

## ***Be Patience – Better Days are Ahead for the Seattle Thunderbirds***

Kent WA 18 October, 2008 – One of the great joys of my afternoons at Kent Valley Ice Centre is watching the daily practice sessions of the Seattle Thunderbirds. Practices begin at 2:15 and run until about 4:15. If you've never seen a T-Bird practice, you should drop in and watch the action. They skate some very fast and complex drills, and they skate hard for a solid two hours. It is very impressive. It tires me out watching them work so hard.

The early part of the season has been tough for the T-Birds. As of today they have played 11 games, 9 on the road and 2 at home in Key Arena. They've won 2 and lost 8 and earned a point in a shoot-out loss. The only team in the WHL with a worse record is the Portland Winter Hawks. No one could be more frustrated and disappointed with the T-Bird's slow start this season than the players and coaches themselves. Believe me, they feel the pain.

Be patient though; better days are just around the corner. I predict the boys will begin to win, and the team will make the playoffs! My reasoning is based upon the following; **1.)** All those early season road games will serve to make the T-Birds stronger. Winston Churchill said; *"If you're going through hell, keep going."* The T-Birds will keep going... **2.)** Portland will continue to occupy the bottom of the U.S. Division of the Western Conference. Things are not going to get better in Portland any time soon, even with new ownership and maybe even a change in coaching staff. **3.)** Everett will be right behind the Hawks as the T-Birds climb up the division. **4.)** Kamloops is hurting and will remain on the bottom of the B.C. Division. The T-Birds will face the Blazers for the first time this season on Wednesday night in Kamloops. The T-Birds will hand Kamloops their second home loss of the season. **5.)** The first half of the season includes 11 home games and 27 away games, tough for any team. After Christmas break, the T-Birds will play 25 home games with only 9 on the road. **6.)** The Thunderbird's move to the Kent Events Center after Christmas will boost team morale for the T-Birds. Sell out crowds and an enthusiastic new fan base will propel the T-Birds to a positive win/loss record and on to the playoffs.

I noticed a quote Saturday night on a white board in the T-Bird's locker room at Key Arena. It read; *"If your ship isn't coming in, swim out to it!"* Well, there are no T-Birds on the dock. They're all swimming.

Here's the Kent Valley Hockey Association News on last weekend's games:

### ***Mite Lightning Strike Down Seattle Jr. Eagles***

Kent, WA 18 October, 2008 – The Mite Lightning threw two lightning bolts at the Seattle Jr. Eagles Saturday at Kent Valley Ice Centre and pulled a NPSHL win out of the Eagles' tail feathers with their electrifying efforts. Hojae Kwon scored his second goal in as many games to open Lightning scoring early in the first period. The Seattle Jr. Eagles tied it up three minutes later with a Wagner from Wagner combination. Justin Pitzer got the game winning goal with help from Chase Pagan at 5:40 in the second period. The balance of the game involved some excellent defense from both teams. Alex Bucci performed well in goal stopping 7 of 8 Seattle Jr. shots. The Lightning fired 11 shots on the Eagles' goal. The Eagles' Zieroth stopped 9 of the Lightning's 11 shots. The Eagles had one penalty and the Lightning two. Neither team was able to take advantage of power plays.

A scoring summary is below:

<b>Team</b>	<b>Period</b>	<b>Time</b>	<b>Scoring</b>
KVHA	1	12:45	Hojae Kwon unassisted
Seattle Jr.	1	9:13	M. Wagner from N. Wagner
KVHA	2	5:40	Justin Pitzer from Chase Pagan

## **Mite Tornadoes Out Gun Kitsap Outlaws 6-2**

Bremerton, WA 18 October, 2008 – Kenneth Gill had the big gun this weekend against the Kitsap County Mite Outlaws as he shot up the Outlaw's goal like he was Wyatt Earp at the O.K. Corral. Gill scored an amazing five, yes five, goals against the Outlaws. Like Wyatt Earp, Kenneth Gill had backup during the battle with the Outlaws; his brother Nicholas was in goal for the Tornadoes. Daniel Smith joined the shoot out with a goal in the third period.

Kenneth Gill scored most of his goals by winning a faceoff and breaking down the ice unopposed to fire on the Outlaw's goalie Jack Snowdon. To Snowdon's credit, he was fired upon 22 times and turned away 16 of those shots. Snowdon could have used some help from his teammates on those Kenneth Gill breakaways. The goalie can't do it all...

The Tornadoes defense was outstanding throughout the game. Shane Watanabe was strong and steady in his defensive play. Nicholas Gill had a terrific day in goal for the Tornadoes as he made some timely saves and stopped 23 of 25 Outlaw shots. The Outlaws did most of the shooting, out shooting the Tornadoes 25 to 22. It was a great outing for the Tornadoes!

Here's the scoring summary:

Team	Period	Time	Scoring
Outlaws	1	7:35	August Janow from Caleb Travis
Tornadoes	1	13:00	Kenneth Gill unassisted
Tornadoes	2	2:37	Kenneth Gill unassisted
Outlaws	2	11:15	Hank Cribbs unassisted
Tornadoes	3	1:16	Kenneth Gill unassisted (Hat Trick)
Tornadoes	3	1:21	Daniel Smith unassisted
Tornadoes	3	5:58	Kenneth Gill unassisted (Hat Trick +1)
Tornadoes	3	7:48	Kenneth Gill unassisted (Hat Trick +2)

## **Squirt Tornadoes Beat up by the Badgers, SJHA Badgers 5 – Kent Valley 3**

*Story by Kristine Langmack*

Wyatt King made his debut in goal today but the Badgers couldn't be beat.

Nolan Schaper scored a goal in the first @ 9:45 to put the Tornadoes on the board. The Badgers came back with a goal of their own @ 7:35. Badgers put another one in @ 6:53 and the last one for period 1 @ 2:12.

Camden Ward scored the only goal of period 2 for the Tornadoes @ 8:44. Camden is quite the go-getter. He never gives up when out on the ice. If he isn't sinking the puck into the goal himself, he's a playmaker assisting the shooter. Great job Camden!

The Badgers scored @ 6:42 and 3:57. Good hustle today by Andrew Bell. We recorded 8 shots on goal today for him. He was all over the ice, working hard. He was finally rewarded with a goal; I believe his first this season @ 2:16 in the third.

As you will see by the recap, lots of aggressive play that led to a lot of penalties being called. Here's the summary:

Team	Period	Time	Scoring
Tornadoes	1	9:45	Nolan Schaper unassisted
Badgers	1	7:35	J Harris unassisted (Power Play)
Badgers	1	6:53	J Harris from B Szekeves
Badgers	1	2:12	M Bondarchuk unassisted
Tornadoes	2	8:44	Camden Ward unassisted (Power Play)
Badgers	3	6:42	M Bondarchuk from C Wong

Badgers	3	3:57	A Wyrick from J Krause
Tornadoes	3	2:16	Andrew Bell unassisted

### **Penalties Period 1:**

Tornadoes - Jon Langmack – tripping @ 14:20  
Tornadoes - #10 - Jon Langmack – roughing @ 8:15

### **Penalties Period 2:**

Badgers – B Ecklebarger – checking @ 11:25  
Badgers – J Hemphill – tripping @ 6:45  
Badgers – J Krause – hooking @ 3:00  
Badgers – J Hemphill – tripping @ 2:00

### **Penalties Period 3:**

Tornadoes – Jon Langmack – checking @7:31  
Badgers – Jake Hemphill – tripping @ 6:30  
Badgers – Brendan Ecklebarger – slashing @ 2:49  
Tornadoes – Conner Pitlick –hooking @ 1:13

## ***PeeWee Hurricanes Topped by Everett Kodiaks***

***Story by Mark Mathews***

Everett, WA 19 October, 2008 – The Kent Valley PeeWee Hurricanes travelled to Everett Saturday, looking for a rematch with the Everett Kodiaks, who beat them last Saturday 6-1. The Hurricanes had worked on their offensive and defensive skills during the past week, hoping to improve their scoring game. As it worked out, Everett had other plans for the Hurricanes.

The 1<sup>st</sup> period started out strong for the Canes, and it seemed like they would score first, but a breakaway by Everett resulted in a goal by Westley Hartze at 12:45. He was assisted by Chandler Ford. The Canes played strong after this goal, but Everett scored again at 3:25. Hartze again was the young gun, assisted by John Gutierrez.

The 2<sup>nd</sup> period was a good offensive period for both teams. The Canes got off 6 shots, all stopped beautifully by Everett goalie Jason Hadaller. Everett put one by Canes goalie Aaron Mathews at 10:17. Everett’s Michael Myers was the tip in man, while Everett sniper Stuart Terrell Jr. was awarded the assist. Everett had 8 shots on goal in the 2<sup>nd</sup>.

The 3<sup>rd</sup> period was a physical one by both teams. Two goals, both unassisted, were scored by Everett, one by Stuart Terrell Jr. at 11:37, and one by Thomas Freeman at 7:24.

Total shots on goal were 17 by Everett, while Kent managed 12. Everett also was assessed 4 penalties for a total of 8 minutes, while Kent played penalty free.

It would be a good point to make that Everett played a well balanced offensive game, always placing a man on the goal’s weak side, waiting for a tip in opportunity. Three Everett goals were scored this way.

In summary, our boys played a good game of hockey, against a very talented Everett team. The final score in no way indicates how well they actually played against them. We’ll get `em next time boys!

## ***PeeWee Tornadoes Take Down Tomahawks***

Kent, WA 18 October, 2008 – The Puget Sound Tomahawks took a first period lead with an unassisted Power Play goal from Michael Welch. It was the Tomahawks only shot on goal in the first period. Tornadoes goalie Benjamin Cary turned away the rest of the Tomahawk’s shots on his goal.

A pair of "Nicks" combined forces to put the Tornados on the score board at 6:03 of the second period. Nick Pizzey scored with an assist from Nick Calfy. AJ Alonzo added the game winner, an unassisted goal, with 9:38 remaining in the third period.

Tomahawks goalie Emily Gramh played an outstanding game as she stood up to the strong Tornados offense and turned away 12 of 14 shots on goal. Tornados goalie Benjamin Cary stopped 8 of 9 Tomahawks shots on goal. Each team took 3 penalties.

The scoring summary is below:

Team	Period	Time	Scoring
Puget Sound	1	3:10	Michael Welch unassisted (Power Play)
KVHA	2	6:03	Nick Pizzey from Nick Calfy
KVHA	3	9:38	AJ Alonzo unassisted

## ***PeeWee Tier-II Selects Dominate on Saturday, Out of Gas on Sunday***

Kent, WA 19 October, 2008 – How can a team play so well on Saturday and fail to show up on Sunday? It was the same two teams, on the same ice just 15 hours apart. Each team had 3 more shots on goal Sunday than they had on Saturday. The Selects out-shot the Admirals almost 2 to 1 in both games. So, what was it that caused the Selects to go from scoring 7 goals with 8 assists (15 points) on Saturday to scoring 1 goal and 1 assist (2 points) on Sunday? Following are some possibilities:

Admiral's goal keeping on Saturday – 30 shots and 23 saves = 76.7%

Admiral's goal keeping on Sunday – 33 shots and 32 saves = 97.0%

Penalties on Saturday – Selects 4 vs. Admirals 4

Penalties on Sunday – Selects 7 vs. Admirals 1

My conclusions; there were too many penalties by the Selects on Sunday. Because of penalties they played shorthanded for 1/3<sup>rd</sup> of the game while the Admirals were at full strength for 95% of the game. Perhaps it was the Admiral's goal tending that was better on Sunday at 97% than it was on Saturday at 76.7%.

Scoring summaries are below:

<b>Saturday – Kent Valley Tier-II Selects 7 vs. Seattle Jr. NW Admirals 2</b>			
Team	Period	Time	Scoring
Selects	1	4:51	Jesse Howland from Patrick Dunphy & Lydia Grauer (Power Play)
Selects	1	6:38	Jack Speer from Alec Johnson (Shorthanded)
Admirals	2	11:52	A Stepaniants from R Stanley (Power Play)
Selects	2	13:45	Danny Thomas from Jordan Tindall & Max Doner
Selects	2	14:31	Max Doner from Danny Thomas & Jordan Tindall
Selects	3	1:25	Jack Speer from Max Doner
Admirals	3	7:00	S Pilet from A Stepaniants
Selects	3	7:44	Patrick Dunphy unassisted
Selects	3	12:45	Jack Speer (Hat Trick) unassisted

The Selects' Austin Phelps stopped 13 of 15 shots on goal. The Admirals' J Cannon stopped 23 of 30 shots on goal.

<b>Sunday – Kent Valley Tier-II Selects 1 vs. Seattle Jr. NW Admirals 1</b>			
Team	Period	Time	Scoring
Admirals	1	5:41	L Koski unassisted
Selects	2	9:13	Patrick Dunphy from Anton Nikitin

The Selects' Austin Phelps stopped 17 of 18 shots on goal. The Admirals' L Connor stopped 32 of 33 shots on goal.

## ***Badgers Too Much for Tornadoes in the Third***

***Story by Mary MacDonald***

Kent, WA 19 October, 2008 – The Bantam Tornadoes hosted the Seattle Jr. Badgers for an afternoon game on Sunday. The Tornadoes proved that they are coming together as a team despite the 2-1 loss. The Tornadoes were the first to score in the first period at the 9:50. Brendan Laik scored the goal on a pass from Brady Anderson. The Tornadoes would hold that lead until the 10:58 mark of the third period when they would give up a shorthanded goal.

Running into more penalty problems later in the third the Tornadoes gave up a second shorthanded goal. With many shots of their own on net near the end of the third period while on the power play, they were unable to capitalize on their chances and the final score would be 2-1 for the visitors. Coach Gicewicz said that the team worked hard and is confident that the first win is not far off. The kid's next game is on the road on Saturday the 25th against the Everett Grizzlies.

The Kudo awards went to:

- MVP – Dane Shaver who faced 24 shots in the game
- Dish Award – Brady Anderson
- Reverse Santa Claus – Will Walkey
- Best Defense – Erin Byrens
- Hardest Worker – Wyatt Duncan

## ***Bantam Tier-II Selects Dance with Spokane Jr. Chiefs in Weekend Waltz***

Spokane, WA October 19, 2008 – The Kent Valley Bantam Tier-II Select's travelled to Eagles Arena in Spokane over the weekend to lose one, tie one and win one. It really wasn't much of a waltz though; it was more like a street fight in Tijuana, Mexico. The Kent Valley Selects were assessed 127 minutes in penalties over three games. The Spokane Jr. Chiefs took 75 minutes in penalties over the three games. That's a total of over 200 minutes between the two teams. A convicted car thief doesn't get that much jail time in Spokane County... Wow!

The scoresheets were virtually unreadable. Shots on goal were not recorded in any of the three games. Consequently there is no scoring summary. I was able to determine goal scoring in game two by the Selects; Kale Pokrzywinski scored unassisted at 16:14 of the first period. Molly Doner scored at 15:53 of the first period with an assist from Grant Wilson. In game three, Molly Doner scored at 5:45 of the first period on an assist by Dane Dahline. Grant Wilson scored at 2:14 of the second period with an assist from Molly Doner. Jake Becker score unassisted at 16:46 of the third period. Noah Bloxton scored at 14:22 of the third period with an assist from Grant Wilson.

Goal keepers were not recorded on the scoresheets. It looked like Spokane Jr. Chiefs goalie Catie Etier earned the shut out in game one. It also appeared that Etier assisted on one of Spokane's goals. Dimitri Nikitin was the only goalie listed on the Select's roster, so give Nikitin credit for the shut out in game three of the match.

Below are the scores for all three games:

Game 1, 10/18/08 12:15pm Kent Valley Selects 0 vs. Spokane Jr. Chiefs 3  
Game 2, 10/18/08 8:00pm Kent Valley Selects 2 vs. Spokane Jr. Chiefs 2  
Game 3, 10/19/08 10:45am Kent Valley Selects 4 vs. Spokane jr. Chiefs 0

## ***Midget Tornadoes Undefeated in League Play***

***Story by Sheri Walsh***

Bremerton, WA 19 October, 2008 – The Midget Tornadoes are 3-and-0 in league play after shutting-out the Kitsap County Outlaws (Red) Sunday in Bremerton. The Tornadoes have allowed only one goal this season and again played a great passing game on Sunday. Less than thirty seconds into the game, Paul Pinkoske scored off of a quick set-up by Jereme Clark and Kevin Yang. Five minutes later, Jereme Clark dug the puck out of the corner to make a great pass to defenseman Ben Fleming who fired the puck top shelf, making it 2-0. Paul Pinkoske scored his second goal right off of a face-off in the second period, as Jereme Clark got his third assist of the game earning a natural playmaker. Kyle Miller Smith netted Kent's fourth goal: a tip-in set-up by Taylor Birkeland and Justin Hill-Sellers. Goalie Josh Severeid secured the shut-out with fifteen saves and the Tornadoes win 4-0.

Here's the game summary:

<b>Team</b>	<b>Period</b>	<b>Time</b>	<b>Scoring</b>
KVHA	1	14:31	Paul Pinkoske from Jereme Clark & Kevin Yang
KVHA	1	9:45	Ben Fleming from Jereme Clark
KVHA	2	6:24	Paul Pinkoske from Jereme Clark & Kevin Yang
KVHA	3	6:35	Kyle Miller Smith from Taylor Birkeland & Justin Hill-Sellers

## ***Midget Selects Drop a Heartbreaker to Sno-King B***

***Story by Pete Brooks***

Kirkland, WA 18 October, 2008 – In the opener of the PNAHA Midget B division, the Kent Valley Selects took on Sno-King at Kingsgate Arena on Saturday night. At the 9:31 mark of the 1st period, the Selects drew first blood with an unassisted goal from Mikey Anderson. Little did anyone know, that goal would hold up until the waning moments of the game.

Fate was not on Kent Valley's side in crunch time as Sno-King was able to tie it up with just 2:46 remaining in the 3rd period. A whole game's worth of solid defensive play would not hold up when it was needed the most. Probably a little down and dejected, the Selects quickly gave up another goal on a controversial non-icing call with 1:10 remaining. And that would be it, easily the toughest lost so far in an already tough start to a season.

## ***More Heartbreak on Sunday for Midget Selects***

***Story by Pete Brooks***

Renton, WA 19 October, 2008 – Looking to avenge a dramatic 2-1 loss from the night before, the Kent Valley Selects took on Sno-King B at Castle Ice on Sunday. And it was just about as good of a start as you could ask for. At the 13:19 mark of the 1st period, Ryan Kaluza was assisted by Jason Bartlett to give the Selects a fast 1-0 lead. Just a brief 45 seconds later, it was 2-0 Selects on a Joey Scherer goal, assisted from Erik Jennings and Steven Meginnes. Unfortunately, that would be the scoring for the day for Kent Valley.

By the end of the 1st period, Sno-King would tie the game at 2-2 on a couple goals from Derrick Anderson. Sno-King would put the game away with a goal in each the 2nd and 3rd periods to seal the 4-2 win. A tough heartbreaking weekend to say the least for the Kent Valley Selects as they continue to search to find their ways.

Next weekend the Selects return home for a pair of games against the Couer d'Alene Thunder from Idaho.....Game time on Sat 10/25 is 7:20pm.....Sun 10/26 is at 10:10am.

***Have a great week!***

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