



PORTLAND WINTERHAWKS

Booster Club

HAWKEY TALK - OCTOBER 09-10

Presidents Message

It is officially the 2009-2010 season and what a start we have been off to. Not only has the team been doing well, but also so has the Booster Club.

We have increased our visibility through handouts at the Memorial Coliseum during the Preseason and Opening Night. We have also scheduled events such as Chuck-A-Puck and the Stark Street Pizza Blast, which happens October 26 featuring a strong start! How about all 4 captains of the team? The other dates and players are listed in this issue, so make plans to be a part of the action. Special thanks to Pro Sound and Lighting for supplying the sound equipment again this season!

Our first Chuck-A-Puck is set for November 1st, and we can use a few volunteers. We are giving away an HD Radio Tuner and a HD Car Stereo as the prizes. We need people to help get the pucks sold and pick up in the 2nd period intermission. Stop by the Booster Table for more information.

Hopefully, you have seen the newly revamped Booster Club Website... www.pwhbc.com if you forgot the address. The site has been wonderfully re-worked by Recording Secretary John Fisher and the Art and Site Work by Bryan Heim. Bryan is in charge of the great Action Photos, the Jersey Clings and some of the other items near where you find the photos at the Booster Table. Bryan is also handling the Player Magnets again this year and what a great design they have!

We also have 3 Bus Trips to look into this year, December 12 and January 16 to Tri Cities vs. The Tri-City Americans and on March 13, the last game of the regular season, is a trip to Kent vs. The Seattle Thunderbirds. Booster Club members save on all bus trips with a lot of great events on board. The website has the itineraries for all the trips, prices and more.

Letter from the Editor

The 2009—2010 season is here and this year's team is off to a great start. In this edition of Hawkey Talk, we bring you Pizza Update show information, Bus Trip dates, and dates for the upcoming Booster Meetings. We have a great Q&A with Rookie Tyler Wotherspoon, along with our normal submissions from Coach Mike Johnston and Andy Kemper.

This season has brought some changes to game night and we at Hawkey Talk say Thank You to long time PA person Dan Fowlick. Dan was The Voice of the Hawks and "Here come the Hawks" or "Let's play Hockey" will never be the same again. With Dan saying good bye, we also see other changes that show that this team and organization are making strides. Whether you like or dislike the Rosebuds, or other changes around the MC, they have your attention in that they are trying to improve not only the on ice product, but the total experience at the rink.

So, for whatever reason you come to the game, get behind this team, they are a hard working bunch that will give us a season to remember. Also, stop by the Booster Club Table, we have several treasures new and old, including past player buttons, pictures and other things any Hawks fan should have. Stop by the Booster table and say hi, renew that membership, enter to present the three stars, or just talk hockey.

VISIT OUR WEBSITE
<http://www.pwhbc.com>

Pizza Blast Update Shows

Stark Street Pizza

Monday October—26th

(Francis, Ponich, Schneider & Walker)

Monday November—23rd

(Bennet, Berglund, Rutkowski, Niederreiter, & Aronson)

Monday December—14th

(Bobbee, Ross, Wotherspoon & Swenson)

Monday January—25th

(Mucha, Boychuk, Peters, Rattie & Reddin)

Monday February—8th

(Johnston, Johansen, Jordan, Gabriel & Morrow)

Monday March—8th

(Curtis, Kopitar & Make Up)

Dates and Players Subject to change, please check at the booster table for updates!

Booster Meeting Dates—

Saturday October 10th—Memorial Coliseum

Saturday November 14th—Memorial Coliseum

Saturday December 19th—Rose Garden

Saturday January 2nd—Memorial Coliseum

Saturday February 20th—Memorial Coliseum
(Nominations Meeting)

Saturday March 6th—Rose Garden (Elections Meeting)

2009 - 10 Board Members

President—Stuart Kemp

Vice President—Andy Potter

Treasurer—Debi Koberstein

Recording Secretary—John Fisher

Corresponding Secretary—Cathy Kemp

Sgt at Arms—Ron Spencer

Past President—Linda Donaldson

Council Member—Tami Hall

Council Member—Mike Hall

Council Member—Katie Poland

Council Member—Elke Thomas

Council Member—Arlie Brown

Council Member—Mary Ellen Brown

Players of the Month 2009 - 10

08—09 Fan Favorite — #12 Chris Francis

(See page 7 for a note from Chris)

October —

November —

December —

January —

February —

09—10 Fan Favorite —

Remember to vote for the 2009—2010 players!

BUS TRIPS!

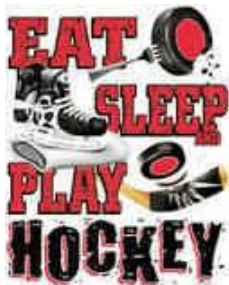
The Boosters have scheduled the following bus trips:

#1—Saturday December 12—Tri Cities

#2—Saturday January 16—Tri Cities

#3—Saturday March 13—Seattle (Kent)

Check the Booster Club Table for more information and Pricing.





An Exciting Start

By Andy Kemper

As I write this, the Portland Winterhawks are just six games into the 2009-10 WHL Season, but what a six game start it has been for your Hawks.

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Sitting at a record of 5-1-0-0 for 10 points atop the U.S. Division is a nice place to be regardless of the time of the season. The Hawks are still facing a long and grueling road schedule for the rest of the month, but it will be great heading into that stretch with a winning record and proof that they can win tough road games like we witnessed in Spokane (5-3 win on October 2) and in Kamloops (4-3 OT win on October 4).

The 5-1-0-0 record is the best opening six game stretch for the Hawks is the best the team has had since the 1993-94 season when that squad started at 6-0-0.

The story of the early season has been the balance of scoring on the roster. Through six games, the Hawks have scored 28 goals, getting production from 13 different scorers. On top of that, the Hawks have dressed 24 skaters (including goaltenders) and 19 have hit the score sheet.

A lot of the point production has started with the defensemen, led by Troy Rutkowski's eight points (3 goals – 5 assists) and the surprising six assists from Daniel Johnston (not to mention a league best +10 rating). Add in Joe Morrow (4 points), Travis Bobbee and Brett Ponich (3 points each) and the production from the Hawks defense has accumulated to 6 goals – 20 assists for 26 points in just six games.

The forwards have been led by veterans Chris Francis (3-6-9) and Luke Walker (4-4-8), but they too have been helped out by a number of different players. Rookie Swiss import Nino Niederreiter has started his WHL career off nicely with five points in six games and overage forward (converted defenseman), Stefan Schneider has got points in his last four games.

The forwards have combined for 22 goals – 26 assists for 48 points in six games. Overall, the Hawks are averaging a WHL best 4.66 goals per game through six games while giving up only 2.00 per game.

Speaking of giving up very few goals, the play of goaltenders Kurtis Mucha and Ian Curtis can't be overlooked. Mucha currently sits atop the WHL with a goals against average of 1.64 through three games and has a save percentage of .930. Ian Curtis' is also amongst the leaders with a 2.34 GAA and a .919 save percentage.

Both goaltenders are adjusting to facing less shots against than in previous seasons as the Hawks are outshooting their opponents 39-26 on average to start the season.

Kemper's Corner Continued

What these numbers show are that the Winterhawks are playing very good hockey to start the 2009-10 Season in the WHL. The next few weeks will be telling as the Hawks will head to Alberta for a six game in nine night trip and will have 11 of their next 14 on the road.

If the Hawks can come out of this stretch at or near the top of the U.S. Division at the start of November, it will be a great start to what we all hope will be a tremendous regular season and the teams first post-season appearance in three years.

It's been a great start...but, I think that the best is yet to come...the sky is the limit for this organization, thanks for being a part of it as booster members.

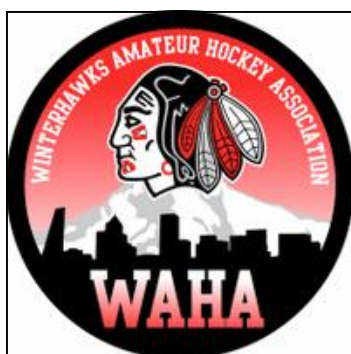
Go Hawks!

President's Message Continued

In closing, I would encourage everyone who is a Booster Club member to let your friends, who come to games, join the Booster Club as a member. Whether attending one game a season or more, anyone who enjoys hockey and wants to show their support for the Hawks, should be a Booster Club member. The support of the Booster Club helps to provide Yearbooks for the players, the 3 Star Awards at each home game, the Player of the Month and the Donald D. Ickes Most Popular Player of the Year Awards.

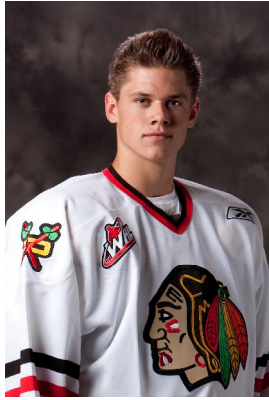
Thank you for your support.

Stuart Kemp
President
Portland Winter Hawks Booster Club
www.pwhbc.com
(360) 852-5081



The Winterhawks Boosters Club are proud to help support WAHA, the Portland Jr. Hawks, NW Selects and Youth Hockey in the Portland Metro Area.





Rookie Q&A with Tyler Wotherspoon

Tyler, Thank you for taking a few minutes to be part of this year's Rookie Q&A. We are going to ask you ten questions, so here we go...

HT — Tyler, can you tell us a bit about Surrey, BC?

TW — Surrey is a good size town that has grown a lot over the years, it is a really nice place to live and having grown up there and played hockey I have noticed the talent has gotten a lot better due to the people moving there.

R O O K I E Q & A

HT - Tyler, can you tell us a bit about your family, how many brothers or sisters, do any of your siblings also play?

TW—I have 3 siblings 2 older sisters, who live down in Utah right now going to university. I also have a younger brother who just turned 12 and he plays hockey too.

HT— Thinking back to when you got drafted, what did you think about coming to Portland?

TW—Back when I got drafted I didn't know what to think cause I never thought I'd be going to Portland but, I saw that they were struggling so I thought of it as a great opportunity to play and help the team.

HT— Getting a chance to play as a 15 year old some last season, did that help you prepare during the summer for this year's training camp?

TW—After playing a couple games last year it did help because it gave me a better look at what to expect and what I need to do to my game so I could play at this level successfully.

HT— Once you got to camp, was it anything like what you expected?

TW—Going into camp it was somewhat what I expected cause I knew that we were going to have a better team and a lot more players coming into camp to raise the competition.

HT— What activities or sports do you enjoy other then hockey? Did you get a chance to do any of that during the summer?

TW—Outside of hockey, I played baseball. Just last year I had to stop because it was already time consuming with all the hockey I was playing. I still play sometimes during the summer with my dad just throwing the ball around.

HT— What subjects do you enjoy in school and what subjects give you the most challenge?

TW—Um, in school I've always been interested in science classes but I've never been to fond of learning the social classes.

Talking Hockey with Coach Mike Johnston

Booster Club Newsletter – September 2009

The 2009/10 season has begun and as a coaching staff we are pleased with the strides the team is making. As with all organizations when they move ahead there are usually several key changes in personnel. We were excited this summer to add new forwards Nino Niederreiter, Jacob Berglund, Spencer Bennett, Ryan Johansen, Ty Rattie, Gasper Kopitar, and Seth Swenson to the group from last year. Also Tyler Wotherspoon and Taylor Aronson were added to our young defense core. This made training camp very competitive and in the end will make our team a lot better.

The preseason also provided an opportunity for us to evaluate our future as over 85 draft picks and free agents attended training camp along with our veteran players. If fans were able to watch the competitive scrimmage sessions along with the Seattle rookie game they would have certainly noticed Derrick Pouliot, Taylor Leier, and Josh Hanson who all were impressive in their first camp. I thought Teal Burns who went back to play one more year of Junior A hockey not only showed that he will be ready to play shortly in this league but he could be an impact player. The future does look bright for this team especially with the elite group of defensemen between the ages of 15 and 18.

We were very proud of the six players who went to NHL camps and all reports indicated that the Winterhawk players definitely made an impression. Actually, Ponich (St Louis), Ehrhardt (Detroit), Jordan (Columbus), and Walker (New York Rangers) all played against each other in the Traverse City Tournament which is one of the most watched NHL preseason tournaments. As most of you know Ehrhardt did stay and will start the year in Grand Rapids. He definitely deserves the opportunity and I wouldn't be surprised to see him in Detroit sometime this year.

The other players we had at NHL camps were Mucha (Edmonton) and Bennett (Calgary Flames). Both are players who received rave reviews but fortunately for us were returned for this season. It was a great opportunity for Mucha to attend training camp in his hometown.

The first two months of the season will definitely be challenging for our team with 11 of fifteen games on the road, including a two week trip to Alberta. I know the 8 players we have from that province are excited about the 6 game swing and actually, I always find those trips early in the year often help with team chemistry. Later in the season the opportunity to play at home and minimize our travel should prove to be a big advantage.

PORTLAND WINTERHAWKS HOCKEY CLUB

HT—What kind of performance talents do you have? Do you have any musical talents? Or are you more of an actor or comic?

TW—None

HT - If you could pick any profession other than being a hockey star, what would that be and why?

TW—A profession other than hockey that I thought would be interesting would be a fireman. I always thought it would great to go out in important situations and help those in need.

HT - Last question... What piece of advice do you have for all of the youth players in Portland playing hockey, on how to get to where their dreams may have them going in the sport of hockey?

TW—My advice for the youth hockey players would be to work hard every practice you have and to always work on your weaknesses cause you always want to be a better player after every ice session.

Thanks for taking part in Rookie Q&A, and good luck this season.



2008—2009 Fan Favorite — #12 Chris Francis

First of all I would like to say Thank You for picking me as last season's most popular player. It was a great honor, and hopefully I can do what is needed to get it again.

Now this summer was very busy for me, besides driving my mom crazy. I was running around all summer teaching hockey schools and helping out around the rink, following in my dad's foot steps, working at the Pro Shop in Las Vegas. In my free time, I was working out and trying to get better on the ice, getting ready for this season. I went up to BC to train with my buddy, Luke Walker, at Penticton at the Okanagan Hockey School. It was really good and really helped Luke and I get ready for the season.

Our team is looking very good this year and is going to have a chance to go far. It should be really fun for the fans to watch and with their support this can be one of the best seasons the Winterhawks have had in a long time.

Thank You again, Chris Francis.