

CENTER ICE



What does the “C” Stand For?

By Mandi LaVoie

“There are 25 clowns in the locker room, and I’m the head clown,” Brendan Buckley said when asked who were the pranksters on the Manchester Monarchs.

Buck and Monarchs president Jeff Eisenberg paid a visit to the Manchester Monarchs Booster Club on Tuesday, March 13 to share stories, explain a few things and get a laugh from the crowd. Buck’s clown comment is still funny a few weeks later!

One thing that many people wondered about was how Brendan felt about playing in Manchester. He seems to have adapted well but did explain that starting the season injured was difficult. “Sometimes when you’re injured, you feel that you’re not quite part of the team.” Of course, starting out injured when you’ve been named the captain, and you have a sorted history with a team had to be a bit tough. “I was surprised, but not too surprised when I found out I was going to be captain,” Brendan said. He ex-

plained that he had lots of great help from guys like Noah Clarke who he said leads by example and Marty Murray who’s been great with the younger guys.

From yet another player we heard that coach Mark Morris is an intense coach who hates to lose. “He’s not going to take his foot off the pedal,” Brendan said. “He’s tough but not too hard.” From the sounds of things though, it’s not just the coach. Brendan explained that guys just don’t like to lose here, but he’s glad to see them upset in the



locker room after bad games because it means they truly care about the outcome.

The team seems to be thriving under Buck’s leadership. The Monarchs are entering the final stretch of the regular season looking better and better.

Jeff Eisenberg has been to booster club meetings before. He did get a laugh when introduced by adding, “You’ll recognize me from

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the target on my back.” He also told everyone about the Monarchs decision to go with the new jerseys for next year. He thinks it will be a good thing – I don’t think all fans are convinced that the form fitting jerseys are the way to go. The choice to do Kings night was a great one though – and the throwback 80’s jerseys will be a blast – I can just imagine the grin on Gabe Gauthier’s face while wearing one of those – remembering the days of going to games back then and wanting to grow up to be a King! Another hockey dream come true...

Thanks to Brendan and to Jeff for stopping by. It’s always great to have visitors at a booster club meeting!

Mr. Bill’s Notes & Quotes

3/9/07

Richard Petiot makes his much awaited return to the Monarchs after missing most of the season with a training camp knee injury that required surgery. Welcome back Rich – we missed you!

3/11/07

Gabe Gauthier becomes only the second Southern California native to play for the LA Kings great job Gabe! (fyi Noah Clarke was the first.)

3/12/07

Noah Clarke becomes the first Southern California native to ever score a goal for the LA Kings - way to go Clarkie! (Guess he had to net that one before Gabe got one!!)

3/18/07

Kevin Westgarth makes his Monarchs debut – welcome Kevin!

3/19/07

Monarchs At Your Service Dinner a blast as always! Thanks to Noelle Clark for putting the MMBC basket together. Thanks to everyone on the Monarchs staff and the players for a great time for a great cause!



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Annual Bowl-a-thon a Huge Success!

By: Noelle Clark

Out of all of the fundraisers that I plan during the season, the annual Bowl-a-thon is the one I enjoy the most. For the Fourth Annual Bowl-a-thon, there were 24 bowlers who met me at Lakeside Lanes in Manchester on Sunday, February 25th. In order to participate, a bowler needed to have at least \$35 in sponsorships. This could come from per pin donations, flat donations, or the bowler could pay the fee. The cost of \$35 included shoe rentals and 3 strings of bowling. If you wanted to come and cheer on your friends and family and just enjoy the day, the cost was \$8, which included lunch.

Just as everyone was getting close to the end of the 1st string, we had a visit from some players & a celebrity (in my mind). Cheryl Abbott brought Matt Moulson, Gabe Gauthier, Shay Stephenson and Eric Werner to visit with us. All 4 guys were invited to bowl with us and all accepted, except Stephenson. He decided to entertain everyone. The celebrity that joined us was none other than the Monarchs Announcer – Sean Sullivan and his wife. Each team was able to either bowl with a player or with Sean Sullivan.

Pizza and Salad were provided for everyone as well as some yummy desserts! I would hate to be a judge in a bake-off between booster members. Thank you all baking.

Now what would a bowl-a-thon be without prizes? Prizes were awarded for highest bowled, lowest bowled and most money raised. We also had a lot of raffle prizes such as autographed photos, Monarchs hats and pucks, gift certificates, and much more. We raffled off an autographed Brad Smyth stick that he donated to the MMBC for helping him move out of his house last year. The Monarchs team also donated a team signed 3rd Jersey. Thank you to all who donated and congratulations to all of the winners!

The bowl-a-thon was quite successful with net profits over \$1500! The MMBC has decided to designate the bowl-a-thon as an annual fundraiser for the Jennifer Kemp Memorial Scholarship Fund. Thank you to all of the participants, sponsors and donors. The MMBC appreciates your support and I invite you to join us next year!

102 Members including newest members,
Phillip Basaldu, Claudette Marshall, Richard Moreira, Jim Wolf, and Lucy Burton

March Birthdays	Players:	April Birthdays	Members:
Member:	3/1 Chris Schmidt	4/7 Todd Hannemann	4/11 Mathieu Chouinard
3/2 Lynn Baddeley	3/13 Brad Symth	4/9 Bradley Field	4/12 Chris Barr
3/5 Phillip Basaldu	3/15 Jared Aulin	4/18 Yvon Gagnon	4/13 Jeff Tambellini
3/6 Deanna Demeritt	—David Steckel	4/28 Olivia Collins	4/17 Marty Wilford
3/9 Mike Messer	3/16 Mark Ardelan	4/29 Andrew Verven	4/20 Ryan Flinn
3/12 Ashlee Cormier	3/24 Maxim Kuznetsov		4/23 Derek Armstrong
3/16 M-L Belforti	3/27 Scott Barney	Players:	4/30 Marcel Cousineau
3/22 Brian LaVoie	—Gregg Phillips	4/1 Travis Lisabeth	3/1 —Richard Seeley
3/24 Larry Perry	3/29 Leon Hayward	4/8 Yanick Lehoux	4/8 —Jason Holland
3/29 Richard Moreira	3/31 Esa Pines	4/10 Sean Avery	4/10
	—Mark Morris		

Why Hockey

By Mandi LaVoie

As a woman, sometimes it's hard to explain to someone who doesn't understand why I love hockey. People assume it's the guys and I'll be the first to admit, that's a really fun bonus. Yes, hockey does a body good...and for some reason even though some teeth get lost along the way, hockey players as a bunch are not hard on the eyes. (Mandi's understatement of the year.) It's not all about that though.

Visually, hockey is a treat for the eyes. The streak of the puck, the colors, watching great passes and shots, players crashing into each other, fists flying, just the speed of it all. Then there's the sound. I love the sound of skates cutting through the ice. Then there's the collective roar of the crowd. There's still the players calling to each other, the sound of a great check into the glass, a player tapping their stick for a pass, the puck careening off a post

or crossbar and of course the bells. Each arena has it's own sound after a goal is scored – and it's own chants.

It's fun to sit in my silver level seats in Manchester to see the plays being set up. I love the change of sitting closer to the glass or near the bench while on the road to see checks, goals and the following celebrations up close.

I guess you could say I'm hooked. I have been since my first Rangers game in New York. I was fortunate enough to travel with my college team since they were a club team. It gave me a different perspective. I saw the camaraderie up close – and even got stuck in an elevator with half the team after a game without the luxury of equipment managers – so I've even smelled the smell (and I don't advise it!!) I earned my college jersey – and before everyone jumps to conclusions (gee – no one would do that these days,) I had to shave the word "HAWKS" into the back of my hair to get one! I'll never forget the Rangers winning the

Stanley Cup! I have made some great friends through hockey – and have had countless laughs.

It hasn't been all fun and laughter. I lost a great friend in college who played on the hockey team and would have been the best man for at least 10 weddings. John O'Sullivan was a great guy – had graduated and was a second grade teacher. To this day – the toughest but yet most moving day of my life was seeing the whole team; these big tough guys lose it. I still miss him dearly. He's one reason that I still write about hockey. I've had people come and go and at one point lived without hockey for almost 10 years. Now I know it's a true love for me. (I let it go and it came back with a vengeance!!)

When it comes down to it – only one team can win the championship each year – it's the journey that keeps me coming back. My memories make up my own highlight reel – one that will be added onto for years to come!

Let's Cheer on the Team!

By: Noelle Clark

As we head into the playoffs, the question on everyone's mind is...will we make it past the first round? I understand why people ask this question, heck, I have even asked it before. But let's think about this, each year brings a new team. While some players stay, others are new and with that come new challenges as well as opportunities. This team has the determination, spirit and desire to make it far into the playoffs. I believe it can happen and will cheer them on until the final buzzer. I hope you will join me and cheer on the team to a successful playoff run. The players have told us they hear our bells and even appreciate hearing them, especially when they are on the road. We all know that attendance drops off during the first round of playoffs, so we need to be extra loud. Best way to do that? Get a bell from the Booster Club and cheer on the team.

We recently sold out of our bells and I just received a brand new shipment. I would love to hear more bells at the game. We need to let these guys know that we are behind them 100% of the way. The bells are only \$10 each. While we cannot sell the bells in the arena, you can purchase one at Ma & Pa's Pizza on Lake Street, across from the arena. They have been very helpful with selling our bells! Thanks Ma & Pa! You can also contact Noelle Clark at [603-303-7513](tel:603-303-7513) or fundraising@monarchsboosters.com.

Get your ring on!

January & February 2007 MMBC Players of the Month Announced



At the MMBC's February 5, 2007 membership meeting, members voted for the booster club's Player of the Month for

January, 2007.

Congratulations to Jason LaBarbera, who was also the recipient of the December, 2006 POTM Award, for being selected as the January, 2007 MMBC Player of the Month. This is the first time a player has won this award for two consecutive months.

Jason's award was presented to him after a recent Monarchs game by Yvon Gagnon. His daughter Michelle gave the presentation opportunity to him, after she won a raffle held at the

booster club meeting.

At the MMBC's March 13, 2007 membership meeting, members voted for the booster club's Player of the Month for February, 2007.

Congratulations to Matt Moulson, for being selected as the February, 2007 MMBC Player of the Month.

Matt's award was presented to him after a recent Monarchs game by Paul Kemp. He won the opportunity to present this award in a raffle held at the booster club meeting.

Besides the Player Award Certificates, Jason & Matt also received a \$25 Gift Certificate to the Wild Rover Restaurant & Pub, located at 21 Kosciuszko Street in Manchester, NH. Wild Rover is the sponsor of the MMBC Player of the Month Award for the 2006-07 Manchester Monarchs season. for your support!!!

