

THE RICOH BREAKAWAY

The Mac's AAA Midget Hockey Newsletter

Thursday, December 29th, 2016



Sheldon Kennedy: the Man, the Myth, the Leader

A not so fairytale beginning develops into lasting legacy

By Taylor Chartrand



Sheldon Kennedy during a Calgary Flames alumni event

The year was 1983, Elkhorn Manitoba, and looking to make a name for himself was a young Sheldon Kennedy.

Growing up in a place like Elkhorn meant one thing, a passion for the game of hockey.

Looking to impress at that year's Mac's Midget Tournament, Kennedy was a talented player playing for the Moose Jaw AAA Warriors. His time at the junior level was split between both the AAA Warriors and WHL's

Swift Current Broncos.

Through his time in junior, as many players do, Kennedy bounced around from numerous teams, as he was a highly touted prospect.

Through those times, Kennedy said he leaned on his brother and parents on multiple occasions for support.

"Growing up in a small town and having to leave home at 14 or 15, that's who you learn to rely on." Said Kennedy.

When asked what hockey gave him in terms of leadership, Kennedy put it very simply,

"Team sports in general prepare kids to work in the world and prepare them for life and working with people. Hockey is a very small part of your life. Team sports set people up for life and provide leadership skills to move forward in life. Leadership isn't scoring goals or getting assists, it's walking the walk and standing up for those who don't have a voice."

The people who walk the walk and stand up for what was right were the individuals that stood out in Kenne-

dy's eyes. So naturally, he would do just that.

In 1996, Kennedy gave a voice to those that may not have had one, and started standing up for what was right.

Shortly after becoming an NHLer, Kennedy mustered the courage that none before him had been able to – he relived some of the hardest times of his life by sharing his story of sexual abuse at the hands of a trusted coach and mentor.

His experience was something that nobody should ever have to go through – but Kennedy did. Had it not been for his courageous acts, these crimes could still be ongoing.

After sharing his story, Kennedy's experiences opened the floodgates for change and gave former players a voice of their own.

"My experience, even though I won the world juniors and a gold medal, weren't the best after dealing with Graham in junior." Explained Kennedy. "The things I learned at a young age set my platform for life and hockey. It's not all about hockey. You're



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Sheldon Kennedy speaks to media during the opening of the Sheldon Kennedy Child Advocacy Centre in May, 2013

lost when your hockey is done. Hockey has a ton of gifts, but the biggest thing for myself was finding balance.”

Kennedy had a career that few others could relate to. His time spent playing junior shaped him into the

outstanding citizen he is today; and because of that, it's very easy to see how he became the great leader he is now.

We asked Kennedy if he had any advice for this year's Macs tourna-

ment participants, and he said, “Hockey is a small part of your life and you have to enjoy it. This is something that I believe if you're not loving what you're doing don't do it. It's just a game, enjoy it and take from it what it gives you. Enjoy the positives and love it. Play it with a smile on your face.”

Since his experiences in junior hockey, Kennedy has gone on to found the Sheldon Kennedy Child Advocacy Centre, which has one mission, stated on the foundation's webpage, www.sheldonkennedycac.ca,

“Our multi-disciplinary approach treats abused children, youth and their families; supports their recovery; seeks to stop the cycle of abuse and is dedicated to bringing perpetrators to justice.”

A LOOK THRU THE LENS – DEC. 28



Photos: Eric Smith



STANDINGS

| Male Division | | | | | | | |
|-------------------------------|----|---|---|---|----|----|-----|
| Pool 1 | GP | W | L | T | GF | GA | PTS |
| Calgary Buffaloes | 3 | 2 | 1 | 0 | 17 | 9 | 4 |
| Belarus National U17 | 2 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 9 | 5 | 4 |
| Vancouver NE Chiefs | 2 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 10 | 5 | 2 |
| Regina Pat Canadians | 2 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 7 | 7 | 2 |
| Arizona Bobcats | 3 | 0 | 3 | 0 | 3 | 20 | 0 |
| Pool 2 | GP | W | L | T | GF | GA | PTS |
| Notre Dame Hounds | 3 | 2 | 1 | 0 | 15 | 8 | 4 |
| Cariboo Cougars | 2 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 10 | 5 | 4 |
| SSAC Boston Pizza Athletics | 3 | 1 | 2 | 0 | 11 | 15 | 2 |
| New York Jr. Islanders | 2 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 11 | 13 | 2 |
| Calgary Northstars | 2 | 0 | 2 | 0 | 5 | 11 | 0 |
| Pool 3 | GP | W | L | T | GF | GA | PTS |
| Calgary Royals | 3 | 3 | 0 | 0 | 15 | 7 | 6 |
| Austrian National U18 | 3 | 1 | 2 | 0 | 10 | 12 | 2 |
| Saskatoon Contacts | 2 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 7 | 7 | 2 |
| Sherwood Park J Ennis Kings | 2 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 5 | 6 | 2 |
| Okanagan Rockets | 2 | 0 | 2 | 0 | 4 | 9 | 0 |
| Pool 4 | GP | W | L | T | GF | GA | PTS |
| Prince Albert Mintos | 3 | 3 | 0 | 0 | 10 | 1 | 6 |
| Leduc Motors Oil Kings | 3 | 2 | 1 | 0 | 12 | 5 | 4 |
| Hungarian National U18 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 8 | 7 | 2 |
| Calgary Flames | 2 | 0 | 2 | 0 | 7 | 14 | 0 |
| New Jersey Hitmen | 2 | 0 | 2 | 0 | 1 | 11 | 0 |
| Pool 5 | GP | W | L | T | GF | GA | PTS |
| Foothills CFR Chemical Bisons | 2 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 9 | 3 | 4 |
| Greater Vancouver Canadians | 2 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 12 | 4 | 4 |
| Moose Jaw Generals | 3 | 1 | 2 | 0 | 6 | 11 | 2 |
| Red Deer Optimist Chiefs | 2 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 5 | 6 | 2 |
| Alaska Oilers | 3 | 0 | 3 | 0 | 5 | 13 | 0 |
| Female Division | | | | | | | |
| Pool 6 | GP | W | L | T | GF | GA | PTS |
| Rocky Mountain Raiders | 3 | 3 | 0 | 0 | 19 | 2 | 6 |
| Melville Prairie Fire | 2 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 5 | 3 | 2 |
| Westman Wildcats | 2 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 5 | 5 | 2 |
| Vancouver Island Seals | 2 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 3 | 11 | 2 |
| Kootenay Wild | 3 | 0 | 3 | 0 | 1 | 12 | 0 |
| Pool 7 | GP | W | L | T | GF | GA | PTS |
| Saskatoon Stars | 2 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 15 | 2 | 4 |
| Calgary Fire | 2 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 9 | 2 | 4 |
| Northern Capitals | 3 | 1 | 2 | 0 | 7 | 11 | 2 |
| San Jose Jr. Sharks | 2 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 5 | 9 | 2 |
| Fraser Valley Rush | 3 | 0 | 3 | 0 | 3 | 15 | 0 |

SOCIAL MEDIA

Each day from Dec. 26 to Jan. 1, a new picture challenge will surface on Instagram. Every photo you share is another entry into the **GRAND PRIZE DRAW** at the end of the week! Plus, we'll be shouting out some of our favourite submissions throughout the duration of the tournament. Make sure to use **#Macstourney** hashtag, and the daily hashtag which will be advertised each day in the Breakaway



INTERACT WITH US FOR YOUR CHANCE TO...



Photo: Eric Smith

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| MALE DIVISION – DAY 4 SCHEDULE | | | | | |
|--------------------------------|---------|-------|------|--------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Game # | Time | Arena | Pool | Home | Visitor |
| 31 | 9:00am | MB | 3 | Saskatoon Contacts | Sherwood Park J Ennis Kings |
| 32 | 9:00am | FDB | 5 | Red Deer Optimist Chiefs | Alaska Oilers |
| 33 | 11:45am | MB | 1 | Belarus National U17 | Regina Pat Canadians |
| 34 | 11:45am | FDB | 2 | Cariboo Cougars | New York Jr. Islanders |
| 35 | 2:30pm | MB | 4 | Hungarian National U18 | New Jersey Hitmen |
| 36 | 2:30pm | FDB | 5 | Foothills CFR Chemicals Bisons | Greater Vancouver Canadians |
| 37 | 5:15pm | MB | 1 | Calgary Buffaloes | Vancouver Northeast Chiefs |
| 38 | 5:15pm | FDB | 4 | Prince Albert Mintos | Calgary Flames |
| 39 | 8:00pm | MB | 2 | Notre Dame Hounds | Calgary Northstars |
| 40 | 8:00pm | FDB | 3 | Okanagan Rockets | Austrian National U18 |

| FEMALE DIVISION – DAY 4 SCHEDULE | | | | | |
|----------------------------------|---------|-------|------|------------------------|------------------|
| Game # | Time | Arena | Pool | Home | Visitor |
| F9 | 10:30am | MB #2 | 7 | Fraser Valley Rush | Saskatoon Stars |
| F10 | 1:15pm | MB #2 | 6 | Vancouver Island Seals | Kootenay Wild |
| F11 | 4:00pm | MB #2 | 6 | Melville Prairie Fire | Westman Wildcats |
| F12 | 6:45pm | MB #2 | 7 | San Jose Jr. Sharks | Calgary Fire |

| MALE DIVISION RESULTS – DAY 3 | | | |
|-------------------------------|---|-----------------------------|---|
| New York Jr. Islanders | 3 | Notre Dame Hounds | 8 |
| New Jersey Hitmen | 1 | Prince Albert Mintos | 5 |
| Calgary Northstars | 4 | SSAC Boston Pizza Athletics | 4 |
| Red Deer Optimist Chiefs | 3 | Moose Jaw Generals | 1 |
| Okanagan Rockets | 2 | Saskatoon Contacts | 5 |
| Greater Vancouver Canadians | 6 | Alaska Oilers | 2 |
| Regina Pat Canadians | 4 | Calgary Buffaloes | 5 |
| Arizona Bobcats | 0 | North Vancouver Chiefs | 7 |
| Austrian National U18 | 3 | Calgary Royals | 7 |
| Calgary Flames | 2 | Leduc Motors Oil Kings | 6 |

| FEMALE DIVISION RESULTS – DAY 3 | | | |
|---------------------------------|---|------------------------|---|
| Northern Capitals | 5 | Fraser Valley Rush | 0 |
| San Jose Jr. Sharks | 1 | Saskatoon Stars | 7 |
| Kootenay Wild | 0 | Melville Praire Fire | 3 |
| Westman Wildcats | 1 | Rocky Mountain Raiders | 5 |



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