former 114-point star of the
York-Simcoe Express commended star defenseman Erik Karlsson with finding him to
produce the game-winning goal.

?I saw him get the puck, I saw the
(defenseman) was a little flat-footed?I was hoping he would get the puck to me
as I'm getting behind the D-man?(Karlsson) is a world-class player, so I was

just happy to get it around (Vegas goaltender Marc-Andre) Fleury there.?

Barclay's hockey career began with the
Optimist hockey program in Aurora, a precursor to reaching the Aurora Minor
Hockey program for five and six-year-olds. He moved on to the Aurora Tigers AA
ranks early in his career, before spending his final five years of minor hockey
with the Express program, winning a total of five OMHA championships between
his stints with the Tigers and the Express.

He joined the Country Day School hockey
team upon the program's reintroduction in his Grade Eight year, skating for the
Cyclones for three years.

The 2018-19 season marked Goodrow's rise
to the top ranks, playing in all 82 games for the first time in his NHL career.
After five seasons with the OHL's North Bay Battalion and going unpicked in the
NHL Entry Draft, Goodrow signed with the Sharks in 2015.

He posted seven goals and ten assists in
the regular season this year.