

KVHA Trophy Cases are in the Building!

Kent, WA 11 October, 2008 – Two trophy cases arrived at Kent Valley Ice Centre (KVIC) Friday afternoon. They are humungous! Each is 24 inches deep, four feet wide and nine feet tall. We're guessing they weigh around 800lbs each. They can best be described as HUMUNGOUS! You can't miss them. Both trophy cases are currently stowed just to the left of the skate rental window as you enter the rink. These babies, no, make that monsters, are lighted with ¾" adjustable glass shelves and mirrored interior walls. The display cases are gorgeous, but huge. Did I mention they are huge?

Rena Sullivan, KVHA Registrar, found these treasures last week headed for auction at the old Nordstrom's store at the Tacoma Mall. Nordstrom acquired and remodeled the old Mervyns store on the west end of the mall. They recently moved in and celebrated their grand opening. Sullivan learned that Nordstrom would be selling fixtures from the old building. She discovered the two display cases during an on-line search of their inventory and went to the store to check them out. She liked what she saw.

The two cases were originally priced well out of our price range. KVHA Members contributed \$800 last year to acquire a trophy case. Nordstrom wanted \$800 for each case and they could only be purchased as a pair. Sullivan was able to negotiate a favorable price that was much closer to our budget. We're not sure how the difference is going to be made up, but Kent Valley Ice Centre is covering it for now.

Friday morning Papa Lew hitched up his utility trailer, picked up Doug Stewart, KVIC Facility Manager, and Justin Hill-Sellers, Midget Tornadoes team member, and headed for the Tacoma Mall. The trio met Rena Sullivan and Buck Haywood, PeeWee Tier-II parent at Nordstrom. Our first impression of the display cases was; *"Oh my God! How in the world are we going to get those monsters out of here?"*

Doug Stewart, equipped with two tool boxes and a tool belt, went to work unhooking the electrical and separating the two display cases. Buck and Doug carefully removed doors and shelving from the cases. Rena and Justin packed shelves and drawers into Rena's SUV for transport back to KVIC. Papa Lew supervised and worried about glass shelves and mirrored walls breaking. Eventually, the display cases were pried away from the wall, tilted down on one side to a pair of dollies, and carefully rolled to Papa Lew's trailer waiting outside the mall.

Back at Kent Valley Ice Centre, Les Grauer, Coach of the PeeWee Tier-II team wheeled Papa Lew's loaded trailer through the double entry doors into the lobby of the ice rink. After concluding that it might take a crane from the Kent Events Center construction site to move the cases up to the second floor concourse, a more suitable site, just to the right of the skate rental window, was chosen as the permanent location for the display cases. Doug Stewart and Les Grauer unloaded the cases from the trailer and moved them against the wall. The whole process from *"Oh my God,"* to *"I can't believe we did that,"* took over five hours.

It may take a few days to get the display cases installed. We have some electrical work to do and the cases have to be secured to the wall. But, it won't be long and we'll begin filling those glass shelves with trophies. In the mean time, thanks to Rena Sullivan, Doug Stewart, Buck Haywood, Justin Hill-Sellers, Les Grauer and Papa Lew for their efforts Friday. Thanks to all the KVHA Members that contributed \$800 last year to make this acquisition possible. Thanks to Kent Valley Ice Centre for covering the difference between budget and actual cost. Thanks to our players and coaches for winning all the trophies that will soon be displayed in the cases.

Now, go get some more trophies. We've got two humungous trophy cases to fill!