

## **Official Time Out for the Holidays**

Kent WA 2 January, 2009 – I'm blaming it on the snow, the pressure of the holidays and just plain laziness. That's why it's been over two weeks since the last KVHA News Letter. I just took a break! That's the official explanation and I'm sticking with it!

Merry Christmas and Happy New Years to everyone! I hope you all made it through the snow safely. The snow was at times both beautiful and ugly. I must say that I wasn't saddened to see it melt away. Below are some game reports that go back a few days and weeks. Let's call this the catch-up edition. Enjoy!

## **ShoWare Center is Open for Business**

Kent, WA 2 January, 2009 – The Grand Opening Celebration Friday at Kent's ShoWare Center was awesome. The facility exceeds my wildest expectations. If there was anyone in the building Friday more excited than me it had to have been Mayor Suzette Cooke. Our paths crossed in the main concourse Friday afternoon. As I gave the mayor a hug she reminded me of a conversation we'd had more than two years ago in the living room of my home in Kent. We had talked about my family's involvement in hockey and my long association with the Seattle Thunderbirds. She in turn discussed the City's future plans and goals. As we stood there Friday watching people stream into ShoWare Center, Mayor Cooke said; "*See Lew, dreams do come true!*" "*Yes, they do Mayor!*" I agreed.

It's been a long journey from the early Kent Events Center discussions to the reality of opening night. Thanks to all those from the City of Kent, concerned and supportive citizens, the Seattle Thunderbirds and everyone else for their efforts in making this dream come true. The final destination of this journey is far greater than I ever imagined. Well done everyone!

## **Mite Tornadoes 5 – Seattle Jr. Mite Red 0**

Kent, WA 20 December, 2008 – The record snow storm and high winds that battered the Kent Valley Saturday were nothing compared to the swirling Tornadoes inside Kent Valley Ice Centre. Kent Valley's Mite Tornadoes churned up a storm of their own as they shutout the Seattle Jr. Admiral Red team by a score of 5 to 0.

Ken Gill scored the Tornadoes first goal at 12:32 of the first period. Less than a minute later Danny Smith added the Tornadoes second goal. JT Rimorin and Ken Gill teamed up just 1:10 into the second period for the Tornadoes third goal. The air in Kent Valley Ice Centre remained calm until 11:35 when JT Rimorin scored the Tornadoes fourth goal. The Seattle Jr. Admiral Red did their best to turn the game around in the third period firing almost half their game total shots on goal during the period. The Tornadoes took advantage of a Admiral Red penalty near the end of the period as Ken Gill scored a Power Play goal with and assist from JT Rimorin.

The Tornadoes outshot the Admiral Reds 18 to 13. Nick Gill had a perfect game in goal for the Tornadoes as he stopped 13 of 13 shots on goal to earn the shutout. A scoring summary is below:

<b>Team</b>	<b>Period</b>	<b>Time</b>	<b>Scoring</b>
Kent Valley	1	12:32	Ken Gill (Unassisted)
Kent Valley	1	13:30	Danny Smith (Unassisted)
Kent Valley	2	1:10	JT Rimorin from Ken Gill
Kent Valley	2	11:35	JT Rimorin (Unassisted)
Kent Valley	3	0:11	Ken Gill from JT Rimorin (Power Play)

Kent Valley's Nick Gill stopped 13 of 13 shots on goal for 100% and a Shutout.  
Seattle Jr's Olson stopped 13 of 18 shots on goal for 72%.  
Kent Valley was penalty free while Seattle Jr. had two penalties for 4 minutes.

## ***Squirt Tornadoes League Game Cancelled***

Kent, WA 20 December, 2008 – The weekend snow storm caused cancellation of the Tornadoes' scheduled league game. The NPSHL will reschedule the game in the near future.

## ***Pee Wee Hurricanes Win Tough Battle in Bremerton, 3-2***

*Story by Mark Mathews*

Bremerton, WA 14 December, 2008 – The Kent Valley Hurricanes traveled through wintery weather last Sunday, to take on the KCHA Outlaws Black. Kent was looking for a little payback after suffering a 2-1 loss over Thanksgiving break to Bremerton at the Battle for the Sound holiday tournament. Although Bremerton's record is now 2-5-3 in NPSHL play, they are very tough, having tied the first place Grizzlies in regular play, and losing by only 1 goal in each of three games against other top NPSHL teams. We knew we had our work cut out for us against Bremerton, and work hard the boys did!

With the Hurricanes starting the game with only 9 players, the coaches told the boys they would have to skate like crazy to stay with this team. Boy, did they respond! We played 5 minutes of tough hockey, before two more Hurricanes made it to the bench from having traveled through ice and snow. With these 2 additional players, Kent held Bremerton to 6 shots on net, killed off a power play, and got 2 shots on Bremerton's net to boot.

The second period started off like the first: fast and tough. Bremerton likes to check, and, so it seems, do our boys. Kent struck first, however, on a goal scored by Daniel Gill at 12:00. Daniel's goal was his first of the season, and was scored in a battle of the crease that Daniel fought for and won. We drew a crosschecking call at 10:35, resulting in a power play goal by Bremerton's ace, Scotty Perkins. Scotty was assisted by Jeremy Carlson. Scotty was Aaron's nemesis all season last year, lighting him up like Rudolph's nose on Christmas Eve. Scotty beat Aaron on a clean, 5-hole shot. Not to be outdone, Kent scored again at 6:35, a goal by Matthew "Young Gun" Saunders, assisted by Jonathan "Speedy" Gonzales. Bremerton struck again at 2:02, an unassisted goal by Justin Sommer. Shots on goal were 7 for Bremerton, 6 for Kent.

The third period was the most exciting hockey I have seen this team play all year. OK, we got the game winner on a goal scored by Jonathan Gonzales at 4:20 left in the game. Sure, our goalie made 6 saves to preserve the win. And yes, the boys played their finest, in my opinion, game to date. But the real excitement was to take place with :09 left in the game. While I was watching the timer wind down, all of a sudden there was a push, a shove, another push, and then a flurry of Kent and Bremerton players doing what hockey players do best, getting physical. I'm not sure what exactly happened, but I think the referees were extremely kind to both teams, ONLY handing out dual roughing penalties. I didn't really get the jist of what happened, but heard later that a Bremerton player took a swipe at our goalie, and our players took exception to that! The coaches were all looking at each other, smiling and proud of the effort that these boys put out.

Coach Jan started a new award, the hard hat, to be handed out after every game to one player that stood out at his position. This week, the hard hat went to defenseman Camden Mallery, for his diligent back checking, attention to the game on the bench, and one especially beautiful check he put on an unfortunate Bremerton player. Way to go Camden, you earned it this week!!!

Final: Kent-3, Bremerton Black-2  
Shots on goal: Kent-12, Bremerton-20  
Penalties: Kent-4 for 10 mins., Bremerton-2 for 5 mins.

## ***PeeWee Hurricanes Drop One to Everett Grizzlies, 5-1***

**Story by Mark Mathews**

Kent, WA 6 December, 2008 – The Hurricanes took to the ice Saturday morning looking for a win against Everett, but took a 5-1 loss to a strong, relentless Everett offense and stingy defensive play.

The first period was played strongly by the Hurricanes, as the two teams sized each other up and tested the defenses of the other. No scoring for this period, while shots on goal were 7 for Everett, 3 for Kent.

The second period was a 2 goal period for Everett, scoring at 13:34 and 5:59. Everett had 9 shots on goal, while Kent was held to only 2. At the end of the 2<sup>nd</sup> period, Kent was still very much in this game, and the boys were playing strong against a very talented Everett team.

Period 3 started out strong once again, but the Grizzlies poured shot after shot on our net, getting 15 total in this period. Everett scored at 4:58 and 1:09, putting the Hurricanes down 4-0. With :35 seconds left in the game, Matthew Saunders put a shot past Everett netminder Lake Rabel to eliminate a shutout. Matt's goal was assisted by Jonathan "Speedy" Gonzales. With :01 seconds left on the clock, Everett forward Ryan Jaromin, assisted by Wade Wylie, fired a shot from the top of the left face off circle that just connected with the weak side goal post, ricocheting in for a 5<sup>th</sup> and final Everett tally.

While Everett put on a shooting show, Kent had a show going on of its own. Kent goalie Aaron Mathews put on a spectacular display, making glove saves that the bench coaches thought were in the net. We could hear the parents sitting behind us cheering him on, as he made save after save! Even the referee quipped, "That goalie stood on his head today!" One Everett parent commented that he is "squirt sized with big skills." With that many shots coming your way Aaron, you deserve the Plumber of the Game award. Way to go!!!

Final: Everett-5, Kent-1

Shots on goal: Everett-31, Kent-11

Penalties: Everett-4 for 18 mins., Kent-5 for 13 mins.

## ***Rainiers Enjoy Extended Sunday Practice***

Kent, WA 21 December, 2008 – The Kent Valley Rainiers took advantage of the winter storm in the Puget Sound area to conduct a Sunday morning practice marathon. Regularly scheduled games were canceled on Sunday at Kent Valley Ice Centre. The Rainiers took the ice at 7:00 AM for their regular practice and stayed on the ice until the afternoon. The extended practice was an added bonus for several Portland and Seattle area players who were invited to attend the practice weekend and learn more about the Rainiers program. Players were also treated to an on-ice conditioning program run by Bob Hamre. Bob ran the players through a skating workout instead of their normal dryland training. It was a good break from the normal routine and allowed players to focus on their leg strength and footwork. The Rainiers are off to Chilliwack for a holiday tournament starting December 27.

## ***Midget Tornadoes Dominate Tomahawks***

**Story by Sheri Walsh**

Tacoma, WA, December 20, 2008 -- Kent's Midget Tornadoes head into the holiday break with another win as they shut-out the Puget Sound Tomahawks 8-0 Saturday at the Puget Sound Hockey Center. Eight different Tornadoes scored goals including former Tomahawk Jared Prado who was first on the board as defenseman Sam Bartels and Ben Fleming assisted. Tommy Peebles earned his first of three assists on a breakaway before being knocked down, leaving the puck behind for defenseman Zach Bloss to score. Kyle Miller Smith made it 3-0 in the second period off a great pass from the corner by Taylor Birkeland. Defenseman Sam Bartels took a slap shot from the point, sending the puck into the top left corner of the net and putting another one on the board for Kent. Just ten seconds later, Justin Hill-Sellers scored from the top of the face-off circle with help from hard-hitting Julius

Bush. After missing a great opportunity on the previous play, Taylor Birkeland redeemed himself with a goal. Defenseman Ben Fleming scored with a wrist shot from the blue line that went in off the goalie's angled stick. For the final goal of the game, Tommy Peebles was taken down in the corner, but managed to pass the puck from a prone position to Paul Pinkoske who was in the slot, making it 8-0 and earning Tommy Peebles a Playmaker. Goalie Eric Shaver earns the shut-out and the Tornados advance in the league standings to 10-and-1. Great team effort!

Team	Period	Time	Scoring
KVHA	1	1:42	Jared Prado from Sam Bartels & Ben Fleming
KVHA	2	14:28	Zach Bloss from Tommy Peebles & Sam Bartels
KVHA	2	7:45	Kyle Miller Smith from Taylor Birkeland
KVHA	2	3:20	Sam Bartels from Paul Pinkoske & Taylor Birkeland
KVHA	2	3:10	Justin Hill-Sellers from Julius Bush & Tommy Peebles
KVHA	3	10:58	Taylor Birkeland from Justin Hill-Sellers
KVHA	3	9:25	Ben Fleming, unassisted
KVHA	3	5:34	Paul Pinkoske, from Tommy Peebles

Have a great week and great new year!

**Contact:** Lew Sellers, Director of Communications  
 Kent Valley Hockey Association  
 6015 So. 240th Street  
 Kent, WA. 98032  
 (206) 914-9619 Cellular  
[Lew@KentValleyIceCentre.com](mailto:Lew@KentValleyIceCentre.com)