

# HURRICANE WARNING

Vol. 6, No. 9

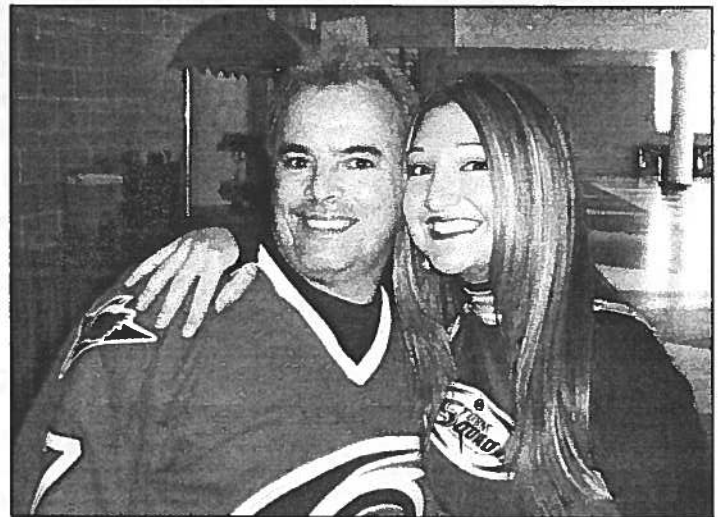
The official newsletter of the Carolina Hurricanes Booster Club

April 2003

## Booster Club Lends Hand With Tom Stetson Fund



*Pictured(L to R): Booster Club Members Leigh Ciancanelli and Charlene West with one of the many raffle prizes won at the Tom Stetson Event.*



*Pictured: Board Member Patrick Drollinger poses with Storm Squad Member Eliza Bass while taking donations for the Tom Stetson Fund.*

The Hurricanes Booster Club had several members on hand to help the Hurricanes and Raleigh Police Department raise over \$12,000 for Tom Stetson.

Stetson was a tenured Wake County Emergency Services paramedic who recently passed away due to a form of brain cancer called medullablastoma. The Media All-Stars took on the Raleigh Blue-liners in a charity game to benefit the family of Tom Stetson.

Hurricanes play-by-play man John Forslund served as emcee for the event. The Media All-Stars boasted a squad that included 96 Rock's Chopper Harrison, who was involved in a trade for some pucks later in the game, and assistant

coaches Randy Ladoceur and Kevin McArthy. Also on the team was Tripp Tracy, Emily Cole (wife of Canes winger Erik Cole), and WRAL's Mike Crowley. Ron Francis and Sean Hill coached the Media while Jeff Daniels and Aaron Ward coached the Blue-Liners.

The Media All-Stars survived several comebacks by the Blue-Liners to win the game 8-6 in the charity event.

Donations to the Tom Stetson Fund can be sent to:

Tom Stetson Fund  
c/o Wake County EMS  
331 South McDowell Street  
Raleigh, NC 27601  
Attn.: Eddie Godwin

—John Gallagher, HW Editor

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Official Booster Club of the Carolina Hurricanes!

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**Newsletter deadline:**  
**April 28<sup>th</sup> for**  
**the May Edition**

## President's Message / SUSAN STACY

Well, hockey season is slowly coming to an end and I must say it is going to be a long summer. Our team has incurred several changes over the past month but I am looking forward to what next year brings.

I would like to thank Mr. Jim Rutherford for taking his time on March 17<sup>th</sup> to spend time with the booster club and speak at our meeting. He was an outstanding speaker and those in attendance really enjoyed the opportunity to ask so many questions and learn so much about his role.

On Friday, April 4<sup>th</sup>, the CHBC will be traveling to Hampstead, North Carolina to spend the day with the 2<sup>nd</sup> grade class to return Flat Stanley and teach the children about hockey. This project has been one of the focuses of the club and I would like to thank all those who made it possible! Make sure to come to the April Meeting to hear all about our day. We will have a video as well as the presentations that we presented to the class at this meeting. Our next newsletter will give full details of his entire adventure with the CHBC.

On Sunday, March 23<sup>rd</sup>, in conjunction with the Carolina Hurricanes and the Raleigh Police Department, the CHBC assisted as one of the hosts for the Tom Stetson Benefit Game. The CHBC has been raising money over the past couple of months for this event and I am pleased to announce that the efforts of all involved raised over \$12,000 for this fund. The CHBC raised \$1,500 from our meetings with Chinese auctions we held. I would like to thank all those who made monetary donations as well as volunteered their time to this event.

Our next General Membership meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, April 23<sup>rd</sup> at 7:00pm. This is a very important meeting, as we will be holding the elections for the new CHBC board. Currently, the meeting is scheduled to take place at Playmaker's on Hillsborough Street but I am currently awaiting a confirmation that the RBC center is available. PLEASE watch your email for updates on this next meeting. It is very important that we have a large attendance for this meeting since elections must take place. I hope to see you there!

*Susan*



**The Booster Club wishes the safe return  
of US and Coalition troops involved  
in the war with Iraq.**

**Winds of Change Bring Urbata:** Well, the season winds down with only a few games left at home at this writing. I have to confess to a comfortably resigned feeling about this year. It became painfully aware as the season rolled on that injuries were devastating this team. No blockbuster trade was going to stop the bleeding as this team fought for a playoff spot. Mr. Rutherford once again, pulled a jewel out of his hat by trading Bates Battaglia for Radim Urbata. Urbata has already validated that trade with glimpses of greatness and Bates will now have a chance to play for the cup and grow into a seasoned veteran.

**Rookies, Rookies Everywhere:** The surprisingly up side of this for me has been the chance to see our rookies come up and get an audition during such an exciting time of year in the NHL. With 5 rookies scoring in their first NHL games, it gives me great hopes for the future of our Hurricanes team. I have enjoyed their jump and exuberance and it has made these last games of the season so enjoyable and exciting. Training camp should be very interesting. We'll have rehabbed veterans and seasoned rookies vying for positions on those last two lines. With some good draft picks coming up, the future for the Carolina Hurricanes is so bright; we're going to need shades.

**Montreal A Blast:** I have just recently returned from the CHBC's trip to Montreal, Canada to see the Canes play the Canadiens. We had such a great time even though the Canes lost 5-3. We arrived on Friday afternoon to The Fairmont-Queen Elizabeth, a 4-star hotel near the Bell Center in downtown Montreal. We had the evening to ourselves, so several of us took in a comedy show by David Dubac. His show was called Male Intellect- An Oxymoron?. It was a hysterical perspective of the difference in men and women and how you have to think like the opposite sex to understand them. He is really funny and if he is in our area, check him out. The next day was spent celebrating hockey. Chris Sharples, our tour planner and director, had arranged it so that we could attend morning skate. As the players came out onto the ice, they got a great round of applause that completely surprised them. They were quite taken aback that there was such a large crowd of Caniacs there, dressed in complete regalia. After practice, we had a tour of the Bell Center. We got to see the media area, the Old-Timers Room and the press area. The halls of the Bell Center

are lined with bronze busts honoring all of the Habs that have been inducted into the Hall of Fame. We didn't get to see the locker rooms since it's hockey season, but they are available for touring in the summer. After the tour, we had some time so we visited the Hard Rock Café and purchased a great pin with hockey sticks and the Hard Rock logo.

There was a lot of controversy at the time about Canadians booing the National Anthem at the last two Habs games. The reason advancement of the Iraqi War was causing enough uneasiness, but to hear our hockey brothers boo our national anthem would have saddened me beyond words. We were all very happy to see that The Canadiens had Jean Beauliveau address the crowd in French and English, asking them to remember that the US and Canada have had a hockey alliance for many years and to celebrate the diversity of hockey and keep that friendship strong and true during these trying times. When our anthem played, there was very little issue and in fact a big round of applause during the last verse. I was really quite touched by the crowd and found everyone there to be very friendly and happy to discuss hockey. It seems as if the game just flew by. Even though it was a 5-3 loss, I felt that we gave them a run for their money and was very happy with the 3<sup>rd</sup> period effort. Sunday, we had the morning to re-cooperate, but several of us headed to the old Montreal Forum. It has been converted into the Pepsi Entertainment Center, housing a huge movie theater, a 3-story Jillions and lots of shopping. There is a small section of seating that is still there and a bronze statue of Maurice "The Rocket" Richard sitting on a bench during a game. You can sit beside him and have your picture taken.

We then took a bus tour of the city of Montreal, stopping at several major sites and getting the opportunity to see the layout of the city. That evening, we went to the Casino Montreal and had a great time gambling away "the rest" of our Canadian currency.

Overall, it was a great trip, with the Iraqi conflict forefront in our minds; we were met and greeted with warmth and kindness by everyone. Our tour guides were funny, informative, generous, loyal French Canadians that were very proud of their city. I would like to thank Chris Sharples for all the hard work and attention to detail for which she is infamous. Our trip went off without a hitch; our accommodations and tours were wonderful. Thanks Chris!!!

*Lisa Wall*

## ■ Your Turn/Canepoll

### **Tell us about your experiences with Former Canes Bates Battaglia, Glen Wesley, Sami Kapanen, Darren Langdon, Marek Malik who were among those traded this season?**

Jimmy, Layton and I had the pleasure of being a part of not only the Kapanens, but also the Wesleys. Layton, Josh Wesley and Kaspari Kapanen play on the same hockey team. Sami was always very nice and willing to do anything to help the team. He actually got on the ice to help coach one practice. Kaspari was very happy about this. He informed Mr. Jimmy that his dad was coaching that day, not him!

The Wesleys are also great. Glen was at every game he could possibly be at. He helped our team with fundraiser memorabilia to raise money. Both families are absolutely a pleasure.

We were so sad when both got traded, but so happy in the same sense. They both have the chance to play with great teams to make a run for the Cup.

The Lord has blessed us with hockey and the chance to meet so many great people.

**Jimmy, Kathy and Layton Smith**

As members of the CHBC, we've all suffered from a heavy heart as our Hurricanes have continued to struggle through injuries, scoring slumps, bad breaks and some sorry officiating. We've lost some great players and good friends, but this is all a part of being in the Big League. Things don't stay the same. I can't tell you how many talks I've had with my son, Matthew, after Sami Kapanen was traded to Philadelphia. Sami has been a major influence in Matthew's hockey life. He would come into the dental practice where I work and sign cards, pucks, hats, etc. and always take the time to talk to Matthew. I obtained one Sami's personal play-off sticks after last season and he met me one morning at the Rec Zone to autograph that stick for Matthew's 13th birthday. Now I have a son who has started following the Flyers almost as closely as he does the Hurricanes. I can't help but feel that next year will bring good things for the Carolina Hurricanes. We have great veteran players, some truly exciting youthful players, an extremely talented coaching staff, and a GM/Pres. and Owner that care about this team and their fans. **Tom Carie**

It was very tough to explain to my 5-year old daughter that Bates was not with the Canes anymore. To my dismay, she refused to take a liking to my favorite player, Ron Francis. However, I was able to convince her that Ryan Bayda was a close enough name to Bates.

**John Gallagher**

I was shocked and sorry to see Bates go but the trade paid immediate dividends with Radim Vrbata. Hopefully, he will make great contributions to the team next year. This trade was much better than the Kapanen trade. I would have liked to have seen a quality player (or

players) for a two time All Star. The results of the Wesley trade are still to be seen. I also think getting Jan Hlavac for Malik and Langdon was beneficial overall. Trades ignored, we have seen a lot of potential from a number of rookies called up from Lowell this season. I would definitely like to see Ryan Bayda return next season.

**Ken Laflamme**

The only experiences I have had with those traded this season has been at the RecZone during practices. Each and every time, they were extremely polite and generous to all fans seeking an autograph/picture. They took the time to speak to you and that says a lot for the great people they are. They will be missed, but I wish them the best.

**Brett Ciancanelli**

The team has lost some core players who have had a great deal of impact both on and off the ice here in Raleigh. Among the departed is defenseman Glen Wesley, who leaves the franchise as one of the leaders in games played, was a stalwart Assistant Captain for entire tenure in Raleigh and held down the number one defenseman's job with grace and distinction. His leadership and steady defensive zone coverage will be missed, as will his impact on the community.

Another cornerstone player who was moved this year is Sami Kapanen. The speedy, skilled Finn was a joy to watch and was among the Hurricanes' leading scorers every year until this one. Sadly Kapanen couldn't bust out of his scoring slump that began in the 01-02 playoffs, but the memory of his many achievements as a Hurricane will not soon fade. Who could forget his two All Star Game appearances, as Sami won the Fastest Skater competition both times? Who could forget the clutch goals and reliable two way play that was the hallmark of his time in Carolina along with his sliding goal celebrations? Most of all, who could forget the impact that Sami had with the youngest of Canes fans, who found his (lack of) size and warmth decidedly to their liking? Wesley and Kapanen were clearly a big part of what this organization is all about in Raleigh. They and their families will be missed deeply and remembered fondly.

**Jeff Harrod**

**Who will be on the Hurricanes' First Line and who will the top 6 defensemen on Opening Day in the 2003-2004 season?**

**Top Line: O'Neill-Francis-Cole**

**O'Neill-Francis-Vrbata**

**Defense: Hill, Hedican, Ward, St Jacques, Tanabe, Wallin**

Thanks to all that responded!

## Trading Corner / Patrick Drollinger

### Best deals/ideas:

This month, I would like to get some input from the readers on what they would like to see in this column and their thoughts:

1. Where do you find your best deals for collectibles?
2. What ideas or interests in the collectible world would you like to see featured here?

Please email me at denali414@aol.com with your response.

### 2002-2003 sets:

1 - BAP First Edition 2003	Fleer Throwbacks
2/3 - 2002-03 Upper Deck Series 2	Topps 2002-03
2/10 - 2002-03 Topps Total	Swedish SHL Elitset S.1
2/12 - 2002-03 Pacific Crown Royale	MVP 2002-03
2/17 - 2002-03 BAP Between the Pipes	UD Top Shelf 2002-03
2/27 - 2002-03 BAP Parkhurst	Pacific Heads Up2002-0
3/4 - 2002-03 Topps Chrome	Atomic 2002-03
3/12 - 2003-03 Pacific Vanguard	BAP Memorabilia 02-03
NHL Foundation 02-03	Piece of History 02-03
Upper Deck S.1 02-03	Pacific Exclusive 02-03
Stadium Club 02-03	

### Did you know?

With all our new players, who would have guessed they already have so many cards:

Bruno St. Jacques (16) Radim Vrbata (71) Pavel Brendl ( 145) Michael Zigomanis(35) Jeff Heerema ( 32) Brad DeFauw (3) Tomas Malec (3) Damian Surma (8)

### Upcoming Card Shows:

April 19 - 44th Sportscard and NASCAR Collectibles Show.  
State fairgrounds, Scott Building 919-553-4285

## Boosters Make Impact At UNC Telethon this Year



**Pictured: Chris Sharples waits to take your pledge.**

The Booster Club took part in the annual UNC Telethon on Saturday, March 8<sup>th</sup> from 6-11:30pm. The Boosters were all dressed in red for the occasion. The UNC telethon raises money so that they are able to fund the educational programs for UNC-TV. The Booster Club has made appearances on the telethon for the past five years.

This year's appearance helped UNC TV raise almost \$100,000 that Saturday evening. Lisa Wall, Booster Club Vice President, took the time and effort to organize this year's group of volunteers. There were a total of about 40 volunteers, a CHBC record, for the event.

During the 5 hours members of the club answered phones, we had the listening pleasure of hearing Daniel O'Donnell sing and help us take calls. He made a lot of callers

happy that evening! It was Daniel's enthusiasm that made the event that much more fun for the volunteers. The Boosters would like to thank all those members that volunteered, Daniel O'Donnell, and the wonderful staff at UNC-TV for their marvelous hospitality during our stay in the studio.



**Pictured: Wendy Williamson wins a Craig Adams Stick during a raffle for members.**

## **CHBC Elections will be held at next General Membership Meeting April 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2003**

Election time is here and it is time to elect the new officers on your CHBC Board. During the February and March General Membership meetings, nominations were taken for each executive officer and the At Large Board Members and all nominations have been closed. At the next General Membership meeting, elections shall take place from these nominations to elect the officers. It is time for the members to elect the executive officers and 4 At Large Board Members. The following is a list of nominees:

### **Executive Board Nominees:**

**President:** Mary Lou Pierce, John Gallagher  
**Vice President:** Patrick Drollinger (uncontested)  
**Treasurer:** Nancy Fahey (uncontested)  
**Secretary:** Cheryl Mulhern (uncontested)

### **At Large Board Member Nominees:**

Lynnae Pagels  
 Donna Scanlon  
 Michelle Feldbusch  
 Kendra Willis  
 Dawn Andrews

BE SURE TO  
CAST YOUR VOTE!

If you are unable to attend and would like to cast your vote by secret ballot, please contact Lisa Wall via email at lwall2@nc.rr.com or phone at (919) 682-1130. You will be sent a ballot and it must be returned via mail and postmarked by Friday, April 18<sup>th</sup>, 2003.

## **Hurricanes GM Jim Rutherford Addresses the Boosters**

Our guest speaker for the month of March was Hurricanes General Manager Jim Rutherford. Rutherford started off his talk with an honorable apology to the boosters and fans for the difficult year.

"I'm sorry that the year has turned out the way it has." Said Rutherford. "We all had high expectations, probably to high expectations because in one sense we had a great year last year with a really good team."

Mr. Rutherford commented on the short off-season and early struggles of the team that resulted in the collapse.

"To our players credit, they came back really early and started working out in the first part of August. In hindsight, I wish they maybe would have stayed away until the first of September." Said Mr. Rutherford.



***Pictured: Hurricanes GM Jim Rutherford at the podium during the March Membership Meeting.***

He gave some credit to Kevin Weekes for the early successes of the season and attributed the collapse to the barrage of injuries the Canes faced, especially after the Malik trade when David Tanabe and Bret Hedican went out with injuries.

Several losses and a flurry of trades later that included the acquisition of Radim Vrbata and the emergence of several rookies getting their first NHL goals, Mr. Rutherford assured the group that the Canes

would get their competitive edge back.

"I really believe this team will bounce back." Said Rutherford.

The Boosters would like to thank the Canes GM for his time with the club this year.

---John Gallagher, Hurricane Warning Editor

## **Booster Craig Saunders Enjoys Life as a Canes Fan**

Craig is originally from Burlington Vermont, working for a company called Digital Equipment Corp (DEC) for 18 years. He spent 11 years as an engineer and 7 as a sales executive for DEC before moving to Maryland in 1989 to become a corporate account manager in sales. Craig currently works in computer sales for I.T. Xchange. Their home office is in Oakville Ontario near Toronto land. Craig commented they were not happy campers when the Canes moved past the Leafs in the Conference Finals last season.



***Pictured (L to R): Craig and his wife, Teresa, take in a game at the RBC Center.***

Craig is married to his beautiful wife, Teresa (pictured in photo) and has a stepdaughter who lives in Morehead City, NC.

Craig was originally a Montreal Canadiens fan before becoming a true Caniac. He followed the team while living in Vermont during the Whaler years. The transition to the Whaler/Canes was relatively easy.

"My wife made me put all my Canadiens Stuff in the ATTIC! But I have not regretted it. The CANES are going to be a good team for quite some time." Said Saunders.

His favorite hockey moment was watching my first hockey game in the old Montreal Forum, Canadiens VS Bruins. It was Henri Richard versus Bobby Orr.

"My favorite Canes moment was the look in Scott Stevens' eye in Game 5 when he knew that they were a beaten team." Said Craig.

Craig's favorite players include Rod Brind'Amour and Bret Hedican. He even went so far as to call the Brind'Amour trade and the trade for Hedican "the best in franchise history."

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## **First-Year Member Sam Isley A True Community Supporter**



***Pictured: Booster Sam Isley***

Sam Isley is one of many new Booster Club members who came into the fold during this past season. Isley became a member after hearing about the Club from one of our own, Chris Sharples, who attended one of his classes at Wake Tech.

"When the Canes moved to NC and were playing in Greensboro, a couple of antique dealer friends who were attending the games at the Greensboro Coliseum were describing their hockey experience to my partner and me." Said Isley. "Having known them for several years we were surprised about their enthusiasm about hockey. They loved the Canes!"

After hearing that experience, Sam attended a Canes game against the Avalanche when the team moved to Raleigh. He really enjoyed the fast pace of the game, seeing the players up close, and was impressed that line changes took place while the game was in progress.

The support of the fans really impressed Sam. With some friends, he bought tickets to as many of the playoff games as possible and came to the RBC Center to watch the away playoff games on the Jumbotron. He ran into several friends at these playoff games and decided to buy season tickets together for the 2002-2003 season.

"PJ Avetta, our season ticket account rep, is the best." Said Sam. "He guided us through the process and is a great representative for the Canes organization."

Sam is a frequent tailgater with his fellow season ticket-holders. Last season, his group was one of many that used the tarp-strategy during times of inclement weather. Sam works with the Wake County Public System and noted there were a lot of Caniacs within the Wake County Public School System.

"I am grateful about the community service activities the Canes players participate in with the schools, such as the "Pick Up a Book and Read" program. Last year during the Stanley Cup Run we had a pep rally during lunchtime at our Wake Forest Road office. Stormy came out and we had a blast."

Sam is also active in the United Methodist Church, helping his church live up to their slogan of "Open Hearts, Open Minds, Open Doors."

Next Booster Club Membership Meeting:

**Wednesday  
April 23rd  
RBC Center, 7pm  
Booster Club Elections  
Flat Stanley Presentation**

**More details and event  
information inside!**

**Office DEPOT.**  
What you need. What you need to know:

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Fax: 919/233-8724

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