



Hyland Hockey News

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Jags Win Top Prize

By Michael Whiteman-Jones

Professional hockey teams vie for the coveted Stanley Cup.

But for Pee Wee and Bantam youth hockey teams all across North America, the Cup's equivalent for the last 47 years has been an unusual-looking trophy—a 50-inch-long sterling silver hockey stick displayed at the Hockey Hall of Fame in Toronto, Ontario, Canada. It's hung next to the names of the teams that win the International Silver Stick tournament every year.

Now the Jaguars Bantam AA team from the Hyland Hills Hockey Association in Westminster has added its name to that envied honor roll. The Jaguars claimed the Silver Stick trophy January 11 by winning the championship game 1-0 deep into an overtime period after battling one of Canada's top youth hockey teams through three scoreless regulation periods.

The Jaguars are the first Bantam AA team west of the Mississippi to win the tournament and the only team from Colorado. It is one of just 16 U.S. Bantam AA teams to claim the top prize in an event that attracts



The Team, from left, bottom row: Ryan Fay, Nate Mikesell, Sammy Bernard-Boymel.
Middle row: Lance Pennington, Scott Smoot, Mac Pitts, Jackson Barliant, Evan Kihn.
Top row: Head Coach Jamie O'Leary, Mitch Coan, Blake Couture, Gabe Whiteman-Jones, Kyle Wellborn, Cody Thompson, Brandon Brewer, George Gruber, Keegan McCarthy, Matt McNichols, Austin Shick, Nate Guyman, Dawson Pascale, Asst. Coach

PeeWee AA Santa Helpers



For many around the world, Christmas is the time of year that the focus on family is at its greatest. It is a time when hearts are softened and we reflect on our relationships and draw our loved ones near to us as we celebrate.

Christmas seems to have a magical effect people. The lights, the carols, the family traditions passed down touch them deeply making them want to be at peace with the world and their loved ones. As Christmas makes its way closer it is a time when people slow down, they get lost in the wonderful feeling of Christmas and reach out to all those less fortunate than we, they loosen their wallet strings and give to the

needy or they volunteer to feed the poor. Christmas is all about family.

It was Saturday, December 20, 2008, the day was sunny, but the wind was blowing and dropped the temperatures to the mid 30's. But the Pee Wee AA team and their parents spent the morning bundled in warm clothes volunteering to distribute toys, books, puzzles and bikes to families that gathered at the Share-A-Gift organization. While the PeeWee AA parents assisted other parents in selecting just the right toys for their kids, the boys made endless trips to the parking lot carrying out packages filled with gifts to the cars.



It was a morning of giving back to the community and helping other families see that they also have a wonderful Christmas.

Share-A-Gift is an all-volunteer annual holiday project that provides toys, bikes, and books for children of low income families in the area of the *Boulder Valley School District* (Colorado) since 1972. Each year approximately 3000 girls and boys, birth to age 14, receive these community donations.

Starting Thanksgiving week until December 15, 2008 Share-A-Gift collected toys at sites around the city of Boulder and in areas of eastern Boulder County. Share-A-Gift is the Boulder County distributor for the Marine Corps [Toys-for-Tots](#) campaign.

If you would like to learn more information about the organization please go to: www.shareagift.org



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more than 65,000 players from America and Canada who compete in qualifying regional tournaments every fall hoping to attend the finals in Port Huron, Mich.

To qualify for the championship game, the Jaguars went 4-0-1, narrowly defeating teams from Pennsylvania, Illinois, Michigan and Canada. The matches included a 2-2 tie with the Mississauga Braves, which is Canada's top-ranked Bantam AA team, and a game against the Port Huron Flags that was played before a hostile hometown crowd of about 1,200 people on the tournament's opening night. Crafty winger George Gruber silenced the crowd late in the third period by snapping the game's winning goal into the net off a crisp assist from his line mate, winger Mac Pitts. Pitts had carried the puck behind the net and patiently protected it until Gruber found an opening near the opposition's goal post.

A Dramatic Win

But it was a dramatic 5-4 quarterfinal victory over the Naperville Sabers that emotionally propelled the team into the championship.

With less than 4 minutes left in the fast-paced game, the Jaguars appeared to be down for the count by two goals. But a confounding shot from defenseman Nate Mikesell fluttered into the net at 11:21 in the third period, lifting the score to 4-3. All-purpose forward Gabriel Whiteman-Jones soon tied the game up by scoring from somewhere inside a furious scrum with 10 seconds to spare. Then winger Dawson Pascale elbowed his way past Naperville's defense to get the go-ahead goal at 3:40 in overtime. Pascale's shot stunned the opposition's bench into shocked silence as the Jaguar erupted in a wild celebration that continued in the locker room long after the game had ended.

"We called a timeout after Naperville scored their fourth goal, and I didn't say much to the boys," Head Coach Jamie O'Leary says. "I just told them that they were more mentally tough than what they were showing right then. You could almost visibly see their body language change. It turned from being dejected to being fired up and having to prove something. Once we got that third goal, there was no doubt we were going to win."

On the final day of play, the Jaguars notched a 3-2 win in an early morning semi-final game against the Capital Centre Pride from Lansing, Mich. Then they prepared to meet the Mississauga Braves, Canada's second highest ranked Bantam AA team. The Braves looked like an experienced, disciplined, physical team—and they were.

"It was a very emotional game with a lot of hard hitting," says Matt McNichols, who centers the Jaguars' top line and scored the game-winning goal from the right hash marks with an assist from behind the net that was sent his way by Pascale. "We laid a lot on the line in that final game. The teams were evenly matched, and there was a lot of back and forth hockey through the first three periods. We had come so far, and to see our hopes lying on the line with a single goal, it was pretty intense."

McNichols admits he doesn't remember his goal.

"Dawson got hit and the puck came loose so I dropped in and took a real hard, low shot," he says. "It wasn't like I saw a big hole or anything—I think there was a gap between the goalie's glove and leg pad—and I didn't realize it had gone in until our bench started clearing. It was amazing."

O'Leary describes the game as a test of his team's mental and physical endurance.

"They were really big and they knew how to use their size," he says. "But we answered their play. I thought we took the physical game to them even though they had a clear weight and size advantage. It would have been a game changer if they'd gotten a goal early but our goaltending was strong, so on both sides there were a lot of scrambles. It was a controlled strategic game for 8 minutes, followed by 2 minutes of chaos at both ends of the ice."

"In the end, having four lines made a difference for us, especially from about the 8-minute mark in the third period. We could tell that Mississauga was wearing down. It was a nasty, tough game, but that is what championship hockey is. At high levels, you don't often see runaway championship games. It's always physical, it's always grinding."

Teamwork Was Critical Teamwork was critical to the team's success throughout the tournament, O'Leary says. "I conducted individual meetings with players when we arrived in Port Huron to ask everybody to do their specific jobs in each game. It was gratifying to watch every member of the team play their role throughout the

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Winter Classic Success



Winter Classic



3 on 3

Pond Hockey

Tournament

2008



Thank you all for making the first year of 3 on 3 Pond Hockey a huge success! We are excited to announce that we had more than 48 players competing in this year first pond hockey. The teams were evenly matched in both divisions which led to close competitive games. There was an excellent balance of discipline, competition, and fun which help continue the players' development. The camp received recognition from other hockey associations as well as members of our association asking for similar future camps.

A special thanks to Bryan McClure, Tony Buckley, Steve Galbraith, Brian Sutton, Kyle Sutton, Rob Cuscaden, Marcet Evens, Joanne Schmidt, Dave Evens and our Jr. Refs; Julie Matthias and Blaine Minatra.

Thank you to all the players involved that made the weekend a success!



Place Your Business Ad Here

Hyland Hills Hockey News:

Advertising opportunities can be made available through advertising space in the Hyland Hockey News, the official newsletter of Hyland Hills Hockey Association that is published monthly and varies in length from 9-15 pages. Our newsletter is placed in our facility and is available on our website. It is read not only by our 700+ member families, but is read by visitors from other hockey clubs (11 in the state = 5000+ families) as well as other user groups at the facility that includes a 106 team Adult Hockey League, public skating attendees and the Figure Skating Club.

Newsletter Advertising Opportunities

1 Month	Business Card Size Ad	\$50
6 Month	Business Card Size Ad	\$200
12 Months	Business Card Size Ad	\$350
1 Month	Quarter Page Size Ad	\$75
6 Months	Quarter Page Size Ad	\$300
12 Months	Quarter Page Size Ad	\$525
1 Month	1/2 Page Size Ad	\$100
6 Months	1/2 Page Size Ad	\$400
12 Months	1/2 Page Size Ad	\$700
Full Size Ad in 1 newsletter edition		\$150
Full Size Ad in 6 months newsletter editions		\$600
Full Size Ad in 12 months newsletter editions		\$1000

The Christmas "Giving Tree"

Jumpin' Juice & Java would like to thank our wonderful customers and very special hockey & figure skating families for participating in our first annual *Christmas "Giving Tree."* Because of your thoughtfulness and generosity, we were able to help make this a brighter Christmas for many special preschool children. Each of you, along with the King Soopers store at 104th & Federal, provided a happier Christmas for an entire school!! Yes, an ENTIRE school! In all, we adopted 280 children from the Head Start program, 48 of which were adopted by you, our customers!

The Adams County Head Start program is a preschool program for 470 low-income children and families. The program provides a quality preschool experience for children as well as comprehensive resources and family support for parents. Adams County Head Start serves children and families in Westminster, Brighton, Commerce City, Federal Heights and Thornton. Most of the children and families with Head Start have little or no extra money to celebrate the holiday season. Because of you, we were able to help these precious children have a joyous Christmas!

We hope you all had a chance to see the beautiful "Giving Tree" full of wonderful gifts for the children. The gifts took over the store and it was quite a site! The gifts included books, trains, train tracks, drums, baby dolls and Barbie dolls, cars, clothes, dinosaurs, power rangers, balls of every kind, doll houses and the list continues. We cannot thank you all enough for your generosity and outpouring of support in making this holiday season a special one for so many children! We are so grateful for each and every one of you and so thankful to have such amazing customers! We wish you a all a New Year filled with happiness, success and special memories to last a lifetime!

ADAM MUELLER – Jaguar and Outlaw Alumni

On December 20, 2008 Hyland Hills recognized Adam Mueller Jaguar and Outlaw alumni prior to an exhibition game between the Outlaw Major AAA and Jaguar Major AA teams. Hyland Hills and the Outlaws

Adam was a Jaguar from the time he was a Squirt through his Bantam years. Adam then played for the Outlaws for three years. After playing for the Outlaw's for 3 years, he spent 1 year in the NAHL, starting in Springfield, IL, (Jr. Blue's), before being traded in November to Wasilla, Alaska and spending the rest of the season with the Spirit.

Adam decided to pursue his education the following fall and enrolled at ISU, where he joined the ISU Hockey team. ISU Hockey team is a member of the ACHA and CSCHL league, D1 Hockey program. They won the CSCHL tournament his freshman year and he has made the ACHA national tournament both years he has played, they are currently ranked #6 in the ACHA and are leading the CSCHL in conference play.

Adam is currently a junior at Iowa State in Ames, Iowa, studying Industrial Engineering with a GPA above 3.25. He is an Alternate Captain for the second year on the Cyclone Hockey Team.

Adam Mueller was accepted as one of the 2009 U.S. University Select Teams' Defenseman. The team will attend the 2009 World University Games which will be held in Harbin, China. Adam will be joined by two of his other team mates from ISU, Brent Cornelius (Jr. Defenseman) and Pete Majkozak (Jr. Forward). Six players from ISU were invited to tryout this past August. Adam was a member of the CSCHL all star team last year as a Sophomore, he met a lot of the players that are on the team going to China in last year's league all star game.

These World University Games take place every two years and this year will consist of 12 sports and 82 disciplines within those sports. There is a potential of 175 countries participating.

Adam will be leaving February 13th for Chicago where the team will have practices and 3 exhibition games (see exhibition schedule below). From there the team heads to Harbin, China. The first round of the tournament will be round robin with Adam's team playing Slovakia, Korean and Japan. The top two teams in each pool will advance to the playoff round.

3-GAME EXHIBITION SCHEDULE PLANNED

The 2009 U.S. University Select Team will assemble in Chicago, IL beginning on Friday, February 13. The team will conduct practices and play a 3-game exhibition schedule before departing for Harbin, China on Monday, February 16.

All practices and games will take place at the [Center Ice of DuPage](#), in Glen Ellyn, IL.

Friday, February 13, the WUG Team will take on the Illinois Collegiate All-Stars in exhibition game #1.

Saturday, February 14, the WUG Team will take on DePaul University in exhibition game #2.

Sunday, February 15, the WUG Team will take on Robert Morris College in exhibition game 3.



The U.S. University Select Team was comprised of players from collegiate club ice hockey teams affiliated with the American Collegiate Hockey Hyland Hills and the Outlaws wish Adam Mueller and his team the best of luck. For more information on the games and possible broadcasts see the following web site for the games <http://www.harbin2009.org/en/>.



Team Update

8U C Orange

Christmas weekend was an exciting time for the players and fans of HHA C Orange! The team participated in AYHL 5th Annual Jingle Bell Jam, playing sixteen 24 minute 1/2 ice games at the S. Suburban Family Sports Center. The games were fast paced and exciting! C-Orange players hit the ice motivated and aggressive. Showing off their offensive and defensive skills by playing positions, demonstrating some passing and making some hot goals, and keeping goals from being made. . . the GOALIE was on fire! And although official score were not kept, fans believe they won the majority of their games. Great job C-Orange!!!!



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tournament and contribute," he says, pointing out that many players shared in the team's goals and assists. "We really sacrificed ourselves in every area of the ice. We blocked shots, took hits—did all the little things that casual fans might not notice that you need to do to win big games. We rarely saw kids pulling the chute and opting to get to the puck second. They got to the puck first." Silver Stick officials recognized the outstanding play of four Jaguars by naming them to the Silver Sticks' All-Star Team. They were goalies Ryan Fay and Sammy Bernard-Boymel, defenseman Keegan McCarthy and left winger Mitch Coan, whose puck handling and creative skating helped make him the tournament's top scorer with five goals and four assists. O'Leary also praised forward Whiteman-Jones and defenseman Austin Shick. "Gabe was the most physical player of the tournament, bar none," he says. "He's got a great shot, and his puck protection skills are excellent. I thought his role was unbelievably important to our success on the ice all weekend long. We rotated him through all four lines as the situation demanded, and he created a lot of time and space for all four lines to work in." Meanwhile, "if there was an unsung hero this weekend, it was Austin Shick," O'Leary adds. "I don't think Austin made a defensive mistake the entire tournament. Our entire defense was rock solid. We have some very special players on this team." O'Leary says winning the Silver Stick Tournament "is a huge stepping stone" toward the team's year-end goal of winning the state championship. "Now we have the confidence to go out and win another national championship," he says. Mostly, though, he believes it was fun. "I came into the locker room before we beat Port Huron and shouted that this is the most fun I've had on the bench in five years of coaching," he says. "After the game, the boys were all hooting and hollering about how much fun they'd had. They thoroughly enjoyed it and had a great time on and off the ice the whole weekend. It was great being in a true hockey town like Port Huron." The Silver Stick tournament was founded in 1961 to promote citizenship and international goodwill. Named after the 1905 Ottawa Silver Seven Stanley Cup championship team, it was originally played by youth hockey teams from Ontario, Michigan and New York, but quickly spread throughout Canada and the U.S. Port Huron has been the tournament's permanent home since 1963. Located northeast of Detroit, the quiet town of about 34,000 residents is perhaps best known as the childhood home of inventor Thomas Edison and as a gateway to Lake Huron and Canada. But the town comes to life every January as thousands of hockey players and fans descend on it for the tournament. Many locals attend games at the Henry McMorran Memorial Sports Arena downtown to cheer hometown teams or watch the nation's best youth hockey teams compete.

Team Updates

Squirt C

In 2008 the Squirt C's has been extremely successful a league record 10-1-0 and a overall record of 21-3-1. Squirt C has participated in three tournaments in 2008 and played in all three tournament championship games, winning two of them. The Squirts C's have outshot their opponents 561-208 averaging 22.44 shots a game and allowing an average of 9.12 shots on our goal per game. Squirt C has out scored their opponents 131-39. The Squirt C goalies have registered 5 shut outs. The second year squirts are +70 points as compared to their previous year. The year ahead will be very challenging and a measure how much the Squirts C grow as not only hockey players, but as people.

Squirt A

Squirt A rang in 2009 with a big win over Boulder and completed their first weekend sweep against DU, moving them into a tie for 3rd Place in the CCYHL with Boulder. The Team has formed exceptional chemistry on and off-the-ice, solidified their defensively responsibilities, and are producing a balanced scoring attack offensively. Solid goaltending has been provided by Boulder transfer Christian Palumbo. The 7-Game stretch run to the playoffs is bracketed by tournaments in Dallas, TX (MLK Weekend) & Fargo, ND (late February). The hard-work put in by all players during the first 4 months of the season is directly leading to their current success. Keep up the good work.

Go Jaguars !!

Midget 1

Congratulations to the Hyland Midget 1 team for a great showing at the Arvada Tournament.

We started out on Friday night – a bit tired and not all there (in the hockey sense), playing Arapahoe Midget Canadians. A tough team, a few too many penalties had us loosing 2 – 6. (Get some rest guys – the weekend is just beginning)

What a difference a day makes; lots of rest and good food found the guys playing one of their best games against the Arvada Midget 2 team. Tied at the end of the second period 2-2, they played hard and had all the parents biting their nails, when Alex Wildrick cleared the puck from our end, Ahtem Salzman picked it up in the neutral zone and skating it in, shooting and scoring the winning goal with 0:08 seconds left in the game! Way to go guys – winning 3-2!!!

That night the boys were on such a high that they controlled the game against the Arvada Midget 4 team by winning 4 – 1. They kept after the puck and closed down their offense. Keep up the hard work boys!

With the win against Arvada Midget 4, the team made second seed in our pool, our chance to play for the Championship game on Sunday. Get some rest boys, you will need it.

This was a very tough game playing against the Arvada Midget 1 team. The boys put forth their best effort, but in the end ran out of steam loosing 3-7.

What a weekend for the players, parents and coaches of the Hyland Midget 1 team.

Keep up the hard work boys and you will continue to win games.

8U Update

The 2008 Jr Jaguar Jamboree was held over the weekend of Dec 27th and 28th and 14 teams attended the event. All the kids had a wonderful time scrimmaging against different teams and everyone had a lot of fun.

The event ended with all the kids participating in a skills competition which was jointly attended by the Outlaw AAA team. The kids were broken into 4 groups made up of all the different teams who attended. They then completed several different hockey related drills and races. The kids and the Outlaws had a great time with the event and all look forward to participating next year.

Hyland Hills OneGoal "Bring a Friend to Hockey Event"

On Dec 30th, Hyland Hills held its very first OneGoal event. The purpose of the event was for current 8U players to bring a friend to try out hockey. All of the gear and the ice was supplied by Hyland and 26 new skaters attended along with many current 8U players.

At the start of the event there was about five to six skaters who had never skated before and they began pushing buckets, chairs and nets around the rink. By the end of the hour all but one had progressed to skating on their own. Out of the event, it is expected that between 6-8 of the skaters plan to join the 8U as players.

With such a wonderful turnout, we hope to have another "Bring a Friend to Hockey" event in the near future.

Hockey Office Updates

- ◆ Car bumper stickers are available in the hockey office for both Hyland Hills Jaguars and the Colorado Outlaws. The stickers are round with the team logo for only \$5. They make great stocking stuffers for the holidays. Contact Colleen Sheehan or Dianne Wirth.
- ◆ The association has published Fund-Raising Guidelines for all teams to follow when participating in team fund-raising. The guidelines can be found on the HSHA website. Please remember that ALL team fund-raisers must get the approval of the Fund-Raising Committee. Please contact Marcet Evens at marcetevens@msn.com if you have question or need approval.
- ◆ Advertising opportunities are available on the HSHA Website, the Hyland Hills Hockey News, and Hyland Hills Tournament Programs. Find the many ways your company can support HSHA. Guidelines available on HSHA website.

BOD Meetings

- ◆ Upcoming BOD meeting is scheduled for February 9th. BOD meetings will be held the second Monday of every month starting at 6:00 pm in the party room at IPAC. All association members are invited and welcome to attend. For more information contact Kristy Matthias at kristymatthias@yahoo.com.

The Hyland Hockey News is published by Hyland Hills Junior Hockey Association

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