

# NY HOCKEY

February 2016  
VOLUME 5 ISSUE 5

# E-MAGAZINE

*Buffalo, Valley, Amherst, Syracuse Play Big!*  
*Rome, Tonawanda Help Community!*  
*NWHL Holds First All Star Game!*



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## BOB JANOSZ Head Instructor



- NHL Assistant Goalie Coach:  
Buffalo Sabres/ Florida Panthers (9 yrs)
- AHL Head Goalie Coach:  
Rochester Americans (9 yrs)
- USA Hockey Scout and Coach (9 yrs)
- USA Hockey Warren Strelow Goalie  
Camp Mentor (6 Years)
- USA Hockey Level 5 Coach
- Former Pro- ECHL, UHL, RHI
- Division 1 standout at Canisius College
- P.E. Master's Degree Canisius College
- 23 years experience coaching goalies  
of all ages and skill levels.

### Janosz School of Goaltending

Janosz School of Goaltending's unique age and skill specific camps will develop each student's mental, physical, and emotional skills to achieve a balance of "blocking" and "reacting" saves. Coaching at the NHL/AHL Level and scouting for USA Hockey gives Janosz the insights to what scouts and coaches look for in a goaltender. Janosz has been coaching goaltenders of all ages and skill levels for the past 23 years.

The drills and coaching techniques used are designed to build a highly competitive, athletic, and fundamentally sound goaltender capable of advancing through the hockey ranks. JSG Camps have a ratio of 1 instructor per 2-3 goalies ensuring each goaltender gets enough reps and personalized attention.

### Classroom Sessions

Classroom sessions will improve the mental and emotional part of each goaltender's game. Sessions include: NHL game situation and goalie analysis, game management strategies, mental visualization techniques, and nutritional/training needs. There will also be discussions on the best avenues to advance through the hockey ranks.

### Footwork & Fundamental Save Session (AM)

Proper repetition will perfect technique to improve quickness and efficiency to build a highly mobile and fundamentally sound goaltender. This session will cover goalie specific movements as well as fundamental and advanced save techniques. The following skills will be covered: movement; puck tracking; all of the variations of the butterfly and butterfly slide; moving while down, post seals, leans, rebound control, shifts, and handling the puck.

Several pieces of on-ice training equipment will be used: Mirrors, High Shot Screen Boards, Deflection Boards, mini, colored, and white pucks.

### Game Situation Session (PM)

This clinic will cover common situations that a goaltender will face in a game. The following situations will be covered: rush plays, pass outs, plays around the net, bad angle shots, point/screen shots, lateral feeds, and breakaways. Rebound control will be emphasized for all situations. Shooters will shoot according to age and skill.

### Video Technique Analysis

Students will learn how to refine the physical part of their game by reviewing their own video with the JSG coaching staff.

### Off-Ice Conditioning

Designed to strengthen your physical and mental attributes. The latest age appropriate off-ice training methods will be used with an emphasis on goaltender specific training. The following areas will be covered; dynamic warm-up, flexibility, core and leg strength, hand eye coordination; quick feet and agility drills.

# CAMPS

#### Amherst "Elite" AAA Goalie Camp

July 11-14, 2016  
Northtown Center at Amherst  
\* AAA Goaltenders 2003 birth year through college level  
\* Coaches Eye Video Analysis included  
Cost: \$595

#### Syracuse Pre-Season Goalie Camp

July 25-July 28, 2016  
Cicero Twin Ice Arena  
Cost: \$495 / \$595 with Coaches Eye Video Analysis

#### Amherst Pre-Season Goalie Camp

August 1-4, 2016  
Northtown Center at Amherst  
Cost: \$495 / \$595 with Coaches Eye Video Analysis

#### Buffalo Pre-Season Goalie Camp

August 8-11, 2016  
Holiday Twin Rinks  
Cost: \$495 / \$595 with Coaches Eye Video Analysis

#### Amherst Beginner Goalie Half-Day Camp

August 15-18, 2016  
Northtown Center at Amherst  
Cost: \$295 / \$395 with Coaches Eye Video Analysis

#### Webster Pre-Season Goalie Camp

August 22-25, 2016  
Webster Ice Arena  
Cost: \$495 / \$595 with Coaches Eye Video Analysis



#### JSG Adult Goalie Camp

June 3-4, 2016  
Northtown Center at Amherst  
Cost: \$195 / \$245 with Coaches Eye Video Analysis

This camp is for the recreational goalie ages 21 and up. All skill levels welcome.

# CLINICS

#### Amherst Spring Select Goalie Clinics

April 19-June 15, 2016 (Tue-Wed after school) 4:30-5:30  
Northtown Center at Amherst  
Cost: \$50 per session/\$400 for 10 sessions/\$225 for 5 sessions  
\*Restricted to travel goaltenders 2004 birth year and older

#### "Elite" AAA Goalie Clinic

July 6, 13, 20, August 10, and 17, 5:00-6:30 pm  
Holiday Twin Rinks  
Cost: \$75 per session or \$345 for all 5  
\*Restricted to AAA goalies 2001 birth year and older

#### Amherst Sunday Review Clinics

July 17-August 21, 2016  
Northtown Center Amherst

##### Edgework Clinic

Time: 6:00pm - 6:50pm  
Cost: \$30 per session or \$125 for 5 sessions

##### Saves Clinic

Time: 6:50pm - 7:45pm  
Cost: \$40 per session or \$175 for 5 sessions

##### Select Clinic

Time: 7:55pm - 8:50pm  
Cost: \$50 per session or \$225 for 5 sessions  
Restricted to travel goaltenders 2004 birth year and older.



LETTER FROM THE EDITOR/FEBRUARY 2016  
NY HOCKEY ONLINE MAGAZINE



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Dear Readers:

Well, here we are again in the middle of a great hockey season and very quickly heading into the home stretch.

This issue is jam packed with hockey features and photos from around New York State. Koz has been busy keeping track of the men's college hockey scene, while Janet brings you up to date with the girls and women's hockey scene.

Bob Janosz and Chuck Gridley are back with their monthly columns.

We would also like to thank all of you who have been sending Janet their tournament results as well as other special hockey announcements. Many thanks also go out to those who have sent in photos. The only thing I will ask is to please keep sending them to us.

As always, we simply ask that you continue to pass our magazine around to your friends and family to read. And if you know of any businesses that would like to advertise in the magazine and/or the web page, please feel free to have them contact us.

Best wishes go out to all who are heading into their post-seasons with playoffs or tournaments. Safe travels to all.

Best Wishes,

Randy Schultz  
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# NWHL Notes

In its first season the NWHL have a listing of firsts! Among them now are the first Trade and the first Coaching Resignation, along with the First NWHL All Star Game (see story following). The firsts involve New York teams.

The All-Star Game was held in Buffalo and the first trade involved the New York Riveters.

The Riveters acquired goaltender Chelsea Laden from the Connecticut Whale. She appeared in one game for the Whale on October 18, registering a 2.00 goals against average and a .947 save percentage.

The Whale acquired Goaltender Shenae Lundberg who logged 28:56 minutes in a relief effort in October 18 and registered a .875 gals against average.

While there is a no-trade clause in the league, neither goalie has one in her contract.

The first coaching resignation came from Connecticut Whale Head Coach Jake Mastel on January 29.

Heather Linstad, former head coach of the North-eastern and University of Connecticut women's hockey teams, will take over alongside assistant coach Lisa Giovanelli.

"I'm very excited for this opportunity to work with such a talented group of athletes," said Linstad.

"They have clearly established a winning tradition early on in Connecticut, and I hope to build on that leading into playoffs."

Buffalo Goaltender Brianne McLaughlin (right) was named NWHL Player of the Week for January 19. McLaughlin replaced Kimberly Sass midway through the second period of Sunday's Beauts-Riveters game with her team trailing 4-2. She made 23 saves on 24 shots over the final 34 minutes of play (regulation and overtime), allowing Buffalo to stage a three goal comeback en route to a 6-5 win. The Beauts goaltender also stopped two of three possible shootout attempts.



## NYS Girls Section III

Top seed Skaneateles (13-3-0) took on #2 seed Alexandria Bay (8-1-1) on January 30. Alexandria Bay defeated Skaneateles and advances to the NYS semi-finals on February 4. They will face Beekmantown.

### Section VII

Albany Academies beat Lake Placid 5-0 in the semi-finals in Section VII. In the final match-up #1 Beekmantown beat them 4-3 in Overtime to capture the Section VI title and move to the NYS semi-finals on Feb. 4

### Section X

Canton over Potsdam 5-4 and Massena beat Salmon River 5-1 in the semi-finals. The defending State Champion Massena lost to Canton in the Section X Championship. Canton will face the Section VI winner on February 4.

The Skaneateles-Ithaca game was forfeited due to too few players.



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# Around the NWHL

By Randy Schultz  
Randy@nyhockeyonline.com

“It is truly hard to believe that a year ago at this time there was no National Women’s Hockey League. And now look how far we have come.”

So said Dani Rylan, Founder and Commissioner of the newly formed NWHL. And no truer words have ever been spoken.

A year ago nobody knew who Dani Rylan was. But last month The Hockey News listed her among their list of the “100 Most Influential and Powerful People In Hockey.”

It was March of 2015 when it was announced that a new women’s professional hockey league was being formed. More importantly, the players would be paid.

There were the skeptics. Many of them. But Rylan moved ahead.

Four teams were created in New York, Connecticut, Boston and Buffalo. The NWHL began playing for real in October.

On December 31 the Boston Pride represented the NWHL in the first ever Women’s Outdoor Game at the National Hockey League’s Winter Classic, held at the home of the National Football League’s



Team Captains Hilary Knight and Emily Pfalzer with Guest Coaches

New England Patriots.

Finally, on the weekend of January 22-24 the NWHL held its first-ever All-Star Weekend and Game in Buffalo.

Through it all Rylan held her ground and did things her way. No doubt there have been bumps in the road along the way for Rylan

and her new league.

But Rylan has never wavered. She has stayed the route that she has planned for the NWHL.

Rylan sat down with the National media in Buffalo and talked about the NWHL’s inaugural season.

“I think we have come a long way in our first season,” remarked Rylan. “We have our first national sponsor (Dunkin’ Donuts). “We plan on bringing in more sponsors as we go into year two and year three.

“We have a tangible product now. We have numbers that we can present to our sponsors.

“We know who our fans are and how passionate they are about the game.”

Rylan actually feels that the League should have started a year earlier than it did.

“I thought we should have started in 2014, right after the Winter Olympics,” stated the NWHL Commissioner. “That (women’s hockey) game was watched by 4.9 million viewers so the game had broadcast value and it had the speed and skill on the ice.

“It was ready for the professional stage.”

One point that Rylan stated several times is that the NWHL moves at their own pace.



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"We integrate ourselves slowly," said Rylan. "The more girls we influence into the game, may turn into Sabres or Bruins fans."

She also spoke about the upcoming playoffs for the Isobel Cup.

"March 4-6 will be the first round with one versus four and two versus three in a best-of-three format. March 11-13 will be the championship round."

Why Buffalo for the All-Star Game?

"That was a no-brainer," continued Rylan. "Buffalo has proven time and time again what a great hockey town it is.

"They have been host to several major hockey events over the past few years, so we felt that they would be the natural choice to host the first All-Star Game. Plus, they have already proven how well they are supporting the Beauts."

From this reporters point of view, covering the first-ever NWHL All-Star Weekend was what covering the NHL All-Star Weekend used to be like.

Innocence.

Being able to mingle with the players. Simply talk to them, one-on-one or in a small group. The players were accessible.

And that's the way they are with their fans and followers.

As for the All-Star Game, it was an exhibition. The game itself had its moments of excitement as well as humor, as did the Skills Competition.

Probably the moment in the game that has gone viral was when Emily Field scored for Team Pflazer. As part of the post-goal celebration, Field skated to the corner of the rink, threw her glove into the air and when it hit the ice she, along with two other teammates were "blown up" by the glove and fell to the ice.

Emily Pflazer's squad bested Team Knight by a 9-1 score. The Beauts captain and her draftees jumped out to an early lead by capturing all four skills challenge events, including Megan Bozek's 88 mph hardest shot.

In the game itself, Kelley Steadman scored a pair of goals en route to Most Valuable Player honors.

Finally, at the end of the game, with both teams shaking hands, Team Pflazer goalie Brittany Ott took a pie in the face from Team Knight netminder, Brianne McLaughlin.

Following the game, most of the players went out and signed autographs and posed for photos with their fans.

Fun?

Yes.

Entertaining?

Yes.



Seymour Knox IV dropped the ceremonial puck.



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For the estimated crowd of over 1000 who attended the game, it was the perfect end to an historical week-end for women's hockey.

Maybe Rylan summed it up best during his news conference when she said, tongue-and-cheek, "Us women. We know what we're doing."

*Yes, Dani, you do.*



*First Up--A Gala with Supporters and Players!*



*Next a Press Conference where Commissioner Rylan presented Team Captains with their All-Star Jerseys.*



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*An informal Skate with The Fans!*

*Team Knight Coach Ric Seiling with Hoorary Coach*

*Shelley Looney with Team Pfalzer Honorary Coach*

*Hilary Knight and Emily Pfalzer Take Face Off in First-Ever NWHL All Star Game*





*Fun Photos from  
Game Day by Janet Schultz*

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The RIT women's hockey team in conjunction with College Hockey America, held its annual "Skate With the Cure" game against Syracuse University at the Gene Polisseni Center on Friday, Jan. 22. This year, RIT is supporting "Do It For Daron" (DIFD), an organization dedicated to raising awareness, inspiring conversations, and transforming youth mental health.

RIT wore special purple jerseys that were auctioned off via silent auction, with all proceeds going to DIFD. In addition, purple bracelets and lanyards were given out with purchase of raffle tickets.

On Nov. 13, 2010, 14-year-old Daron Richardson died by suicide. From this tragedy came a movement to transform youth mental

health.

Spearheaded by Daron's parents Luke and Stephanie Richardson, who decided to transform their very private pain into a public call-to-action, a decision was made to support young people who suffer in silence from the pain of mental illness. Supported by the energy and efforts of dozens of Daron's close friends and classmates, a grassroots movement was formed with the mission of creating awareness, inspiring conversations, and transforming youth mental health.

Do It For Daron (DIFD) encourages young people to talk openly about mental illness and to ask for help when needed. DIFD provides young people, their parents, teachers, coaches and other adult role models with the resources, outlets

and, most importantly, courage to overcome the shame and fear of discussing mental illness.

The purple DIFD heart, a creation inspired by Daron's favorite color, has become the youth-driven symbol of this movement. It is a visual reminder that only love and awareness, not hiding in the shadows, can combat youth mental illness.

"We are honored to be partners with the Richardson family and the Do It For Daron Foundation," said Bruce B. Bates Women's Hockey Coach, Scott McDonald. "Mental health awareness is crucial in development of our youth."

*(Continued on Page 16)*



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# INTRODUCING....

Only in Buffalo would you have a press conference, held in the middle of a cold, wintry January Day to announce a new flavor of ice cream. On January 21 that is exactly what happened with a major announcement taking place on the 100-level of the First Niagara Center, Home of the Buffalo Sabres.

One Buffalo Premium Ice Cream, a flavor crafted by Perry's Ice Cream in partnership with Pegula Sports & Entertainment (PSE), is now available in quart packages at retail stores.

Fans first got a taste of the rich and creamy vanilla ice cream loaded with swirls of sea salt caramel, sponge candy pieces and fudge-coated pretzels back in October when One Buffalo was released exclusively at First Niagara Center and (716) Food and Sport in Buffalo, and Blue Cross Arena in Rochester.

One Buffalo Premium Ice Cream is the first food product to be part of PSE's One Buffalo campaign, which represents teamwork, a unified passion and pride of being part of the Buffalo community.



Bruce Popko (Pegula Entertainment), Sabretooth, Robert Denning (Perrys), Brian Perry (Perrys) and Billy Buffalo sample One Buffalo!

This past summer the Perry's team proudly collaborated with Kim Pegula to create the distinctive ice cream flavor that showcases local culture by incorporating sponge candy, the confection Buffalobians love.

Robert Denning, President & CEO of Perry's Ice Cream, commented on the collaboration.

"We are proud to be associated with the 'One Buffalo' movement by providing a product that unifies and energizes the community," said Denning. "In terms of the packaging graphic design, we chose to illustrate the Buffalo skyline on the carton to express our excitement for the resurgence and major reinvestments in the city of Buffalo and Western New York community."

(Continued on Page 17)



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# Lockport Inducts Inaugural Howell Hockey Hall of Fame Honorees

By Randy Schultz, randy@nyhockeyonline.com

The Howell Motors Hockey Hall of Fame will induct its prestigious first class of inductees at the Cornerstone CFCU Ice Arena in Lockport on Saturday, Feb. 6.

Nationally-known sports writer, Tim Wendel and former Buffalo Sabres forward, Jim Lorentz, will be among those on hand to welcome in the first class.

That class has four categories including Founders, Contributors, Coaches and Players. The 15 individuals include: Dr. James Westhafer, Dr. Ralph Lewis, John Gerald York, Dr. Albert g. Connette, Donald Kaufman, Peter Wendel, Vic Cook, Bob Stratton, Bill Watson.

Richard G. Connette, Terry Dixon, Rick Eberhart, Jim Musto, Tom Snedeker and Jeff Thompon.

The foundation of any great hockey organization comes from the people who worked hard from its beginnings to make it successful. These people are commonly known as "founders."

In the case of the Kenan Ice Arena, their foundation came from three founders. Those three men included York, Jr. Dr. Westhafer and Dr. Lewis, DVM.

All three individuals were well known in the Lockport area. Yet the trio would eventually cross paths that would lead to the founding of one of the finest hockey arenas in all of Western New York.



Like the founding trio, William Rand Kenan, Jr. belonged to the First Presbyterian Church in Lockport. Dr. Westhafer was the minister with Dr. Lewis and York serving as members.

Before Kenan passed, it was announced that the Church was the recipient of a bequest from Kenan that included property on Locust St. as well as money.

Following Kenan's death, a committee was formed, which included York, Dr. Westhafer and Dr. Lewis, with part of their plan to use the property fronting Beattie Ave. to build an ice arena.

Groundbreaking for the arena took place in 1967 with the first board of Governors being formed. Dr. Lewis was the first chairman

and York the second.

The ice arena was finished and opened in 1968 with the trio being the guiding force behind its construction.

The Kenan Center and Ice Arena came to be because of a people like York, Dr. Westhafer and Dr. Lewis who were valuable gifts to the Lockport community. They truly could be referred to as the "Founding Fathers" of the Kenan Ice Arena.

Kaufman became the proud owner of the Washburn Street Meat Market in 1973. From that moment on Kaufman took over from the previous owner's role of sponsoring youth hockey in Lockport.

Kaufman has owned and operated the market for over 40 years and was always eager to support the local hockey teams.

Dr. Connette made a huge impact in the history of Lockport hockey as a head coach. For several years he coached youth hockey at the Kenan Ice Arena.

Prior to coaching in Lockport, Dr. Connette coached youth hockey at the Nichols Arena in Buffalo with the Buffalo Shamrocks. He played hockey for several years for Henrich Chevrolet.

Over the past 60 years Wendel has been instrumental in countless community and economic development efforts in Lockport and



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Western New York. This includes his involvement in the early years of youth hockey in Lockport.

Wendel served as Chairman of the Kenan Youth Hockey Committee from 1969-73, shortly after the Kenan Center opened. He and the hockey committee always made it a priority that the Kenan Hockey program be a true community program, making hockey accessible to all Lockport area youth while also emphasizing sportsmanship and teamwork.

Wendel would be the first to say that it took many parents, coaches, players, and volunteers over the years to establish the tradition of hockey excellence in Lockport that is evident today. He is proud to have helped build that initial Kenan program at a time when hockey was the new game in town.

"Bob was the coach that every kid should have once in his life. He brings sportsmanship and fair play to the game and makes it fun.

"He brings out the best in the kids."

That is how one parent summed up the hockey-coaching career of Stratton. He coached for years with The Washburn Street Market Kenan Youth Hockey Team.

Stratton was a dairy farmer in Barker. His youthful exposure to hockey consisted of batting a flattened tin can around a frozen farm pond with hockey sticks.

Then the Kenan Center opened and they needed coaches and Bob stepped up. Bob took his team to Canada, including Quebec and Barrie to improve their level of play and offer good competition.

One of the more memorable moments came when the team presented the key to the City of Lockport to Barrie's mayor to spread good will and to play hockey.

Stratton-coached teams worked hard, practicing when they could get ice time, with some of the practices held at homes on backyard rinks. With these experiences players learned a lot of hockey and life, with the end results being two consecutive New York State titles.

The youngest of six children, Watson followed in the footsteps of an entire family that skated at the Kenan Center. At the age of five, Watson began his skating career as a Munchkin in the Kenan Figure Skating Club's production of the "Wizard of Oz."

The next year he started his hockey career as a Mite and continued playing for the Kenan hockey programs throughout his childhood. Along the way he began playing for the Lockport High School Club Hockey Team.

As a member of the Lions Watson was named captain in his senior year and, despite a knee surgery, which kept him on the sideline for half the season, was selected for the All-Star team. That same season saw Watson named Lockport High School's Student Athlete of the Year.

After graduating high school in 1986, hockey was put on hold as Watson focused on college soccer. A second knee surgery ended competitive sports and the focus became solely academics and coaching.

Following his graduation from the Albany Law School in 1993,

Watson returned to Lockport and began his first of 21 seasons behind the bench for the Lockport Varsity Club Hockey Team. He was their head coach until 2008 when the team transitioned to Federation Hockey.

During his tenure as head coach Lockport was able to secure numerous bids to Sectionals, two Fredonia Cup Championships, as well as a trip to the New York State High school Championships in 2006. He was named WNYHSC's Coach of the Year on two separate occasions, and was given the NFL's Cornerstone Award in 2010.

Watson continued as a volunteer Assistant Coach through 2014. He also received his Masters Level Coaching Certification through USA Hockey.

Cooke found his passion for hockey on the ponds and rinks around the Massena area where he grew up. After graduating from Syracuse University he moved to Lockport as Director of the Wyndham Lawn Home For Children.

He passed his love of the game on to his sons, Mark and Todd, and enrolled them in the Kenan Center's Youth Hockey programs. Cooke went on to team up with Lou Rosetti, becoming an inseparable coaching tandem, which would last over 15 years.

Besides his commitment and dedication to Lockport Youth Hockey, Cooke will be remembered by his players for his cigar in hand the message from the locker room, "OK boys, the ice is available."

*(Continued on Page 19)*



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## USPHL TO INCLUDE YOUTH DIVISIONS FOR 2016-17 SEASON

The United States Premier Hockey League (USPHL) announced today the formation of a High Performance Youth Division comprised of both major and minor levels of 14 and under (Bantams), 12 and under (Peeeweeks), and 10 and under (Squirts) for the 2016-17 season. The High Performance Youth Divisions will extend the USPHL's renowned brand of player development to younger aged players seeking unrivaled player training and competition.

"The USPHL is more than just a platform for NCAA placements," stated Jersey Hitmen President Jim Hunt., "Hockey-first decisions based on what's best for the game and for the players, has always been a fundamental principal driving the league. By applying that same process to the High Performance Youth Division, a pathway to a legitimate ladder of development is established."

The USPHL's High Performance Youth Division will focus on a unique and innovative player development model that is centered on skill acquisition, pragmatic game scheduling and player retention and advancement. The youth platform of the USPHL will also provide players an assortment of developmental opportunities unrivaled by any traditional youth hockey league on the east coast.

Youth organizations that have already committed to joining the USPHL for the 2016-17 season include the New Jersey Rockets, Jersey Hitmen, Hartford Junior Wolfpack, and P.A.L. Junior Islanders who are affiliated with the NHL's New York Islanders.

"The New York Islanders have always made it an important initiative to advance youth and amateur hockey in the region" New York Islanders President and General Manager Garth Snow said. "The USPHL has built an impressive track record. We are very proud to be a part of the league and look forward to continued development."

Bob Crawford, (Hartford Wolf Pack President)

former USA Hockey Tier 3 Junior Council Caucus Chairman and New England district director, and Jim Hunt, (Jersey Hitmen President) former NCAA Division 1 head coach and national team coach, will serve as Deputy Commissioners.

The USPHL is currently accepting youth organization applications for the 2016-17 season. Organizations interested in joining the USPHL's High Performance Youth Division can apply by emailing Leigh Dean at Leigh@usphl.com.

For more information about the USPHL's High Powered Youth Division, visit [usphl.com/HighPerformanceYouth](http://usphl.com/HighPerformanceYouth).

United States Premier Hockey League social media accounts: Twitter: @USPHL Facebook: UPSHL

*The United States Premier Hockey League (USPHL.com), which operates in 18 of the 50 United States, is the nation's largest amateur ice hockey leagues. The league is comprised of 109 teams representing 54 organizations. Players in the USPHL are 8 to 21 years of age. Over the past two years, the USPHL has seen over 500 of its players advance to the collegiate level.*

*(Submitted article)*

## NY Players Finalists

Four NY players are finalists for the 2016 Hockey Humanitarian Award.

Connor Gorman, Plattsburgh; Sebasten Gingas, Union; Morgan Richardson, Cornell and Kevin Tansey, Clarkson have all been cited as a fine citizen, outstanding student-athlete making significant contributions to the team and the community-at-large.

The winner will be named April 8.



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(RIT DIFD Continued from Page 11)

“The DIFD organization certainly hits close to home within the hockey community. We are hopeful to spread the positive message throughout the Rochester community.

“I think that this ‘Do It For Daron’ game is very unique to women’s hockey because it happened to a woman’s hockey player. We are jumping on board to do our part and that is special.

“We need people talking about this. Young people are going through a lot these days.

“They need to know



that they have people out there to support them. Coming out and talking about it is very courageous and there are people there to help them.

“And I know that this is special for Taylor. This hit pretty close to home with her.

“She was a friend and teammate of Daron’s. She was there when it happened.

“Taylor has stepped up and taken the situation and moved ahead with it. She has done a great job.”

RIT captain Taylor Thurston (Kanata, Ontario/ All Saints Catholic) was a teammate with Daron Richardson growing up in the greater Ottawa area. They played together in bantams in 2009 and Midget AA with the Kanata Rangers. Thurston would go on to play with Daron’s older sister Morgan with the Ottawa Senators of the Provincial Women’s Hockey League.

“This game means so much not only to me personally having played with Daron, but thousands of youths that DIFD has inspired. It’s brought hope and inspiration to many and to play for this cause is something I will always remember.

“Playing with someone like Daron, you never expected something like this to happen. There are no words that can ever explain how traumatic this was.

“Daron always had a smile on her face and was always laughing. She always brought light into a room.

“She was a good player and I think she could have gone quite far with her hockey career. She had so much life left to live.

“While she may be gone, physically, she will never be forgotten. And through the foundation her memory will continue to help others.

“That’s the important idea here. We don’t want something like what happened to Daron happen again.”



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(Perrys Continued from Page 12)

Brian Perry, Executive Vice President & Chairman of Perry's Ice Cream added his thoughts to the project.

"One Buffalo represents our pride and enthusiasm in Buffalo and its culture," commented Perry. "It signifies the feeling of being part of a bigger picture, whether that's cheering

with thousands of other fans at a Buffalo Sabres game, or swaying in a crowd at a Canalside concert.

"Our fans will feel that same sense of community when they enjoy a scoop of One Buffalo."

Pride in Buffalo is nothing new for Perry's. The Buffalo-based company, who has been crafting premium ice cream for over 97 years, supports local suppliers and farmers whenever possible, as 100 per cent of their milk comes from farms within a 50-mile radius.

One Buffalo is part of Perry's newly launched line of quarts. This product line is composed of new flavors and familiar favorites, all sporting the classic black Perry's packaging.

## McAvoy Ranked Ninth...

### A Draft Preview

By Warren Kozireski

The mid-term rankings came out for the 2016 National Hockey League Draft to be held in Buffalo June 24-25 with Boston University defenseman and Long Beach, NY native Charlie McAvoy ranked ninth among North American Skaters.

McAvoy has played all but one game this season and had one goal and 12 assists over 23 games while earning a +3 plus/minus rating.

The 6'1", 211 lb. blueliner is a traditional freshman and played two seasons with the U.S. National Development Program where he scored seven goals with 23 assists in a combined 57 contests.

Williamsville's Griffin Luce is ranked 54th. The 6'3, 214 lb. defenseman plays for the U.S. National Development Team where he had one goal and six assists in 39 games and is committed to the University of Michigan next fall.

Teammate and fellow blueliner Adam Fox, committed to play for Harvard this fall, is ranked 67th. The Jericho native stands 5'10", 183 lb. and had seven goals with 34 assists in 39 games.

Potsdam native and defenseman Jordan Greenway, also of the U.S. Development Program, was rated 128th. He had three goals with ten assists in 39 contests.

Cohoes native, Syracuse Stars and Albany Academy product Kevin O'Neil was ranked 179th. The right wing is verbally committed to Yale University starting in 2017.

Amherst native Tyler Johnson is ranked 16th among North American goaltenders. The 6'3" 185 lb. plays for Topeka in the NAHL where he was tied for fourth in the league with 16 wins in 24 games, stood tenth in the league with a 2.27 goals against average and a .913 save percentage.



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# Canada Has Questions... ADM Has Answers!



I'm not sure if you've noticed, but Canada has not necessarily been dominating the rest of the world in ice hockey in International competition. The most recent disappointment for the Canadians came at this year's World Junior Championships, where they finished 5th. They have only come away with a medal at the WJC once in the last four years. That's not what they are accustomed to. In fact, there has been quite a bit of hand ringing going on up there by our friends to the north. Canada is starting to question whether or not they are the best hockey playing country in the world.

This disillusionment was illustrated recently in a blog posted (1/6/2016) by Grant Gordon, President and Creative director of Key Gordon Communications. He's a Canadian, as well as a hockey fan. He's also a hockey dad, and he thinks that a big part of the problem is what is happening in youth hockey in Canada. According to Mr. Gordon, kids are spending too much of their "hockey time" traveling in cars to games and running through a series of repetitive drills at practices. He thinks that creativity is being squelched, not fostered.

I can't testify to what is happening with youth hockey in Canada, but I can tell you that we in the US have struggled with some of the same problems. The difference is that USA Hockey has adopted the principles of the American Development Model, which deals directly with many of these issues. The ADM promotes playing fewer games, encourages skill development at all ages, and places an emphasis on developing creativity through the use of small area games.

Gordon says "It's no secret that the kids who get really good play outdoors on lakes and ponds from dawn to dusk. They learn how to skate over crags and crevices, how to handle the puck and how to saucer pass tape-to-

tape -- because if you miss a pass, the puck sails across the pond or gets buried in the snow. They experiment, honing their skills continuously for hours." I think it's true that kids learn as much or more when they are playing a sport with their friends, far away from the critical eye and whistle of a coach. But kids today are not playing on the ponds like we did when we were kids. As coaches, we can give kids opportunities to figure it out on their own by leaving unstructured time during practice, and working small area games into our practice plans. Through the ADM, we encourage coaches to avoid over-coaching and to let the game be the teacher. Mr. Gordon laments seeing Canadian players skate up and down the ice, tethered to their lanes like players on an old table hockey game. That's boring, predictable, and easy to defend. We want our players to create based on the situation. That takes skill, creativity, and hockey sense. The ADM encourages our coaches to focus on these areas.

Canada Hockey seems to be struggling a bit at the moment, and maybe some Canadians are thinking it's time for a new direction for its youth hockey programs. We in the US have a plan...it's called ADM and the future of hockey in the United States looks bright.

The link to Mr. Gordon's blog cited in this article is [http://www.huffingtonpost.ca/grant-gordon/minor-hockey-problems\\_b\\_8922932.html](http://www.huffingtonpost.ca/grant-gordon/minor-hockey-problems_b_8922932.html)

Chuck Gridley  
New York District Coach-in-Chief



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(Continued from Page 14)

Known as "Porky" to teammates, Musto began playing hockey in 1968 at the Kenan Center. He competed in Pee Wee, Bantam and Midget levels before excelling for the Lockport High School Club team from 1975-78.

Musto, a center who wore jersey number 17, was a co-captain in his senior year for the Lockport team that finished with an incredible 28-1-1 record and win the 1978 Western New York High School Club Championship. They would go on to place third in the New York State High School Hockey Championship Invitational on Long Island.

That final season for the Lions saw Musto score an incredible 60 goals, which included seven hat tricks, and 38 assists for 98 points in just 30 games to lead his team, as well as the League, in scoring. He capped that off by being one of six players selected to the 1978 Buffalo Courier-Express Western New York High School Club All-Star Team.

As hard as it may seem to believe, prior to becoming a prolific scorer, Musto also excelled as a goaltender. As a member of the Washburn Street Market Pee-Wee team, Musto once registered 62 saves in a 2-0 loss in a hockey tournament in Niagara Falls, Ontario. It was a performance that earned him MVP honors.

Following his high school hockey career, Musto went on to play for the Niagara Falls Sharks. The following season he played for the North Tonawanda Firefighters,

netting nine goals in one game for them.

He played his final competitive season in 1980-81 for the Niagara Falls Warriors.

Like many children growing up in the Lockport area, Dixon learned how to play hockey at the Kenan Center. He began playing hockey at the age of six, beginning at the Mite level, moving up to Squirts and then the Pee Wee level.

Following a two-year stint at the Bantam Level with the Depew Rovers, Dixon returned to Lockport to play Midget hockey at the Kenan Center and high school hockey at Lockport.

Dixon was part of a Lockport Lions High School Hockey team that won two New York State High School Club Hockey Championships. He was also a part of a Western Team that won a gold medal in the Empire State Games.

Dixon also played two seasons for the Buffalo Jr. Sabres, playing on one league championship team with them.

Dixon and his winning ways moved on to Elmira College, where he played four years of varsity hockey. While at Elmira Dixon played on two ECAC West Championship teams, participated in two National Tournaments and played in a National Championship game, finishing second in the Nation.

Dixon was good enough to be invited to participate in a rookie camp for the National Hockey League's Los Angeles Kings.

While Dixon may not have played pro hockey, he still continues to play hockey in a men's league and in tournaments.

Connette grew up playing hockey at the Kenan Arena for the Lockport Optimist club.

The 1974 graduate of Royalton Hartland High School attended Denver University with help from a scholarship provided from the NHL's Buffalo Sabres.

Connette made history at the university by becoming the first freshman to make the varsity hockey team. That same year saw Connette awarded the MVP of the Gordie Howe Collegiate pre-season hockey tournament.

Eberhart has not only contributed to hockey in the Lockport area as a player, but he has also made an impact as a head coach. Eberhart began his playing career by participating in all youth AAA teams at the Kenan Arena from 1976-81.

From there he moved on to play for the Lockport High School Club hockey team for two seasons from 1982-84. Eberhart was a part of the 1983 championship Lions hockey team.

Eberhart was also recognized outside of the Lockport area, being chosen as part of the 1984 gold medal-winning West Team as part of the New York Empire State Games.

A year later he was a player on the Lockport Jr. Marlies team.

Eberhart's playing career continued while attending SUNY Brockport. He played four seasons of varsity hockey at Brockport.

He moved from a playing career to a coaching career beginning in 1990 when he took over as head coach of Varsity Hockey Lockport from 1990-96, as well as youth



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hockey teams from 1990-2009.

His coaching career continues today as head coach of the Lockport High School Ice Hockey Team, a position he took over in 2010.

Thompson lived life like he played hockey. He believed that if you were going to do something, you should give it all you have.

As a young boy Jeff began playing hockey in the late 1960s. He could be found skating at the Rogers Ave. Park in the winter. During summer breaks his mom, Sue, would drive him to Niagara Falls to practice his skating skills.

Hockey became a family affair with Sue as the faithful hockey and Jeff's dad, Dick, running a skate sharpening shop out of their home.

Jeff enjoyed the competition and physical challenges of playing hockey. He skated hard and fast and was happy to take a hit after digging the puck out of a corner. It was part of the way he played hockey.

His team, Washburn Street Meat Market, won several major tournaments.

One memorable event that stayed with Jeff happened when Jeff's family had a fire in their house just before Christmas. All the presents were destroyed.

But local hockey families rallied around the Thompson family and presents were there for all three of the children. Jeff never forgot those caring hockey families that stepped up for his family.

After high school, Jeff dedicated himself to raising his children. He was able to use many of the lessons he learned from hockey to teach his children about persever-

ance, strength and hard work.

Jeff's hockey career lives on in everyone he helped because it made him a team player for the rest of his life.

Snedeker's hockey career began at nine when he took skating lessons for the first time at the Kenan Center. By the time he was 10 he made the Squirt A team from Timkey Pontiac.

He attended the Kenan Hockey School between the ages of 11 and 15, winning awards for Hardest Worker and MVP. During that same period of time Snedeker played Pee Wee A with the Washburn St. Market Flyers, Bantam A for Tony's and Bantam A for the Washburn St. Market Flyers, who won the State Championship.

By the 1975-76 season Snedeker was playing for the Wheatfield Blades 16 year-old Major Midget team. He was also skating for the Lockport Lions Varsity team as a sophomore.

The next season was a breakout one of sorts for Snedeker. He played for the Wheatfield Blades Major Midget AA team, as well as playing defense for the Lions Varsity club team.

Considered an offensive defenseman, Snedeker led the Lions in scoring, while leading them to a 13-3 record and the playoffs. The Lions won the Western New York High School Club Hockey Playoff Championship. He concluded the campaign by being named to the 1977 WNY High School Club Hockey League All-Star Team.

In his senior year, Snedeker moved up to junior hockey, playing for the North Tonawanda Ton-

das. But it was his final year of high school hockey that he helped rewrite the record books.

The Lions won the Holiday High School Hockey Invitational Tournament. Lockport also won the Gehen Memorial Hockey Tournament. The Lions won the championship game in overtime, 4-3 with Snedeker scoring the game winner, his second of the game, and adding an assist. He was named MVP of the tourney.

The veteran defenseman helped lead the Lions to a 28-1-1 record. Snedeker finished the season with 21 goals and 47 assists for 68 points, finishing first in the League with assists and second in scoring.

After winning the Western New York High School League Championship as well as the WNY Club Hockey League Playoff Championship, the Lions moved on to the New York State High School Championship on Long Island. Lockport placed third, with Snedeker scoring nine goals in four games, including two hat tricks in one day.

He topped off the season by being named to the 1978 WNY High School Club Hockey League All-Star Team.

During his three year of playing defense for the Lions, Snedeker averaged just under one goal per game; just under three points per game and finished with a plus/minus of over +200.

*(Continued on Page 30)*



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The GREATER NIAGARA AMATEUR HOCKEY LEAGUE is proud to present



# 2015 2016



### ***Squirts & PeeWees***

***March 4 - 6, 2016***

#### **SQUIRT:**

2006 Minor – 9u multiple tiers

2005 Major – 10u multiple tiers

2006/2005 Mixed – 9u-10u multiple tiers

#### **PEEWEE:**

2004 Minor – 11u multiple tiers

2003 Major – 12u multiple tiers

2004/2003 Mixed – 11u-12u multiple tiers

### ***Bantam & Midget***

***March 11-13, 2016***

#### **BANTAM:**

2002 Minor - 13U

2001 Major - 14U

2002/2001 Mixed - 13U-14U

#### **MIDGET:**

2000 Minor - 15U

1999 Minor - 16U

1997 Major - 18U 2000/1999/1998/1997  
Mixed - 15U-16U-18U

*\*It is important to note that the Mixed divisions may include multiple competition levels ranging from House or House Select through Mixed age Travel teams.*

*Elite Division (Must apply and be accepted):*

- a) Teams that complete at least 8 games through AAU tournaments and must have the same stamped roster in all games.
- b) Winner of a qualifying tournament. If league team, a copy of the stamped roster and a copy of the tournament roster must be the same. Otherwise a. above applies.
- c) By invitation of the National Committee

**Tournament Chair: Ken Frasiak 716.693.0006 [kfrasiak@calamar.com](mailto:kfrasiak@calamar.com)**

**To Register Contact: Brenda Eldridge at 716.541.8947**

**[bleehockey@verizon.net](mailto:bleehockey@verizon.net) or visit [www.aauice.rsportz.com](http://www.aauice.rsportz.com)**

# CENTRAL NEW YORK



Midstate White took Championship over Camillus Cougars at Turkey Tourney!



# Oswego Takes "Mite Before Christmas" Championship

Congratulations to division champions Oswego Rudy's Mite Red (A) Division, Cortland White (B) Division, and Oswego Domino's Blue (C) Division. All 4 Oswego teams played outstanding in the tournament!

Red (A) Division Champions – Oswego Rudy's coached by Andrew DiBlasi, Bob Ruggio, and Eric Naumann.

Blue (C) Division Champions – Oswego Dominos coached by Phil Cady, Nick Duval, and Ryan Baldwin. Pictured from left middle row: Leah Cady, Chris Tucker, Dylan Crannell, Emma Duval, Jacob Barrett. Left front row: Ian Partlow, Owen Baldwin, Talen Hawksby, and Madelina Donabella.

Oswego Minor Hockey Association (OMHA) hosted its 30th Annual Oswego Mite Invitational Tournament - "The Mite Before Christmas Tournament" on Saturday (Dec 12th). The Christmas themed event hosted more than 200 6-8 year-old hockey players spanning 19 teams and 3 divisions which included a special visit from Santa! OMHA utilizes the American Development Model (ADM) by USA Hockey to maximize age appropriate skill development with fun station based learning. Both rinks will utilize the USA Hockey ADM approved cross-ice board system donated by Oswego's own Erik Cole.

Special thanks to the generous gift baskets by sponsors for our tournament - SUNY Oswego Hockey, Dynamic Automotive & Home Accessories, Integrative Healing Spa, Canale's Restaurant, Bird Branch Designs, Maria's Family Restaurant, Olympia Sports, Champlain Valley Specialty, Pallets, Poles and Pavers, Rich Zufelt, Harbor Eye, ThirtyOne, Mark's Pizzeria, and Wayne Drugs.

In the spirit of the season OMHA partnered with Food Bank of Central New York to donate

all tournament proceeds to families in need. Non-perishables were collected for families in need through the Human Concerns Center. Gently used coats and other winter gear were accepted for donation to the Rescue Mission. Many thanks to Plumbers & Steamfitters Local 73 for their generous sponsorship of this very fun tourney!

For more information starting your child in hockey or information on next year's opportunity visit [www.OswegoHockey.com](http://www.OswegoHockey.com).

Pictured from left are: Kamryn Pritchard (Wing), Amanda Connelly (Defense), Alaina DiBlasi (Center Offense), Mischa Palmitesso (Wing), Gavin Ruggio (Defense), Mason Naumann (Center Offense), Tanner Palmitesso (Goalie), Codie Mashaw (Wing), Tanner Defren (Wing), and Owen Seubert (Wing).



PROUD SPONSOR OF:



# Central Men's College Ice Hockey Report

by Warren Kozireski  
Wkozires@brockport.edu



## BROOME CCC

The Hornets were 3-5 against NJCAA competition with four games remaining in the regular season and the national championships they will host Feb. 27-28.

Austin Campbell (Susquehanna Valley), Geno DeAngelo (Susquehanna Valley) and Austin Bradish (West Chazy) all with ten or more points with Cameron Dunn (Binghamton) and Josh Maus (Chenango Forks) knocking on the door of that mark.

Sophomore goaltender Owen Miller (Endicott) had four of the team's seven total wins.



## COLGATE

The Raiders had earned only seven points since Thanksgiving and were stalled near the bottom of the ECAC standings, but they were only three points from giving fans and Starr Rink one last playoff series.

Recruit Adam Dauda has enrolled in Colgate University for the spring semester and joined the team after deferring his enrollment for medical reasons in the fall.

The Kitchener native played two seasons in the CCHL with Pembroke and Cumberland where he combined for 40 goals and 64



assists over 75 games. He made his collegiate debut Dec. 29 against Brown and had six assists over his first eight games.

Tylor Spink netted an empty-net goal to seal a win at Union Jan. 15—the 100th point of his career. He joins his brother Tyson among the 52 Raiders who have reached the mark.

## CORNELL

January started well with an opening weekend sweep, but the Big Red managed just one point over their next four games to drop a bit in the tight ECAC standings.

Junior goaltender Mitch Gillam and freshman forward Anthony Angello (Manlius) earned ECAC Hockey weekly awards for the week ending Jan. 9. Gillam was named the Goal-tender of the Week after posting his fourth shutout of the season—tied for fifth in the nation, while Angello was tabbed as the circuit's Rookie of the Week scored twice and added one primary assist in each game.

Junior forward Jeff Kubiak had almost matched his combined first two season offensive numbers and was leading the squad in scoring. He was one of the few regulars nationally without a single penalty minute through the first 19 games.

Cornell posted its best record (5-1-1) in the regular season portion of its non-conference schedule since the 2008-09 campaign.

## CORTLAND

The team would need to take care of business on the road if they hope to sneak into the sixth and final SUNYAC playoff spot. They stood five points out and were to play all but one of their last seven games on home ice. All but two of those were tams ahead of them in the standings.

Darren McCormick (Buffalo) and Dan Broderick (White Plains) stood atop the team scoring list, but were off the pace they set as



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freshmen in assists (24) and goals (17) respectively.

Senior defenseman Adam Diorio (Stat-en Island) was still looking for his first collegiate goal after 71 career games. He was having his best season since his freshman campaign.



ELMIRA

At 7-2-1 against non-conference opponents and 2-5 versus ECAC West teams, the Soaring Eagles were a tough team to figure out with one month remaining. Three of those five conference losses, though were by one goal.

And the team was leaning on seniors with five of the top six in scoring led by Carter Shinkaruk, who was leading all of Division III in goals per game and, with 17 goals in the first 16 games, was three away from 50 in his career. He would be the 29th on program history to reach that mark. Freshman Blake O'Neill was tied for fifth in the ECAC West in defenseman scoring, while leading all freshman defenders in points in the conference. He was named ECAC West Rookie of the Week Jan. 19.

HAMILTON

The Continentals were having one of their best seasons in recent memory just two points behind nationally ranked Trinity and Williams in the tight NESCAC and five votes away from the top-20 in the USCHO.com national poll.

The team took an 11-game unbeaten streak into the last weekend of January and they had road contests against those top two teams, which will likely decide the regular season champion.

Junior Robbie Murden continued to pace the attack with a team-high 13 goals and 22 points. Sophomores Neil Conway and Brandon Willett were matching or

ahead of their first year pace offensively with 19 and 11 points respectively.

The main story may be the goaltender of sophomore Evan Buitenhuis, who was sporting a 1.32 goals against average with an unfathomable .959 save percentage over 14 games.

HOBART

The first place and fifth ranked nationally Statesmen headed into the last weekend in January with only four blemishes—two losses and two ties—on their record along with 14 wins and were a perfect 8-0-0 on “Cooler” ice this season.

“For us it’s been as simple formula of fast feet, fast hands, fast mind, win battles and execute,” head coach Mark Taylor said. “I’ve got to give credit to the men in the room. We have great chemistry and that’s because of them and, as long as I don’t screw it up we’ll be alright.”

The team was getting balanced scoring from three lines. Eight players had ten or more points through 18 games with two more on the cusp.

Sophomore goaltender Frank Oplinger registered his third career shutout against Nazareth Jan. 22, which puts him tied for third in program history with Dimitri Papevangelou (2004-08).

Senior forward Brad Robbins netted his first career hat trick in the same shutout.

MOHAWK VALLEY CC

The Vikings stood winless in league play through the first six contests, but had five games remaining in February to make a run at the postseason albeit only one on home ice.

Individual statistics or team leaders are not made available by the school.

*(Continued on Page 30)*



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# VALLEY HOCKEY



Valley Hockey Pee Wee Minor won the Gene Harrington Classic in Niagara Falls



Valley Squirt Minor defeated the Hamburg Hawks to take the Rochester Invitational

## A Year of Championships!

“The Squirt House-Graf team won a hard-fought Rome Silver Stick Tournament in Rome, NY. After an undefeated series of games, the team went on to the Championship game. They found themselves down 3-2 in the bottom of the third period. With 6 seconds left, the team fought back and tied 3-3 -- and a short two minutes into sudden death, scoring the first goal to take home the 2015-2016 Silver Stick Championship!” said Kevin Cooke, team manager.



Valley Squirt House Champs/Graf Team @ Silversticks 2016



Skaneateles took the Mite Red Championship over Camillus Cougars in the Turkey Tourney.



Valley Bantam Travel won the Saratoga Youth Tournament



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# Central New York Women's College Hockey Report

By Janet Schultz  
Janet@nyhockeyonline.com



## UTICA

The Pioneers hosted a youth night with proceeds going to the Shawn Grady Memorial Fund. The Gold Ribbon Game creates awareness of childhood cancer.

Utica comes to the end of its season with an 11-5-1 record overall and faces Chatham, Plattsburgh and Buffalo State before the ECACW Tournament begins. Dobbs Ferry native Keira Goin has played 15 games in goal and has made 357 saves for .957%. Auburn's Amanda Lupu has played 8 games in goal.

## SYRACUSE

The Orange are 11-12-3 overall as they finish out the season in February against Penn State, Robert Morris and Lindenwood.

Nicole Ferrara was named Syracuse Scholar Athlete for January 5 as she leads the CHA with 9 goals and 9 assists. She is also seventh in the conference.

Emily Costale was named CHA Player of the Week and Jenn Gil-

ligan was named Goalie of the Week.

They led Syracuse to a 2-1 week over Mercyhurst and Union.

Melissa Piacenti was named Syracuse Student Athlete of the Week for January 25 as the all time leader at Syracuse with 57 points.

East Amherst's Maddie Welch has played in two games with one start, making 38 saves.

## COLGATE

Megan Sullivan was named ECAC Player of the Week for January 19 after she had 6 points in three major wins, over Cornell and Yale.

The Red Raiders are 14-5-7 as they head into February to face Princeton, Quinnipiac, Yale, Brown, Harvard and Dartmouth.

Freshman Olivia Zafuto (Niagara Falls/NJPE) has appeared in 26 games and has 5 goals and 15 assists. New Hartford native Annika Zalewski (Buffalo Bisons and Nichols School) has played in 23 games posting 9 goals and 9 assists.

## ELMIRA

The Soaring Eagles are 15-1-1 as they close out their season against Buffalo State, William Smith and

Oswego.

January honors went to Kelsey Crawford, Elmira Athlete of the Week; Phoebe Piku, ECAC Player of the Week, January 4; Kelsey Crawford, ECAC Goalie of the Week, Jan. 4; Olivia Nystrom and Piku, D3Hockey.com National Team of the Week; Louisa Lippratt Darnell, Elmira Athlete of the Week, Jan. 11. Darnell also received D3hockey.com National Team honors.

McKenna Farole had a career day when they faced Neumann on January 17. In the 8-0 win she had her first collegiate goal and 2 assists. She had posted no points up to this point. She also took Elmira Athlete of the Week honors January 17.

ECAC Rookie of the Week (Jan. 17) went to Kristen Chivers.

Four New Yorkers have made the scoring list for the Soaring Eagles including Elma's Meghan Fonfara (Buffalo Bisons) with 10 goals and 4 assists in 16 games; Rachel Grampp (Williamsville/Bisons) 2 goals/3 assists in 12 games; Meg Lakey (Latham/Millbrook School) 9 GP with 1 goal; Jessica Prance (Chaumont/Perth Predators) 13 GP with 3 goals.

## OSWEGO

The Lakers are 9-5-3 and will be celebrating Pink the Rink on Feb-



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ruary 13 and Senior Day on February 20 as they close out 2015-16. They face William Smith, Williams and Elmira prior to the playoffs.

Rachel Lenard has transferred to Buffalo State after playing 10 games with the Lakers and posting 4 goals/3 assists.

Jayne McCreary (Waterloo/Lysander) has 4 goals and 3 assists; Brianna McFall (Falconer/Regals), 2 goals/3 assists; Lizzy Marks (Penfield/Rochester Edge) 2 goals/3 assists; Alyssa Brockmann (Fairport/Potsdam) 1 goal/2 assists; Ashly Lyman (Lockport/Bisons) 2 goals/1 assist; Brennan Butler (Lake Placid/Northwood School) 1 goal/1 assist; Lydia Cosgrove (Malone/Ontario Hockey Academy) an assist; Kendall Applebaum (Eden/Bisons) 2 goals/1 assist.

The Lakers have two goalies from New York with Senior Tori Trovato from Fulton/Troy Albany Ice Cats and the Captain of the Team and Freshman Orchard Park native Mikaela DiTonto from the Buffalo Stars and Frontier/Orchard Park Girls Varsity.

**CORTLAND**

With a 7-7-1 record the Red Dragons head into February against Hamilton, Plattsburgh, Buffalo and William Smith.

Cortland's Athlete of the Week for January 10 was Kianna Gutenmann from Clifton Park and the Troy-Albany Ice Cats. She had 6 points (3g/3a) in a 4-1 win over Hamilton including the game winning goal and an assist. She followed that with 2 goals and an assist against Daniel Webster.

The roster is full of New York State girls including Kaitlynn Ryan (Windsor/Adrian); Sydney Carlucci (Baldwinsville/Rochester Edge); Nadine deNijs (Orchard Park/Ontario Hockey Academy); Ashley Terry (Redford/Chazy); Richelle Skarbowski (Orchard Park/

University of New England); Katy Kennedy (East Greenbush/Troy-Albany Ice Cats), Maggie Corbett (Queensbury/Queensbury High School) and Katie Gill (Brooklyn/NJ Rockets).

Carlucci has 5 goals this season; Corbett 4 and 3 assists to lead the team.

**CORNELL**

The Big Red will Do It For Daron on February 5 when they take on Quinnipiac. This initiative raises awareness for mental illness and numerous colleges have taken part.

Cornell comes into February with a 8-9-4 season record and take on a heavy conference schedule with Princeton, Brown, Yale, Dartmouth and Harvard. They have beaten Princeton, Yale and Dartmouth earlier this season.

Jamestown native Pippy Gerace has 6 goals and 2 assists in 19 games and Churchville's Anna Zorn has one goal.

**HAMILTON**

Megan Ahern (Oswego/Millbrook School) is third in scoring on the team with 3 goals and 7 assists in 15 games.

Hamilton is 9-4-2 overall as they look toward a playoff berth in the NESCAC.

Up in February are Cortland, Bowden, Amherst and Connecticut College; the former three all NESCAC rivals.

**WILLIAM SMITH**

William Smith will face Oswego, Elmira and Cortland as they close out their 5-10-2 season.

With 17 games played Grace Durham (St.James/Northwood School) has a goal and an assist; Maura



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Mulligan (Troy/Albany Academy) has four assists and Egan Sachs-Hecht (Plainview/Lawrenceville) has a goal and 3 assists.

#### MORRISVILLE

The Mustangs are 5-10-2 overall and 5-0-1 in the Colonial Conference as they come to the end of their Inaugural Season.

February's schedule includes Endicott, Stevenson and Johnson and Wales.

Bailey Dillabough of Massena/Massena-Potsdam has 2 goals and an assist in 14 games. Megan Kirk (Breezy Point/NJ Rockets) has 7 goals and 3 assists in 17 games. In goal for six games with the Mustangs is Taylor Pincheon of Corinth and the Troy-Albany Ice Cats, recording a win and 2 losses for a .830 save percentage.

Pincheon spent three seasons with the Troy-Albany Ice Cats and three seasons with the Bethlehem Eagles.

Dillabough played 4 seasons with the Potsdam Ice Storm taking State Championships in 2012 and 2013 and took a runner-up in the Nationals in 2013. She also played for the Massena Red Raiders as a Center taking a State Championship in 2015 and named First Team All Northern.

Kirk played two seasons with the NJ Rockets and four seasons with Aviator, named MVP one season.

#### HOBART

The Hobart College Hockey team teamed up with the non-profit Thrive to Survive to host a "Drop the Puck on Cancer" night on January 29.

Thrive to Survive is dedicated to providing support in a variety of ways to adults living in Geneva, Waterloo, Seneca Falls and Penn Yan, N.Y., diagnosed with and being treated for cancer. Through this support, Thrive to Survive hopes to relieve unnecessary stress on the patient allowing them to focus on their recovery and their families. The ultimate goal of Thrive to Survive is to be able to support adults with cancer emotionally and financially while giving the hope to Thrive to Survive.

## More Valley Hockey

The Valley Pee Wee Minor Hockey Team took the Silver at the Capital Winter Classic in Ottawa. They played six games in 49 hours in a tournament that featured 16 teams.

They defeated Leitrim Hawks in the quarter-finals and Cumberland in the semi-finals.

They lost the Championship match-up by one point to the Cambridge Hawks.

Out of 16 teams and 227 skaters the top 25 point leaders were members of the Valley team.

Not only did the team play hard, the Valley Sister Posse/Cheerleaders supported their brothers for the full 49 hours.

## Elmira Jackals News and Notes

The Jackals have some winning news including the Pee Wee White taking second at the Between The Pipes Tournament; the Mite Red winning second place at Mite Mania; Pee Wee Travel taking second at the Empire State Cup. Congratulations!

The Mite Blue Team is selling helmet stickers, blankets and sweatshirts. Check out their website for more information.



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(Men's College Continued from Page 25)

MORRISVILLE

The Mustangs finished their non-conference schedule with a 4-3-1 record, but struggled against their conference foes at 1-9-0 and the one win way back in early November.

Defensively they were allowing an alarming 4.5 goals per game in conference. Time was short at seven points away from the final playoff spot and only six games remaining.

Danny Liscio was making a bid for the SUNYAC All-Rookie team with a team high 14 goals and 23 points. Junior Jordan Carvalho had a team best 17 assists through 18 games.

OSWEGO

The Lakers postseason position may be largely know after a key trip to frontrunners Plattsburgh and Potsdam the first weekend in February. Those are the two teams they are chasing in a bid for a first round playoff bye.

Junior forward Joey Davies is finding the scoresheet in key games as both goals and all but one of his six assists have come in conference contests.

Debate is whether the coaching staff will pick one of junior goaltenders Matt Zawadski or Adrian Ignagni to start exclusively down the stretch after splitting time most of the season.

Walpole Express forward Eric Lipa has committed to Oswego for the Fall of 2016. In the first 23 games for the Express this season, he scoring seven times and added 18 assists.

UTICA

The Pioneers skated to the first scoreless tie in the 15-year history of the program on Jan. 8 against Oswego. 15-year head coach Gary Heenan earned his 200th career victory Jan. 3 versus Morrisville State. Adam Moody netted his first collegiate goal in the same game.

The Pioneer defense stood fourth in the nation having allowed just six goals in 64 penalty kill situations (90.6%).

Forward Hayden Dawes was named the ECAC Men's West Conference Rookie of the Week Jan. 5 after he netted a career-high three points on two goals and added one assist in a win over Morrisville. Sophomore Riley Egan scored his first career goal Jan. 16 at Potsdam.

## Zalewski Signs

Former Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute (RPI) men's hockey forward Mike Zalewski signed a one-year, two-way contract with the Vancouver Canucks. After registering one assist in two games with Vancouver during the 2013-14 season, he has spent the last two seasons with the team's AHL affiliate, the Utica Comets, recording 11 goals and 18 assists for 29 points in 91 games.

A native of New Hartford, N.Y., Zalewski played two seasons at RPI, scoring 21 goals and adding 26 assists for 47 points in 71 games. As a sophomore in 2013-14, he registered nine goals and 17 assists for 26 points in 35 games. He led the team with two short-handed goals.

(Lkp HHOF Continued from Page 20)

The following season Snedeker continued playing for the Tondas, where they became league champions in 1979 and finished in second place in the State Championship.

Snedeker attended a World Hockey Association and European Hockey League Camp in Port Colbourne, Ont., Canada. He was offered a contract from a team in Sweden.

He continues to play in various men's league's as well as men's hockey tournaments.



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# Rome Youth Hockey Fights Colon Cancer

Rome Youth Hockey held their 3rd Annual Face Off Against Colon Cancer Game on January 29, raising \$3,117.

The RFA Ice Hockey Booster Club has set up a fund in honor of Coach Pete Mastracco who has been battling colon cancer since 2007. Those that have been around Rome Youth Hockey and RFA Hockey, are well aware of the dedication and support Coach Mastracco has given to the great sport of hockey, even as he continues to fight the battle against this awful disease! For those of you that do not know Coach Mastracco, he has been a strong influence on many RYHA and RFA Hockey players, and for that we are asking the community to show their support.

A new tradition has begun in which an annual "Colon Cancer Awareness" game will benefit research in finding a cure as well as educating

others of the risks and symptoms of this terrible disease.

In 2014 RFA Faced Off Against CNS. Over \$22,000 was raised in honor of Coach Mastracco.

(Submitted by Rome Youth Hockey)



## Valley Goalie Selected For International All-Star Team!

Valley Girls 12U (Tier 1) Goalie, Breese Burlingame, from Binghamton, NY has been selected to play on an International Select Hockey team traveling to Stockholm, Sweden and Helsinki, Finland this spring to participate in an all-star tournament and educational tour. This experience is a once in a lifetime opportunity for Breese to take her hockey talents to the next level and provide cultural exchanges with peers from all over the globe. They are participating in the World Selects Hockey Invitational featuring teams from USA, Latvia, Canada, Switzerland, Sweden, Russia, Norway, Czech Republic, Slovakia and Finland. In addition to the hockey portion of the trip, the team will spend time touring the cities, visiting museums, castles and other historical landmarks throughout each city.



If you'd like to help Breese get to Sweden and Finland for those tournaments, please see her GoFundMe page here: <https://www.gofundme.com/vkhu49qc>



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# Syracuse Girls U14 Takes Harborcenter Cup!



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# EAST HOCKEY



## *Union and RPI Join TO DO IT FOR DARON!*

**T**he Union College Women's and Men's Ice Hockey teams participated in a Mental Health Awareness Game on Saturday, January 16 when they played RPI and Cornell, respectively. The teams wore purple laces and used purple tape in support of Do It For Daron (DIFD), a foundation that raises awareness and inspires conversations about youth mental health. For more information about Do It For Daron visit [DIFD.com](http://DIFD.com)





## You Can Come Home Again!

Such is the case for former Aviators forward and Brooklyn-native Dominick (Dom) Sacco who returns to the Aviators to finish out his junior career following a five-season, 162-game United States Hockey League career.

Sacco last played for the Aviators junior program in 2012-13 for his father, former Aviators coach John Sacco. Prior to playing for the Aviators, Sacco had played the better part of two seasons with the USHL's Omaha Lancers where he compiled 10 points in 30 total games as a 16 and 17 year old.

Following his one season with the Aviators, Sacco was drafted in 2013 by the Lincoln Stars in the USHL and the Wenatchee Wild of the NAHL and put together his best two seasons of his USHL career while in Lincoln, even being named Associate Captain in 2014-15. During his two seasons with the Stars, Sacco had 52 points in 112 games.

This season Sacco had moved to the Muskegon Lumberjacks in the USHL, playing 19 games and scoring just once before returning to Brooklyn as the Lumberjacks look to a youth movement for their future.

In his five USHL seasons, Sacco tallied 29 goals and 35 assists for 64 points in 162 games.

A team already stacked with offensive talent, the

Aviators, with the addition of Sacco, instantly becomes not just one of the most potent offenses in the NA3EHL, but in all of Tier III junior hockey.

*( Re - printed with permission of the Aviators )*



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Mercyhurst College freshman Jack Riley is laying top-line minutes for the Lakers and entered the second week of January with a team-high 14 assists and 21 points and was tied for the team league with seven goals. And tied for tenth nationally with five power play goals. But his long-term sights are on continuing the family business—coaching hockey.

His grandfather and namesake, Jack, was the head coach of Army from 1951-1986, played in the 1948 Olympics and coached the 960 U.S. Olympic team that was the first American team to win a gold medal. He was inducted into the U.S. Hockey Hall of Fame.

Uncle Rob took over and ran the Black Knights until 2004 and 257 victories. That's when his father—Brian—stepped behind the bench and has been named Atlantic Hockey Coach of the Year on three occasions (2006, 2007, 2008). Uncle Jay also had a stint as an assistant coach at Brown.

Younger Jack still has two-plus years of collegiate hockey remaining, but is already thinking about 2018 and beyond.

"I don't feel pressure (to become a coach), but it's something that I want to do," Riley said after a January game at RIT. "I've always kind of watched my dad; always sat right above him at the Army games and hopefully something I can do down the stretch.

He played one year at James I. O'Neill High School in Highland Falls in the West Point area before going to prep school at South Kent School and then junior hockey with the New Jersey Hitmen of the Eastern Junior Hockey League.

With Mercyhurst, Riley had a solid freshman campaign last season finishing tied for fourth on the team behind three seniors with 24 points. He has picked up right where he left off this season on a team with only four upperclassmen who see regular playing time, but were still hovering around the .500 mark.

"Last year I was a redshirt freshman so coaches hadn't really seen me play and didn't really know me, so I kind of eased into penalty killing and blocking shots. This year our line has been going pretty well and it's good to have the coaches' confidence. (On the power play) I'm not the guy who handles the puck a lot, I just kind of get lost and get the gritty goals. We have a couple of plays where we get it to the "D" and I get to the net."

# Like Grandfather, Uncles, and Father-- Like Son!

By Warren Kozireski



Whether it's because of the family hockey bloodlines and/or simply the way he plays the game, this year his teammates voted him as one of their assistant captains as a sophomore.

"It made me feel good that my teammates trusted me enough to give me an "A", Riley said. "Something I pride myself on the ice and in the locker

room is trying to be a leader. It just feels good that they have enough confidence in me to help lead the team." "He's one of the few (sophomores

who have worn a letter for the Lakers), but that's a credit to him and, like a lot of teams the players vote, so proof of what the team thinks about him, Mercyhurst head coach Rik Gotkin said.

"He's a Riley." He's a natural born leader and he plays hard.

"The key for Jack is to remember how hard he has to work every shift; every now and then he tries to be a superstar and that's not his game. His game is straight-line and going hard to the net and when he does that, he's a good as we have.

"He's a great kid who loves to play and is a competitor. He plays just like an Army guy. You have to remember where he was born and raised, so he's just like an Army guy."



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ARMY

The Black Knights managed just one win and a pair of ties over an eight game span with

one weekend remaining in January. They were in the hunt to host a first round playoff series if they can right the ship and regain their November-early December success.

Army Hall-of-Famers Dave Merhar ('69), George Clark ('75) and Dave Rost ('77), will be honored in a jersey retirement ceremony prior to the Army hockey game against Holy Cross on Feb. 6 at Tate Rink becoming the first hockey players to have their jerseys retired and raised above Tate Rink. The numbers will not be "officially" retired, so future players are allowed to wear each number.

The Black Knights ended a 15-game losing streak against Merrimack with a 3-2 win over the 20th ranked team Dec. 29. Army's last win against the Warriors came on Feb. 16, 1985.

The nine overtime games (as of Jan. 18) played this season is the most since the 2005-06 season when the Black Knights played 10 overtime contests.

HUDSON VALLEY CC

The Hawks came off a 3-1 non-conference slate in December, but dropped their first two in January to defending champ Erie. They were 3-4 with three conference

games remaining in the bid to reach the postseason. The finals will be played February 27-28 at SUNY Broome.

Freshman goaltender Nate Muller stood fifth nationally in save percentage.

The team was struggling to score with only 23 goals over 11 games. Sean Spohr led with five goals and six points while scored four goals with one assist in only five games played.

MANHATTANVILLE

The Valiants were a bit of a surprise at 4-2-2 in conference play after winning only two of 15 ECAC West games last year. Three of those four wins were one-goal affairs with two settled in overtime. Stephen Gaul already equaled his freshman season total of eight goals to lead the team while classmate Charlie Ryde had half of his six total goals with the man advantage.

The squad's only regular senior, forward Matt Coleman (Brentwood), was six games away from 100 career games played and was tied for third on the team in scoring.



## East Men's College Ice Hockey Report

by Warren Kozireski  
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R.P.I.

The nationally ranked Engineers had a conference high five ties through mid-January and had to play seven of their final 11 regular season games on the road.

They had one of the top-ten penalty killing units in the country, but one of the ten-worst power plays.

Freshman Jesper Ohrvall was named Rookie of the Week Dec. 14 after scoring three goals in the two games against Arizona State, including one the power play. He netted his first collegiate goal Dec. 11 against Arizona State.

Joe Juneau '91 received the prestigious NCAA Silver Anniversary Award on Jan. 15, which is given annually to six former student-athletes for their collegiate and professional achievements.

The three shorthanded goals by Milos Bubela through Jan. 18 is the most in a season for an Engineer since Bruce Coles had five in 1989-90.



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Mens College Continued

UNION

Four consecutive non-conference wins, including the Ledyard Classic semi-final and championship at Dartmouth, launched the Dutchmen back into ECAC action, but they sputtered with a pair of ties over the first four contests. Freshman Jake Kupsky was in goal for both of the tie games.

Sophomores Spencer Foo and Ryan Scarfo were tied with a team-best 11 goals

Mike Vecchione became Union's 26th 100-point scorer and the 13th in its Division I era against Princeton Jan. 8. Vecchione accomplished the feat in 96 games, beating Daniel Carr's record of 115 games to become the fastest player in school history to reach the milestone.

Sebastian Vidmar was named ECAC Rookie of the Month in December after the Swede notched four points on two goals and two assists.

The Dutchmen entered mid-January 1-4-5 in Friday games, but 6-3-1 on Saturday's. They also were the most successful faceoff team in Division I at 57.5%.

UNION

Union Pinked the Rink on January 30 and comes into February winless. They face St. Lawrence, Clarkson, Dartmouth, Harvard, Quinnipiac

# East Women's College Report

by Janet Schultz  
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and Princeton.

Brandy Streeter of Morrisville/Nichols and the Buffalo Bisons has appeared in 26 games making 5 assists. She is a sophomore defenseman.



RPI

The Engineers are 8-11-4 overall as they face Clarkson, St. Lawrence, Harvard, Dartmouth, Princeton and Quinnipiac in February.

Lovisa Selander was named ECAC Goaltender of the Week after stopping all 61 shots in a 2-0 and 3-0 wins over

Union.

Tonawanda's Ana Orzechowski (Pittsburgh Pens Elite) has played in 19 games.



MANHATTANVILLE

The Valiants face Salve Regina, Amherst, New England, Franklin Pierce, St. Michaels and Sst. Anselm in February. Their record this season is 6-10-0 overall.

Rose Pijaca was named New England Hockey Conference Goaltender of the Week after 44 saves vs Williams. This was her first honor and the third at Manhattanville in program history.

Manhattanville in program history.

Kat Reilly (Holbrook/Boston Shamrocks) has 5 goals and 4 assists after 11 games and sits in second place in scoring. Buffalo's Jordan Roetzer has played in 16 games and has 5 goals and 2 assists for third place. She comes from the Niagara Junior Purple Eagles.

Other scorers include Cassandra Keit (Lake Placid/Northwood) 3g/4 a; Sarah Sinning (Southold/National Sports Academy) 3g/2a and Ellis Smith (Buffalo/Nichols) three assists.

Other New Yorkers on the roster include Alexandra Pedatella (Hopewell Junction/Brewster Bulldogs); Melissa Hauptman (Smithtown/Sound Shore Warriors).



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# North Hockey



This is the 22nd year the Adirondack Northstars, the girls program under the Adirondack Youth Hockey Association, have hosted the Winter Classic, held annually over the Martin Luther King, Jr. holiday weekend. This year they hosted 28 teams

sold tourney apparel to needy children in the region.

Another hugely successful feature of our tournament is the Saturday afternoon Skills Competition, where players represent their teams in the Fastest Skater Relay, Stickhandling, Pass and Shoot, and Goalie Breakaway events. The Glens Falls Civic Center is rockin' with hundreds of cheering teammates and their families, and they award a "Cowbell" plaque to the organization exhibiting the most team spirit in the stands. They also hand out "Northstar" awards after every game to a player from each team, selected by their coaches, that exhibits the sportsmanship and spirit the Winter Classic hockey tourney strives to promote.

Finally, the results of our five division championships:

12U A Division: Chazy Flyers (NY) 4, Northern Lights (CT) 3

12U Rec Division: Adirondack Northstars (NY) 5, Saugerties (NY) 1

14U A Division: Boston Jr. Eagles (MA) 5, New Jersey Rockets (NJ) 0

14U Rec Division: Adirondack Northstars (NY) 6, Camillus Cougars (NY) 0

19U A Division: Buffalo Stars (NY) 4, Amherst Lady Knights (NY) 2

*(Submitted by Darryl Coltey, Winter Classic Co-Director)*

# ADK Winter Classic Huge Success--Again!!

from New York, Massachusetts, Connecticut, Pennsylvania, New Jersey, and Maine for a total of 50 games over 4 days in 5 age divisions.

While there is ALWAYS great hockey, the feature of the tournament they are most proud of is their annual charity fundraiser, where they raise money for a chosen charitable cause through basket raffles, 50/50's, and hotel room reimbursements.

This year's charity was "Camp Abilities Saratoga", an organization that holds week-long overnight developmental sports camps for children and teens who are blind, visually impaired, or deaf blind. In the 11 years since the Northstars began using the tourney to help charities, and they have raised over \$50,000 for various causes, as well as donated all of their un-



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# Northern New York Men's College Hockey Report

by Warren Kozireski  
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## CANTON

With three wins and two ties, the road doesn't get an easier for the Roos with all SUNYAC opponents until the Independent Series at Daniel Webster to end the season. They were allowing goals at an alarming rate with 82 scored against over 17 games—almost five per game.

Sophomore forward Josh Souva continued to lead the team with a career-high eight goals while defenseman Ben Beasley was second with 15 points including a team-high ten assists.

## CLARKSON

The Jekyll and Hyde act of the Golden Knights continued through mid-January with an 8-4 non-conference record, but only 2-6-2 in ECAC play. Languishing at the bottom of the ECAC standings, they hope January wins over ranked St. Lawrence and Harvard would be the impetus to turn their season around.

Sophomore Sam Vigneault had already surpassed his first year in both goals and assists and sat atop the team scoring chart. Junior A.J. Fossen was second in goals with five of his first eight on the power play—among the top-20 in the nation.

Sophomore forward Janick Asselin decided to leave the team and signed with Norfolk of the East Coast Hockey League. He had four assists over 15 games prior to his departure.

## PLATTSBURGH

The Cardinals were ready to relaunch their SUNYAC schedule after going 4-2 during the non-conference portion with one loss in overtime. The Cardinals were in second two points behind rival Potsdam, but with two games in hand on the Bears.

Freshman, Pat Egan (Gates-Chili) was leading the team in scoring and was named SUNYAC Rookie of the Week for the second time after scoring three goals at the W.B. Mason Winter Classic. Egan registered the first two goals for the Cardinals in a 7-0 victory over Fitchburg State and scored the second Cardinal goal in the 3-0 win against Colby earning him the tournament's most valuable player award.

Defenseman Rich Botting (Binghamton), Chris Taff and Anthony Calbrese combined for 32 assists over the first 16 games.

## POTSDAM

The Bears won two of three after their one-month holiday hiatus and ready to restart their SUNYAC schedule sitting in first place. The schedule-makers also did them a favor with each of their final five regular season games on home ice where they were undefeated as of this writing.

Sophomore Dylan Vender Esch is having a First Team All-Conference caliber season with 13 goals in 16 games. Aside from him, seniors accounted for 25 of the team's other 40 goals so this is the target year to make some post-season noise.

## ST. LAWRENCE

The Saints were 10-5-2 at the mid-point of the regular season schedule, the best mark since the 2005-06 team went 11-5-1 through the first 17 games. But they were in a bit of a free-fall since the calendar turned with a five-game losing streak and getting outscored 17-7.

Brian Ward and Mike Marnell were the leading goal scorers with seven and six respectively while defenseman Gavin Bayreuther led the team with 14 points in 22 games.

Greece, NY native Woody Hudson was nearing the 100 career games played mark.

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# Northern New York Women's College Hockey Report

by Janet Schultz  
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## POTSDAM

Eleven New Yorkers play for Potsdam as the team records a 6-12-2 season overall. Coming up they take on Neumann, Chatham and Plattsburgh.

Jordan Ott leads the team with 12 goals and 7 assists on 20 games. She comes from Hilton and the Rochester Edge.

Abby Tardelli, senior goaltender, also serves as Captain and has made 537 saves this season, playing in every game.

Amanda Peterson (W Chazy/Chazy Flyers) has 4 goals and 3 assists; Alison Green has 4 goals, 1 assist. Kaylen Van Wagner (Red Hook/Hutchkiss School) has record a goal and 6 assists; Kady Hart (Potsdam/North Country Ice Storm) a goal and an assist; Tatum Walber (Orchard Park/Buffalo Regals) an assist; Katie Marsman (Wantagh/Wyoming Seminary) 5 assists and serves as Captain; Taylor Marcellus (Waddington/Ontario Hockey Academy) 2 assists.

Also on the roster are Emiy Kriwox (Tupper Lake/Lumberjacks) and Megan Hans (Massena/Cornwall Typhoon).

## CLARKSON

The Golden Knights are golden once again this year with a 20-3-3 record as they close out the season. Coming up are RPI, Union, Princeton, Quinnipiac, Brown and Yale.

Erin Ambrose was named ECAC Player of the Week on January 12.

## PLATTSBURGH

Coming into February the Cardinals hope to maintain an undefeated season as they face Cortland, Utica and Potsdam.

They posted 2 wins and one loss to beat Carleton and the University of Ottawa at the Theresa Humes Tournament.

Melissa Sheeran of Schaghticoke/Millbrook School) is leading the team with 19 goals and 18 assists in 18 games

Melissa Ames (Rochester/Pittsburgh Pens Elite) has 9 goals and 5 assists; Erin Brand (Long Beach/Syracuse University) 4g/14a; Julia Duquette (Tonawanda/Buffalo Bisons) 2g/3a; Ashley Songin (Springville/Nichols School) 1g/2a.

Elizabeth Viola (Williamsville/Bisons) and Nicole Mensi (Mamaroneck/Northwood) have each played in six games.

## ST. LAWRENCE

The Saints are 13-10-3 overall and play Union, RPI, Quinnipiac, Princeton, Yale and Brown as the round out the season.

Allioson Compeau a freshman goaltender is from Potsdam and the North Country Ice Storm, sh has seen no action this season. Mikela Thompson is a senior goaltender from Webster/Rochester Edge. She played one game as sophomore and one as a junior and three her rookie year.

## CANTON

The Roos, playing in the Colonial Hockey League are 4-12-1 overall and 4-1-1 in their league.

They take on Becker, Johnson & Wales and Stevenson in February.

Tess Adams was named CHC Player of the Week for the second time this season after posting 5 goals and 1 assist in four games.

Noelle Niemiec (Staten Island/NJ Rockets) has 2 goals/4 assists; Rhea Coad (Wheatfield/Ontario Hockey Academy), 3 goals/4assists; Grace Page (Buffalo/Regals) a goal and an assist; Margaret Troviano (Morristown/Morris) and Sydney Kinder (New York/Manhattanville) each have an assist.

Steph Kushnir, a senior forward serves as Captain and comes form Gosehn and Trinity Pawling.



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# West Hockey



## *FLRHA Brings Home Championship*



### *First Season Out*

The Finger Lakes Regional Hockey Association out of Lansing, NY is in its first year of existence. This inaugural season has seen many ups and downs; however it has been a very successful first year on the ice for the Travel Squirts. The team is comprised of mostly 06's with only five 05's on the roster while competing against many teams that are made up a majority of 2005 birth year kids. The year started with our home tournament (Border Outlaw Classic) which resulted in a triple overtime loss that pushed us to the consolation game, but the team soon found their footing and was runner ups (Finalist) in the Silver Sticks Tournament and most recently the MLK Tournament held in Auburn, NY.

**MLK TOURNAMENT:** The Central Outlaws Squirt team started off fast with a 9-0 win over Monroe County. The next morning they took a tough loss to a very good Auburn Icehawks team 0-3, Auburn scored 3 quick ones in the 1st but the Outlaws were able to hold them with some great defensive play for periods 2 and 3. The next game versus Geneva was a big one coming off the loss and needing a win to stay alive. The Outlaws responded by coming out of the gate with a quick 2 goals, skating to a 3-1 win. Monday morning was big show down with Elmira Jackals, the winner moved onto the finals. The Outlaws responded like no one could have imaged, playing incredible team hockey and with the offense going on a scoring binge by beating the Jackals 7-1; onto the finals we go! What a final game it was, a stalemate throughout with great defense and goalie play on both sides. With less than a 2 minutes left in the 3d period the Central Outlaws were 2 men down, though they play toughed Auburn was able to find the back of the net. Auburn went onto win 1-0 with Finger Lakes Outlaws the runner ups. We couldn't be more proud of our Outlaw Squirt kids this year for the determination and drive they have shown in this up and down season. I would also like to say thank you to our coaches for their commitment to our kids' growth on the ice and off as well as the great parents we have that support our organization as it grows as well as showing great sportsmanship in the stands.

*(Submitted by Shannon Coffin)*



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## WNY Boys High School Hockey

### Iroquois Hockey

*Iroquois Alden Chiefs Look To 2016*



Playing in the High School Christmas Tournament at Leisure Rinks in Orchard Park December 23 through December 29, the Iroquois Varsity Chiefs exhibited much potential with two wins and two losses. After losing a heartbreaking game to Orchard Park A 3-5 on the 23rd, they battled back later that same day to defeat Olean 7-0. On the 28th, the Chiefs continued with winning momentum defeating Depew 5-1. In the quarterfinals, the Chiefs lost to Orchard Park A 2-7.

On December 30, the Chiefs suffered a hard hit to their so far successful league record, losing to the Buffalo Explorers 5-7. In this high scoring game, the end of the first period saw the teams tied 1-1. Scoring for the Chiefs was Alden's Gage Mueller with an assist by defenseman Garrett Miller.

In the second period, Mueller scored his second with an assist by Alex Held and Alden's Spencer Hrynczak. Iroquois rounded out the second period with a 3-2 lead when Held got his own tally on a pass from Adam Czech.

Buffalo cranked up the heat scoring four unanswered goals early in the third period. Iroquois fought back late in the third when Joe Russo sent a pass to defenseman Garrett Miller who buried a slap shot from the point. Refusing to surrender, Iroquois' Dylan Giancarlo slammed a pass from Gage Mueller between the Buffalo goal tenders

legs for the Chiefs with just 45 seconds left on the clock. Iroquois pulled the goalie in a last ditch effort to tie the game, but Buffalo answered just 39 seconds later with their own empty net goal leaving Iroquois Alden with their second league loss of the season. Iroquois and Buffalo have split both their league games this season.

#### Game Report: Iroquois vs Canisius

In what has been a tough season so far Iroquois most recent 5-2 upset win against Canisius was uplifting. The junior varsity Chiefs played a tough schedule over the last two months with a limited roster but never did they lose confidence. Their continued perseverance against long odds finally paid off Monday afternoon against the Crusaders. After storming out to a 2-0 lead early in the first with goals from defenseman Shane Guasteferro and center Sam Rider the Crusaders fought their way back to tie the game at 2-2. That would be all for Canisius though as goaltender Andrew Zelak stood on his head in the final two periods to anchor the victory. Scoring the final three goals were Spencer Hrynczak, Josh Harris and Luke Pukalo. Also playing strong in a supporting role was defenseman Dylan Giancarlo and forward Zack Murphy.

#### Game Report: Iroquois JV vs T/NT

The Iroquois JV team has now won two games in a row following a dominating 5-2 win over T/NT Sunday night at Leisure Rinks in Orchard Park. Tyler Pache, making his first ever high school hockey start in goal, played fantastic leading the Chiefs to the win. Pache overcame a nervous start and proved he can play at the higher levels. The 2-0 deficit was never a concern for the calm Chiefs as they dominated the action and controlled most of the puck possession throughout the game. Continuing their scoring streaks were Sam Rider and Spencer Hrynczak with Dylan Giancarlo and Bryce Yorke. Additional scoring was provided by Eric Mattoon, Dylan Giancarlo and Colton Czajka off a power play blast. Defensively, Mike McGrath had a solid game thwarting many TNT offensive rushes. This latest victory brings the JV Chiefs record to 4-9-1 on the year with three games remaining.

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## Starpoint High School

*Starpoint Varsity Has Busy MLK Weekend*

There was no rest for the Starpoint Varsity Hockey Team over the long weekend. With a depleted team due to injuries, the Spartans played 3 games in 3 days.

On Saturday night, Starpoint played a league game and defeated Canisius 4 - 1. The tight checking game was closer than the score indicated. The Spartans were led by Pat Miklinski with 2 goals and Morgan von Hedemann who was stellar between the pipes.

Sunday afternoon was a scrimmage game with visiting Bowling Green High School from Ohio. The Bowling Green team brought size and disciplined play. Both teams traded goals in the early going until Jake Wildt scored late in the 2nd period

to put Starpoint up 3 - 2. However, Bowling Green's bench proved too deep as they scored 2 goals in the 3rd and added an empty net goal to beat Starpoint 5 - 3.

MLK Day brought another league game against division rival St. Joe's. The past games this year have been low scoring, tight games. Today's game was no different. In the last minutes of the 3rd period, Josh Krupczyk sniped the game tying goal to send the contest into overtime. 5 minutes of 4 on 4 action could not decide the winner. The game ended in a 2 - 2 tie.

(Photos provided by Iroquois and Starpoint)



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## WNYGVIH: Sixth Season Coming to Close



It's hard to believe that the Western New York Girls Varsity Ice Hockey League is finishing up its' 6th Season. The hard work and dedication of parents, players and coaches 10 years ago is paying off with players playing for their schools and heading off to play DI, DIII or Club collegiate hockey. Some we may see in the NWHL some day--but for now they are enjoying what they have.

It was Senior night across WNY in the past two weeks with emotional last regular season games that led to the Section VI finals.

At press time, we are heading to the Semi and Championship round which will put a team in Albany for the NYS Championship. The girls will return to the ice for the League playoffs on February 8.

So for now: It will be Kenmore vs Williamsville and Amherst/SweetHome/Clarence vs Orchard Park Frontier in the semi-finals. Kenmore is looking for a return trip to the States, their third in as many seasons as WNY was eligible for the States.

The NYS Championship will be held at Albany Academies on February 5 and 6.

The WNYGVIHF League quarterfinals will be February 8 at Northtowns with Lancaster/Iroquois facing Williamsville at 4:30 p.m.; West Seneca/Hamburg vs Orchard Park/Frontier at 6 p.m. and Kenmore/Grand Island vs Amherst/SweetHome/Clarence at 7:30 p.m. Monsignor Martin sits in first place and has the bye.

So on the leader board for WNYGVIH is Julia Mings (Amherst/Sweethome/Clarence) with 18 goals/7 assists in 12 games; McKenna Rushford (Amherst/Sweethome/Clarence) 8 goals/14 assists; Kaitlyn Drew-Mead (Monsignor Martin) 13 goals/8 assists and Emma Faso (Amherst/Sweethome/Clarence) 13 goals/7 assists.

In goal its Anne Pitz, (Lancaster/Iroquois) who with only 4 minutes in play made 4 saves and has a 1.00 save percentage and no goals against.

Makenna Walp (Monsignor Martin) played 225 minutes with 57 saves and a .950 save percentage and .60 goals against.

The goalie story in this league isn't in the numbers when teams had trouble recruiting goalies. Some of the goalies also skated when not needed in goal.

One goalie that made an impact was Lancaster/Iroquois Rachel Kenyon who played 489.15 minutes, faced 410 shots, making 354 saves with a .863 save percentage and 5.15 goals against average. This young lady did everything including almost standing on her head.

Across town West Seneca/Hamburg's Abbie Mutton played 411.75 minutes; faced 303 shots and made 249 saves. Another goalie who worked hard everytime she was between the pipes.

So stats don't tell the full story when it came to goalies this season.



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Amherst/SweetHome/Clarence Seniors: McKenna Rushford, Karley King, Chloe Cotton



Kenmore/Grand Island's Senior Class includes Miranda Butler, Lina Mirabella Emily King, Cara Klopp, Grace Simmons, Taylor Story



Williamsville Class of 2016 Carly Gambacorta, Samantha Gaffney, Garrell Garrity, Olivia Rutkowski



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Lancaster/Iroquois Seniors:  
Kristen Bull,  
Emma Turcotte, Jenna Hagen, Brianna Colucci and Abby D'Amato.



Monsignor Martin Class of 2016:  
Molly McDonald, Catherine Radwan, Sarah Richmond Brynn Wopperer, Brigid Keane and Maeve Christ.



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*Left to right Front Row: Jack Randle, Eric Abbate, Matt Scott, AJ Oliveri, Michael Juntunen, Michael Greiner  
Back Row: Ryan Smith (firefighter), Jackson Rogers, Cole Feldman, Tucker Leggett, Tyler Buyea, Brendan Bastian,  
Alex Ghosen, Declan Faery, Pat Talmon (firefighter).*

## Hockey Team Puts Community First

The Tonawanda Lightning Bantam Minor boys' hockey team gave back to the community by collaborating with the Kenilworth Fire Company with the annual food drive. The boys collected food donations at each of their home games in the month of November. Even their opponents (The Monroe County Eagles, The Rochester Americans, and The Perinton Blades) were happy to join in and help the boys with this project. Also, fellow Tonawanda Lightning teams (Pee Wee Minor, Pee Wee Major, and Squirt Minor) collected food from their teams to add to the donations.

Several players also took time out of their busy hockey tournament schedule to deliver flyers door-to-door.

The boys collected over 50 bags/boxes of food and presented it to Pat Talmon and Ryan Smith from the Kenilworth Fire Company on December 3rd at Brighton Arena.

*(Submitted by Tonawanda Lighting)*

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*Pee Wee Major*

*Tonawanda Lightning Are  
Active  
On The Ice  
AND in  
Their Community!*



*Pee Wee Minor*



Left to right: Cole Feldman, AJ Oliveri, Michael Juntunen, Tyler Buyea, Alex Ghosen, Michael Greiner, Matt Scott, Tucker Leggett  
TonawandaLTeamflyers.jpg



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*The Tonawanda Lightning Thank Teams coming to help them including the Monroe County Eagles, Pertinton Blades, Rochester Americans and their own Tonawanda Lightning Squirt Minors!*



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## Buffalo Stars Hockey

### 2016 Buffalo Stars Hockey Summer Heat Tournament August 12-14, 2016

All teams are guaranteed four games and there is no charge for spectators.

The games will be broadcast on the live internet in the rink.

This is open to U15AA, U16 AA and AAA, U18 AA and AAA.

Space is limited.

Contact the Buffalo Stars for more information. Deadline is July 15.

### Stars Visit Notre Dame

#### *"Play Like a Champion Today"*

This familiar phrase has been synonymous with Notre Dame Athletics since legendary football coach Lou Holtz had a sign made and placed above the locker room door for players to "high five" on their way out to the field; a reminder that every game should be played like a championship game.

The Buffalo Stars Pee Wee Minor team got a taste of what it means to play at such a legendary venue as they took part in the Irish South Bend Cup Hockey Tournament Series from January 17th through 19th in South Bend, Indiana. The Stars competed against teams from Michigan, Indiana, and Illinois and, while the scores did not go the

Stars' way, they showed the Midwest how Buffalo plays tenacious, never-say-die hockey. The team was able to experience the look and feel of taking the ice in a big-time Division 1 arena, as their game on Saturday morning was held on the "Lefty Smith" rink (named after the famed patriarch of Notre Dame hockey) where the UND Ice Hockey team plays their home games.

This trip was about more than just ice hockey, though. In such a unique and historic venue, there are things to explore at every turn in South Bend. Players and parents took part in a Notre Dame Stadium tour, highlighted by a visit to the storied Notre Dame Football locker room, where Knute Rockne gave his famous "Win one for the Gipper" speech. Tour participants also got an overview of the renovations that are taking place at the stadium and they also got a look at the Joyce Center, which is home to the Fighting Irish basketball, volleyball, and fencing teams and has available practice and workout facilities for teams take advantage of.

A visit to the campus "bookstore" (we didn't see any actual BOOKS here...think Barnes and Noble...without all the paper) proved to be a big hit as the amount of Notre Dame merchandise being sported by players and parents was highly evident as the weekend progressed. Add to this a number

of quality pubs and other eating establishments, and the Notre Dame campus starts to take on the feel of being a city within itself.

All in all, the opportunity for players, coaches, and families to bond and play together in such a unique place cannot be understated. Years from now, memories will be recalled that go well beyond what took place on the ice. The weekend will be fondly remembered for its look into history, and the comradery of friends and family at one of the nation's most historic and renowned landmarks.

### Stars Take to the Ice At Riverworks

Buffalo has no shortage of great places to play ice hockey. On the heels of the Winter Classic played in Ralph Wilson Stadium in 2010, outdoor rinks, in particular, have drawn a keen interest in and around the Western New York Area. The Buffalo Stars Pee Wee Minor team got a taste of the action this Sunday as they hosted the Syracuse Blazers Pee Wee Minor team in a non-league exhibition game at the Riverworks complex in downtown Buffalo.

The game was a resounding success, as evidenced by the 4-3 victory that the Stars secured. It was a total team effort, and the kind



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# Buffalo Stars Hockey

of game that the Stars coaches were hoping for as the team tunes up for its upcoming tournament in Notre Dame, Indiana. The Stars only trailed 1-0 for a short while in the first period, before potting a couple goals of their own and then never looking back. Crosby Juliano netted 2 of the goals, with Luke Stotz and Drew Cassidy picking up one assist each. Stevey Palmisano and Tyler Schott fired home the other tallies to round out the scoring. On the back end, the Stars defense was outstanding all afternoon, clogging shooting lanes and frustrating the Syracuse players by not allowing anything easy in front of their net. Goalies Michael Georger and Chris Flanagan split the "keeper" duties, both turning in solid performances to help keep the Stars in the lead.

The venue earned a star on this day too as, despite the warmer temperatures (the mercury hovered near 45 degrees), the ice was on the softer side, but held up in the open air complex and fans were treated to a great atmosphere to watch the Stars win the day. To cap off the event, players, parents, and coaches gathered in the restaurant area of the complex to revel in their victory and enjoy a pizza party, all courtesy of the fantastic planning and organizational efforts of Team Manager, Andie Burton. Venues and days like this are ones that young players will remember and treasure...and it

is was the perfect way to start the team's run-up to tournament weekend starting January 15th.

## Spotlight Players



### Mason Smith

Mason Smith is a true hockey player in every sense of the word. This team had high expectations of him and he didn't let us down. With multiple hat-tricks and a never ending desire on the ice, he has made everyone on this team a better player. It's a pleasure to watch him skate. Awesome job this year Mason.

Mason is 14 years old and plays Center. He is a ninth grader and likes social studies, pizza, Rap music and the NHL Network. His favorite movie is Iron Man and his role model is Alex Ovechkin.



Adam Vullo  
Bantam Major Team.

Adam is a true warrior at heart. He leaves it all on the ice every shift he is out there. His forechecking and backchecking drive his opponents crazy. Adam is one of the most versatile players also. He made the team as a Defenseman but now plays Offense most of the time. The coach doesn't have to tell him what to do. He just opens the door and unleashes him. Great job this year Adam.

Adam is 14 years old and a ninth grader from Buffalo. His favorite subject is science and his favorite food--burritos.

His musical tastes lean to Rap and his favorite TV show is South Park.

His role model is his Dad because "He always



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# Buffalo Stars Hockey

encourages me to do my best”...

Adam also plays basketball and lacrosse.

## U19 Girls Shine Bright

Recently, the Buffalo Stars 19U Girls Team went to Glen Falls, NY to participate in the Northstars Annual Winter Classic Tournament. The Tournament was held on January 15th- January 18th. Weekend festivities commenced for the 19U division with a skills competition. After much deliberation within team management, Jordan Weisenburg and Kaira Patterson were selected to represent the girls in the fastest skater relay. Kristen Brzyski accepted the task in competing in the timed stick-handling relay, while Casey Bower took passes from Jamie Wheeler for shooting accuracy. Respected goalie, Sam Heintz rounded out the competition by challenging shooters in the breakaway challenge. While all the athletes performed well, Kristen Brzyski and Sam Heintz won gold in their respected categories.

Tournament play consisted of a two-game preliminary round to determine seeding going into the medal round. The Stars' first opponent was the Brewster Bulldogs, early Sunday morning. The girls had tremendous confidence going into the game. Goal scoring started early, with Mary Kate Mullen converting on a quick break started by Kristen Brzyski. The Bulldogs tied the game early in the second on a solid powerplay tally. Jordan Weisenburg added a powerplay goal



herself by a great face-off set-up by Marcella Rodgers and Casey Bower. The next two even strength goals saw each linemate contributing on the scoresheet. Doherty added the first, with assists from Mary Kate Mullen and Kate Roberts. Team enforcer, Kate Roberts netted the second on a cycling play from Mullen and Doherty. Jamie Wheeler converted a late feed from Marcella Rodgers to finish off the game with a score of 5-1.

Game 2 of Sunday afternoon put the Stars up against a formidable opponent, Troy-Albany Ice Cats, ranked 11th in the country. The game consisted of solid defensive play and tremendous goaltending from Sam Heintz. The Stars protected the net well, and coverage was impeccable. The game

was locked scoreless going into the final minutes of the game. Jamie Wheeler cleared the puck to Jordan Weisenburg's wing and the rest was history. Weisenburg found the puck easily in the neutral zone and didn't look back. She found the back of the net mere seconds after puck possession. The final 2 minutes of the game found Troy-Albany pulling their goaltender. Insert Mary Kate Mullen and Kate Roberts. Troy-Albany got early possession, until the Stars cleared the puck down the ice. Roberts won a foot race to the puck, while Mullen followed right behind her. Roberts found Mullen on the doorstep to put the game away. The Stars would enter the championship round as the number one seed.

*(Continued on Page 64)*

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## *Amherst 19U Fall to Buffalo Stars In Adirondacks!*

The Amherst Knights U19 Girls met up with their WNY cross-town rival Buffalo Stars at the Winter Classic in Lake Placid. In a hard fought game, the Stars came out on top but WNY gains noterity when these teams bring home First and Second place! Congratulations girls!

Pictured are (Front) Rose Quattro, Juliana Kersten  
Second row: Coach Mark McDonnell, Molly McDonnell, Sam Henry, Alexander Showers, Olivia Luthringer, Allison Carosi, Carly Gambacorta, Olivia Rutkowski  
Back: Farrell Garrity, Danielle Trubish, Samantha Gaffney, Elena Kotrides, Markella Phillips, Eliza Clarke-Burton, Sarah Richmond

*(Thanks to Marilyn Quattro for this photo)*



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## Notes from the West...

...Continuing from the January Issue of NY Hockey, The Warm Hearts Warms Bodies Drive formed by Colin, a nine year old goaltender, moved forward when the RIT men's hockey team got involved on January 30. Everyone that brought a gently used coach was given a buy one ticket, get one ticket free to the game.



... Congratulations to Kyle Pray, (left) recipient of the 2016 J. Michael Duffett Award for his contributions to amateur hockey in WNY!

Pray co-founded the Tonawanda Lightning and has coached hockey at both KenEast and KenWest.

...Cornerstone CFCU Arena hosted over 50 games during the Continental Cup Trophy hockey tournament in January. This year's battle drew the top talent and teams

from Canada, Russia and the United States for birth years 2006-2002.

"This is going to be a tremendous event – and is exactly the kind of thing we envisioned when we built the arena," said James Sullivan, Cornerstone CFCU Arena Executive Director. "Cornerstone is a premier venue and the

teams, coaches and fans are in for a real treat when they play here."

...Tonawanda's Jill Battista is playing for Merrimack College. This is the Inaugural Season for the team and they are 2-16 overall. Jill is a sophomore forward from Kenmore East and has tallied an assist in 18 games played through December 8.

...Madison Sanson from Nichols School and the Buffalo Bisons is playing for Providence. The Sophomore Forward has 8 goals and 2 assists in 15 games with Providence 5-10-0 overall as of December 8.

...The West Section NYSAHA meeting will be held Sunday, April 9 at the Northtown Centre, Amherst. Meeting begins at Noon, registration 11:30 a.m.



## Amherst 35th Top Gun Tournament Third Invitation House Tournament

And the Winners in Top Gun are:

Mite Red Division Winner: Erie Lions; Runner Up: AYH Penguins

Mite Mixed Division Winner: Webster Cyclones; Runner Up: AYH Flyers

Squirt Winner: Depew Saints; Runner Up: AYH Blue Sabres

Pee Wee Winner: MCYHL Eagles; Runner Up: Rochester Amerks

Bantam Winner: Amherst01; Runner Up: Lysander Lightning



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# Western New York Women's College Hockey Report

by Janet Schultz  
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## BUFFALO STATE

The Bengals are having their best season ever after posting a 13-4-0 record as they move to the end of the season. In February they take on Elmira, Cortland and Utica, all conference rivals before the ECAC West playoffs.

Emma Ruggiero (Amherst/Monsignor Martin) was named ECAC Rookie of the Week January 11 after she posted 5 points in a weekend.

Justine Silva made 27 saves and was named Goal-tender of the Week, her second honor this season.

Boasting numerous players from New York, West Seneca/West Seneca Erin Gehen has posted 14 goals and 7 assist in 16 games this season. Nikki Kirchberger (Buffalo/West Seneca) has 7 goals and 8 assists in 17 games.

Madeline Kromer (Angola/Lakeshore, Regals), 1 goal; Georgia Kelineer (Pelham/Canterbury) 4 assists; Maddie Toczek (Amherst/Monsignor Martin, Bisons) 5 goals/3 assists; Emma Ruggiero (Amherst/Buffalo Regals) 4 goals/6 assists; Caitie Horvatits (Elma/Iroquois, Bisons) 2 goals/5 assists; Rachel Lenard (Orchard Park/Monsignor Martin/Oswego) 2 goals/8 assists; Megan Reukauf (Depew/Regals) 1 goal/2 assists; Alison Mish (Canastota/CNY Bobcats) 1 goal/2 assists; Missy Mallon (Amherst/Cazenovia) 6 goals/4 assists.

Also playing for the Bengals are Kylie McCloskey from Hampton Bay/Shattuck St. Mary's and Heather Neuburger (Fayetteville/Millbrook and Troy-Albany Ice Cats).

Lenard transferred from Oswego in December.

## RIT



Struggling for the first time in several season, the Tigers are 6-19-1 as they head into the home stretch (2-9-1 in CHA play).

They face Lindenwood, Mercyhurst and Robert Morris before the CHA playoffs on February 26-28.

The CHA finals will be held at HarborCenter in Buffalo on March 4 and 5.

Kendall Cornine was named CHA Rookie of the Week January 12 after scoring both goals in a pair of losses to Providence. She had 4 goals and 4 assists in 22 games.

Jetta Racleff was named CHA Goaltender of the Month for December after returning from an injury and playing her first two games in two months. She stopped 58 of 62 shots against Lindenwood on December 4 and 5.

Maddie Grisko of Buffalo and the Bisons/Amherst/Sweethome Katz has played in 17 games. (See related feature in this edition of NY Hockey).

The team held their Do It For Daron game in January (See feature in this issue).

## UNIVERSITY OF BUFFALO

The UB Lady Ice Bulls are 8-1-0 and in second place in the ACHA.

They play West Chester University on February 13 and 14.

Several UB players are making the League Scoring Sheet with Mamie Talty in second with 12 goals/17 assists; Alexis Peters, fifth, 6 goals/14 assists; Courtney Miller, seventh, 13 goals/3 assists and Caitlin Mitchell, tenth, 4 goals/11 assists.

Between the nets are familiar WNY Goalies Theresa Meosky with a 2-5-0 record and Kaitlyn Simmons with a 0-2-0 record.

## NIAGARA UNIVERSITY

NU has no team this season due to lack of participation. Anyone interested in playing should contact John Spanbauer, jks@niagara.edu.



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# Western New York Men's College Hockey Report

by Warren Kozireski  
Wkozires@brockport.edu

## Conacher Nominated for Hobey Baker

Junior forward Shane Conacher (Burlington, Ontario) of the Canisius College hockey team is among the players nominated for the Hobey Baker Award, handed out to the nation's top collegiate player.

Fans can vote for the player they believe deserves the award through HobeyBaker.com or via the Hobey Facebook page. The first phase ends March 6 and the list will be narrowed down to 10 semifinalists with the second phase beginning on March 17.

Conacher ranks among the best players in the country this season. The junior currently places fifth nationally with 33 points, seventh with 16 goals, 13th with 17 assists and second with five game-winning goals.

During his career, Conacher has amassed 93 points on 33 goals and 60 assists. He is just seven points shy of becoming the 10th Griff in the program's Division I history with 100 career points and the second junior to reach the mark.

### BROCKPORT

The Golden Eagles already had ten SUNYAC points through 11 conference games which meant they didn't need a last-month race to the postseason, but having not swept a single weekend this season meant they might still be looking at a road

first round playoff.

They defeated nationally ranked UMass-Boston and Westfield State to win the Codfish Bowl. Tim Kielich (East Aurora) and Chase Nieuwendyk were each named to the All-Tournament team while Ryan Kangas was named the tournament's Most Valuable Player after scoring three goals and three assists on the weekend.

Nieuwendyk was among the top-ten nationally averaging 1.50 points per game, while Kielich was the fourth best freshman nationally at 1.22 points per game.

The regular season ends with a trip to front-runners Potsdam and Plattsburgh.

### BUFFALO STATE

The streaky Bengals held their own destiny as they play out the final six regular season games in February with three of those against the bottom-feeders in the SUNYAC conference.

The team did need to generate more offense from their defense to take some pressure off of the forwards. The blueliners combined for only seven of the team's 54 goals with senior Sean Hrivnak accounting for three of them.

They were getting scoring from two lines with six forwards in double-figures led by Taylor Pryce's 18 points. Senior Brett Hope played his last game Jan. 16 five games shy of 100 career. He joined the Fayetteville FireAntz of the SPHL.

### CANISIUS

Points in six of seven conference games in January launched the Golden Griffins into the upper half

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of Atlantic Hockey even with one of the youngest teams in the nation.

Junior Shane Conacher's 23 points and 11 goals were the most by a Griff in the first half since his brother,

Cory, had 27 points (on way to a school-record 53) and 13 goals during the 2009-10 season. He won Atlantic Hockey Player of the Month accolades in December after he led the Griffs with nine points, five goals and four assists, while also registering a pair of game-winning tallies.

Conacher and Cuddemi stood among the top-15 in the nation in third period points. Conacher also the nation with 23 even-strength points.

Freshman Dylan McLaughlin (Lancaster) earned Atlantic Hockey Rookie of the Week accolades for the week ending Jan. 9 after he recorded four points on a goal and three assists with the first multi-point game of his career.

Freshman Josh Gabriel (Lancaster) scored his first collegiate goal Jan. 8 at RIT—a shorthander.

#### ERIE CC

The defending champion Kats stood 9-0 against junior college foes with three games remaining in February as they were giving little indication

they wanted to relinquish their crown.

And they were doing it in impressive fashion outscoring their conference opponents 54-15.

Aaron Wanat (Cheektowaga) and Trevor Evams (Newfane) were among the top-five nationally in points with 44 and 34 respectively, and goals at 21 and 20. Jordyn Bellitto (Orchard Park) also had 23 points with seven other teammates at 13 points or better.

Sophomore goaltender William Korczynski (West Seneca) had played over 800 of the 1085 minutes and will be counted on down the stretch and into the postseason Feb. 27-28 at Broome CC. FREDONIA

The Blue Devils were still alive, but would need to virtually run the table with only four SUNYAC games in February to move back into the postseason picture.

The future does appear brighter with freshmen Jimmy Morgan, Bobby Polachek and Luke Rivera among the top six scorers on the team. And freshman goaltender Eric Bogard registered two of the team's first five wins.

#### GENESEO

The Knights continue to persevere through circumstances that might cripple other teams. They were 5-1-2 in conference and 11-3-3 overall despite losing one teammate to a severe brain injury at the start of the season and senior defenseman Matthew Hutchinson being murdered in January. They were in a dogfight with Plattsburgh, Potsdam and Oswego for the first round playoff bye.

They will get the chance to continue to bond and support each other on the road in February with only one home game on the slate.

Stephen Collins (Pittsford) and Trevor Hills (Honeoye Falls) stood among the top-five in the

*(Continued on Page 65)*



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# Hasek's Heroes Strives To Help At-Risk Youth-- With Hockey

By Randy Schultz  
Randy@nyhockeyonline.com

On August 3, 2015 Craig Maslona (pictured right) arrived at the offices of Hasek's Heroes in Buffalo as the organization's new Director of Operations. While he may be new at Hasek's Heroes, Maslona is a somewhat familiar face to the Western New York hockey community.

Maslona was also very familiar with the Hasek organization.

"I was basically brought in to bring more kids into the program," said Maslona, a certified hockey coach. "Numbers had dropped off a bit and I've been brought in to increase the numbers."

The mission of Hasek's Heroes, which was organized in 2001, is to provide Western New York children in need the foundations of athletic, academic and character development within a fun and rewarding hockey-centered program.

In addition to fostering athletic skills and engaging youth in recreational activities throughout the hockey season, Hasek's Heroes provides team building and leadership skills during both the on-ice and off-ice components of the program.

In December 2004 Hasek's Heroes took over the operation of the Riverside Park's Reuben "Bud" Bakewell Ice Rink. Seven years later Hasek partnered with the Buffalo Sabres Foundation to expand its program into the Cazenovia Timothy J. Burvid Ice Rink in South Buffalo.

"We travel between the two locations to work with the kids," stated Maslona.

Since Maslona's arrival his number one objective for on-the-ice activity was one thing.

"Make sure the kids have fun," responded Maslona. "Since I arrived here I've worked on making sure that with all the activities that go happen on the ice the kids are having fun."

"I work with the (USA Hockey) ADM model

and we have station workouts when the kids are out there. We're switching about every eight minutes when we are out on the ice. If you don't switch after that amount of time, you lose the kids attention."

Currently there are a little over 600 kids enrolled in programs at Hasek Heroes, ages four to 16.

"We reach out to a lot of kids, with the Girls and Boys Club of Buffalo being one group on particular," added Maslona. "We reach out to a lot of other kids groups as well."

"We basically want to introduce as many kids as we can to the sport of hockey. And we help them with everything."

"The families don't have to pay a thing. We provide the kids with everything from skates, to pads, to sticks. Everything."

One new twist this year is the Hasek's Heroes On Wheels, which has seen the organization, take its show on the road with their first stop being in Lockport at the city's new ice arena located in the downtown area.

For Maslona and the organization, there is still a bottom line to everything they do.

"Our goal is to keep the kids off the streets and make them better kids," concluded Maslona. "We want to make hockey players and fans out of them."

"But at the end of the day they are a better person, then we have really done our job."



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## “Where Is She Now”

by Randy Schultz

### Grisko at RIT

**D**iagnostic Medical Sonography (DMS) is a type of medical imaging that uses high-frequency sound waves, also known as ultrasound, to produce images of organs, tissues and blood flow. A common example of sonography is the technology that allows expectant parents to see the first images of their unborn child.

That is the definition of what Maddie Grisko wants to become. Grisko is a sophomore at the Rochester Institute of Technology studying DMS.

But besides being focused on a career in DMS, Grisko is focused on hockey. She is playing in her second season with the RIT Women’s Hockey Team.

The 2014 graduate of Amherst High School in Amherst, NY and Buffalo native was focused on RIT already back in her high school days. Why RIT?

“RIT is an amazing school,” responded Grisko, the daughter of Carolyn and Stephen Grisko. “There is such an amazing support system here.

“The program that I’m studying (DMS) is one of the best around. And, of course, the hockey here is amazing.

“And I love hockey.”

Grisko began skating in her backyard rink when she was about five years old. When she was approximately eight or nine, she began playing organized hockey on a boy’s team.

At 14 Grisko switched to girls hockey. She played on her high school team (Sweet Home/Amherst High School Girls Team) as well as for the Buffalo Bisons.

Grisko will be the first to admit that there was quite an adjustment to make coming from high school level hockey into the Division I College ranks.

“It was the mental part of the game,” stated Grisko, who has a brother, William and a sister, Anna. “You have to know what you are going to do with the puck before you actually get the puck.

“It is a much faster game up here at this level than it was in high school. You have to know what to do with the puck once you get it on your stick.”

Grisko will also tell you that she has learned one other important aspect of life: Time Management.

“I think playing sports at the college level helps you better manage your time,” commented Grisko, a defenseman. “You have to get up, go to the rink, you have to work out, then there is studying time in the library, classes, homework and, of course, games.

“So you have to know what you’re doing and when. And being an athlete gets you into a routine that you follow everyday.”

Looking down the road Grisko does have a plan.

“I want to be able to play hockey for as long as I can,” she concluded. “I will play here in college and will try to continue to play once that college part of my life is over with.

“I know that with my major that is going to start to take me into hospitals in the next year or so. From there it will be on to my professional career in the medical field.

“But I will make sure that there will always be room for hockey.”

*(Pictured below is Maddie (left) with teammate Brooke Baker, who also played for the NJPE!)*

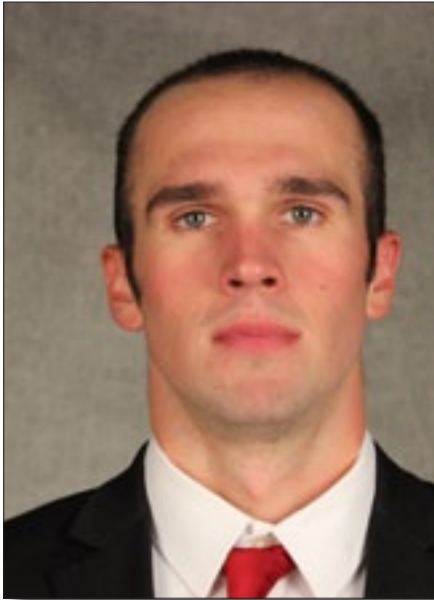


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assists over 27 games in his sophomore season before his to-date career best five goal junior year (tied for third on the team) including a short-hander.

The 5'9" 167 lb. forward is listed on the right wing, but is often called on to take key face-offs late in games. He missed seven games earlier this season after having surgery for a torn abdominal muscle.

"I've been using him on left wing, right wing, center," Cornell head coach Mike Schafer said. "He's a versatile player, never says boo and just goes out and does his job. He just jumps over the board and plays any position we want.

"He's part of a great class and a great group of friends. They're very committed to great team chemistry and is part of that tight knit group."

"I've got to give credit to the rest of my class—we do things as a group from a leadership standpoint and run things past each other," Knisley said.

"We each bring something different to the table, so overall we make a good leadership group.

"It's ingrained in our program to be disciplined, commitment to detail, having that blue-collar mentality and working for everything. We have that junkyard mentality where we want to hound pucks, play in their zone and get to the gritty areas to score goals."

Knisley grew up with the dream of playing at Cornell from his dad being friends with the Paolini family and going to Lynah Rink to watch younger son and Spencerport native Sam Paolini play. Paolini would go on to win the Hockey Humanitarian Award in his senior year.

"In 2003 he (Sam) was a walk-on here at Cornell and I looked up to him. Going to those games, it's something you want to be a part of—its special playing in front of those fans and something I wanted to strive towards.

Bradley played two seasons for St. Joseph's in Buffalo before jumping to the Youngstown (OH) Phantoms in the United States Hockey League for two years. There he scored ten career goals with 23 assists over 113 games.

By Warren Kozireski

**R**ensselaer senior defenseman Chris Bradley and Cornell senior forward John Knisley have quite a bit in common besides both hailing from Western New York towns of Williamsville and Pittsford respectively.

Both have fewer than 10 career goals despite playing over 125 (Bradley) or over 85 (Knisley) career games.

Both had one goal in this 2015-16 campaign through January 15th.

And both do the little things correctly on the ice and off, which is why both are captains for their nationally ranked clubs.

Knisley played high school hockey at Pittsford before launching his junior career with the Syracuse Stars and later spent two seasons with the Vernon Vipers of the British Columbia Hockey League prior to joining Cornell. Ten of his development years were spent with the Syracuse Stars with one year with the Rochester Alliance.

He played 24 games in his freshman season largely in a fourth line role scoring two goals that year with his first against Harvard Nov. 16. He added one goal and three



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Though he hasn't put up huge offensive numbers for the top-20 ranked Engineers, he plays boatloads of minutes in all situations and is known for his shot-blocking (a team-high 52 as of this writing, which is tops in the ECAC). He picked the perfect time to score his first goal of the season—the only tally in a 1-0 shutout over eight-ranked Cornell.

"I pride myself on my defense and when I can chip in offensively that's great, so it's something I wanted to work on to improve my game and, as a d-corps, we're trying to more involved in the play," Bradley said.

The 6'2" 200 lb. blueliner was a team-best +18 and given the team's Best Defensive Player Award as a sophomore leading to his role wearing a letter this season. "It's an honor to wear the "C" at a program like this with the legacy and tradition it brings, so it's something that is very special to me and every game I just try to do the best I can to help the team win.

"I honestly thinks it's just the way my parents (Linda and Peter) raised me. They raised me to be a hard worker in every situation no matter what the cost is. And through the years I've played for a lot of coaches who have pushed

me to a level and helped me get to where I am today.

"It's just about learning from guys who came before me and captains' who were here before me; learning what I liked and what I dislike and how they led the team and just something I'm really appreciative to be a part of."

As both Knisley and Bradley head into the stretch run of their final games as collegiate hockey players, are they getting a bit nostalgic?

"I'm trying not to think of it that way, but it is a motivator for me knowing that I don't have too many of these times on the ice left whether it's practice or games, so everyone counts," Knisley said.

"Yeah, but I'm trying not to think about it with only five home games left in the fieldhouse, but I know we'll get a playoff run. I'm trying not to focus on it too much, but focus on making my mark and doing something special as a team," Bradley summarized.

Exactly the words you would expect from captains.

*(Buffalo Stars Continued From Page 55)*



The winner of the 4th-5th seed quarterfinal turned out to be the Long Island Lady Islanders, a team the Stars fell 2-1 very early in the season. Good defense and exceptional goaltending Monday morning put the Stars in a position to succeed. Jordyn Buziak provided the first goal off of a passing play by Emily Burow. Burow added a powerplay goal in the second and the Stars played conservative to finish with its second consecutive shutout. Every forward line contributed to shutting down the opponent. The blueberry line of Patterson, Buziak, and Glowacki, was brilliant in winning every battle. They finished off the last moments of the game without letting the Lady Islanders a shot on goal with their own tender pulled.

The Stars found themselves pinned against their local rival, the Amherst Lady Knights, in the championship matchup. The players came out flying. They wanted to be the ones to bring a championship back to Buffalo. An early tally from the point by Kristen Brzyski, assisted by Marcella Rodgers and Jordan Weisenburg, put the Stars ahead. The Stars held the lead from here on out, and goals by Jordan Glowacki, and Rene Doherty, found the Stars with a 3-1 lead going into the final minutes of the game. The blueberry line allowed the Stars to transition the puck down the ice with the Lady Knights goaltender pulled. Casey Bower jumped on a loose puck in the neutral zone and found the empty net. The Lady Knights never quit, even down 4-1. They added a goal in the final moments, but their assault was not big enough to overcome the deficit. The Stars found themselves winning the Winter Classic Tournament Championship 4-2.



*Photographs courtesy of Brenda Burow and the Adirondack Northstars Organization, story by the Justin Wheeler)*



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(Mens College Continued from Page 60)

nation in goals per game while freshman Anthony Marra was top-ten nationally in rookie scoring with 15 assists and 20 points in his first 17 collegiate games.

### NAZARETH

With a 1-3-1 record against to ECAC West teams Hobart, Manhattanville and Utica, the Golden Flyers were 2-1 against teams lower than them in the standings through late-January.

The streaky squad has had two three game losing streaks along with a three game winning streak and a four game unbeaten run.

Freshman David Powlowski (Greece Arcadia) is the only regular without a penalty this season. Four of sophomore forward John Power's six goals have come on the power play.

Junior defenseman Marcus Moles (Lake Placid) netted his first goal of the season at Hobart Jan. 23.

### NIAGARA

Isolated wins in the first half gave the program hope they were finally turning the corner, but having earned one point over the first eight Janu-

ary games and scoring more than two goals in a game just once during the stretch meant there was still some distance to go before competing.

Sophomore forward Derian Plouffe was having his best season with nine goals and 13 points. Senior defenseman Nick Cecere was the only plus player on the roster at +4.

Through the first 20 games, freshmen accounted for 39 of the team's 109 points or 36%.

Freshman Sean King scored a power-play goal Jan. 9 versus Mercyhurst—his first goal as a Purple Eagle.

### R.I.T.

The Tigers rolled through the first eight games in January with seven wins to vault them into second place three points shy of first place Robert Morris in Atlantic Hockey.

Senior Josh Mitchell became the ninth player in the team's Division I history to record 100 career points Jan. 16 at Bentley. He led the team in scoring while sophomore Myles Powell more than doubled his goal total from his freshman season of four.

Senior defenseman Greg Amlong also had a career-best five goals after netting one over his first 69 collegiate contests.

Leading scorer Mark Golberg left the program in January.

### OTHER AREA NOTES:

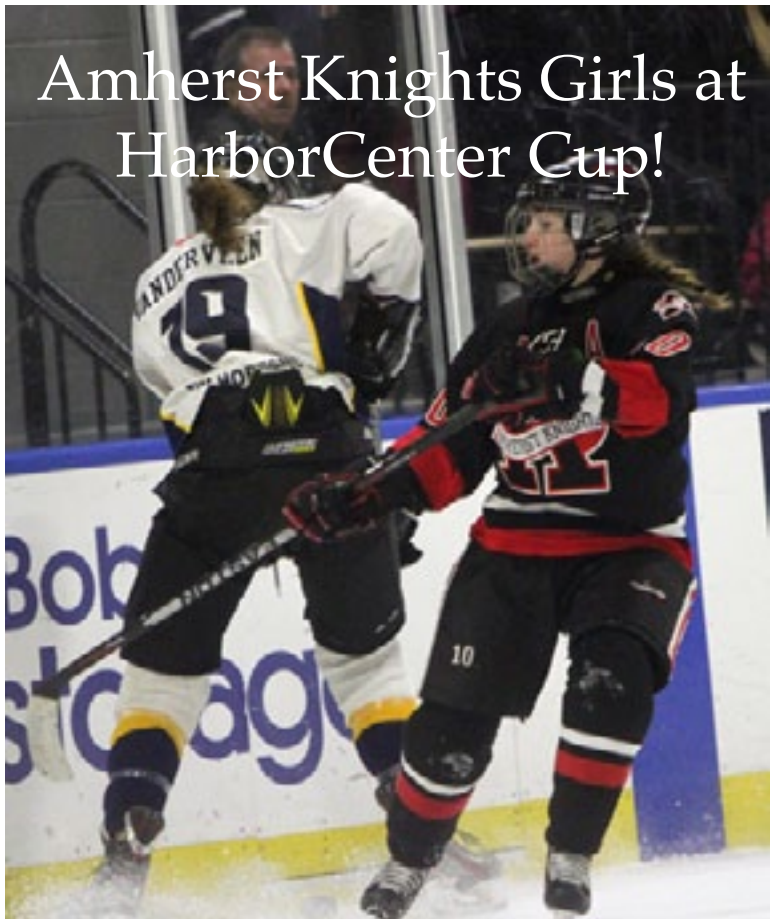
- Robert Morris senior goaltender Terry Shafer picked up his seventh career shutout against Bentley Jan. 9 to set a new school record.



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# Amherst Knights Girls at HarborCenter Cup!



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## GOALTENDER TRYOUT TIPS

**W**ith tryouts just around the corner this article will focus on some reminders to help have a successful tryout. Tryouts can be very stressful for any goaltender. It's important to harness that stress into positive energy. Here are some tips on how to show your strengths and stand out in a tryout situation.

**Make a good first impression.** The start of the tryout is very important. Arriving early and ready with all necessary paperwork and equipment shows that you are prepared and responsible. Be sure to double check that everything is in order prior to the day of the tryout (gear in good condition, skates sharpened etc.). This also includes getting on the ice on time and being focused while the coach is talking. I have seen coaches cut goalies for being late, unprepared, or appearing uninterested. **Have net presence.** This is hard to describe, but easy to notice. Some of the things that a coach will look for is control and edgework, fundamentals, athleticism, puck tracking, and rebound control. The best goalies have a certain swagger or confidence to the way they move around the crease and make saves.

**Big save at key times.** Ultimately the goalie that the coach has the most confidence in will make the team. Making big saves at key times while not allowing soft goals is the key to standing out in a tryout. Coaches want to see a goalie that will "compete" hard on every shot no matter what the situation is. They also want to see a goalie that will rise to the occasion and not make excuses or blame teammates for mistakes. **Next shot philosophy.** Don't beat yourself up if you give up a goal. Quickly erase it from your memory and focus on the next shot. That next save could be the difference maker. The same philosophy applies after you make a great save. Avoid getting to excited and focus on the next shot.

With those tips in mind be sure to remember that work ethic, having a positive attitude, and being a good teammate are other intangibles that can help you make the team. Good luck.



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