

**State of the Canes:** Having recently ended an ugly eight game losing streak, our home team continues to struggle for a playoff spot. The Canes are playing with much more intensity and grit. A long stretch of seven games in eleven days ended with three much needed points from the Florida Panthers in back to back series. With another back to back in a few days and then the All Star break, it will give the boys a much-needed break. It seems the whole team is wearing protective visors these days and everyone is nursing injuries ranging from nagging to severe. The recent injury to center, Rod Brind'Amour could have been the straw that broke the camel's back, but enter the hero, Josef Vasicek. It pleases me greatly that some of our younger players have responded positively to the challenge set by Brind'Amour's absence. Josef has stepped up and led his line to some great goals, Hereema has scored a few well-timed goals and what about enforcer, Jesse Boulerice. I think we've finally replaced Stu Grimson and in my opinion gotten a hard checking winger as well.

After the All Star break, the Canes begin an extended west coast trip, playing the three California teams and Dallas before coming home for the Caps. This is going to be a crucial stretch where every point will be needed to clinch a spot in the Eastern Conference playoffs.

**Milestones:** Ron Francis will once again be breaking another record. He will soon tie and then surpass Frank Mahovlich for 20<sup>th</sup> all-time in NHL goals.

**Recent News:** It seems that Tommy Westlund has recently signed a contract to play for Team Sweden next year. I was expecting that, but had hoped that he might stay in the country as a player/coach for our AHL affiliate, the Lowell Lock Monsters. Due to a recent concussion Westlund has been behind the bench for Lowell. I don't know why, but that just seems like the natural progression for him once he's done playing.

Another Cane will be "behind the bench" while he recuperates. Rod Brind'Amour will be doing some assistant coaching himself, sitting upstairs, observing and offering advice. I think this is a great move by management. This keeps him an integral part of the team. We may lose his skills on the ice, but the qualities he brings off the ice are more important in my opinion.

**Affiliate News:** The Lowell Lock Monsters continue to struggle in the AHL. A lousy start perpetuated by injuries has only recently received some much-needed offensive help with

the reacquisition of Harold Druken. Mike Zigomanis' has returned from a shoulder injury and with Craig MacDonald and Tomas Malec going back and forth, there doesn't seem much hope for playoff resurgence. Patrick DesRochers' 3 and 6 record in the past nine games supports that theory.

The Florida Everblades recently hosted the Compuware/ECHL All Star game at the TECO arena and there were several Blades representing the Southern Conference.

Robb Zepp, goalie, stopped 15 shots, allowing only 2 of the 8 goals scored by the Northern Conference. The Everblades are 3<sup>rd</sup> in the Southeastern division.

**All Star Game:** I'm happy to report that I have scored tickets to the All Star game, with the help of the president of the Florida Panthers Fan Club, Kathy Dodson. Sometimes, it is who you know! I'll be attending the FanFest on Friday, the Young Stars Game/SuperSkills competition, featuring our own Eric Cole and then the All Star game on Sunday with Jeff O'Neill representing the Hurricanes. Watch next month's Cheap Seats for a recap of my adventures in Florida. Just so you don't all think I'm hockey crazy, there will be some snorkeling in The Keys for sun and fun!!

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## ■ Your Turn/Canepoll

### Many fans have a superstitious routine or tradition they follow before watching or attending a Hurricanes game. Tell us about your favorite hockey tradition and/or superstition?

I always wear my jersey and I never leave my seat until the game is ended no matter what the score!

**Nancy Fahey**

A tradition of tailgating in the east lot before game, weather permitting. Also wearing the lucky #7 jersey for the game.

**Patrick Drollinger**

I always eat a Goodberry's Concrete Custard at the 2nd intermission.

**Gerry Cohen**

My tradition is to always wear my jersey during a game with a particular shirt underneath the jersey. Also, I have to play "Rock You Like a Hurricane" at least once that day.

**Michelle Morris**

In our household Jim and I don't wash any of our hockey jerseys from the first game of preseason until after the Canes season is over. By March we mysteriously smell like Febreze. The dry cleaners just LOVE us when we come in with about 8 jerseys to get done.

**Tricia Andrews**

During the playoff run, I had my "uniform" to wear for each game....I would put on the same pants, my Bates jersey, Hurricanes earrings, but my secret weapon was my MoJo rising t-shirt that I wore under my jersey! But as superstition dictates, I lost my earring between the 5th and 6th intermissions of the Triple Overtime game. On the day of the 5th game of the Stanley Cup Finals, my pants pocket got stuck on something in the car as I got out the pants tore down the seams....so needless to say...my one earring is put away and the pants are in the trash!!

**Donna Scanlon**

Personally, I won't wear the same hat or Canes jersey to the following game if they lose one at home. Occasionally, I'll wear an item with some personal good luck if the Hurricanes seem like they need it. I'll be wearing a Glasgow Celtic Football Club jacket to the game with St. Louis. Celtic usually only loses a couple of games in a whole Scottish Football League (Soccer) season.

**Jeff Harrod**

We try to wear Canes colors and be supportive of the team.

**Janice Baptiste**

We have certain clothes we wear. If they loose, we change what we wear. We are always there by the time they warm-up. We buy two large beers... and pray!

**Jimmy, Kathy & Layton Smith**

I'm not very superstitious, but my family and I have some traditions when watching Canes' games on television. We usually plan our homework and meal schedules around the games, finishing dinner right before the opening face-off. Our boys (Zachary, 10, and Addison, 8) will normally take their baths or showers during the 1st intermission, and we let them watch the 2nd period before going to bed. My wife Lee Ann and I will usually use that 2nd intermission to finish cleaning up the kitchen and make sure all three children (including daughter Karis, 6) are in bed, and we'll watch the 3rd period together. If it's a particularly good game or a close game, we'll sometimes let the boys stay up and watch the last period.

**Bill Horner**

I wear a hockey angel pin on the upper left side of my jersey. When the National Anthem is played I put my hand on my heart and the angel pin. When the anthem is over I kiss the angel pin and pray for a win. Kind of corny but it makes me feel better.

**Cheryl Mulhern**

Superstition: I always wear something light gray under my jersey. Long sleeve t-shirt, long johns, or hooded sweatshirt, depending on the weather...maybe I should be wearing all three for extra luck right now?

**Michele Ferris**

### What is your favorite section number in RBC Center?

111/112

125/126

314

304

103/106

110

This month I want to discuss the fun of a card swap. The booster club has conducted a few and the results have been favorable. This is a great time to not only swap some memorabilia, but to meet some new and exciting friends and canes fans.

We are having the next card swap at the **Sports Zone in Cary on Monday, February 10<sup>th</sup>** (more details on page 6) and whether you have a few cards or thousands please come and join us. The only cost is that you must purchase \$10 worth of merchandise from the store in order to participate in the card swap. The Sports Zone also holds a drawing for a gift certificate that night.

We spend most of the time talking hockey and different players and games attended, so do not feel you need cards to come. Some people collect just Hurricane cards,

but many collect cards and memorabilia from favorite players and various teams and this a great forum to find people with same interests and swap some stories as well as cards. You will be amazed at the vast collections some people have and really is fun to see the cards of the veteran players when just rookies and teenagers! It's a great way to find a card you have been looking for or a way to find a home for cards you do not want. At the end of the evening you have hopefully not only added to your card collection, but also added a few friends to your collection.

**DID YOU KNOW?** Jessie Boulerice has 13 cards available(none in hurricane gear yet!), Craig Adams 8 , Kevyn Adams 65(none in hurricanes gear), Brett Hedican 101( 3 in Hurricanes gear) Jeff Hereema 31 and Jan Hlavac 132( none in hurricane gear)

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## UNC TELETHON – A CHBC VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY

The UNC Telethon has agreed to give the booster club the entire studio on March 8<sup>th</sup> from 6:00-11:30 pm as long as we have 50 volunteers. If you are interested in volunteering your time, **please email Lisa Wall at lwall2@nc.rr.com** as soon as possible. We will be signing up volunteers on a first come first serve basis. If you expressed an interest at our last meeting and can work at the time designated below, be sure to send an email to Lisa. She will be cross-referencing the list that we started at the last membership meeting.

### UNC Telethon Information:

March 8th, 6:00-11:30 pm - Several local businesses will be providing food for volunteers. Please allow sufficient travel time and plan to stay for the entire shift. As in any televised event, dress requirements are a concern due to lighting and camera capabilities. Please avoid white or busy prints. Away jerseys, colored practice jerseys and any other non-white Hurricanes apparel would be fine.

Directions:  
UNC-TV  
10 TW Alexander Dr.  
Research Triangle Park, NC 27709

**From I-40 West (Raleigh/RDU Airport):**  
Take exit 279b (Durham Freeway/Highway 147N).  
Take the 2nd exit (Alexander Dr.)  
Turn left at the traffic light at the top of the exit ramp.  
Cross over the bridge and take the 2nd right (approx. .5 mile)At this point, you should see signs for UNC-TV.

### From I-40 East (Chapel Hill/G'boro):

Take exit 279b (Durham Expressway/Highway 147N).  
Take the 2nd exit (Alexander Dr.).  
Turn left at the traffic light at the top of the ramp.  
Cross over the bridge and take the 2nd right. (approx. .5 mile)At this point, you should see signs for UNC\_TV.

Note: If traveling I-40 East, you will see Exit 279a (To Alexander Drive/Durham Freeway South). Please do not take this exit as you will be on the opposite end of Alexander Drive from UNC-TV and increase your travel time.

---Lisa Wall, Booster Club Vice President

**GENERAL MEETING**

Our next General Membership Meeting will be on **Thursday, February, 20th at 7:00pm** at the **RBC Center**. We will have **Aaron Ward** from the Carolina Hurricanes speak to us on that evening. Please bring your ID badge. Without it, you may encounter difficulty getting through RBC Center Security. This is a **members only** event. We will also raffle a game used signed piece of memorabilia at this meeting.

**STORM SHELTERS**

The CHBC will be having a storm shelter in February and in March. Come join the CHBC watch the away games on **Feb. 15th** and **March 1st** at the **Upper Deck in Cary off of Harrison Avenue**. The upper deck is providing us with a limited number of Buffalo Wings as well as a separate area for our storm shelter. Guests are welcome at these events and we will be raffling two very special game used signed hockey sticks. We will be raffling a **BATES BATTAGLIA stick at one storm shelter and a SAMI KAPANEN stick at the other**. The proceeds from these raffles will benefit the Tom Stetson Fund as well. **Each event will begin at 6:30 pm**.

**CARD SWAP**

We will be having a card swap in the month of February. If you enjoy card and memorabilia collecting, this is a great opportunity to get together with others hockey fans looking to swap items. The event will take place on FEBRUARY 10TH at the SPORTS ZONE located in the Cary Village Square shopping Center off of Walnut Street from 7:00pm to 9:00pm. The card shop is located on the Ryan Road side of the shopping center opposite of TJ MAXX. Our last event was quite a success and gave CHBCer's a great opportunity to add to their collections.

**HOCKEY WEEK IN SAN JOSE - August 4-10, 2003**

The Hammerhead Booster Club will be the hosts for this year's NHLBC convention taking place in San Jose, CA., honoring the greatest sport on ice. They will kick off with training camp and preseason activities ranging from a night at the theater to a San Francisco Giants baseball game. They are offering trips to San Francisco, Monterey, the Santa Cruz beaches, Yosemite and even an evening trip to Alcatraz.... how scary would that be? There's the every popular pub-crawl and survivor night where you must outlast them all.

The best way to get information is to visit the Hammerheads Convention web site at:

<http://hammerheadbc.org/NHLBCC-2003/2003-package.html>

They have done an excellent job organizing this event and have all the details spelled out in their convention packages. Package rates, including 2 nights at the Wyndham Hotel in San Jose and all convention activities and dinners, are as follows:

Single-- \$390.00 Double-- \$310.00 Triple-- \$285.00 Quad—\$270.00

Children under 18--\$150.00

Extra nights are \$116.60, available from August 1 to August 11, 2003.

They are allowing a payment schedule:

3/01/03 \$100.00/person deposit

4/15/03 \$100.00/person plus all preconvention activities and extras

6/01/03 Remaining balance

If you are requesting extra nights, someone must contact the hotel directly and guarantee the reservation with a credit card prior to arrival. This allows everyone to spend some extra time in the California area and have a great vacation before the festivities on Friday night.

The Hammerheads have arranged for discount airfares and car rentals with several different companies. Again, a visit to their web site is the best place to get all available information.

Please contact Chris Sharples at [caneschris@aol.com](mailto:caneschris@aol.com) if you are interested in attending and to make arrangements to get your deposit in on time. There are several forms necessary to accompany your deposit.

## Nominations for Board to be Held in February and March

It's that time of year again! Nominations to replace all officers will take place at the February and March meetings. Nominees must be at least 21 years of age and have been an active member of the club for at least six months and have attended at least 3 meetings in the past year. Nominees must be prepared to attend 20 Hurricanes games and be willing to staff the CHBC booth at the arena. All nominees will have to be seconded from the floor. At the March meeting, all nominees must accept verbally, their willingness to accept their nominations and agree to perform all duties required of that position. If nominated, you may present a short platform (limited to 3 minutes) during this meeting.

Elections will be held in April by secret ballot. If an eligible member cannot attend the April meeting, they may request an absentee ballot from the Lisa. This ballot must be returned by certified mail to Lisa before the election meeting.

The following is a brief description of the Offices open for nominations. A more detailed version is available at [www.hurricanesboosters.org/chbcinfo/bylaws.html](http://www.hurricanesboosters.org/chbcinfo/bylaws.html) :

**President-** Presides at all meetings as well as board of directors meetings, main liaison between the club and the Hurricanes, responsible for final editing on club newsletter and is responsible for preparation of the annual budget.

**Vice President-** Assumes duties of President in their absence or if that position is vacated by current president, becomes election chairperson and is responsible for election committee, checks ID's of all members attending meeting, responsible for preparation of the annual budget, takes minutes of meetings in absence of the Secretary.

**Secretary-** Keeps careful and accurate report of minutes at regular and board of directors meetings, keeps treasurer's report of balance in the minutes, keeps and records all incoming and outgoing correspondence, keeps records of members attending all meetings.

**Treasurer-** Receives and is responsible for all monies belonging to the club, keeping accurate records. Signs checks and pays bills present and authorized by the board of directors. Reports treasury status at all meetings. Helps prepare the annual budget.

**At-Large Member-** (1 year duration)

Meets once a month, must attend all regular meetings and all board of director meetings, works club booth at the arena

*---Lisa Wall, Hurricanes Booster Club Vice President*