

Golden Bears Hockey Alumni

University of Alberta



President's Message

By Scott McDonald

As I'm writing this, I'm finding it hard to believe it is already near the end of February, and the hockey season is beginning to wind down (all of which means the formidable Green team is running out of Friday skates to catch the cheating Golds). Anyway, as usual Coach Daum has led the Bears to an outstanding, first-place season in Canada West (24-2-2), and we wish the team the best of luck as they head into the playoffs and hopefully beyond! In addition, congratulations are in order to Coach Daum for being named the Canada West coach of the year for the third consecutive season (and fourth in five years), as well as to the following players who have been named to season-ending All-Star teams:

First Team

Jeff Zorn (defense)
Steve Shrum (forward)

Second Team

Dustin Schwartz (goaltender)
Blair St. Martin (defence)
Kevin Marsh (forward)

All-Rookie Team

Scott Henkelman (forward)

As far as the Alumni Group is concerned, the year started off with a bang in early November, as Alumni Weekend festivities were very well attended and much enjoyed by all. In December we hosted our annual Pee Wee Tournament at Clare Drake Arena. The tournament was a big success as always, thanks to the tireless efforts of Dan Bouwmeester, who organizes it every year, as well as great

work by the many volunteers. This effort helped to raise some money for the team, and it also gave us the opportunity to watch some first-rate minor hockey and possibly an early glimpse of some future Bears. Next up are our annual NHL Playoff Draft in the spring and our Golf Tournament in the summer. Every year these fundraising initiatives are supported by countless alumni and other volunteers and sponsors, and the money that is raised is put to good use by helping fund such things as scholarships, skate and other equipment purchases, pre-game meals, etc.

Probably the biggest positive for our organization in the last couple of years was the launch of our website, www.bearshockeyalumni.com, a year and a half ago. Over the next few years we hope to develop the site into a place where our members make a habit of going to, either to check out the latest news from the team, or to maintain or re-establish contacts with old teammates and friends. If you have internet access, I encourage you to take a look at the site. You'll find information on the group's activities and on the team, as well as other useful information such as an Alumni e-mail list (if you have an e-mail address and you're not on the list, drop us a message and we'll include you right away!). Another feature of the website is the Business Directory, where members can get free "advertising" for their businesses or other endeavors. We hope to build this directory so it will serve both to en-

courage and facilitate our members to use each other's businesses, and also to act as a resource for current players who may be looking for information or guidance on prospective career choices. Any suggestions on how to improve the site are highly encouraged, and should be e-mailed to Bob Niedzielski at needles25@shaw.ca.

Thanks a lot, and Go Bears!

Scott McDonald

President, Golden Bears Hockey Alumni

ALUMNI MEETINGS

A reminder that the monthly alumni meetings are held on the first Monday of each month at either the Minerva Center across the hall from the Glen Sather Clinic, or the Bears Den. Check with Scotty Mac for the location or just follow your nose to the pizza! All alums are encouraged to attend and provide their input on the agenda items. The meetings start with pizza at 6:45. A new twist this year has been to invite the current team up for pizza prior to some meetings which has been a great opportunity for the alums to meet the players. The next meeting is scheduled for April 7, see you there!

NHL Playoff Draft

Once again we are organizing an NHL playoff draft in order to raise money for such things as the team's skate fund, scholarships, equipment, etc. First prize in the draft is \$5000, and entries are \$25 each. Completed forms are due Tuesday April 8.

A copy of the entry form has been included with this newsletter, and an electronic version is available for download or printing on our website at <http://www.bearshockeyalumni.com/playoffdraft.htm>.

Drafts for Sale

If you are interested in purchasing some tickets, please contact Mike Ballash by e-mail at mballash@wci.ab.ca, by telephone at 780-467-6973 or by fax at 780-449-3831. Cheques should be made payable to the GOLDEN BEARS HOCKEY ALUMNI, and can be mailed to Mike at the following address:

Mike Ballash
10 Greenwood Way
Sherwood Park, AB T8A0J5

Payment can also be made by MasterCard or Visa. Please indicate to Mike the number of forms that you wish to purchase, as well as a return address. Once your entry fees have been received, Mike will mail original forms back to you with further information, or alternatively he will assign to you official ticket numbers with which you can use the form included in this package, or copies of it.

Sellers

As always, we are looking for people who will be able to sell some draft tickets for us this year. Twelve hundred tickets have been printed, and we are hoping to sell as close to that amount as possible. If you are interested in selling some forms please contact Scott McDonald by e-mail at mac26@shaw.ca or by telephone at 780-461-8994 (home) or 780-453-4434 (work).



Casino

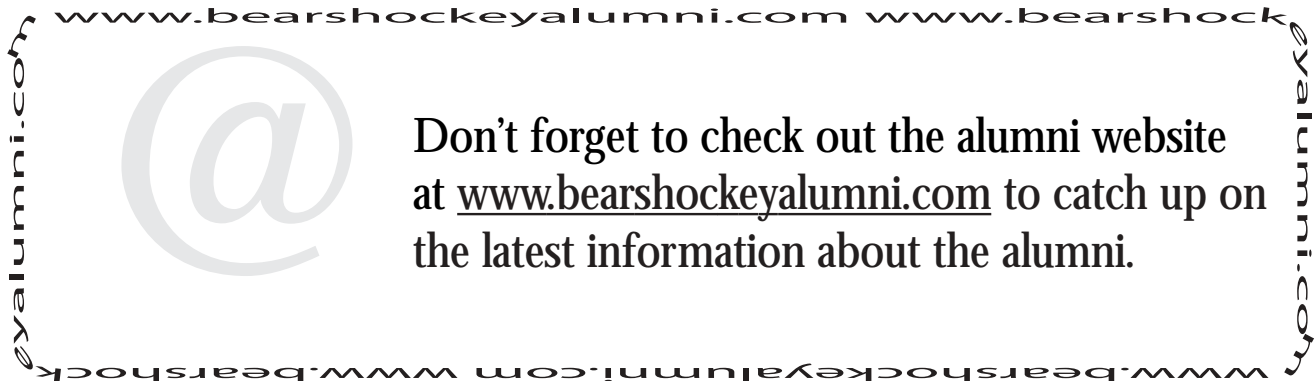
Our most recent casino was March 8-9, 2002 at the Baccarat Casino. Once again it was tremendously successful. In order to establish the amount earned by each charity, the profits from all of the Edmonton casinos are pooled on a quarterly basis and then distributed to the respective charities that worked that quarter. The Alumni's cut for the first quarter of 2002 was approximately \$60,000! A great start on establishing another scholarship.

I would like to thank all the Alumni who volunteered, as well as Dorothy Heidman and Mildred Bartlett, some special friends of the Alumni who kindly gave us a hand.

The next casino is scheduled for the 1st quarter of 2004, again at the Baccarat Casino downtown. We will need to fill in all the spots with Alumni, as the Bears will still be playing. If anyone would like to volunteer who has not in the past, please e-mail me at daveh@diversifiedstaffing.com.

Thank You

Dave Hingley



Don't forget to check out the alumni website at www.bearshockeyalumni.com to catch up on the latest information about the alumni.

Coach's Update By Rob Daum

It seems like yesterday that the 2002-2003 season began. With a large returning group of players, and some solid recruits; the expectations for this season are high. A second consecutive victory over the Edmonton Oiler rookies in front of a packed house in Clare Drake Arena got the season off to a rousing start in early September. Since only one Canada West team goes to the Nationals this year (the wild card is given to the Atlantic conference), one of our team's primary goals was to finish first overall – to ensure the Golden Bears would have home ice advantage throughout the Canada West playoffs. We held a three point lead over the Saskatchewan Huskies at the Christmas break in the race for first. At the time of writing, our conference record sits at 22-2-2 - a 14 point lead over the second place Huskies. First place overall was secured with back-to-back 5-2 victories over the Calgary Dinos. The two victories versus Calgary not only secured first place overall, but extended our undefeated streak versus Calgary to 28 games. We

have been ranked #1 Nationally all season. All of this means nothing when the playoffs roll around, but I know the team is looking forward to the challenge the playoffs will provide and is confident we can win our third straight Canada West title and make our 7th consecutive trip to the Nationals - and challenge for an 11th National Championship – which would be unprecedented in C.I.S. Hockey History.

During this season, myself and six of our players had the hockey experience of a lifetime. Blair St. Martin, Jeff Zorn, Kris Knoblauch, Ryan Wade, Kevin Marsh, Clayton Pool and I joined together with 18 other players, coaches, and Manager Bill Seymour to represent Canada at the F.I.S.U. Games in Tarvisio, Italy January 12 to 26. The Team came together quickly, defeating Japan 8-1, Italy 2-1, U.S.A. 5-1, Finland 4-2 and the Czech Republic 4-3 to finish 5 and 0 and first in our pool. Our sold round robin play disappeared in a disappointing 3-1 loss

to Slovakia in the semi-final. The team rebounded, however, to defeat Italy 6-3 to capture the Bronze Medal. Russia defeated Slovakia 5-2 to win the Gold.

Our own Jeff Zorn was selected to the All-Tournament Team. It was a great honour for all of us to represent our country and the Golden Bears at such a prestigious event. The experience created memories that will last a lifetime.

Even though this season is far from complete, the preparations for next season are in full swing. On the top of the list is recruiting the top student athletes for next year. The scholarships made available because of the work of you, our alumni, are a key factor in helping win the recruiting battles. Your efforts allow me to offer financial assistance to our athletes – which is a factor in the Golden Bears remaining the *premier University Hockey Program in Canada*. The following is a list of players this year who have benefited from your efforts.

Player	Award	Amount	Award	Amount
Brian Ballman	Clare Drake	\$1,500		
Jon Hobson	Alumni	\$1,000		
Perry Johnson	Alumni	\$1,500		
Kris Knoblauch	Alumni	\$2,500		
Cam Kuzyk	Clare Drake	\$1,500		
Kevin Marsh	Alumni	\$2,500		
Gavin McLeod	Alumni	\$1,000	Bill Moores	\$1,500
Clayton Pool	Clare Drake	\$1,500		
Dave Rathjen	Alumni	\$1,500		
Dustin Schwartz	Clare Drake	\$1,500		
Darcy Smith	Clare Drake	\$1,500		
Blair St. Martin	Clare Drake	\$1,500		
Warren Toews	Alumni	\$1,500		
Brad Tutschek	Alumni	\$ 500		
Ryan Wade	Clare Drake	\$1,500	Alumni	\$1,000
Justin Wallin	Bill Moores	\$1,500		
Chris Ovington	Bill Moores	\$1,500		
Brett Girard	Bill Moores	\$1,500		

There are other scholarships available through other sponsors, but the total contributed for this year from our Alumni, with the Clare Drake, Bill Moores and Alumni Scholarships, is \$29,500.

PeeWee Tournament

To all of our Pee Wee Tournament Sponsors and Volunteers,

Thanks to all of you for helping to make our 15th Annual Golden Bears Hockey Alumni Pee Wee Invitational



Hockey Tournament a great success! The games were extremely competitive and these 11 and 12 year olds will recall this event as one of their hockey highlights in the years to come.

The Gold Medal game saw two undefeated teams, the Strathcona Warriors and the Confederation Crush, battle it out in overtime with Strathcona emerging as the Tournament Champions by a score of 3 to 2. The Whitemud West Renegades won the Bronze Medal game with an exciting 6 to 4 victory over the North Seera Storm.

The Tournament raised close to \$4000, which will go towards our Alumni skate fund from which we purchase skates for all members of the Golden Bears Hockey Team.

If you get a chance, visit our website at www.bearshockeyalumni.com and click on the PeeWee link to get full details of the Tournament. Be sure to check out the Wall of Fame link which lists all the players who have played in our Tournament who have gone on to the professional hockey wars and to university or college careers.

Again, thanks for your continued support and your generosity.

Sincerely,

Dan Bouwmeester
Tournament Co-ordinator

Golf Tournament Update

The 2002 GBHA Golf Tournament was another terrific success!

Goose Hummock was once again, a fine host and everyone enjoyed a great day of golf and entertainment. After just two years the tournament has raised over \$20,000 for the alumni and donated over \$5,000 to Sport Central. Thank you to everyone who has supported the event.

The 2003 tournament is scheduled to be held on August 14 at Goose Hummock again. There are some opportunities for sponsorship open this year including hole sponsors, dinner sponsors, etc. We are also looking for donations for the live and silent auctions as well. If you know of anyone that may be interested in helping with either, please contact Dennis Cranston at 905-3993 or email at: cranmer@telusplanet.net.

Fundraiser/Party

Alumnus Dan Baker has recently bought into the Ritchie Mill restaurant and bar at 10171 - Saskatchewan Drive in Edmonton and is making big changes.

He is re-naming the establishment **Pub 1905** and is planning a grand re-opening for **Saturday March 29 at 7:00 p.m.**, with hopes of combining the event with a fundraising opportunity for the Golden Bears Hockey Alumni and Hockey Team.

Stay tuned via the website and e-mail for more updates, but in the meantime, if anyone would like to donate any prizes, auction items, etc. for the event, or would like to attend, please contact Dan by e-mail at bakerda@shaw.ca or by telephone at 431-1911.