



Team 2005 / Equipe 2005

No	Name / Nom	Position	Coaches / Instructeurs	
1	Marks, Logan	G	Mike Tefft – Head Coach – Instructeur Chef Sam Licata – Asst. Coach – Instructeur Adjoint Brian Mehm – General Manager – Gérant	
35	Essery, Austin	G		
2	Gillespie, Kenneth	D		
3	Murphy, Sean	F / A		
7	Martin, Garret	F / A		
8	O'Neil, Taylor	F / A		
9	Rizzo, C.J.	F / A		
10	Frantz, Bill	D		
12	Slider, Troy	D		
17	Paisley, Zach	F / A		
19	Essery, Mark	F / A		
26	Whitehead, Ross	F / A		
29	Beck, Wes	D		
37	Wyant, Kerry	F / A		
66	Hogue, Matt	D		
74	Hucker, Corey	F		
77	Acker, Tim	F / A		
79	Thomas, D.J.	F / A		
* Second participation at the Tournament (Red) Deuxième participation au tournoi (Rouge)				Doug Warf – Asst. Gen. Manager – Adj. au gérant



Team 2005 / Equipe 2005 Statistics / Statistiques*

No	Name Nom	GP PJ	G B	Asst Aide	Pts	P.I.M PÉN
79	Thomas, D.J.	9	7	7	14	4
3	Murphy, Sean	9	7	6	13	0
77	Acker, Tim	9	5	5	10	8
7	Martin, Garrett	9	4	5	9	10
26	Whitehead, Ross	9	4	3	7	6
74	Hucker, Corey	9	3	2	5	2
2	Gillespie, Kenneth	9	0	4	4	4
29	Beck, Wes	9	0	3	3	6
10	Frantz, Bill	9	0	2	2	2
12	Slider, Troy	9	0	2	2	2
37	Wyant, Kerry	9	0	2	2	4
66	Hogue, Matt	9	0	2	2	6
8	O'Neil Taylor	9	1	0	1	2
17	Paisley, Zach	9	1	0	1	4
9	Rizzo, C.J.	9	0	0	0	0
19	Essery, Mark	9	0	0	0	4
1	Marks, Logan	9	0	0	0	0
35	Essery, Austin	9	0	0	0	0
TOTALS			32	43	75	64

* Exhibition games and Tournament games included

Inclus les parties hors-concours et de Tournoi

Goalies statistics are not available / Les statistiques pour les gardiens sont non disponible

Game result / Résultat des matchs					
Date	Exhibition Hors-Concours Tournament Tournoi	Team Équipe	Score	Team Équipe	Score
Feb. 10	Exhibition	JR Hurricanes	7	England	3
Feb. 11	Tour	Papineau	2	JR Hurricanes	3
Feb. 13	Exhibition	Acadie Bathurst	3	JR Hurricanes	3
Feb. 14	Exhibition	JR Hurricanes	3	San Jose	2
Feb. 15	Tour	Repentigny	1	JR Hurricanes	2
Feb. 16	Exhibition	JR Hurricanes	3	Littleton	1
Feb. 18	Tour	Nike Bauer Swarm	2	JR Hurricanes	3
Feb. 19	Tour	P.E.I. Rockets	4	JR Hurricanes	6
Feb. 19	Tour (Final 4)	Connecticut Whalers	6	JR Hurricanes	2



2005 Tryouts / Camp de sélection 2005

JR Hurricanes Quebec Team Tryout

During the week end of September 10th to September 12th, 2004 was held the Tryouts for the 2005 Edition of the JR Hurricanes.



Near 80 players, divided in 3 groups were on the ice to be part of this Edition.

The evaluators for the week end were Mr. Paul Stand (left), Mr. Brent Selman, Mr. Brian Mehm (right), Mr. Sam Licata (center) and Alain Desfossés.

A special thanks to the people who were at the registration desk and to the people who were on the ice during the week end to work with the players.

On Friday and Saturday the players were evaluated on their skills and abilities. After showing great and excellent performances and working hard, the group of evaluators were reunited to cut players for the final day on Sunday.

34 of them (divided in 2 groups) were selected to play a scrimmage game for the last day.

After the game, the group of evaluators was reunited to select 18 players. The selection of the players was difficult and after 3:00hrs of discussion the 2005 Edition of the JR Hurricanes was completed.

4 members of 2004 Edition are back and 2 brothers will be part of the 2005 Edition

The 2005 Edition will be composed of the following players: Goalies: Logan Marks and Austin Essery*. Defencemen: Kenneth Gillespie, Wes Beck, Bill Frantz, Troy Slider**, and Mathieu Hogue. The forwards: Sean Murphy, Zachery Paisley, D.J. Thomas**, Corey Hucker, Ross Whitehead, Kerry Wiant, Mark Essery*, C.J. Rizzo, Tim Acker**, Taylor O'Neil and Garrett Martin**

* First two brothers to participate with the team to the Pee Wee Tournament.

** Players from 2004 Edition who are back with the team.

Camp de sélection des Jr Hurricanes



Du 10 au 12 septembre 2004, se tenait le camp d'évaluation des JR Hurricanes pour l'Édition 2005. Près de 80 joueurs, divisés en 3 groupes se sont présentés sur la glace pour le camp d'évaluation. M. Paul Strand (gauche), M. Brent Selman, M. Brian Mehm (droite), M. Sam Licata (centre) et Alain Desfossés étaient assignés à évaluer les joueurs durant la fin de semaine. Un merci spécial aux personnes qui étaient à l'accueil et aux personnes qui étaient sur la glace avec les joueurs durant la fin de semaine.

Les joueurs ont été évalués sur leur talent et habileté vendredi et samedi. Après avoir démontré de grandes performances et fourni un excellent travail, le groupe d'évaluateur s'est réuni pour choisir les joueurs qui devaient se présenter pour le dernier jour du camp d'évaluation.

34 joueurs (divisés en 2 groupes) ont été retenus pour participer à un match.

Le groupe d'évaluateur s'est de nouveau rassemblé après le match pour faire la sélection des 18 joueurs. Le choix des joueurs a été difficile et après 3 heures de travail, l'Édition 2005 des JR Hurricanes était complétée.

4 membres de l'Édition 2004 sont de retour et 2 frères participeront à l'Édition 2005.

L'Édition 2005 sera composée des joueurs suivants: Gardien de but: Logan Marks et Austin Essery*. Défenseurs: Kenneth Gillespie, Wes Beck, Bill Frantz, Troy Slider**, et Mathieu Hogue. Joueurs d'avant: Sean Murphy, Zachery Paisley, D.J. Thomas**, Corey Hucker, Ross Whitehead, Kerry Wiant, Mark Essery*, C.J. Rizzo, Tim Acker**, Taylor O'Neil et Garrett Martin**



* Les deux premiers frères à participer avec l'équipe au Tournoi Pee-Wee.

** Joueurs de l'Édition 2004 qui sont de retour avec l'équipe.



JUNIOR HURRICANES IN QUEBEC:

RUNNING DIARY

By Doug Warf

Note: Doug is the Hurricanes Promotions and Fan Development Coordinator and assistant GM of the Junior Hurricanes.



Day 1, Wednesday, Feb. 9: Cold and exhaustion are two words that now have new meaning to me. A day-long journey with 18 pee wee hockey players to Quebec City has helped me redefine those words. The day began with at 5:30 a.m. meeting at Raleigh-Durham International Airport. Here, we all consolidated equipment, checked 48-pound bags and headed for the gates. Our flight was slightly delayed but it gave the boys a good chance to bond as well as annoy those innocent bystanders. We had only a one-hour delay at the airport after a fairly smooth flight to Detroit. However, once on the plane in Detroit we were delayed for over an hour for deicing and to allow the airport to plow the runway, two things seemingly foreign to the new young travellers.

Foreign was the word of the evening as we arrived in Montreal around 5:30 p.m. to a completely French-speaking city. After a brief stop in customs we loaded onto a bus for the three-hour trip to Quebec City. The seemingly night-long trip was only interrupted by one 30-minute McDonald's stop, yet we were still late arriving in Quebec City.

Once in Quebec City we went to a central location to let the players meet the Quebecois families they would be living with for the next 11 days. This was the first time on the trip that any of the boys showed the first signs of timidity. However, after a few warm exchanges, the boys left their parents to leave with their new "Quebec families". This finally allowed the coaches and players' parents the chance for some quiet time on the trip to the hotel. We were in the hotel and by 11:30 p.m., just a mere 18 hours after we met at RDU.

After a quick shower I did not have to try hard to fall asleep. This was something I was very thankful for, because I knew the 6:45 a.m. wake-up call was right around the corner.

JUNIOR HURRICANES IN QUEBEC: RUNNING DIARY (DAY 2)

By Doug Warf



Day 2, Thursday, Feb. 10: The day started early as the coaching staff had to meet the players at the Pepsi Colisee at 8p.m. Upon arrival, most of the team was already in the stands watching some of the Level C action. General Manager Brian Mehm and I had to fill out all of the paperwork with tournament officials, so the boys were allowed over an hour to enjoy some good Canadian youth hockey action.

Once the paperwork was done, we were off to a local rink for our first practice together in about a month. The Junior Hurricanes are made up of kids from both Carolinas so coordinating times and locations to practice together were few and far between before leaving for Quebec. We arrived for practice around 10:30 a.m. only to find that we would be practicing next to Team England, the team we would be matched up against only a few hours later. Though this may sound like it was a start for a turbulent practice, both teams were very cordial with one another. This helped display the amazing cultural aspect that the tournament allows the kids, and coaches, to experience.

As practice started it seemed that the long trip and perhaps a little nervous tension had slowed down the Junior Hurricanes a great deal. A quick pep talk by head coach Mike Tefft helped the Junior Hurricanes finish the hour long practice strong and prepared for their upcoming game.

All exhibition games are played at the Quebec City mall, so this was the site of lunch and our first game. The Mall can be a bit overwhelming due to its size, but more importantly to the hockey, the playing conditions are like nothing found in the Carolinas. The ice rink is the center piece of the mall and it is surrounded by a Ferris wheel, carousel, and even a roller coaster that at one point crosses the goal line about 75 feet overhead. Obviously this can be a bit distracting for anyone, especially boys 11 to 13-years-old. After a quick pep talk the Junior Hurricanes took the ice for a shaky pregame warm up. Thankfully, the pre-game jitters were quickly erased as D.J. Thomas took full advantage of a beautiful pass that left him on a breakaway early in the first period. However, Team England showed great resolve by tying the game back at 1 before the end of the first period.

Two quick second-period goals by Sean Murphy and Garrett Martin put the Junior Hurricanes ahead 3-1 midway through the first period. At this point goalie Logan Marks was replaced with Austin Essery and England used this time to jump right back in the game. After taking advantage of a few good bounces England had come back and tied the game at 3 going into the third period.

During the intermission Coach Tefft challenged the boys to regain their legs and come out strong for the start of the third. The challenge was answered nicely as the Junior Hurricanes scored four unanswered goals to win the game 7-3. It was a good all-around game but the coaching staff was especially happy with how the boys responded to their first signs of adversity.

Following the game, it was quick showers and a trip to a big dinner at Mont Tourbillon, a local ski resort outside of Quebec City. Here a banquet room was reserved for the team, coaches, parents and billet families to get together and break bread on this opening night of the tournament. This gave a great opportunity for the nearly 100 people in attendance to mingle and learn a lot about the customs and culture of this beautiful city. A few nice speeches from Mehm, billet captain Alain Desfosses and team captain Troy Slider left everyone in good spirits and excited about their remaining 10 days.

At that point, the boys returned home with their billet families and everyone else headed back to the hotel. Friday will be a day of rest and tourism leading up to a



AAA Carolina JR Hurricanes



5:30 meeting time at the Pepsi Colisee prior to the team's 8:50 p.m. face off and true start of the tournament.

EXHIBITION GAME 1 SUMMARY

PERIOD 1

JR HURRICANES 1: D.J. Thomas (Unassisted)

England 1: Josh Burgess (Unassisted)

JR HURRICANES 2: Zack Paisley (Tim Acker, Ross Whitehead)

Penalties: England: Josh Burgess

PERIOD 2

JR HURRICANES 3: Garrett Martin (D.J. Thomas, Kenneth Gillespie)

England 2: Matt Heseltine (Douglas Jordan)

England 3: Matt Heseltine (Douglas Jordan)

Penalties: JR Hurricanes Ross Whitehead

PERIOD 3

JR HURRICANES 4: Tim Acker (Sean Murphy, D.J. Thomas)

JR HURRICANES 5: Ross Whitehead (Unassisted)

JR HURRICANES 6: Sean Murphy (Bill Frantz)

JR HURRICANES 7: Ross Whitehead (Sean Murphy)

Penalties: England (Liam Chong), JR HURRICANES (Corey Hucker),

England (Josh Burgess)

Final Score: England 3 JR HURRICANES 7

JUNIOR HURRICANES IN QUEBEC: RUNNING DIARY (DAY 3)

By Doug Warf

Day 3, Friday, Feb. 11: Today is game day and the official start of the tournament for the Junior Hurricanes. Thursday's exhibition win was impressive but a tough challenge was ahead for the boys in their first tournament game. The tournament is called double elimination, but it isn't a true double elimination tournament. If you lose your first game you are put in a loser's bracket and you must win every game from that point out to play the winner of the winner's bracket. However, if you win your first game, your first loss exits you from the tournament. In essence, the tournament is just trying to guarantee each team two official tournament games. The exhibition games are a way for each team to play other teams from around the world, but they are not "official" tournament games. That being said, the tournament games are of utmost importance and they are played in front of large crowds in the Pepsi Colisee, former home of the NHL's Quebec Nordiques.



With our first game being Friday night, the boys were given Friday afternoon as a free day. Game time was scheduled for 8:30 p.m. and just like the NHL Hurricanes, the boys didn't have to be ready to go until 5:30 p.m. At 9:00 a.m. most of their billet families dropped the boys off in the hotel lobby so that the billet families could go to their jobs. The boys were then back in the hands of their parents for the afternoon. Several did homework that needs to be completed by their return next Sunday, some traveled the city taking advantage of its rich history while a few others rested up to stave off some oncoming sicknesses.

For the coaches, it was a great time to get out and enjoy the beautiful city of Quebec. This is a town rich in history that has a very European feel to it. After refusing to eat my French fries with mayonnaise as is the custom here, I returned to the hotel about 4 p.m. to begin preparing for tonight's game. After rounding up the team, we departed together in the tournament transport shuttles and headed to the Colisee. Arriving at the Colisee early, we are allowed to sit together and watch the games preceding ours. This is a real treat for everyone because the talent at this tournament is the best in the world for this age group. After watching parts of two games, and enjoying some great hot dogs, we headed down to the locker room to prepare. The coaching staff did not have to worry about the boys being loose, we needed to worry about them not being focused. This is a team of great talent, but at the same time, this is a team full of 11 to 13 year old boys. Getting them focused would obviously be our toughest task.

After the team pictures, which is always before the team's first tournament game, we took the ice for our first battle. It seemed as though both teams were suffering from some nervousness at the start as play was a chaotic for the first two minutes. However, midway through the first period D.J. Thomas netted the first goal for the Hurricanes to give us a 1-0 lead. The lead did not last long as Papineau countered within the next two minutes on a shot from the point to tie the score at 1. The momentum quickly shifted to the seemingly less talented Papineau team who kept the score tied through two periods. Goalie Austin Essery made some great saves to keep the Junior Hurricanes in the game during period two. The second intermission saw a very poignant and passionate speech from Head Coach Mike Tefft that challenged the boys to skate harder and show some passion. As the Jr. Canes did the night before, they responded to Tefft's challenge.

Early in the third period D.J. Thomas put home his second goal of the game taking advantage of a power-play opportunity. This goal put the Jr. Canes up for most of the third period. However, Papineau was very persistent and the Jr. Canes missed several opportunities to put them away. This scene led to the amazing ending that saw Papineau tie the game with barely two minutes remaining. An ecstatic bench and home crowd seemingly shifted the momentum back to the side of Papineau. This set the stage for the Junior Hurricanes to show their ability to respond. With only 45 seconds remaining on the clock Sean Murphy grabbed a rebound and buried it in the back of the net to put the Jr. Hurricanes on top 3-2. After a pulled goalie and a scrum in front of Essery, time expired and the Junior Hurricanes walked away with the 3-2 victory in their first official tournament game of the year.

After the game feelings were definitely mixed as everyone was pleased to win, yet unhappy with the overall performance. This is the true measure of how far the program has come because last year marked the first three wins in the three years of the program. This year's team has yet to lose a game, but it still sees room for improvement. That step up needs to be made over the next two days because the Junior Hurricanes next tournament game will be against Repentigny, a very good team from Montreal.



AAA Carolina JR Hurricanes



To prepare for Reptentigny the Junior Hurricanes will have exhibition games Monday and Tuesday. Sunday's match up will be against Acadie-Bathurst from New Brunswick while Monday's game will pit the Junior Hurricanes against the Junior San Jose Sharks.

TOURNAMENT GAME 1 SUMMARY



PERIOD 1
 JR HURRICANES 1: D.J. Thomas (Unassisted) 1:10
 Papineau 1: Maxime Huneault (Jasmin Gauthier, Jonathan Lavergne) 2:12
 Penalties: JR HURRICANES (Bill Frantz) 3:21
 PERIOD 2
 No scores
 Penalties: JR HURRICANES (Wes Beck) 10:11
 PERIOD 3
 JR HURRICANES 2: D.J. Thomas (Troy Slider) 7:42

Papineau 2: Jasmin Gauthier (Jérémie Martineau, Maxime Plouffe)

14:03

JR HURRICANES 3: Sean Murphy (Garrett Martin, Troy Slider) 14:14

Penalties:

Papineau (Olivier Plouffe) 00:23, Papineau (Steven French) 7:20,

Papineau (Patrick Boyer) 9:11, JR HURRICANES (Tim Acker) 12:25, JR

HURRICANES (Tim Acker) 15:00

JUNIOR HURRICANES IN QUEBEC: RUNNING DIARY (DAY 4)

By Doug Warf

Day 4, Saturday, Feb. 12: Thanks to Friday's big win, Saturday became a free day for the boys and coaches. Since the billet families did not have to work today the boys were allowed to stay with their billet families all day. Some boys played pond hockey on the frozen ponds and lakes in the Quebec City area while others went skiing and snowboarding. Some did as me and the coaching staff chose to do and took advantage of the last day of Quebec City's Winter Carnival.

There is no good way to describe the festival that takes place in the middle of downtown and I know the pictures will not do the festivity justice, but just try to imagine North Carolina's State Fair amidst the ice and snow.

After sleeping in a bit, Coach Mike Tefft, his girlfriend Michelle and I took off for the festival. First, we made a stop at a beautiful little restaurant that seemingly was still in the 16th century where we enjoyed the best crepes I have ever had.



Once full, we decided to dip outside for the next two hours and explore the Carnival in the "balmy" sub-freezing temperatures (this trip, the temperature has been in the 20's, last year was also in the 20's -- the MINUS-20s). The Carnival spans about a 12-block radius and contains great food, drinks, games, ice fishing, music and art work. It is truly amazing the snow sculptures that are throughout the entire Carnival. They truly put any snowman I made to shame.

Kids seemed to thoroughly enjoy all of the toboggan runs that are set up on the main hill on the Carnival site while their parents seem to truly enjoy Caribou, a warm mix of vodka and wine.

After seeing dozens of ice sculptures, folk bands, food stands and ice fishing, we finally made our way to "bain de neige", which translates into English as "snow bath." Here, three groups of about 12 people competed against each other in different shifts to see which group could spend the most time playing in the snow while only wearing their swim suits. At the end of "bain de neige," we were all treated to the best treat of all, the appearance of Bonne Homme, the Carnival's version of Stormy. Bonne Homme is a 6-foot snowman who seemingly is the love of everyone in Quebec. This winking snowman is in every store and every trinket throughout the Carnival, so seeing him up close was truly an honor for us North Carolinians.

After a dinner to celebrate General Manager Brian Mehm's birthday, everyone made their way to the Carnival Parade. This parade signifies the end of the Carnival and it was amazing to see how elaborate and motorized all the floats were. Unlike parades we see, these floats were very interactive and very high tech. The parade was closed down by my hommie, Bonne Homme and all was well in day 4.

JUNIOR HURRICANES IN QUEBEC: RUNNING DIARY (DAY 5)

By Doug Warf

Day 5, Sunday, Feb. 13: Today was a day full of surprises. My first surprise was in my trip to a store the locals affectionately call the "Hockey Warehouse."

A 9:30 a.m. wake up call felt very early, but I was excited to see the boys shop for new equipment in a store that was being described as the biggest hockey store I would ever see. Upon arrival at the Hockey Warehouse, I knew I was in store for something a little bigger than my beloved Coolsports back in Raleigh.

Inside, I was even more impressed. Imagine eight aisles, two showrooms and a 1,500 square foot loft of goalie equipment, and you would come close to having the Hockey Warehouse. Needless to say, the kids went crazy and it created yet another time where I was glad to be a coach, not a parent. Nearly two hours, 10 new sticks and countless other equipment later, we were ready to depart for the mall and our second exhibition game, and third game total of the tournament.



AAA Carolina JR Hurricanes



Today would see our Junior Hurricanes matched up against Acadie-Bathurst, a team from Montreal which is here to represent the NHL Montreal Canadiens. Bathurst plays in the "AA" division, one level (we play in the middle division of the three division tournament) ahead of the Junior Hurricanes, so we expected to get our toughest challenge yet.

After lunch in the food court, and a little time to shop in the mall for a few last-minute Valentine's Day gifts, the team and coaching staff was ready to go. The puck dropped at nearly 4:30 and the Junior Hurricanes came out much more focused than previous games. Despite the newfound focus, Bathurst's speed and experience paid off as Bathurst's Jim Keilty tallied the first goal to close the period with Bathurst up 1-0.



Head Coach Mike Tefft kept the boys focused during the intermission and the Junior Hurricanes responded strong. At the 8:07 mark of the second period, D.J. Thomas continued his brilliant tournament play by netting an unassisted goal to tie the game at 1.

After more strong play by the Jr. Canes, Taylor O'Neil found himself on a 2-on-1 breakaway down the left side. O'Neil took full advantage and put a beautiful shot in the top right corner of the net to give the Jr. Canes a 2-1 lead. O'Neil said his "nice goal felt sweet" in the post-game press conference.

However, the true sign of toughness came from Tim Acker in the third period. Very late in the second Acker took a skate to his hip that left him writhing in pain on the bench. After a quick exam by "Drs." Mehm and Warf, Acker said he was ready to return. In a fairly physical game, Acker found himself the recipient of some hard shoves after play had stopped in the early part of third period. Acker, displaying the discipline and sportsmanship that coaches hope for, did not retaliate. The foul play was spotted by the refs and in ultimate retribution, Acker stayed on ice to put away the power play goal at the 11:54 mark of the third period.

Unfortunately, the Junior Hurricanes were not able to hold on to the 3-1 lead as they let up goals only 19 seconds apart in the middle of the third and found themselves tied with the powerful Bathurst team at 3. The Junior Hurricanes regrouped and held on to tie the game and remain undefeated in the tournament (2-0-1). Another sign of how far hockey has come is that the players and coaches were all dissatisfied with tying a team from the higher division, something unheard of in year's past.

After the game, the equipment was loaded on a bus and the player's returned to their French-Canadian homes with their billet families. Everyone seems excited to come out Monday for another exhibition game that will see the final tuning before Tuesday's very tough Tournament game. Monday will have the Junior Hurricanes face off against the Junior San Jose Sharks.

The final surprise of the day was when the coaching staff found out the predictions of some tournament staff members toward the outcome of the tournament. Two of the six chose the Junior Hurricanes to win the middle of the three divisions. It is not quite the Sports Illustrated curse, but it is the first time anyone outside of the organization has put their reputation on the line by predicting the Junior Hurricanes. Though winning the tournament is along shot, we are honored to be recognized for our hard play in this display of the top Pee Wee hockey in the world.

EXHIBITION GAME 2 SUMMARY

PERIOD 1

Acadie-Bathurst 1: Jim Kelly (Zach Phillips)

Penalties: Acadie-Bathurst (Spencer Fey), JR HURRICANES (Garrett Martin), JR HURRICANES (Mark Essery)

PERIOD 2

JR HURRICANES 1: Tim Acker (Unassisted)

JR HURRICANES 2: Taylor O'Neil (Kenneth Gillespie)

Penalties: Acadie-Bathurst (Adam Jones), Acadie-Bathurst (Patrick Downe), JR HURRICANES (Garrett Martin)

PERIOD 3

Acadie-Bathurst 2: Phillip Fife (Unassisted)

Acadie-Bathurst 3: Zach Phillips (Jim Kelly, Phillip Fife)

JR HURRICANES 3: D.J. Thomas (Sean Murphy)

Penalties

Acadie-Bathurst (Brant West)

Final Score

Acadie-Bathurst 3 JR HURRICANES 3

JUNIOR HURRICANES IN QUEBEC: RUNNING DIARY (DAY 6)

By Doug Warf

Day 6, Monday, Feb. 14: Today was a very important day as our team needed to become, well ... a team. The guys have been playing very well, but the coaches know that this is a talent-rich team that possibly has a shot at winning the International "B" Bracket. This is a daunting task, but it is one that will never happen if the boys keep winning on skill alone.

The team building began early in the day. The boys met me and Coach Tefft at the Pepsi Colisee at 8 a.m. to allow their billet parents the chance to go to work. Once at the Colisee we sat in our team seats and watched other tournament games. The big difference today is that the boys are now fully entrenched in the world of pin trading.

Every team that comes to the tournament brings two pins, one large and one small. The small pin is exchanged with every team that you play. About 8 to 10 large pins (depending on how many are bought by the team) are given to each individual player for trading at their own discretion. Today marked the first time the boys had a real opportunity to trade and they took full advantage. This is great to see because you see kids trading with one another from different states, coun-



AAA Carolina JR Hurricanes



tries and continents.

We allowed each boy to trade pins until 10:30 a.m. when it was mandatory that they were back in their seats and preparing to leave at 11:10 a.m. to drive to the site of our scrimmage.

Today's scrimmage matched the Junior Hurricanes against the Junior San Jose Sharks. The Junior Sharks play in the C Bracket (one below the Hurricanes) but they are the favorite of many to win the C bracket. After a 15-minute ride out to the Val-Belair rink the boys seemed much more focused. Challenged by the coaches to become more of a team, their first order of business as designated by the players was to make sure all Junior Hurricanes used black tape on their stick (we had seen everything from orange and purple to red and blue).



The coaches were very happy to see this minuscule change, but we hoped the real change would be on the ice. Overall, the first period was sluggish as the boys seemed somewhat surprised by the great speed of the Junior Sharks. Still, Sean Murphy was able to tally an early goal that put the Jr. Hurricanes up 1-0. However, this lead was short as San Jose scored twice to end the first period with a 2-1 lead.

After a few minor changes, and the realization that they still were not working as a team, the Junior Hurricanes took the ice in the second period with a new found vengeance. The Jr. Hurricanes dominated the second period, out-shooting the Jr. Sharks 15 to 3. And yes, one of those 15 shots did find the back of the net to tie the score at 2. The shot was made at the point by Kenneth Gillespie, making him the first defenseman to score for the Junior Hurricanes this year.

The Junior Hurricanes impressed the coaches even more by keeping their high level of intensity for the third period. About five minutes into the third period Greenville, S.C.'s Corey Hucker tallied his first goal of the tournament to put the Jr. Canes up 3-2. After a few great saves by goalie Austin Essery, the Jr. Canes clinched their third win of the tournament.

After the game in the locker room, one Jr. Cane was heard joking that the tape was the difference. Though it might not be the tape's doing, this was finally a team. After the game ended most all of the players returned to the Colisee to watch more hockey and continue to trade pins. Late in the afternoon I decided to branch off and explore more of the city, finding more beautiful streets historic landmarks and great food. It is an early lights out tonight as Tuesday's big tournament game is at 11:30 a.m. Tuesday morning. We just hope our "new team" shows up.

EXHIBITION GAME 3 SUMMARY

PERIOD 1

JR HURRICANES 1: Sean Murphy (Tim Acker, Ross Whitehead)

San Jose 1: Shayne O'Neil (Danny Todd, Chris Cakbaval)

San Jose 2: Ryan Doucet (Chris Cakbaval, Mario Pacheco)

Penalties

JR HURRICANES (Ross Whitehead)

PERIOD 2

JR HURRICANES 2: D.J. Thomas (Kenneth Gillespie, Garrett Martin)

Penalties

JR HURRICANES (Matt Hogue)

PERIOD 3

JR HURRICANES 3: Corey Hucker (Wes Beck, Garrett Martin)

Penalties

None

Final score

San Jose 2 JR HURRICANES 3

JUNIOR HURRICANES IN QUEBEC: RUNNING DIARY (DAY 7)

By Doug Warf

Day 7, Tuesday, Feb. 15: Today was a day was a day of great hockey, starting with our tournament game at 11:45 a.m. against Repentigny (Montreal) and ending with a chance to see junior hockey's top star, 17-year-old prodigy Sidney Crosby.

The day started early as the coaching staff met the boys at 8 a.m. at the Pepsi Colisee. A fresh six inches of snow made the drive a little tougher than normal, but amazingly smooth since it was not covering an inch of ice like I am accustomed to.

Once at the arena the boy had a chance to watch games and trade pins before our game started. Three games preceded ours and we left mid-way through the third game to cut down on our locker room wait.

Once in the locker room the boys showed greater focus and preparedness than in games past which was a great way to start. Coaches Tefft and Licata went over their offensive and defensive points but reminded the boys to leave everything on the ice. Once we were ready to take the ice, I read the boys an email that Carolina Hurricanes Head Coach Peter Laviolette had sent to to them, passing along his encouragement and support.

On top of the players focus, we had one other good omen before the start of the game; Coach Tefft finally won a puck toss. Before each game, both head coaches meet for a puck toss that determines who is home and what color uniforms will be worn. Though we still chose to be visitors in red, we finally won a puck toss.



AAA Carolina JR Hurricanes



As the game started, it was apparent that both teams were prepared for the game. All of the lines were skating well, but defensive pressure on the puck seemed to be found on both sides of the ice. The first period saw the Jr. Canes have one shot off a post, a few missed opportunities and some great saves by goalie Logan Marks, but ultimately, a 0-0 tie.

The second period was more of the same, a lot of great chances and several great saves from Marks. However, on a power play midway through the second, Repentigny was able to tally the game's first goal. The Junior Hurricanes showed great resolve by finishing the second period with some of their best shifts.

In the locker room during the second intermission Coach Tefft reminded the boys that the game was in hand and that Repentigny had yet to see our best hockey.

The third period saw the Jr. Canes come out flying. Starting with a great faceoff win and three great shifts the Jr. Canes came out to set the tone of the third period. About five minutes in, Repentigny was guilty of a two-minute minor penalty. This penalty was enough to open the door and allow Sean Murphy to walk right through with a game-tying goal.

Penalties were the name of the game in the third period as it seemed that every minute saw one team or another with a man advantage. The Jr. Canes were again able to capitalize on their strong play as Garrett Martin placed a nice shot in the back of the net to give the Jr. Canes a 2-1 lead. The comeback was complete, now it was time to finish off a very strong and annoying Repentigny.

The final seven minutes of the period saw six minutes played with Repentigny with a man advantage. Two penalty kills, a few beautiful saves by Marks and two minutes of empty net play later, the 2005 Junior Hurricanes gained the biggest win in the history of the program. The ecstatic team rushed the ice because for the first time in history the Junior Hurricanes had made the third round and will play on Friday night in front of an expected crowd of about 8,000 people.

After a post-game talk and presentation of Marks with the game puck the Junior Hurricanes left with their elated parents for lunch and an afternoon around the city.

I was off to lunch with a very happy coaching staff. So happy, the three coaches in attendance decided to indulge in true Canadian delicacy, the "Saint Jean Pie". One historic restaurant serves a dish much like a shepherd's pie, yet the "wild meats" involved are elk, caribou, wild boar and venison. Man, do I love the food here.

At 5:30 p.m. we returned to the Pepsi Colisee, yet this time we would be watching the Quebec Remparts square off against Rimouski Oceanic in the Canadian Junior Hockey League. All 16,000 seats were sold out for this contest as Rimouski brings with them Sidney Crosby, a 17-year-old phenom who is often tabbed "the next Wayne Gretzky."



The game was action packed, and Crosby was obviously a marked man playing amongst hungry young men. Crosby had 51 points in the past 15 games, but he would only increase that total by one point tonight. He assisted on the first goal in what would be a 2-1 Oceanic win. Either way, it was amazing to see him skate and work without the puck.

Today was a day I will remember for a long time. The tears of the Repentigny players showed how much this tournament means to everyone involved. More importantly to me, the tear of joy I quickly wiped away to retain my "hockey reputation" showed me how much these kids and this game have come to mean to me.

TOURNAMENT GAME 2 SUMMARY

PERIOD 1

No scores

Penalties

Repentigny (Francis Smith) 2:06, Repentigny (Philippe Archambault)

5:51

PERIOD 2

Repentigny 1: Marc-André Léonard (Sébastien Houde-Breton, Dominic

Tremblay) 4:13

Penalties

JR HURRICANES (Matt Hogue) 2:41, JR HURRICANES (Tim Acker) 4:32

PERIOD 3

JR HURRICANES 1: Sean Murphy (Wes Beck, D.J. Thomas) 2:46

JR HURRICANES 2: Garrett Martin (D.J. Thomas, Tim Acker) 8:57

Penalties:

Repentigny (Philippe Archambault) 2:40, JR HURRICANES (Kerry

Wyant) 4:07, JR HURRICANES (Kerry Wyant) 6:29

Repentigny (Marc-André Léonard) 8:45, JR HURRICANES (Mark

Essery) 9:48

Final score

Repentigny 1 JR HURRICANES 2



AAA Carolina JR Hurricanes



JUNIOR HURRICANES IN QUEBEC: RUNNING DIARY (DAY 8)

By Doug Warf

Day 8, Wednesday, Feb. 16: Today was a day of mixed emotions. We started the day early by driving across the St. Lawrence River to the Island town of Orleans. Here we hoped to see some of the old countryside, visit a winery (no tasting since today was a game day) and have lunch. Our plan sounded good but we were only able to do one of three.

Upon arriving at a beautiful snow covered winery we quickly found out that the winery is only open for tours during the summer. I know, we probably should have deduced that, since the vines are under two feet of snow, but it was worth a shot. To make things worse, the restaurants that were recommended to us were closed. We were at least able to see some beautiful views of a frozen St. Lawrence River but lunch and a 4 p.m. exhibition matchup against Littleton, Colorado were calling.

At lunch we all sat and watched Commissioner Bettman's announcement that the season was cancelled. Being in hockey crazed Canada is amazing in the amount of coverage devoted to their beloved game. It is impossible to avoid discussing the game so my smile was starting to wilt. However, I was very happy today to be able to get back to the roots of the game, youth hockey.

At 4 p.m. we faced off against Littleton, Colorado, the toughest team we have faced to this point. And boy were our boys up for the challenge. We jumped out quick and caught Littleton reeling as they expected to breeze right past the Jr. Canes. Tim Acker took advantage of their lackadaisical start by netting a pass from Sean Murphy a little over two minutes into the game. This goal was the wakeup call for Littleton as they responded with some ferocious play. However, two Littleton penalties slowed their play just enough for the score to remain 1-0 though the first.

The second period would not see the same luck. The Jr. Canes bent as they gave up a power play goal eight minutes into the second, but they did not break. The Jr. Canes took a 1-1 tie into the third period and the coaches knew we would come out flying.

As we have done in the past few games, we dominated the third period. The faster, larger Littleton team seemed frustrated with the Jr. Canes determination to steal this game. Less than two minutes into the second period Garrett Martin buried a beautiful pass from D.J. Thomas into the back of the net.



Goalie Austin Essery came up with some large saves in the third and the Jr. Canes' Corey Hucker put away an empty-net goal with only a minute to play to secure the big victory.

After the game Austin Essery was presented the game puck but the entire team was congratulated on their great effort. Their second period dip in production was countered nicely by another big third period. This was the final tuneup before Friday night's big tournament game.

Tonight, the coaching staff visited the Colisee to watch the New Hampshire Bauer Swarm play the Junior Dallas Stars, the winner of which faces the Jr. Canes Friday night. New Hampshire came out on top 3-1 and will be the Jr. Canes next opponent. A day that could have been lined in black shone brightly thanks to the efforts a Pee Wee team that wears a jersey we all support. Tomorrow, it's off to the snow park!

EXHIBITION GAME 4 SUMMARY

PERIOD 1

JR HURRICANES 1: Tim Acker (Sean Murphy, Ross Whitehead)

Penalties

Littleton (Chad Bannor), JR HURRICANES (Taylor O'Neil), Littleton (Austin Miller)

PERIOD 2

Littleton 1: Chad Bannor (Unassisted)

Penalties

Littleton (Alex Temby), Littleton (Chad Bannor), JR HURRICANES (Zach Paisley), Littleton (Michael Schoolcraft), JR HURRICANES (D.J. Thomas)

PERIOD 3

JR HURRICANES 2: Garrett Martin (D.J. Thomas, Corey Hucker)

JR HURRICANES 3: Corey Hucker (Garrett Martin)

Penalties

None

Final score

Littleton 1 JR HURRICANES 3

JUNIOR HURRICANES IN QUEBEC: RUNNING DIARY (DAY 9)

By Doug Warf

Day 9, Thursday, Feb. 17: Today was a day of child-like fun for everyone as we visited the local snow park just outside of Quebec City. If you combined a North Carolina water park with a Canadian ski slope, this snow park is what would result. My day started at 7 a.m. as we met the boys at the Pepsi Colisee to watch some hockey. After one game we were quickly shuttled to the tournament transportation buses and it was off to the snow park.

At the snow park there were dozens of slopes with varying difficulties, just like a ski slope. Upon arrival I took off with the Acker family so of course we headed for some of the toughest slopes on the mountain. As the day progressed, more kids showed and my stomach continued to rise towards my mouth.



As we came to find out, one half day per week in the local Canadian school system is a free “activity day” for the kids. This means that they can do anything from archery and horseback riding to swimming and the snow park, depending upon what is in season. Of course, the snow park is now in season, so we battled the lines a great deal with French Canadian school children who were obviously not taught the importance of a line (thanks to Coach Tefft, they now know). After a solid six hours at the park everyone was ready for the 3:45 p.m. departure time.

Luckily, it was a lot of child-like fun without any of the injuries (except for my last run where I was taken out twice by others and then took myself out once by falling ... my hips still hurt). As most of the kids returned to the Colisee to be picked up by their billets, I took one of our players to the annual skills competition. In this competition we could enter any forward or goalie to compete in hardest shot, fastest skating lap with and without the puck, and a goalie test of stopping oncoming shots. The tough part about our team is trying to pick one kid to compete.

We picked D.J. Thomas to represent our team, but there were definitely several others who could have just as easily been a part. D.J. relished the opportunity and finished fourth in hardest shot with a 67 mph slap shot. D.J. also represented well in skating and his teammates were very proud of his efforts.

I closed down today by visiting one of our billet families' houses for a great Canadian dinner. Chef Bob called the dinner “chicken for chicken” and tonight I am not ashamed to say, I was glad to be chicken. The delectable dinner was followed with some great pastries served up by Bob’s wife Celine and we all left happy.

Though I was on the road for 16 straight hours today, I had a great time and it flew by. I am definitely tired, and hurting a little, but I am very excited about our big tournament game tomorrow.

JUNIOR HURRICANES IN QUEBEC: RUNNING DIARY (DAY 10)

By Doug Warf

Day 10, Friday, Feb. 18: Today we reminded the boys that they came to Quebec to play hockey. This year’s team has already easily surpassed past Junior Hurricanes team’s success, but there is still a lot of work left.

With a 6 p.m. game with the New Hampshire Bauer Swarm awaiting us, we took the boys to practice at 9:30 a.m. After meeting the boys at the Pepsi Colisee at 8 a.m. we took the tournament transportation to a local ice rink for a one-hour practice. Coaches Tefft and Licatta wanted time to work with the Jr. Hurricanes in hopes of improving our

breakouts, power play and penalty kill.

The hour-long practice seemingly flew by as the boys were rested to save their legs for the big game that night.

Around noon the boys returned to the hotel to stay with their families for a few hours before we departed at 3:30 p.m. for the Colisee. Most of the boys had lunch and took naps, but two players were working hard to overcome a bad stomach flu that has been circulating through our team.

At 3:30 p.m. all players but one boarded the tournament transportation buses and headed to the Colisee. After settling in our seats in a stuffy arena with about 3,500 people, we watched two games and headed to the locker room.

At this point, Tim Acker, the one missing player, joined the team. All 18 boys were ready and excited to take on New Hampshire.

A good sign for the night came when head coach Mike Tefft won his second straight puck toss to ensure the Jr. Canes would be wearing their “lucky” red jerseys and be on the visitor side.

After listening to some words of inspiration from Hurricanes Assistant Coach and former Quebec Tournament participant, Jeff Daniels, Coach Tefft set up the game plan and sent the boys to the ice.

I realized how young the boys were when I challenged the two players with the flu to play like Michael Jordan did in the '97 Finals against the Jazz when he scored 40+ points but was carried off the court. The only response I got was “That must have been when he was on the Bulls right...because he wasn’t that good with the Wizards”. That helped me remember that most of these guys were only 4-years-old when that happened.

The Junior Hurricanes took the ice fast but sloppy and a little selfish. However, they were doing a great job on the defensive side so their mistakes did not hurt them. Only 2:38 seconds into the game, D.J. Thomas scored yet another goal for the Jr. Canes to supply us with a 1-0 lead. After a hard fought first period, the score remained 1-0.

The start of the second saw much of the same, good defense but sometimes sloppy offense. But again, the Jr. Canes came through early in the period with a goal, this time by flu ridden Tim Acker on a great play that was started by hardworking defenseman Kenneth Gillespie. This 2-0 lead was only momentary as New Hampshire got into the scoring column four minutes later. The Jr. Canes took that 2-1 lead into the locker room for the second intermission.

To start the third, our power-play work paid off as Sean Murphy knocked home a power-play goal only 2:17 into the third. With a 3-1 lead, the Jr. Canes knew that they could only beat themselves. As proven in the past, the Jr. Canes love a good close game that keeps the crowd in it (I think they are after good TV ratings). To help keep it close, the Jr. Canes were whistled for four minor penalties in the third period. On one of these penalties, at the 6:38 mark the Swarm powered in their





AAA Carolina JR Hurricanes



second goal of the game to close the gap to 3-2.

As time dwindled away, the Jr. Canes continued to play hard and keep the Swarm's shots out of the net. However, their toughest challenge would come in the last minute of the game as the Jr. Canes suffered a penalty that allowed the Swarm to pull their goalie and play 6-on-4 hockey.

This challenge seemed to inspire the Jr. Canes as they responded, killed off the last minute and escaped with an exciting 3-2 victory. This now puts the Jr. Canes even further into uncharted waters.

Our next game is Saturday morning at 10:30 a.m. If we win that game, we play in the finals of the winner's bracket Saturday night at 6 p.m. Knowing this much hockey is ahead, the kids headed to their billets for a good night's rest as the coaching staff went to dinner and to review game film for upcoming games.



This is an exciting time as this team has shown the tournament that great amateur hockey is being played in the Carolinas ... and it couldn't come at a more appropriate time.

TOURNAMENT GAME 3 SUMMARY

PERIOD 1

JR HURRICANES 1: D.J. Thomas (Kerry Wyant) 2:38

Penalties

JR HURRICANES (Matt Hogue) 6:29

PERIOD 2

JR HURRICANES 2: Tim Acker (Kenneth Gillespie) 3:27

N.H. Bauer Swarm 1: Will Vogt (Connor Bates, Tyler Jenkins) 7:15

Penalties

JR HURRICANES (Wes Beck) 6:35

PERIOD 3

JR HURRICANES 3: Sean Murphy (D.J. Thomas) 2:17

N.H. Bauer Swarm 2: Kody Grondin (Tyler Jenkins, Ryan Randall)

Penalties

JR HURRICANES (Troy Slider) 00:03, N.H. Bauer Swarm (Chris Atwood)

1:32, JR HURRICANES (D.J. Thomas) 6:21,

N.H. Bauer Swarm (Paddy Murphy) 7:08, N.H. Bauer Swarm (Cam

Rafford) 9:31, JR HURRICANES (Kenneth Gillespie) 10:37,

JR HURRICANES (Tim Acker) 13:56, N.H. Bauer Swarm (Ryan Randall)

15:00

Final score

New Hampshire Bauer Swarm 2 JR HURRICANES 3

JUNIOR HURRICANES IN QUEBEC: RUNNING DIARY (DAY 11)

By Doug Warf

Day 11, Saturday, Feb. 19: Today was a day of definite uncharted waters. In the Junior Hurricanes previous tournament appearances they were 1-5 in tournament games and 3-16-1 in overall play in Quebec. Going into Saturday, the Junior Hurricanes were 3-0 in tournament play and 6-0-1 in overall play (including four exhibitions).

Saturday in the tournament is a busy day if you are still playing because it means you play in the morning in hopes of winning and playing again Saturday night. Saturday morning our first game would be against the Prince Edward Island (P.E.I.) Rockets at the Pepsi Colisee. If we were lucky enough to win that game, we were scheduled to play at 6 p.m. Saturday night against the winner of the game after ours Saturday morning.

Since it was Saturday, and we were scheduled to leave Sunday morning at 6 a.m. the boys had to report to the hotel at 8 a.m. with their luggage. Win or lose, they would be staying the night at the hotel with the parents. At 8:30 a.m. we left for the Colisee to check out a few games before reporting to the locker room.

Once in the locker room the boys received a very inspired speech from head coach Mike Tefft and they were then sent to the ice. The coaching staff had warned the boys that P.E.I. was a very hardworking team and that was evident in the first period.

Both teams had some good chances but at the end of the first, the score was still locked at 0. That would change as the Jr. Hurricanes' Garrett Martin scored a goal assisted by Corey Hucker and D.J. Thomas at the 4:28 mark of the second period. The goal was the result of some very hard work by this line, a line that was setting the tone for matching P.E.I.'s intensity.

During the elongated second intermission Coach Tefft called out the lines that were not working as hard and asked them to step up as the Jr. Canes were only one shot away from a tie game.



AAA Carolina JR Hurricanes



Though the speech sounded good, P.E.I. must have received the same talk as they came out flying and tied the score at 1 early in the third period. Sean Murphy then had an answer as he scored at the 3:35 mark of the third period to supply the Jr. Canes with a 2-1 lead.

However, P.E.I. would not go quietly as they then scored two unanswered goals to go ahead 3-2. This tested the will of the Jr. Hurricanes and there was very little time to figure out a strategy to obtain a passing grade. The formula for success ended up being hard work and increased intensity. Tim Acker scored a goal assisted by Kerry Wyant that tied the Jr. Canes back up with the Rockets. Four minutes later, Ross Whitehead scored a go ahead goal assisted by Murphy. Less than one minute later, Corey Hucker scored a big goal to put the Jr. Canes in a more comfortable 5-3 lead.

However, P.E.I. was not done, testing the Jr. Canes as Brent Andrews completed his hat trick to pull P.E.I. within one goal at 5-4. After about 45 seconds of a pulled goalie, Murphy then out-skated the P.E.I. defense to score an empty netter that would seal the Jr. Canes win, 6-4.

Once we left the locker room we found out that at 6 p.m. we would face, surprisingly enough, the Connecticut Whalers. As the new prepared to meet the old, the Jr. Canes quickly became a heavy underdog to the fast and experienced Whalers.

The tournament transportation returned the players to the hotel so they could rest, relax and eat with their parents before tonight's game. Only three hours after lunch we again met to return to the Colisee. Again, we watched a little of our preceding game before heading to the locker room. In the locker room the boys were told of the opportunity at hand, but more importantly, enjoy every minute on the ice tonight as this will be something they remember for the rest of their lives.

The game started in front of about 8,000 people and intermittent television coverage from TSN, Canada's version of ESPN. Unfortunately, they witnessed the Junior Hurricanes falling in a very early 1-0 hole as Jimmy Mullin of the Whalers skated in alone to beat goalie Logan Marks. The Jr. Canes could have given up there, but this team had seen rough times before. After some hard work, great chances that included a missed Jr. Canes penalty shot and some good saves, the Jr. Canes found themselves down 1-0 at the end of the first.

The second period was much of the same, missed opportunities leading to breakout goals by the Whalers who play a very fast paced game. Near the end of the second period the Jr. Canes found themselves in a 3-0 deficit, but they would fight back. Ross Whitehead had a beautiful diving goal that was assisted by Tim Acker to bring the Jr. Canes back within two goals at the end of the second.

Again, the entire coaching staff urged the boys on for the third and final period but the Whalers would prove to be too much. They quickly came out and jumped to a 4-1 lead to start the third period. The Jr. Canes then responded with a goal of their own by D.J. Thomas on a blast from the point to again pull within two at 4-2. However, Mullin and the Whalers would answer only minutes later to increase the Whaler lead to 5-2. A late empty-net goal by Mullin, his fifth of the night, allowed the Whalers to walk away with the 6-2 win and a game on Sunday against the winner of the "loser's bracket."

In the locker room it was apparent that the boys were upset with the loss. However, the coaching staff reminded them of how far they had come, how many teams (seven) that they had beaten before their first loss and how immensely proud they made the coaching staff, the Hurricanes organization and the Carolina hockey community.

It was said best before the game that the tournament was down to four teams, Austria, Germany, Connecticut and Carolina. For those of us who have worked with youth hockey in the Carolina's how sweet does that sound?

Connecticut would go on to win the tournament on Sunday leaving Germany with two losses and the Junior Hurricanes with the second best record in their bracket, something that can be appreciated and commended by people worldwide.



TOURNAMENT GAME 4 (Quarter Final) SUMMARY

PERIOD 1

No score

Penalties

P.E.I. Rockets (Timothy Painter) 4:29, JR HURRICANES (Kenneth Gillespie) 7:01

PERIOD 2

JR HURRICANES 1: Garrett Martin (Corey Hucker, D.J. Thomas) 4:28

Penalties

JR HURRICANES (Ross Whitehead) 7:12, P.E.I. Rockets (Brent Andrews)

10:00, JR HURRICANES (Garrett Martin) 10:00

PERIOD 3

P.E.I. Rockets 1: Kent Nunn (Kyle Doucette) 2:46

JR HURRICANES 2: Sean Murphy (Bill Frantz, Matt Hogue) 3:35

P.E.I. Rockets 2: Brent Andrews (Craig Clark, Kent Nunn) 5:00

P.E.I. Rockets 3: Brent Andrews (Logan Garnhum, Morgan Doucette)

5:54

JR HURRICANES 3: Tim Acker (Kerry Wyant) 6:15

JR HURRICANES 4: Ross Whitehead (Sean Murphy) 10:53

JR HURRICANES 5: Corey Hucker (Garrett Martin, Matt Hogue) 11:31

P.E.I. Rockets 4: Brent Andrews (Taylor Weeks, Morgan Doucette) 14:03

JR HURRICANES 6: Sean Murphy (Wes Beck) 14:55



AAA Carolina JR Hurricanes



Penalties

JR HURRICANES (Garrett Martin) 4:27

Final score

P.E.I. Rockets 4 JR HURRICANES 6

TOURNAMENT GAME 5 FINAL FOUR SUMMARY

PERIOD 1

Connecticut 1: Jimmy Mullin (Unassisted) 00:46

Penalties

Connecticut (Kurt Krotz) 7:16

PERIOD 2

Connecticut 2: Jimmy Mullin (Jamie Hill, Tommy Dwyer) 2:58

Connecticut 3: Kurt Krotz (Unassisted) 5:56

JR HURRICANES 1: Ross Whitehead (Tim Acker, Sean Murphy) 7:59

Penalties

Connecticut (Kurt Krotz) 00:40, Connecticut (Jimmy Mullin) 8:31

PERIOD 3

Connecticut 4: Jimmy Mullin (Unassisted) 6:54

JR HURRICANES 2: D.J. Thomas (Tim Acker) 8:00

Connecticut 5: Jimmy Mullin (Jamie Hill) 10:51

Connecticut 6: Jimmy Mullin (Will Laverack) 12:55

Penalties:

JR HURRICANES (Garrett Martin) 2:21, Connecticut (Kurt Krotz) JR

HURRICANES (Wes Beck) 12:55,

JR HURRICANES (Zach Paisley) 14:11

Final score

Connecticut Whalers 6 JR HURRICANES 2

JUNIOR HURRICANES IN QUEBEC: RUNNING DIARY (DAY 12)

By Doug Warf

Day 12, Sunday, Feb. 20: Today is a day for travel and a time to reminisce over the amazing last 11 days.

At 5:15 a.m. wakeup call was followed by a three-hour bus ride from Quebec City to Montreal. Customs is always difficult when trying to handle 18 12-year-old boys so that was exciting, but a nearly on-time noon flight helped make up for any headaches.

After a two-hour layover in Detroit, and an over one-hour wait on the runway, we were finally off for Raleigh and the airport from which we departed 12 days earlier.

The great thing about this trip is seeing the maturation of the boys. This is not just the premier youth hockey tournament in the world, it is a time for young boys to experience for their first time 11 days without their parents. Though many parents travel to watch the games, almost 90 percent of the time is spent with the two sets apart from one another.

More importantly, the boys learn life lessons like teamwork, responsibility and respect that will stay with them long after their equipment finally airs out. We definitely hope that the memories of playing in front on large crowds on national TV will also be there, but this program was as good when we were 0-5-0 as it is this year when we finished 7-1-1. For that, we can only thank the town and people of Quebec City and the Carolina Hurricanes for making it happen.

Canada is truly hockey's home and Quebec City is as good as any when it comes to their passion for the game. The seamlessly-run tournament has only a couple of paid staff members. Everyone else is a volunteer including the billet families, transportation staff, equipment staff and even many tournament officials.

As I look back on this trip and the great hockey, the great food and the amazing sites, I will always remember the people first. Whether it is the aforementioned city volunteers or it is the amazing parents who go to great lengths to help their kids fulfill their dreams, I will always be grateful for these chance meetings. I finish the trip about five pounds heavier, a few more grey hairs, and with hundreds of memories that, unlike the pounds (hopefully), I will always have with me.

FINAL RESULT 2005 TOURNAMENT

INTERNATIONAL B

Connecticut Whalers (U.S.A.) 3 Baden Wuttenburg (Germany) 1

INTERNATIONAL C

Saint-Georges de Beauce (Québec, Canada) 6 Rouen (France) 1

INTERNATIONAL AA

Detroit Little Ceasar (U.S.A.) 4 Detroit Compuware (U.S.A.) 1