



Top Shelf Tribune

Your Information Source for Rochester Youth, Edge, and Alliance Hockey

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It's Hockey Time! The 2011-12 Season Begins

Another summer has come and gone and as the school year begins, so does HOCKEY!

The upcoming season hopes to be a good one. Last spring, tryouts were very positive. Even with the introduction of a new hockey organization to the Rochester area, our organization had a positive turnout and we had many new and returning players.

With the beginning of the new season, the Top Shelf Tribune will continue to be there to provide you with information, news, scores, and highlights. As always, any information or news, that you would like

to see in the Top Shelf Tribune, can be forwarded to our email address at: topshelftribune@gmail.com

Also, day-to-day information and news can be located at our team websites below.

Let the season begin!!

	www.ryhockey.com
	www.rochesteralliance.com
	www.ryhockey.com

Rochester Beginner Hockey...The Fun Starts Early

Hockey continues to grow as a fun sport for kids. However, many people wonder how early an age can a child start? That is where Rochester Youth Beginner Programs come in.

For several years, RYH has offered hockey programs for kids starting as early as age 3.

There are three programs offered. Kids begin in our Little Tykes Program where they learn the basics of moving on the ice in a pair of skates. No skating experience is expected. Coaches work with the children to develop the child's ability to skate and learn some basic hockey skills. Skills are developed by using fun exercises on the ice to build the child's confidence being on

the ice. Practice is held once a week for 10 weeks.

The Initiation Program is offered to children ages 5 and up who want to take their hockey skills to the next level. This program is designed by RYH and Maksymum Hockey. Skating skills are developed to include skating forward, backwards, starts/stops, balance, basic shooting and stick handling. The program meets twice a week.

The Pony Program is for children ages 4 - 6 that have completed the Initiation Program. Concentration on skating, shooting, and stick handling continues, but the introduction of a "team" with a head coach, assistant coach, and team manager are introduced. The

group skates for the first 10 weeks and starting in January, the group is split into teams where they play scrimmages against other local organizations.

After these programs, kids can then tryout for our House or Travel leagues.

So if you are looking for a sport that is fun, builds hand-eye coordination, and teamwork, spread the word and sign up early.

For more information contact,

[Lisa McCandless \(lmccandless@rochester.rr.com\)](mailto:lmccandless@rochester.rr.com)
or [Sue Werner \(swerner1@its.jnj.com\)](mailto:swerner1@its.jnj.com)

Upcoming Parent Meetings:
Wednesday, September 28 @ Sports Center at MCC—Hampton Room
Little Tykes/Initiation: 6:00pm
Pony: 7:00pm

Girls on the Cutting “Edge”!

Edge Hockey continues to be a successful league. Last season, our Rochester Girls U16 team celebrated their win as TI Division State Champions.

This season, the Edge Girls Program has changed the age brackets to add younger players to the program. There will be four groups of teams: Girls U10, U12, U14, and U17. This change will allow younger girls to join the Edge Program and continue on a promising future in hockey. Jeff Kolcon is the acting Director for Girls hockey. If you have any questions about Edge hockey, please send him an email to: dirgirls@ryhockey.com. He would welcome any questions that you may have about this great program. Several of the girls have some achievements to share.



Abbey Cook (pictured left with Jeff Kolcon) has committed to the University of Maine. Congratulations Abbey!



Amanda Schmidt, player on the U17 team, officially moved from Pittsburgh to Rochester this September, with her mother and two dogs. She will be attending classes locally as she continues to play with the Edge! Give her a warm Rochester welcome when you see her.



Alyssa Brockmann (left) and Maggie Kolcon (right) continue into this season with the goal of earning their 4th State Title! Help cheer them both on this season as they strive for that State win! The Top Shelf Tribune will report their progress through the season.



Morgan Beikirch, the current Edge U10 and U12 coach, along with the Director of Girls Hockey for Maksymum Hockey, participated with other Edge Alum to win the Senior Womans A division National Championship. The team defeated Minnesota who had previously won numerous championships. The game went into triple Overtime and was finally won with a winning goal by Laura Danforth. It was a great achievement.



WAY TO GO EDGE!!!

(Captains L to R): Morgan Beikirch, Julz Freelan, Shawnee Oberholtzer, and Nicci Scuteri



Pass The Puck

The Rochester Amerks have posted their 2011-2012 season with the home opener to occur on October 13 at 7:05pm against the Wilkes-Barre Scranton Penguins. Also, tickets can be purchased for the entire season and half season for \$10.00/ticket. With the Amerks and Sabres re-united, we should see some great talent and great games this season!

Speaking of the Buffalo Sabres, their home ice has now been renamed from the HSBC Arena to First Niagara Center. The Sabres sure are having many changes this season with a new owner and now a new sponser! Some of us are looking forward to the upcoming season with hopes for another ride to the Stanley Cup playoffs and beyond. The Sabres Home opener is on Friday, October 7th, against the Anaheim Ducks.

Mite Major AAA Places 2nd in the Warrior National Showcase!

The 2003 Mite Major AAA team coached by Jeremy Nau braved the wrath of Hurricane Irene to travel to the greater Boston area for the Warrior National Showcase on August 26-28th. The tournament headquartered in Haverhill (MA) brought some top teams from Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, New England, New Jersey and our very own 2003 RYH squad.

The 2003 Amerks earned a berth in the event's Final Four with a 6-1 victory over the Boston Jr. Bruins and an exciting 8-7 win over the tournament host Valley Jr. Warriors on Saturday. With Hurricane Irene howling outside, the young Amerks blew through the Providence Jr. Capitals with a 6-4 victory Sunday morning to advance to the championship game against the Halifax Hockey Group's Atlantic Selects team.



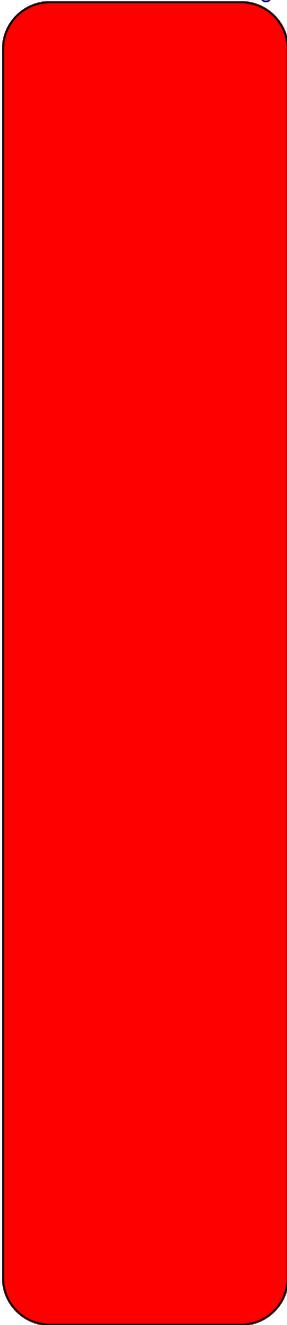
In the end the Select team from Nova Scotia proved to be the class of the tournament by holding back the Amerks for the title. Still, it was a good weekend overall for our RYH Mite Major AAA team as they started off the season well.

Rochester Youth Offering FREE Goal Tending Clinics

In a past newsletter, RYH indicated its desire to offer more incentives for our goalies. RYH is happy to provide these bi-weekly clinics to be run by Maksymum GoalTending staff. The clinic dates\times are:

9/26 - 6:20pm, 10/11 - 6:10pm, 10/24 - 6:20pm, 11/7 - 6:20pm, and 11/21 - 6:20pm.

RYH does ask that you register for the clinics at: www.ryhockey.com and click on the date\time you wish to register.



USA Hockey Coaching Program Changes

This season, USA Hockey has engineered a new coaching program that all coaches must take.

As of 2011, coaches must progress through the education system every year and complete an online age-specific module for each age level that they are coaching. The age-specific module will only need to be completed once for a given age group. For example, if a coach is coaching 8 and Under kids this season, she/he will be required to take the 8 and Under age module. If the coach is coaching 8 and Under kids again next session, she/he will not need to re-take the 8 and Under module.

This new approach is a revolutionary change since the coaching programs were designed in 1970. This new approach will give coaches the necessary tools to help train children for their specific age group. Each module will use several tools such as video presentations, white board graphics, featured presenters, and drill examples. This approach will help coaches provide their players with the skills they need both on and off the ice. Modules will cover basic training, such as skating, passing, and stick handling, for younger kids; to more advanced skills in sport psychology and goal tending, as the age groups increase.



During the month of September, these age specific modules will become available for registration. ALL coaches are required to take coaching modules for their age group. The module available dates are as follows:

- Sept. 6th** - Ages 8 and under (Mites)
- Sept. 13th** - Ages 10 and under (Squirts)
- Sept. 20th** - Ages 12 and under (PeeWees)
- Sept. 27th** - Ages 14 and under (Bantams)
- Ages 16/18/19 and Under (Midgets)

Coaches **MUST** complete their modules within 30 days of registration and before December 31, 2011. The goal of this program change is to help coaches provide the best possible training, combined with their experience, to teach our kids the fun and skills of hockey.

For more information, check out the information at: <http://www.usahockey.com> under COACHES.

Speaking of Training Programs...

ACE Director, Joe DiBitetto, continues to offer the Lunch\Learn program this season to all coaches and their assistants. Meeting the 2nd Wednesday of every month, the program offers an opportunity to learn and share their knowledge and experience amongst their fellow peers. The first meeting (September 14th) will feature Head of Referees, **Nick Tochelli**, who will discuss some of the 2011-2012 rule changes. Each meeting will start at **11:45am** in the Large Conference Room at The SportsCenter. Please notify Ace Director, Joe DiBitetto at: jd@aac-contracting.com the Friday before each meeting so that proper lunch arrangements can be made.

Please mark your calendars for future Lunch\Learn programs. We hope you can join us!

Rink News

Discussions continue on obtaining dehumidifiers for the building. The RYH Board hopes to get additional information on the progress and will keep our families posted. We all know that adding new dehumidifiers will greatly improve ice conditions

and overall environment.

In addition, steps are being taken with building management to address additional concerns with some drainage issues and general daily maintenance of the facility and locker rooms.

The RYH Board is working with the Manager of the facility to make steps towards improving

our facility.

In the meantime, as users of

the rink, please pitch in by having our kids and visiting teams "pick up" in the locker rooms after games and practices. A little step goes a long way!



Shane Prince Drafted to Ottawa Senators

MINNEAPOLIS - Shane Prince blossomed in his third season in the Ontario Hockey League.

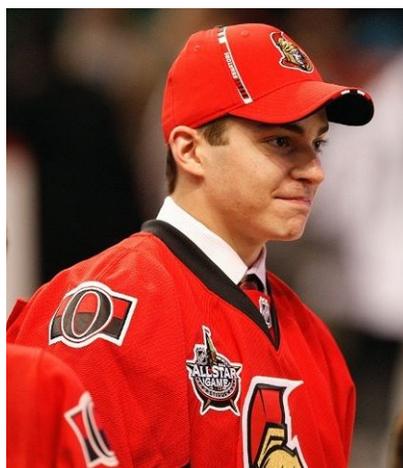
The native of Spencerport, N.Y., was handed a golden opportunity to keep growing in the city that has become his hockey home. The Senators selected the 5-foot-11, 185-pound Ottawa 67's left winger with the 61st pick overall.

In 2007-2008 Prince started his Jr career on Maksym Empire Jr. team and Stars EJHL team.

In 2010-11, Prince recorded 88 points in just 59 games after totalling 42 points in his previous two seasons.

"It's an unbelievable feeling," Prince said. "I love the city of Ottawa and I know they have great fans there playing there for the last year and a half. It's a true honour, to maybe play for the Senators. The fans really support the game and I couldn't be happier."

Prince gave a shoutout to 67's coach Chris Byrne and GM Brian Kilrea for giving him a chance to spread his wings. Playing on a line with Tyler Toffoli and Ryan Martindale, Prince emerged as a true threat each time he was on the ice.



"(Byrne and Kilrea) really helped me develop my game this year into the player that I am. (The third year of junior) makes a difference in your strength and development as a player, but the biggest thing was the opportunity I got in Ottawa."

Prince scored 25 goals and had 63 assists and was plus-43, proof that the 18-year-old is multi-dimensional. Prince became the third 67's player to be drafted by the Senators after Corey Cowick (in 2009) and Will Colbert (in 2003).

"We feel that Shane was a key player in Ottawa's success this year," Senators director of player personnel Pierre Dorion said. "He's a highly skilled player. We just felt that at that point in the draft, we couldn't pass up on that skill level. We feel he will have a high offensive impact down the road."

Prince wasn't sure whether he would wind up donning a Sens sweater.

"I talked to them a bit," Prince, who had 20 family members supporting him at the draft, said. "I think this draft was really deep and really wide open that you could go anywhere, so it was filled with ups and downs."

If there's a concern about Prince, it's that he has to get bigger and stronger, but it's almost a moot point, as that could be said about nearly every kid taken in any draft in any year.

With their next pick, at No. 96, the Senators didn't stray too far from home again, taking Ottawa native and Gatineau Olympiques centre Jean-Gabriel Pageau. At 5-foot-9, 163 lbs., Pageau is small, but he's dynamic. Pageau had 79 points, including 32 goals, in the regular season, but more than proved his worth when he had 29 points in 24 playoff games.

Pageau told the Senators' website that waiting until the fourth round to be picked will be used as motivation.

"You saw a lot of players (drafted) before me, good players, too, but I know I can play with them," Pageau said. "I know there's a lot of good players in the first round, second round, third round, but I know I can play with them. So I'm not stressed about it."

Dorion referred to Pageau as "my favourite player of the draft."

Also picked by the Senators on Saturday were Swedish defenceman Fredrik Claesson (126th), Spokane centre Darren Kramer (156), Sioux City left winger Max McCormick (171), Brandon defenceman Jordan Fransoo (186) and Lincoln centre Ryan Dzingel (204).

Including his three first-rounders on Friday — centre Mika Zibanejad, right winger Stefan Noesen and left winger Matt Puempel — Senators GM Bryan Murray hopes he went a long way in solving the team's scoring woes.

"I always feel the years we have good drafts when we walk away from the table and the scouts are happy and excited and shaking each other's hands because they think from their particular area they got good players and that kind of rubs off on me," Murray said. "The players that I know, I'm happy with. Getting three first-round picks and sitting and talking to these young men, you just know they bring lots of character."

- Story Published and Written by Maksym Hockey

From the Editor

Coaches, Parents, and Players, if you would like to share news and have it placed in the Top Shelf Tribune, please submit a story and photo to: topshelftribune@gmail.com

I am looking to make this newsletter an enjoyable read for all. News doesn't have to be lengthy. It can be a small write-up of a winning goal, player (or play) of the game, tournament info/results, or even team fundraisers. Think of how great it is for your son, daughter, or team to see themselves in a newsletter for all to read. Articles should be submitted by the last Monday of every month to make it into the following month's newsletter. Thank you for your continued support! - Philip DeGrandis