

# THE **RICOH** **BREAKAWAY**

The Mac's AAA Midget Hockey Invitational Newsletter

Tuesday, December 27, 2011

## Lucky Number Thirteen

This year Saskatchewan's Beardy's Blackhawks will hit the ice for the 13th consecutive year in the Mac's AAA Midget Tournament.

The Blackhawks are one of five teams from the Saskatchewan Midget AAA Hockey League (SMAAAHL), including the Tisdale Trojans, Prince Albert Mintos, Saskatoon Contacts and the Saskatoon Blazers. There are also three women's teams, Prince Albert A&W Bears, Saskatoon Stars and Regina Rebels representing Saskatchewan this year at the Mac's tournament.

The Beardy's Blackhawks slogan is "Working Together Towards Youth Development" and they do this by blending Native, Métis and non-native players to work towards the common goal of winning.

"We're really proud of bringing together these groups and showing that it doesn't matter where you come from" says Dale Greyston, coach of the Beardy's Blackhawks and one of the most respected coaches in AAA hockey.

Despite playing in the tournament for 13 consecutive years the Beardy's Blackhawks have not managed to gain the gold in the Mac's tournament. This year the team enters the tournament leading their league, and with a strong team.

"This is the first year we've been able to have our full team dressed for the Mac's tournament," says Greyston. "Most years we lose some players to the World Under-17 or the Western Hockey League."

The Beardy team is not without prospects as they come to Calgary.

"Two of our players have been drafted and one of them has been listed by the Hitmen," says Greyston. "It hasn't really made a difference with the team though. Our strategy is to play as a team and not as individuals."

Centerman Elliott Peterson, right winger Brett Boehn and left winger Braden Oleksyn have all been listed for the Hitmen.

This team mentality is emphasized by both Greyston and manager Mel Parenteau who both said it was community support and businesses helping them with the team's success. The team is sponsored by many groups like Southern Indian Gaming Association, Northern Lights Dev. Corp, Stuart Olson Construction, Indigenous Gaming Regulators, Prince Albert Grand Council, Saskatchewan Transportation Company, IMI Brokerage, Creeway gas Saskatoon, Federation of Saskatchewan Indian Nations, and local Calgary business, Maurice Law. Parenteau credits the support of these groups to the team managing to maintain a totally self sufficient team.

"It's a great atmosphere here at the tournament," says Greyston, who has coached the Beardy's for all of their Mac's tournament appearances.

"Our goal is to win but our biggest challenge is always the next team we're up against."

The Beardy's Blackhawks play a feature game today at 2:30 pm against the UFA Bisons in the Max Bell Arena.

- Jeff Clemens and Sarah Lamoureux



The Beardy Blackhawks checking out the competition in the feature Opening ceremony game.

Photo By Jeff Clemens



[www.macstournament.ab.ca](http://www.macstournament.ab.ca)

# Day One Results

## MALE DIVISION

Vancouver NW Giants	2	UFA Bisons	6
Calgary Flames	11	Greater Vancouver Canadiens	1
Calgary Royals	2	Saskatoon Contacts	2
Calgary Northstars	3	Fort Saskatchewan BP Rangers	1
Leduc Chrysler Oil Kings	1	Prince Albert Mintos	5
Cariboo Cougars	2	Pirati Chomutov	4
Red Deer Optimist Rebels	3	Severstal/Locomotiv	3
Sherwood Park J Ennis Kings	3	Beardy's Blackhawks	4
Vancouver NE Chiefs	1	St. Albert Sports Raiders	4
York Simcoe Express	1	Calgary Buffaloes	7

## FEMALE DIVISION

St. Albert Kal-Tire Slash	2	Medicine Hat Players Bench Tigers	2
Calgary Chaos	3	Edmonton Thunder	8
Calgary Bruins	5	Lloydminster PWM Steelers	3
Calgary Flyers	6	Thompson-Okanagan Rockets	4
Regina Rebels	2	Westman Wildcats	1
Vancouver Fusion	1	Red Deer Sutter Fund Chiefs	4

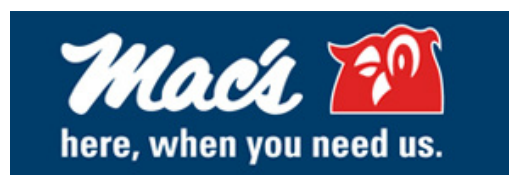


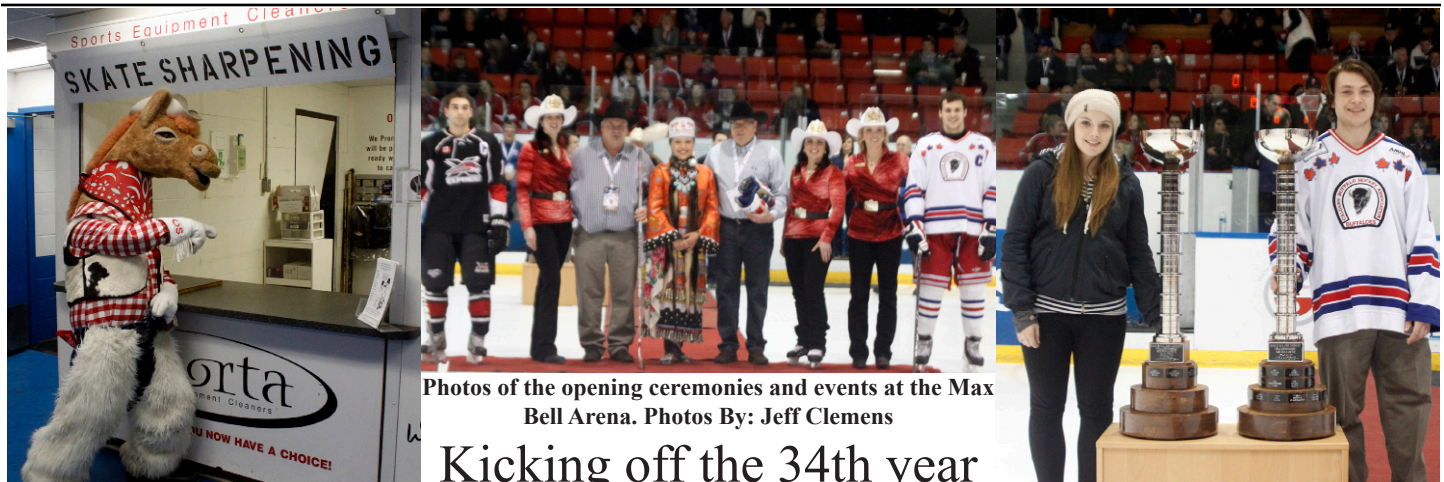
### DID YOU KNOW?

Jarome Iginla, Captain of the Calgary Flames, is on the Wall of Fame for the Mac's AAA Midget Hockey Tournament. He played in the tournament in 1992 for the St. Albert Eagle Raiders.

# Standings

Pool 1	GP	W	L	T	F	A	PTS
UFA Bisons	1	1	0	0	6	2	2
Beardy's Blackhawks	1	1	0	0	4	3	2
Edmonton SSAC BP Athletics	-						
Sherwood Park J. Ennis Kings	1	0	1	0	3	4	2
Vancouver NW Giants	1	0	1	0	2	6	0
Pool 2	GP	W	L	T	F	A	PTS
Calgary Buffaloes	1	1	0	0	7	1	2
Leduc Chrysler Oil Kings	1	0	1	0	1	5	0
Okanagan Rockets	-						
Prince Albert Mintos	1	1	0	0	5	1	2
York Simcoe Express	1	0	1	0	1	7	0
Pool 3	GP	W	L	T	F	A	PTS
Calgary Royals	1	0	0	1	2	2	1
Saskatoon Contacts	1	0	0	1	2	2	1
St. Albert Sports Raiders	1	1	0	0	4	1	2
Valley West Hawks	-						
Vancouver NE Chiefs	1	0	1	0	1	4	0
Pool 4	GP	W	L	T	F	A	PTS
Calgary Northstars	1	1	0	0	3	1	2
Cariboo Cougars	1	0	1	0	2	4	0
Fort Saskatchewan BP Rangers	1	0	1	0	1	3	0
Pirati Chomutov	1	1	0	0	4	2	2
Tisdale Trojans	-						
Pool 5	GP	W	L	T	F	A	PTS
Calgary Flames	1	1	0	0	11	1	2
Greater Vancouver Canadiens	1	0	1	0	1	11	0
Red Deer Optimist Rebels	1	0	0	1	3	3	1
Saskatoon Blazers	-						
Severstal/Locomotiv	1	0	0	1	3	3	1
Pool 6	GP	W	L	T	F	A	PTS
Calgary Flyers	1	1	0	0	6	4	2
Medicine Hat Players Bench Tigers	1	0	0	1	2	2	1
Prince Albert A&W Bears	-						
St. Albert Kal-Tire Slash	1	0	0	1	2	2	1
Thompson-Okanagan Rockets	1	0	1	0	4	6	0
Pool 7	GP	W	L	T	F	A	PTS
Calgary Bruins	1	1	0	0	4	3	2
Lloydminster PWM Steelers	1	0	1	0	3	4	0
Red Deer Sutter Fund Chiefs	1	1	0	0	4	1	2
Saskatoon Stars	-						
Vancouver Fusion	1	0	1	0	1	4	0
Pool 8	GP	W	L	T	F	A	PTS
Calgary Chaos	1	0	1	0	3	8	0
Edmonton Thunder	1	1	0	0	8	3	2
Fraser Valley Phantom	-						
Regina Rebels	1	1	0	0	2	1	2
Westman Wildcats	1	0	1	0	1	2	0





Photos of the opening ceremonies and events at the Max Bell Arena. Photos By: Jeff Clemens

## Kicking off the 34th year

Yesterday was the opening of the 34th annual Mac's AAA Midget Hockey Tournament and this year's Opening Ceremonies celebrated the 100th Anniversary of the Calgary Stampede.

The main focus of the event was the players and teams participating in the tournament. To start the event each team was announced in their respective pools and representatives came out onto the ice. Some of the signs for the teams were held by Special Olympians who came out with the athletes.

Once all the teams were on the ice there was a moment of silence in memorial for Murray Copot who has left a legacy in Alberta hockey. His passion for the game led him to volunteer and to travel around Canada and the world with Hockey Alberta and Hockey Canada. Copot was a staple of Alberta hockey for over 50 years and he will be missed by many.

The ceremony continued with a presentation from the Calgary Stampede royalty to promote their upcoming anniversary. The trophies were brought out by alumni of the Mac's Tournament, Courtney Minor and Riley Point. The ceremonial puck drop was presented by Ron Thompson, Marketing Manager of Mac's convenience stores Western Division and Tournament Chairman Byron Stephen, who has been involved in the tournament for 29 years. The puck was dropped by Stampede Princess Dani Gariepy. -Jeff Clemens

## Raising Awareness by Painting the Rink Pink



The Bruins pose at the Max Bell Arena before the opening Ceremonies Photo By: Jeff Clemens

Today the Calgary Bruins will be 'Painting The Rink Pink' to raise awareness for breast cancer at their feature game in Max Bell 2 at 8:30 pm.

The Bruins will be wearing special pink jerseys and equipment and all fans and parents in the stands have also been encouraged to dress in pink.

"We're doing this for one of the moms who was diagnosed with breast cancer. Also, as a tribute to survivors and those affected [by the disease]," says Sydney Fisher, # 19 defence for the Bruins. "Everyone knows someone who has been affected, and we're using this as our chance to raise awareness."

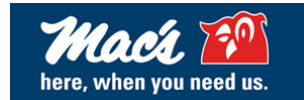
Coming off a 5-3 win against Lloydminster PWM Steelers, the Calgary Bruins will face the Saskatoon Stars, who will be playing their first game of the tournament.

- Jeff Clemens and Sarah Lamoureux



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# Today at the Mac's



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## Male Division

			VISITOR	HOME
11	09:00	MB #1	Calgary Northstars	Tisdale Trojans
12	09:00	FDB	Greater Vancouver Canadiens	Severstal/Locomotiv
13	11:45	MB #1	Sherwood Park J Ennis	Edmonton SSAC BP Athletics
14	11:45	FDB	Fort Saskatchewan BP Rangers	Pirati Chomutov
<b>15*</b>	<b>14:30</b>	<b>MB #1</b>	<b>Beardy's Blackhawks</b>	<b>UFA Bisons</b>
16	14:30	FDB	St. Albert Sports Raiders	Saskatoon Contacts
17	17:15	MB #1	Calgary Buffaloes	Prince Albert Mintos
18	17:15	FDB	York Simcoe Express	Okanagan Rockets
<b>19*</b>	<b>20:00</b>	<b>MB #1</b>	<b>Valley West Hawks</b>	<b>Calgary Royals</b>
20	20:00	FDB	Red Deer Optimist Rebels	Saskatoon Blazers

\* featured game

## Female Division

			VISITOR	HOME
F7	08:00	MB #2	Prince Albert A&W Bears	Thompson-Okanagan
F8	10:30	MB #2	Medicine Hat Players Bench	Calgary Flyers
F9	13:00	MB #2	Regina Rebels	Fraser Valley Phantom
F10	15:30	MB #2	Westman Wildcats	Calgary Chaos
F11	18:00	MB #2	Lloydminster PWM Steel-	Red Deer Sutter Fund
<b>F12*</b>	<b>20:30</b>	<b>MB #2</b>	<b>Saskatoon Stars</b>	<b>Calgary Bruins</b>

\* featured game



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Editor: Jeff Clemens

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