



WILD THINGS

OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE WISCONSIN WILD GIRLS HOCKEY ASSOCIATION

All-Stars (& Artists) Among Us !!!

The Wisconsin Wild is pleased to announce that 10 Wisconsin Wild players have been selected for the 2005 MWEHL Girls All-Star Teams. Selections are made by the coaches of the teams at each division.

The players were invited to play in their respective All Star Games on January 29th at the MWEHL Detroit Showcase league weekend.

Our Wisconsin Wild representatives will be presented their awards at the MWEHL Playoffs, February 11-13th, at IcePlex (Pleasant Prairie, WI).

19U 2nd Team - Sarah Tittman (Fwd)
Honorable Mention - Justine Pellman (Def)
& Marie Michelle Poirier (Fwd)

16U 2nd Team - Alyssa Koniar (G)

14U 1st Team - Angela Zevnik (Def)
& Kim Tess-Wanat (Fwd)

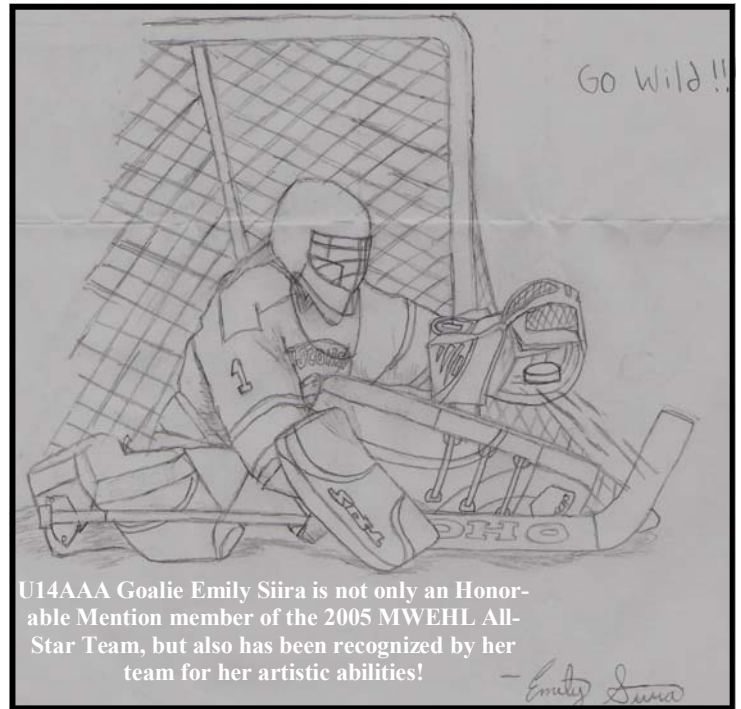
2nd Team - Michelle LaCombe (Fwd)

Honorable Mention - Emily Siira (G)
Rachel Welz (Def) & Karissa Anderson (Fwd)

The Wisconsin Wild is very proud of you!

“Help Wanted”

The Wisconsin Wild is looking for new Board Members for next year. Any organization runs best with some “new blood”, and we want people to step forward. Contact Joe McGann if you are interested.



U14AAA Goalie Emily Siira is not only an Honorable Mention member of the 2005 MWEHL All-Star Team, but also has been recognized by her team for her artistic abilities!

Board of Directors

- President—Joe McGann
- VP On Ice—Bill Pearce
- VP Off Ice—Tom Gasperetti
- Secretary/Treasurer—Susan Welz
- Dir. Of College Relations—Scott Roeper
- Director At Large—Jeff Hawthorne
- Jr. Wild Development—Kelly Lorms

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For the Wild U19AAA team, the new year presents some exciting times to come along. The team is steadily getting ready for the playdowns at the end of the year. The tournaments are all behind us and we still have a couple of heavy duty weekends coming up such as a trip to Shattuck St. Mary's in February. The month of January took us on another roller coaster ride as one would expect with 2 lines. January came along after our fantastic time and performance at the Polar Bear Tournament. The girls still had momentum when they returned from Hartford, CT. The Wild U19AAA defeated Culver Academy 3-1 two games in a row. They went to Culver

Academy with only 2 lines and 1 coach but returned home full of confidence after playing 2 superb games and taking them both. It was definitely a team effort and a demonstration of character. The following weekend was a league event at the IcePlex in Kenosha and 3 games were played with an easy win against Belle Tire 5-0, a "should of won" loss 3-4 against Washington Pride and a tough loss against Honey-baked. The third weekend's highlight was the great Midwest snowstorm that lead to a disappointing cancellation of our league game against TI but followed by a strong win against the Powerade Senior A Women's team 7-3.

On the social aspect, coach Cam is moving to Chicago as his wife accepted a promotion. Bre Bian remains on the injured list working on her rehab. Our girls survived the January exams at school. Several players matured by adding 1 to their age starting with Kelley Prom on December 31, then Jamie Kivi, Sarah Tittman and Cori Bassett had birthdays in January. Several seniors are still looking at their opportunities to play at college level next year. Then several juniors have been visiting colleges checking out their options and possibilities. The U19AAA family continues to enjoy a very satisfying season. Keep up the good work everybody and Happy New Year!

CALENDAR

February

6 –Jr. WILD 2:50pm
11-13 –MWEHL Playoffs
@Iceplex
13 –Jr. WILD 2:50pm

18 –Goalie Skills 6:45-7:45
@Pettit
20 –Jr. WILD 2:50pm
27 –Jr. WILD 2:50pm

OBTW (Oh, by the way...)

*Our final Goalie Skills Session with our goalie coach, **Steve Boll.***

414-304-0220 (Home)

414-526-7271 (Mobile)

262-789-8300 x103 (Office)

Friday, February 18th, from 6:45-7:45pm at the Pettit

U14B *By Tom Gasperetti*

The team enjoyed a "holiday" break away from the rink and came back refreshed in a 5-2 win against the Sheboygan girls. In a 50 shot outing, Brittany Berry scored twice Rachael Gasperetti chipped in with a goal and 2 assists, Kaylee Niestrom and Sarah Gelhaar also added goals on assists from Hilary Horvath and 4 assists from Kellie Dineen. The girls took the show on the road to face the McFarland U19 team. After jumping out to a quick 2-0 lead on goals by Brittany Berry and Devon Ellena, the skates got a little rusty, and the Wild settled for a 2-2 tie. Staying on the road to take on Wilmette and the action still kind of stuck in neutral the Wild came away with a hard fought 2-1 victory. Hilary Horvath scored the game winner with assists from Kaylee Niestrom and Julia Hienz. Sarah Reynolds added the other tally with an assist going to Kaylee Niestrom. With the road trip continuing, the girls took on the Ozaukee girls U19 team. This was one exciting game. Playing with only 10 skaters the girls found their pre-holiday A game.

The hard hitting, yes hard hitting contest saw our girls air born on more than one occasion. One dad commented he thought his daughter was the Zamboni with all the snow on her uniform. However, the Wild came away with a 4-3 win. One has to read

between the lines to really appreciate the effort the girls showed in this game. In a 3-1 win over the Stoughton U19 team the Wild dominated the game with 54 shots on goal. This game was the lead in to the Onalaska Tournament. The first opponent was the weather, driving to Onalaska during a snowstorm was not an easy task. After all were accounted for, only 1 car sustained an injury, a team lunch was held on Saturday afternoon. The opening game matched the Wild up with the Winnetka Warriors. In a rematch of the Fond du lac Tournament championship game, the Wild again came out on top, but it wasn't easy. Sarah Gelhaar got the only goal with the assists going to Kellie Dineen and Brittany Berry. The Wild dominated play, peppering the Winnetka goalie with 49 shots. Kristen Saragnese was solid in the pipes for the Wild in a 16 shot shutout performance. The Wild went up against the Portage County Girls in the evening contest. In preparation for the game, coach Fred Berry agreed to wear the lucky victory beads. He should wear them more often as the Wild came out hard and fast scoring 5 first period goals. The final was 10-0. Sarah Gelhaar and Kellie Dineen scored the hat trick, Rachael Gasperetti added 2 goals, and Sarah Reynolds found the back of the net, and scoring her first

goal of the year, with a new stick purchased from Hockey Haven (where you get that personal touch from the owner), was Maura Aghjian! Brittany Berry added 5 assists other helpers went to Devon Ellena, Erika Koppa and Sarah Gelhaar.

The championship game came down to the Wild and the host Coulee Region Hurricanes. Does anyone know what a Coulee is anyway? Before we could find out the Wild had 2 goals on the board. Brittany Berry scored them both, but the Wild left their guard down a little and the Hurricanes came back with a goal of their own. But wait Maura Aghjian yes Maura with the new stick scores again for the Wild with the assist from Devon Ellena and the first period ends 3-1 Wild. The second and third periods were all Wild highlights. A dominant performance by all 3 lines and the defense not allowing a shot over the final 2 periods the Wild took home the gold in a 9-1 victory. Kellie Dineen and Brittany Berry ended up with hattricks and Maura Aghjian added another goal to her resume. Strong performances from Hilary Horvath, Julia Hienz, Kaylee Niestrom, Emma Pesci, and Erin Leroy added to the enjoyment of the tournament. A great time was had by all. Next up the Badger State Games!

U12AAA— *Best Game of the Year ... so far!* By John Nierzwicki & John Zolinski

After a strong but disappointing Polar Bear tourney to finish December, the Girls looked forward to January and several boys team on the schedule.

Sunday, January 16 was a double-header starting with Waukesha Peewee "D" at the Ponds. The game started fast with the Wild scoring 15 seconds into the 1st period. However, the balance of the game was all defense & great goaltending, ending in a win 1-0.

The night-cap was at University School versus Winter Club Peewee "B". From the opening face-off, the game was played at an extremely high intensity level. The boys played a very physical game but the girls weren't intimidated and kept pace with them. Although, the final score was a 5-1 defeat, the girls never gave up. **Coach McGann** stated that this was the "best game" of the season so far. Now he knows what the girls are capable

of and will definitely expect that same level come March.

Off-Ice Accomplishments

Amy Zolinski took 1st place in her division at the state Punt, Pass & Kick finals held in Green Bay prior to the Packers-Jaguars game on December 17th. Amy's score of 230' 2" was the 7th highest of the @ 350,000 10-11 year old girls who competed throughout the country.

At halftime all competitors took part in a passing exhibition on the field. Later, Amy and the other state champions were introduced to the crowd as they ran onto Lambeau field through the tunnel used by the Packers while being shown on the giant scoreboard.

Amy advanced to the state finals by winning the local competition in Grafton the district competition in Sheboygan Falls.

Birthday Wishes

Morgan Clark

Kristina Kamer

Morgan Pegg

Jordan Slavin

Morgan Pope

Nicole Mishler

Emily Outcalt

Jennifer Bextermueller

U14AAA— *Completes League Play, Finishes 3rd in MWEHL* by Donna Rogers

It's hard to believe that the MWEHL Playoffs are just around the corner! The U14AAA has done a terrific job maintaining their dominance in the top three spots all season long. Injuries and some illnesses have caused our girls to become very versatile at balancing offensive and defensive positions. Having the ability to adapt to different positions has given our team experience and depth. Several of our players, six in all, have been recognized as All-Stars by the league coaches and deserve a round of applause for their achievement! They are: **First Team: Angela Zevnik (Def), Kim Tess-Wanat (Fwd), Second Team: Michelle LaCombe (Fwd), Honorable Mention: Emily Siira (G), Rachel Welz (Def), Karissa Anderson (Fwd)**. Having such a prominent showing speaks well of the Wild organization. Congratulations girls! Keep up the great work!

The final League Weekend started off well, defeating Little Ceasars 4-1 but game #2 found Victory Honda snatching the game away from us in an exciting battle during the last two minutes of the game! Victory Honda took the lead very early in the game with a scrum in front of the net and a sneak in the back door. The Wild spent the rest of the game battling the boards until the final 2 minutes of play. **Michelle LaCombe** rocketed the puck into the top shelf to tie it up with 1:42 remaining! VH wasn't about to settle for a tie, and .20 seconds later, they blew into our zone and shocked the defense to take the game 2-1. Ouch!

That humbling experience helped us prepare for the next two games facing TI and

CYA. A snowstorm blanketed Wisconsin and Illinois, and cancelled our game with TI, temporarily, but the following day was clear for CYA to come up and take the ice. You could feel the tenseness in the lobby. The last time we saw CYA was in CT, with the Wild coming back very late in the game to tie it up, ruining CYA's chances of post-tourney action. Once again, this game had significant value placed on it, not only for league standings, but plain dignity. This CYA is a great team, and the Wild knew what they had to do. The game was fast paced and 'even' throughout the first period. Defensive coverage was tough on both sides. **Karli Reifschneider** and **Angela Zevnik** played an outstanding game on defense, along with **Randi Jensen** and **Rachel Welz...**"R & R" but that hardly stands for Rest and Relaxation! Still 0-0 into the 3rd period, and the pressure was on for "someone" to score! **Karissa Anderson** put us on the scoreboard with 10:50 remaining in the game. CYA tied it up snatching a bobbled puck with 6:54 to go. The Wild took the lead during a Powerplay with 2:36 left. CYA pulled their goalie and what a 6 on 5 battle 'til the buzzer! The **Wild WON 2-1!**

Monday came quickly as we had to scramble our team together to get them to Illinois for an evening game against TI. This make-up time seemed *odd*, while some of our girls were off school, others had a full day before hitting the road. Needless to say, it was quite a chore getting everyone there from work, school and other family commitments. A 7pm game on a school night was

the best we could do to reschedule our match-up with TI. Everyone seemed to have difficulty arriving at the rink and this may have been our first omen of what was to come. Home ice advantage for TI was a possible Omen #2. The fact that the Wild scored their first 2 goals in the FIRST 2 minutes...could it be Omen #3? TI put it together late in the 1st period, and made it 2-1 on our Penalty Kill. At the end of the period, the Wild Shots-on-Goal = 8, TI = 7. That was the last time the shots were even. TI out-shot us the rest of the game. **Sarah Ethington** held up well to the added pressure! The Wild seemed to have a fairly constant warm seat in the penalty box, putting our defense on major guard status. All lines performed well. Offense moved the puck into the zone well and had many opportunities; three shots in a row one time, but no prize. TI was in our face. An unusual penalty call on the Wild with 1:36 left in the game, put us in a precarious position, and with .22 seconds remaining, TI managed to tie it up 2-2. What a heartbreaker. Can't say much else. We will look back on those defeats we've had to swallow with our pride; learn from our mistakes; and say "NEVER AGAIN!"

While leaving the rink, I read a "slogan" that I personally feel is a good motivational message from this point on. With Playoffs and the State tourney upon us...let's

**"PLAY LIKE YOU'RE FIRST, AND TRAIN LIKE YOU'RE SECOND!"
LET'S GO WILD!**

U12B—All Sorts of Inspiration by Tami Trevisan

The U12B girls are gearing up and getting ready, steeling themselves for some stiff competition in their rapidly approaching State Play-downs, as well as the tournaments that are to follow. Right now, Arrowhead poses our biggest threat but with the hard work and determination the girls are showing, there's no telling what can happen. **Coach Mary Jurken** is proud of her team and has stated that "in general, the girls have become an aggressive, forechecking team, even the new players."

Coach Mary has also apparently found her own special way of inspiring the girls as they wrapped up with a 6 - 3 win/loss record for the month of January. Her methods may become legendary from good hearted threats to bolder incentives; she is pulling out some great performances from the girls. Just ask **Morgan Hollowell**, who is now the proud new owner of a "new, real, big car" (a wind-up, play SUV) which she got

because Coach told her "if she hit the center on a great breakout pass" she'd buy her a car! Anything that works, as they say!!

In addition to games and practices this month, the girls got to have a little fun as they braved the biggest snowstorm of the month and headed to Madison to celebrate **Claire Benschoter's** birthday. They were treated to a great night of women's hockey watching the Badger Women tromp the Fighting Sioux 8 - 0. But the highlight of the evening had to be after the game when the girls got to meet, talk with, and get autographs from Olympic Gold Medalist, **Mark Johnson** of the Miracle team. What a great way to celebrate!! Perhaps that will be the inspiration that drives the girls all the way through the playdowns. Thanks again to Claire and her parents. And a great big thanks for getting them all home safely in that storm as well!

U10 — January's Jubilant for U10 Girls! by Jane DeGeorge

On January 7, the U10 scrimmaged at the Bradley Center between the first and second periods of the Admirals Game. The scrimmage was exciting and scoreless. The next day they played Appleton Mite C and won with a first shutout for goalie, Jennifer DeGeorge. Katie Grudnowski scored both goals, with assists on the second by Justine Ertl and Trinity Robinson. Sunday brought two wins in two days with Robinson scoring with the assisted by Ertl. DeGeorge earned her second shutout.

U10 played their first tournament on January 15-16 at Kettle Moraine taking 4th (of 7), earning medals. Game one: Robinson scored, Gabby Turcott assisted; Hannah Koniar scored, Kelsey Kazmierczak assisted. Winning game two, Mollie Goble scored, Jeralise Tylke and Erica

Shaffer assisted; Robinson scored with Ertl and Grudnowski assisting; and Morgan Clark scored, Ellie Buebendorf and Kazmierczak assisted. In the final game, Clark scored, Grudnowski and Rosie Avery assisted.

The girls finished the month with a 0-0 tie to Appleton U10 and a 5-1 loss to Winter Club U10. Grudnowski scored the solo goal.

The team improves exponentially and the statistics show it: 3 wins this month; from zero shots on goal to 15; to a rookie goalie, DeGeorge, with a 42 save game and 2 shutouts, Thanks defense!: Jenna Bales, Avery, Clark, and Goble; to the many assists demonstrating improved passing and team play!

www.wisconsinwild.com

This newsletter is intended to provide timely information and reading enjoyment to all parties interested in *Wisconsin Wild Girls' Hockey Teams*. We intend to publish it monthly during the 2004-2005 hockey season. Suggestions and ideas for future issues are welcome and should be directed to Dan Koniar at dkoniar@wr.t.com

Special points of interest:

- **MWEHL All-Stars**
- **Birthday Wishes**
- **WAHA/USAH Development Camps**

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