

Hurricane Warning

Vol. 7, No. 9

The official newsletter of the Carolina Hurricanes Booster Club

Summer 2004

Host Hurricanes delight fans by trading up for Ladd

In front of a crowd of 15,672, NHL Commissioner Gary Bettman announced the first trade of the day at RBC Center. The Hurricanes traded the 8th pick and the 59th pick overall in the draft to grab the 4th pick from the Columbus Blue Jackets.

As the RBC Center erupted with thunderous applause and a standing ovation, the Hurricanes selected left winger Andrew Ladd from the WHL's Calgary Hitmen.

Ranked first overall in North American skaters according to the NHL's Central Scouting report, the Canes retain the services of a fluid skater with outstanding speed and good one-on-one skills, which addresses an immediate need for the Hurricanes. This is the second year in a row the Canes have taken the number one North American skater, after taking Eric Staal with the second overall pick in the 2003 draft.

"I have seen him play a few times and he is an amazing player," Ladd said about Staal after the draft

began. "To have a chance to grow on a line with him would be amazing."

Ladd scored 75 points (30 goals, 45 assists) in 71 games in the WHL in 2003-04. He plays both a finesse and physical game and will take a hit to create scoring chances for his teammates.

"With players like Andrew Ladd, those are the

kinds of players when you get in those playoff series and go for your good runs that will go to the wall for you," said Hurricanes General Manager Jim Rutherford.

With the 38th overall pick the Hurricanes selected goaltender Justin Peters from the Toronto St. Mike's Majors of the OHL. Peters, ranked 4th overall in the NHL Central Scouting report, played 53 games in the OHL during the 2003-04 season and had a 2.65 goals against average. He is described as a good puck handler and plays a butterfly style. He is also described as

a fierce competitor and rises to the occasion in pressure situations.

On the Canes' final pick on Saturday, the team
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Draft Day was rainy, but it didn't stop a huge crowd from attending festivities at the RBC Center. The Hurricanes didn't disappoint, trading up for the 4th pick overall.

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Also inside: exhibition schedule, CHBC news & more!

Watch your mail for details about our August CHBC meeting!

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President's Message / John Gallagher

The 2003-04 season ended with another exciting finish with a roller coaster Stanley Cup Finals Game 7 with the Tampa Bay Lightning hoisting the Stanley Cup. Congratulations go out to the Lightning with the first Cup for their franchise and for the Southeast Division. The Calgary Flames also need to be commended for their championship effort in winning the Western Conference and coming so close to winning. Hurricanes fans know just how hard it is to go that deep into the playoffs and come up short.

The Summer has brought change to the Carolina Hurricanes as Arturs Irbe was traded to the Columbus Blue Jackets and Tomas Malec was traded to the Anaheim Mighty Ducks in exchange for goaltender Martin Gerber. We wish both our former players well with their new teams and welcome Martin Gerber who may very well compete for the number one goalie position with the Canes this year.

The 2004 draft brought many exciting things to the Raleigh area. The who's who of hockey was on hand and fans got a close-up look at all NHL trophies, which showcase the history and heritage the game of hockey has to offer. Even the Booster Club was involved as we sold merchandise, distributed membership forms, and gave away a signed game used Sean Hill stick.

This issue of Hurricane Warning will be the last for the 2003-04 season as we close the books on the club's 7th year. Our new and renewing membership period begins on July 1st. Please take a moment to fill out the 2004-05 membership form and distribute to all your friends. I can confirm that the Booster Club and its activities will continue as if there will be a season starting in October. If for some reason this does not happen, we will continue to have regular meetings and publish the newsletter. Thank you so much for making this year so great! It is all of you that make this so much fun!

The NHL schedule is out and let's hope the lockout does not happen and we all have a safe and happy 2004-05 season.

Keep watching your e-mails and our website for updates on CHBC events.

August brings the 2004 NHLBC Convention in Toronto and we will bring you a full update of all the happenings there in the next issue of *Hurricane Warning* in mid- September.

And that's hockey to me...



**Booster Club
President John
Gallagher offers draft
advice on location at
MGM Studios. No
imperial forces were
harmed in the taking
of this photograph!**

Notes from the 2004 Entry Draft

Wow. We finally get a major professional sports event like the 2004 NHL Entry Draft in my hometown, and I have to go get the flu.

Oh, I made it to the draft, but my fever might well have served to blunt the experience a bit. At least I didn't notice the rain that put a damper on the Caniac Carnival portion of the day since the drops pretty much evaporated as soon as they hit my head.

Inside the RBC Center, I still felt at times like I was a bit delirious. I mean, Carolina making a bold move to trade up to fourth overall to nab budding power forward Andrew Ladd seemed a bit dream-like. Then a standing ovation for Wayne Gretzky in a city in which he never even played, which is touching if a bit odd. I knew I was still a bit woozy when I thought I heard Wayne's Coyotes call out the name of a Minnesota high school kid who was rated in the mid-30s by most scouting services. Upon further review it seems that I didn't dream that part at all, as the Dogs did select Blake Wheeler with the fifth overall selection. Go Figure. Some drafts are just odd that way.

What snapped me out of my delirium was the sight of New Jersey Devils General Manager Lou Lamoriello standing up and making a couple of phone calls well before the Devils were scheduled to make their first selection. That's when I knew for sure that this was no dream, because Lamoriello makes an annual ritual of fleecing one of his counterparts for an under-rated gem. He did it again by grabbing center Travis Zajac out of the budding Salmon Arm Junior B hockey factory. Zajac might well be the most promising offensive center in the entire draft despite his relatively low-key pre-draft ratings. After watching Lamoriello steal American center Zach Parise in exactly the same manner last year, I have to admit that I was mostly surprised that any of his fellow GMs even took a call from Uncle Lou this time around. At least I knew the draft was getting serious.

Bottom line, and despite my lack of ability to focus, the 2004 Entry Draft was a smashing success for Raleigh. A full house of your garden variety Caniacs, an historic Russian "two-fer" at the start of

the day, a splashy move by the host team to move up for a quality crease crashing forward, and a generally well received event all the way around. It really could only have gone better if we could have lost the specter of the stalled CBA negotiations looming over the entire proceedings. There's nothing the host city could have done about that. Well-done Hurricanes! Well-done Canes fans! Well-done Raleigh!



Phoenix Coyotes' general partner Wayne Gretzky gets a rousing welcome at the NHL Entry Draft in Raleigh.

signing of young Cam Ward prior to the end of June gave Carolina General Manager Jim Rutherford enough in his goalie cupboard to feel comfortable enough not to offer Weekes, and unrestricted free agent with arbitration rights, a qualifying offer.

Weekes is now an unrestricted free agent and is free to negotiate with any team, including Carolina. There aren't all that many starting jobs available right now, so it certainly wouldn't be too big a shock to see Weekes at least get an offer to return to Raleigh after all.

In other contract news, winger Jeff O'Neill signed a one-year deal prior to the draft and will return to the Canes in hopes of bouncing back from a year that saw him struggle to produce. Veteran defenseman Glen Wesley was also re-signed to a one-year deal, but fellow blue liner Sean Hill has decided in order to shop around for a multi-year deal, finally landing with the Florida Panthers. Hill would like to have returned for another season with the Hurricanes, if he could have gotten a three-year contract, but it didn't happen.

With potentially big financial changes in the new CBA, don't look for Carolina to be especially active in the free agent market this summer.

(continued on page 4)

From the Cheap Seats
(continued from page 3)

Carpe Summer

While I know it's hard for NHL fans to be especially upbeat in the face of gloom and doom predictions of a work stoppage in September, just remember that there's still stuff to look forward to and enjoy in the meantime.

There's the first World Cup of Hockey since 1997 scheduled for early September, and all the participating nations have already named their teams. Canes Head Coach Peter Laviolette will be an assistant for the defending champion US team.

As for me, I've got a book on the tumultuous events surrounding the first days of the NHL, and another on the CBA situation in my suitcase and I'm headed out on vacation.

Carolina Hurricanes 2004 Exhibition Schedule

- Sat., Sept. 25, 7:30 p.m.
vs. Tampa Bay at Estero (Germain Arena)
- Mon., Sept. 27, 7 p.m.
vs. Florida at Sunrise (Office Depot Center)
- Tue., Sept. 28, 7 p.m.
vs. Tampa Bay at Tampa (St. Pete Times Forum)
- Wed., Sept. 29, 7:30 p.m.
vs. Atlanta at Atlanta (Philips Arena)
- Fri., Oct. 1, 7 p.m.
Vs. Florida at RBC Center
- Sun., Oct. 3, 1:30 p.m.
Vs. Atlanta at RBC Center
- Fri., Oct. 8, 7 p.m.
Vs. Washington at RBC Center
- Sat., Oct. 9, 7 p.m.
Vs. Washington at MCI Center

CHBC Member Profile: Edith Creasy

Edith Creasy was recently elected to the Carolina Hurricanes Booster Club Board this past April. A member since the 2002-03 season, Edith will be taking part in the 2004-05 season as a full season ticket holder for the first time.

She graduated high school from Vestal Senior High in Vestal, New York. Locally, she earned her Bachelor of Science degree in Math from Wake Forest. She has also taken accounting and Russian courses from N. C. State University.

She spent 23 years as a technical writer for IBM, with stints as both an employee and a contractor. While there, she wrote manuals for software and hardware that are used by places like Kroger and Wal-Mart in their checkout lanes.

Edith is the oldest of three children. Her mother lives in Raleigh and middle brother John and his family live a few blocks from her. Her youngest brother, Jeff, and his family live in Nashville, Tenn. No word on whether or not there are any Predators fans in the Creasy family.

"My brother [John] and his family got three 24-game tickets for the 2002-03 season," she said. "Needless to say, my teenaged niece was not as interested in family nights at hockey games as they had hoped. I got to use her ticket for some games during the first half of the season. That was enough to hook me."

Edith was one of many fans disappointed in the departure of Sean Hill to the Florida Panthers via free agency. His work ethic, scoring, love of crossword puzzles, and great personality got Creasy hooked on Sean Hill.

"He and [wife] Margaret have a killer recipe for ginger-glazed salmon in *Cookin' with the Canes*," Said Creasy.

The best hockey game Edith ever witnessed was the 1980 Olympic "Miracle on Ice" game. She joined the Booster Club to learn more about the team and hockey in general, get to meet the players. Now Edith will be helping to recruit new members and fans into the world of Hurricanes hockey as she begins her board tenure.

Edith spends about 20 hours a week online with her favorite site being carolinahurricanes.com. She is presently reading Ken Dryden's book, *The Game*. Her favorite film is *The Russians Are Coming* with Carl Reiner, Alan Arkin and Jonathan Winters. Coincidentally, Edith has been to Russia 12 times and she understands some of the language. She also has a liking for Ted Turner's movie, *Gettysburg*.

- John Gallagher

(continued from cover)

added depth at defense with the selection of Casey Borer with the 69th overall pick in the third round. Borer is a left-handed shot from St. Cloud State. He is described as a strong skater with balance and agility with good forward speed. Most notably, he pinches well in the offensive zone, a skill that will bode well under the direction of Hurricanes coach Peter Laviolette.

The Canes kept busy on Sunday, starting with a trade of the 106th overall pick to Atlanta for the Thrashers' third-round pick in 2005. The Hurricanes took another member of the Calgary Hitmen by taking defenseman Brett Carson 109th overall. Carson scored five goals and 27 assists in 71 games in 2003-04.

Carolina selected goaltender Magnus Akerlund with their fifth-round pick, 137th overall. Akerlund was ranked second among European goaltenders in the NHL Central Scouting Bureau's end-of-season rankings. The Canes then selected defenseman Ryan Pottruff, with the 202nd overall choice. Playing for London of the in 2003-04, he tallied 3 goals, 5 assists, and 48 penalty minutes in 51 games.

The Hurricanes chose right wing Jonas Fiedler of the Plymouth Whalers in the eighth round and defenseman Martin Vagner in the ninth round to close the book on the 2004 NHL Draft in Raleigh.

- John Gallagher

Bettman's address to Triangle Sports Council touches on hockey and Triangle market

National Hockey League Commissioner Gary Bettman kicked off draft festivities the Friday prior to the event by addressing the Triangle Sports Council, an organization which brings major sporting events such as the 2004 NHL Entry Draft and USA Baseball to the Triangle.

"We are delighted to be here for the draft this weekend," Bettman said. "It fulfills one part of the promise that I made a couple of years ago during the

season ticket drive and we always fulfill our promises.

"It is an exciting day. It's a gathering of the NHL family and we are happy to share it with the Triangle Community."

Bettman discussed three key elements in building a healthy sports franchise that allows events like the draft to come to fruition: the market, the building, and the ownership.

"The Triangle represented a great opportunity for our sport," he said. "This is an area with a great economy, great hospitality, great sports fans."

The economic impact of the 2004 NH Draft is estimated to be about \$8 million to the Raleigh-Durham area by the time the final selection is made in the draft on Sunday.



Commissioner Gary Bettman talked hockey and presided over the Entry Draft in Raleigh

In discussing the RBC Center, Bettman discussed the marvelous facility put in place thanks to the arrival of the Hurricanes in conjunction with the city of Raleigh and N. C. State University.

"This is as fine a building as there is in North America," he said. "In terms of fan support, thinking back to the 2002 Stanley Cup Finals, there was no louder building in the NHL."

The third key component Bettman discussed was ownership. He talked about the importance of franchise ownership groups and communities working together for mutual successes.

"In Pete Karmanos, you have an owner who is not only committed to NHL hockey, he is committed to this community," Bettman said.

In talking about other promises made during the All-Star Crusade season ticket drive in 2001, the commissioner was adamant stating that the NHL All-Star game was contingent upon the completion of a larger convention center and a 400-room resort hotel.

The hottest topic of the day was the NHL's collective bargaining agreement, which expires on September 15th and could put a damper on the draft day as the threat of a lockout looms.

"What we're all about and what this summer in going into the collective bargaining represents is an opportunity to fix the model to make sure the future of the game is sound and that we are doing it for the game and for our fans," Bettman said.

- John Gallagher

Hockey fans looking at a long, strange summer

It's summer, and hockey's "netherworld" season is here – the time between the July 1 free-agency deadline and the ending of the current collective bargaining (CBA) agreement between the players and the National Hockey League that's been in place for 10 seasons.

The CBA expires Sept. 15, just about the time the 30 NHL teams kick off training camps. Expectations are that the owners – who want "cost certainty," something they've described as "a predictable and enforceable relationship between revenues and expenses" – will lock the players out come the fall unless a new agreement includes some kind of a salary cap.

Some observers expect the work stoppage to last into 2005, meaning an abbreviated season. And that's if there's even hockey at all.

It all adds up to what promises to be a long, strange summer for hockey fans.

Most teams have just a handful of players under contract, and most teams' list of free agents – restricted or otherwise – contains 20 or more names. That's not so unusual, but what makes this summer unique is that without a labor agreement in place for next season, teams are going to be reluctant to sign unrestricted free agents to new deals – or, as has proven to be the case, even give qualifying offers to restricted free agents. In simpler terms, more NHL players than not are now officially without a team and could be that way for some time. And trying to guess what teams' rosters will look like when the season does start is a proposition fraught with problems.

With that in mind, here's a position-by-position look at the current roster of the Carolina Hurricanes, along with some speculation of how things might change before they hit the ice again. Some background: by late July, the Hurricanes had 12 players under contract and a payroll of about \$25 million, so they'll have somewhere between \$7 million (conservatively) and \$12 million (stretching

things quite a bit, based on posturing by team management) to sign another dozen or so players to NHL deals. More background: the rights to restricted free agents (RFA) are retained by a team if a qualifying offer – based on salary and tenure – is made; if offers aren't made RFAs become UFAs, or unrestricted free agents. UFAs can sign with any team.

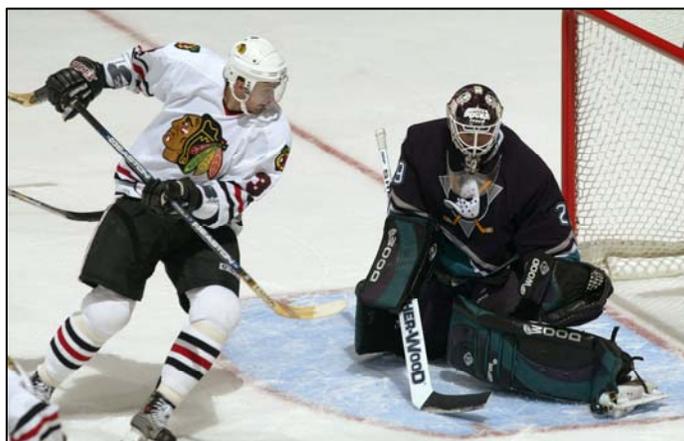
Goalie. Kevin Weekes, the once and future foundation of the Hurricanes' goaltending corps, is gone. He wasn't given a qualifying offer June 30, so he's now an unrestricted free agent. Weekes made

\$1.5 million last year and, after a stellar season – despite the team's horrid record – he'd probably get somewhere between \$2.5 and \$3 million in arbitration had he asked for it. That was too rich for the Hurricanes. Gone as well is Arturs Irbe, traded to the Columbus Blue Jackets in mid-June.

In their stead, the Canes acquired Martin Gerber from the Anaheim Mighty Ducks two days after the Irbe deal, getting him for defenseman

Tomas Malec and a third-round pick in the NHL Entry Draft last weekend. Gerber was 11-12-4 with a 2.26 goals-against average and a .918 save percentage in 32 games with the Mighty Ducks last season as a backup to Jean-Sebastien Giguere – numbers pretty comparable to Weekes'. In fact, Gerber, 30, led all NHL netminders in goals-against and save percent during the 2003 calendar year. Carolina will pay Gerber around \$1.3 million next season as part of a two-year deal, and will likely back him up with 20-year-old Cam Ward, who's had three incredible seasons of minor league play – but has yet to suit up in an NHL game.

The Hurricanes have other goalies in the system, having drafted 10 in the last seven years, none of which have seen NHL action. Included in that lot is Rob Zepp, with whom the team still has some faith. Cut loose from the team, by virtue of not being offered qualifying deals, are Patrick DesRochers (last year's backup to Weekes during training camp) and



Martin Gerber (right) was acquired by the Hurricanes from the Anaheim Mighty Ducks in June as a replacement for top netminder Kevin Weekes. Gerber signed a two-year, \$2.6 million contract with the Canes a month later.

Randy Petruk; also gone is Jamie Storr, who didn't win a game as Weekes' regular-season backup and is now an unrestricted free agent.

Center. Ron Francis, traded to the Toronto Maple Leafs at last season's trading deadline, is a UFA. At 41 – and having been a healthy scratch in what could have been his final NHL game after the Leafs were eliminated by the Philadelphia Flyers in the second round of this year's Stanley Cup playoffs – it's not known whether he'll be back. There was speculation early in the summer that he'd be back on Raleigh ice next season, but if Francis does play, the team now says it won't be for the Hurricanes. If he doesn't play, look for him in the front office of the team.

The team has little depth at center – players under contract include veteran Rod Brind'Amour, rookie stalwart Eric Staal and sparkplug Marty Murray. Brind'Amour is coming off a disappointing 37-point season, but all three are capable playmakers and good on both ends of the ice. None is a great scorer, however, and if Francis doesn't return – and Brind'Amour doesn't return to form – this position could be a weak spot.

RFAs include Kevyn Adams and Mike Zigomanis, both of whom will likely be re-signed after being tendered qualifying offers. Adams, however, filed for arbitration, which the Hurricanes hoped to avoid with him.

Wingers. With the signing of Jeff O'Neill to a one-year contract, the Canes have three wingers under wraps for next season – including Radim Vrbata and Pavel Brendl. Qualifying offers have been made to other key wingers, including Josef Vasicek, Justin Williams and Erik Cole – the team's three leading scorers from last season – as well as tough guy Jesse Boulerice and Ryan Bayda. Offers were not made to Craig Adams, Brad DeFauw or Tomas Kurka, and Jaroslav Svoboda was traded to Dallas for a draft pick.

The team hoped to sign at least Adams from that bunch.

Cole and Boulerice filed for arbitration right before the deadline on July 15. It's not an alarming event; most players filing for arbitration with the

team have signed before actually going into arbitration hearings.

Assuming that the unsigned are signed (a fairly significant assumption), it'll give the Hurricanes three fairly strong lines of wingers, but not a night-in, night-out great scoring line. Outside O'Neill, none is the sniper the team needs for goal output, and each has experienced consistency problems in the last two seasons. First-round pick Andrew Ladd might play, but his great offensive output last season was seen by some scouts as a flash in the pan. The Hurricanes have what they have always had: lots of potential at the left wing and right wing positions, but no guarantees.

Defense. This week's re-signing of veteran Glen Wesley, who was a UFA, is a good start. He'll team with Bret Hedican and Aaron Ward for the foundation of the defense, along with returning RFAs Niclas Wallin, who signed a two-year deal. The up-and-coming Bruno St. Jacques and Allan Rourke will also likely be in tow.

The big question for most of July was whether the Canes would be able to re-sign UFA Sean Hill, who wanted to test the free agent waters. Hill landed a nice three-year deal with Florida after the Hurricanes refused to offer more than a two-year contract. In his place the Hurricanes quickly signed Frantisek Kaberle to a two-year contract.

With Hill and with the once-promising Malec now gone, the Hurricanes will be thin on the blue line. Kaberle is a skilled defenseman who scored a career-high 29 points

last season, but he's not the physical presence – or the locker-room presence – that Hill has been for Carolina.

Bottom line is that the Hurricanes' lineup is likely to be weaker than the lineup with which they began last season. Gone from the mix are Danny Markov and Bob Boughner, stars on other teams signed last off-season who were deemed expendable because of their salaries this season. If the Hurricanes had the gumption – and the cash – to sign a couple of other players of Markov's and Boughner's caliber, and if Gerber fulfilled his promise as a number one goalie, then the upcoming season could be a good one.

Provided there is a season, of course.



A burning question for next season: can Frantisek Kaberle fill the big shoes of Sean Hill, who left the Canes for sunnier skies in Florida?

N&O writer Luke DeCock talks hockey, CBA with club members

Luke DeCock was the guest of honor for the Booster Club's April meeting at RBC Center. On the same night, The Toronto Maple Leafs were playing the Ottawa Senators in a pivotal Game 7 match-up in the first round of the 2004 Stanley Cup Playoffs. Despite the competition, several members were in attendance while Luke touched on many topics including Paul Maurice, Ron Francis, hockey on television, the World Cup of Hockey, 2004 NHL Draft, and the Collective Bargaining Agreement (CBA).

There is a clear challenge to Southern Hockey teams with regard to national exposure. DeCock briefly touched on this topic when talking about ESPN's shift in focus from the National Hockey League to the National Basketball Association. With their 2002 Finals appearance aside, the Canes have often had a tough time being viewed on the national stage with ESPN.

"As of now, I would not expect ESPN to be an active partner in broadcasting hockey on this side of the border in the future," he said.

DeCock further commented on how great the Raleigh market is for hockey.

"There has not been a lot to cheer about in (the

RBC Center) the last 2 years, but when there is, you fans have shown that when there is (something to cheer about), it puts all the jokes and lies about southern hockey fans to shame."

All of our guest speakers this season have had the tough task of discussing the lockout this season, but DeCock handled the questions about the CBA like a true professional, quickly separating facts from hearsay.

"When you get into the area of a lengthy lockout, there's a lot of things that can happen," he said. "It opens the doors to a lot of real nightmare scenarios. I think in the end the people involved are going to realize that it is important to get it settled rather than lock it out."

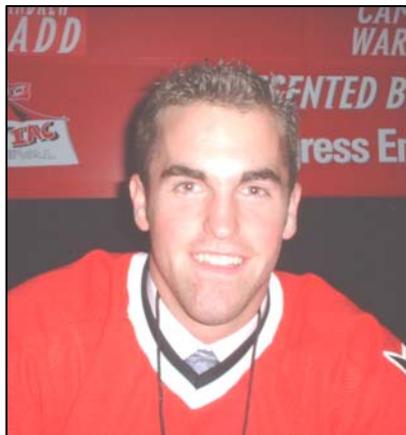
DeCock's passion for the game was never more evident than when the discussion turned to the World Cup of Hockey. The added interest in hockey from this event gives hope for the resolution of the CBA in time for the 2004-05 season to go on as scheduled.

Luke DeCock, like the rest of hockey fans in Raleigh, have a big stake in what is going on with the CBA talks. The last thing we all want is to see the 2004-05 season be non-existent.

- John Gallagher

■ CanePoll

Which first round draft pick will make the biggest impact with his new team in the NHL



Ladd was selected 4th overall by the Hurricanes

Andrew Ladd

Carolina Hurricanes; 67 percent

Alexander Ovechkin

Washington Capitals

Al Montoya

New York Rangers

(tie) 16.5 percent

Lots of Fun Had in 2004 Fantasy Hockey Playoffs!

After a great playoff series and an unbelievable Stanley Cup Series, with Tampa winning the Stanley Cup (hey Marty! we though it was in game 6!), the Fantasy race was as tight and exciting as the real thing!

Lisa wall got off to a fast start in winning the first round! And setting the standard for all players to

follow, as she rode a very hot San Jose and Tampa team into the Second round. Melissa Kress followed by winning the Second round of the playoffs with 2 shutouts by Nabokov and a hat trick by Marleau. In a hotly contested third round Patrick Drollinger sneaked into the overall lead behind a very hot Jarome Iginla and Mikka Kiprusoff, and took a commanding lead which no one was able to overcome in the finals. Patrick drollinger won with Bill Horner taking a close second and Zachary nipping on dad's heels for third over-all!

Congratulations to all the players last year and those in the playoffs!. I look forward to another great season and more participation in the fall!!

---Patrick Drollinger

CHBC FANTASY HOCKEY PLAYOFF FINAL STATS			
<u>RANK</u>	<u>TEAM</u>	<u>OWNER</u>	<u>TOTAL POINTS</u>
1	Canes In 7	Patrick Drollinger	5046
2	GoMarty23	Bill Horner	4833
3	Horners Storms	Zachary Horner	4640
4	MulletHeads	Lisa Wall	4094
5	Cheechoo's Sharks	Melissa Kress	3967
6	The Silver Chalice	Cheryl Mulhern	3913
7	Power Skaters	Laura Harper	3866
8	Caniac	Barry Schaefer	3834
9	Booster Buds	Lynnae Paegels	3780
10	Chumpers	Unknown	3763
11	Puttin' on the Foil	Tim Mulhern	3646
12	Coles Town	Evan Harper	3584
13	Jaromes Jewel	Mandy Scanlon	3195
14	Carolina Cougars	Brian Williamson	3085

3 New At-Large Board Members Elected in April Elections

The Booster Club held its annual elections for At-Large Board Members at the April 2004 CHBC Meeting. Newly elected board members Edith Creasy, Pete Peters, and Brian Williamson will join the board of directors of your Carolina Hurricanes Booster Club in the 2004-05 season. Returning to the board from this past season is Suzanne Hagen, who was re-elected in April for another one-year term.

At-Large Board Members

The Corresponding Secretary Position, which was re-created as a result of by-laws passed during the December 2003 meeting, remains vacant. If you are interested in serving on the Booster Club board for the 2004-05 season, please contact CHBC President John Gallagher at 919-363-8817 or e-mail at johng@hurricanesboosters.org.

Thank You Note from Ron Francis



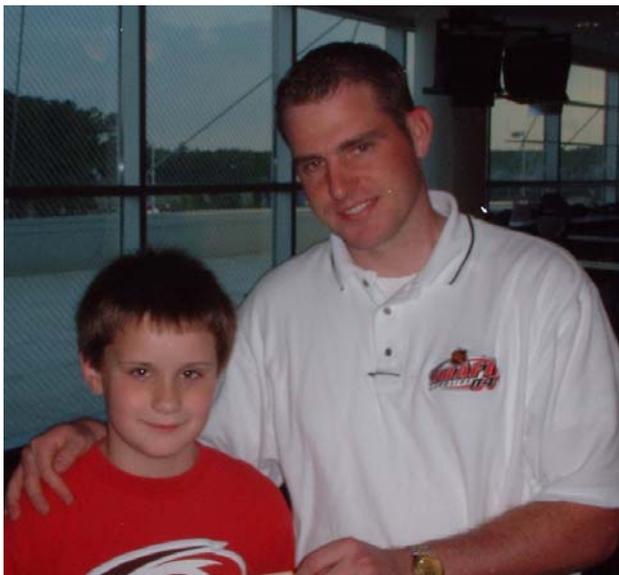
Dear Boosters,

The other day I was shown by one of your boosters, the ad you took out in the Toronto Sun after the trade wishing me luck. I must tell you, that was a tremendously classy gesture by the Booster Club and one that I appreciate immensely. I must also tell you that when I went to your website to find your address for this thank-you note, I was again touched by your kindness. I was reminded that you all have decided to rename the fan favorite award in my honor and that you generously supported NC Special Olympics in my name. I want you to know that all these gestures by the Booster Club are very much appreciated by my family and me. Your association with the team certainly made my time with the team more enjoyable. Again, thank-you to all the members of the Booster Club for their great support.

Sincerely,

Ron Francis

CHBC Donates Over \$3000 to Charity in 2003-04 Thanks To Member Generosity!



Pictured (L to R): Member Evan Harper presents Fan Development Manager Brian Mehm with a \$1200.00 check for underprivileged kids to attend Hurricanes Hockey Camp thjis summer



Pictured (L to R): CHBC VP Patrick Drollinger, Hurricanes Community Relations Manager Emma Bennett, Hurricanes Community Relations Coordinator Anne Clinard, and CHBC Treasurer Laura Harper display checks given to the Hurricanes' Kids N' Community Foundation.

Next Booster Club Membership Meeting:
Thursday, August 26th
7 p.m.

RBC Center

Guest Speaker:

Anne Clinard

Carolina Hurricanes
Community Relations Coordinator

Plus we will be raffling a Game-Used
Hockey stick signed by Hurricanes
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