



# Topeka Youth Hockey



Weekly update for February 8, 2010

## Squirts finish with a big win to end season on a great note

by Brady Chaffin, Division Director

After five months of practices and games, the Squirts wrapped up the 2009-10 regular season with a pair of games this weekend.

On Saturday, the Jr. RoadRunners welcomed the Outlaws to Landon Arena. The Jr. Runners jumped on the scoreboard early as **Alex Ellison (#87)** scored in the first minute of the game. Ellison scored two more times before the period would end, and the Squirts took a commanding 3-0 lead into the first intermission.

The Jr. RoadRunners would extend the lead to 4-0 before the Outlaws finally got on the scoreboard. The Jr. 'Runners took a 4-1 lead into the second intermission. The final period saw the Squirts' lead disappear as the Outlaws made a furious comeback to knot the game at 4-4. Despite numerous quality scoring chances by both teams, the game ended in a 4-4 tie.



*Mason Romine (5), Conner McGehee (17), Alex Ellison (87) and Isaac Erwin (3) take to the ice.*

On Sunday, the Jr. RoadRunners traveled to Pepsi Ice Midwest to take on the Stars-5 squad for the regular season finale. The team was focused on playing their best game of the season and go into the league tournament on a winning note.

The Jr. 'Runners wasted no time in reaching their goal of winning their final game of the season. **Nolan Omitt (#15)** scored his third goal of the season as he roofed the puck over the Stars goalie. **Alex Ellison (#87)** would add a tally to put the Squirts on top 2-0. The Jr. RoadRunners used a swarming defense, tenacious forechecking and backchecking and

solid goaltending to stymie the Stars throughout the game.

In the final minute of the game the Jr. RoadRunners were shorthanded, but were still able to keep the puck in their own zone for almost the entire penalty kill. When the Stars were finally able to skate the puck up the ice, the Jr. 'Runners intercepted it and scored a shorthanded goal with just 10 seconds left to play to seal the 3-0 victory.

The Squirts finish the regular season with a record of 5-9-4 and now await the league tournament at the end of the month.

A BIG "Thank You" to Kirt Leyda (Quinn's dad) and Fred McGehee (Conner's dad) for helping out in the penalty box and scoresheet this past weekend.

**Let's wish Dakota Hughes (#12) a happy birthday on February 16!!**

Thanks to our sponsors...

Don & Barbara Stone and the RoadRunners organization



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# Topeka Youth Hockey Update

## Bantams take to the open pond (update from 2/1)

by Paul Fluke, Division Director

There is something different about playing out doors on the frozen pond. This game was played on the Carriage Club ice Sunday morning. The sun was shining brightly and the temperature wasn't too cold. At least the wind wasn't blowing which was good from a spectator's point of comfort. For most of the Bantams it was the 1st time being on the open arena, which is a little shorter in length in the neutral zone. The Jr. RoadRunners had to play a lot of defense in this game and only got off 4 (recorded) shots on goal against 46 from the Carriage Club team.

Skyler Stevens (31) in goal managed against the sometimes-awkward sun to shadow view to block 41 of their shots.



The game wasn't without its bumps and lumps. Brenden Garland took a check against the boards, which caught him in an awkward position and bounced his head hard to take him out of the game. As you can see from the picture Drew Perkins (2) was delivered what looked like an illegal open ice hit which took his blades off the ice.....yes that is Drew on the other side of Maple (17). That didn't stop Drew as he and other RoadRunners often separated the player and puck by delivering our own style of play.

I'm sure Matt Brown (one of the biggest players) of the

Carriage Club team will remember how much Forrest and others bounced him off the boards in an effort to reduce his contribution to the game. The penalties were light in this game and Ian Fluke (83) was the only Jr. RoadRunner who felt the need to get caught hooking so he could go warm his toes by the fireplace.

We want to again thank Coach Gill for his guidance and commitment to the team even though his son Will Katz (54) was absent from the game while enjoying another winter sport, snow skiing in Colorado.



# Topeka Youth Hockey Update

## Mites make it a busy weekend

by Kelli Finnegan, Division Director

The Mites stayed busy with two games over the weekend. They started at home Saturday morning at 9am facing the Saints. The Saints were the first to score, but Alex Woods delivered a sweet breakaway goal shortly after to tie it up. The Saints were able to put one more goal on the board in the first period. The second period Jake Murphy found the back of the net after working his moves past three Saint players. Alex Woods added his second goal of the game bringing the total goals to three. It was also Alex's birthday, so the goals were "icing on the cake". Although we lost 8-3, the team played their hearts out and did a great job! The fans were especially enthusiastic with their new pom poms that Jenna Riggan brought. She hopes to have some new cheers to bring to the team for the end of season play-offs. Go Jenna!

The second game took us on the road to Carriage Club on Sunday at 9:15am. Parents had their kids put on a few extra layers since they were playing outside. The coaches had hand warmers on the benches for the kids, but forgot the hot chocolate. The game started off great with the Kaitlin Finnegan scoring first on a breakaway. She later tapped one in on a rebound giving the Jr. Roadrunners a 2-0 lead. Half way through the game the kids really needed the hot chocolate or perhaps a Red Bull energy drink. They did continue to play hard, but the Carriage Club were able to put 4 goals in the net before the final buzzer. The best parts of the game were seeing the kids handle the puck better and understand off-sides. The improvement has been really fun to watch. The Mites take a break the next couple weeks before the league finals the weekend of Feb. 27-28.

## Mite Player Profile



Meet Kyle Riggan. He started skating when he was 3 years old but this is his first year playing hockey. His favorite position to play is Center. Kyle is an outstanding skater and also an amazing goalie. His favorite NHL team is the Blackhawks with his favorite player being Patrick Cain. His favorite RoadRunner player is #20 Tony Thomas. Tony is not only his favorite player, but more like a brother. Kyle's family houses Tony Thomas during the RoadRunner hockey season. When Kyle has time to relax he enjoys watching Phineas and Ferb on TV. His favorite foods are Chinese and Mac & Cheese. When Kyle grows up he wants to be a professional hockey player. He attends Wanamaker Elementary and his favorite subject is math.



*Mites close out their season.*

# Topeka Youth Hockey Update

## Hockey Trivia

1983...

Wayne Gretzky scores four goals in one period, setting an NHL All-Star Game record. Two periods into the 35th edition of the matchup, the Campbell Conference holds a slim 3-2 lead over their Wales counterpart. That all changes when No. 99 decides to put the game out of reach by finding the back of the net four times in a span of only 13 minutes. All four markers are scored at even strength and set up by fellow Oilers, as linemates Mark Messier and Jari Kurri accumulate five helpers collectively. Gretzky's MVP-worthy efforts have been matched in points, as both Mike Gartner and Adam Oates collected four in the first period of 1993's All-Star affair, but no one else has ever reached the mark on goals alone. Gartner, Mario Lemieux, Vincent Damphousse, and Dany Heatley are the only other players in the game's history to have scored four times.

Q: The first gold medal for Women's Ice Hockey was won by:

- A. Finland
- B. Canada
- C. United States
- D. Soviet Union

2. A goalkeeper deliberately takes off his helmet/face mask high stops play. He should be assessed a minor penalty.

True or False?

3. Zamboni's Top Speed is approximately 9 miles per hour.

True or False?

4. The first Zamboni Ice Resurfacing Machine was made in Iceland in 1949.

True or False?

5. A goalkeeper will be imposed with a minor penalty if using illegal equipment

True or False?

6. Five NHL teams were formed in 1967. Which ones?:

- A. Los Angels Kings
- B. Vancour Cancucks
- C. Philadelphia Flyers
- D. Pittsburgh Penquins
- E. St Louis Blues
- F. Minnesota North Stars



*Jr. RoadRunner of the game, Matt Carmody, on January 30. Carmody is a Bantam player.*

ANSWERS:  
1. C  
2. True. If the goallkeeper or player causes stoppage of play by deliberately removing his/her helmet/face mask during play he/she will be assessed a minor penalty.  
3. True  
4. True. It has been restored and still works!  
5. True  
6. a, c, d, e, f