



Monsters Chronicle

Lowell Lock Monsters Booster Club Official Newsletter

Volume 7, Issue 6

www.lockmonstersbc.com

January 2006

LLMBC Executive Board 2005 - 2006

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Monsters Chronicle

is the official newsletter of the Lowell Lock Monsters Booster Club and is published monthly from August to May.

Any questions, comments, issues or suggestions can be sent to the Editor.

LLMBC

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Meeting Notice:

Monday - 1/9/06 - 7 PM
Tsongas Arena Clubroom
Lowell, MA
(Use East Entrance)

Comment's from under the Yellow Hat

Kevin Doyle
President

WOW here we are...the end of 2005, and the beginning of 2006 brings more questions than answers. What do you mean?, you ask!! I posed these questions to the "Magic 8-Ball" before I wrapped it as a stocking stuffer for my mother-in-law. If anyone can answer the tough questions....the 8-Ball can!! We will start with an easy one:

Will we get much more snow?

8-Ball says: "Definitely"...well that's a bummer, but probably true

Now we'll kick it up a notch:

Will we make the play-offs?

8-Ball says: "Not clear at this time"....better than No??

How about a specific question:

Will Ziggy make an impact??

8-Ball says: "Possibly".....is that yes or no?? Sounds like I'm asking my Mother-in-Law...never a real answer. Maybe another easy one:

Should I make New Year resolutions:

8-Ball says: "Yes"....I was afraid of that.....Is there a "No" panel on this thing (slight shake) 8-Ball actually replied "NO" to that...figures!

Now finally the question we all want to know the answer to:

Who will be our goalie? Nastiuk? Ward? Kolesnik? Lawson? Weiman?

8-Ball says: "Try again later"
WHAT!!!!!! Thankfully I kept the receipt!!

Hopefully there will be more answers to Club question that are soon to come. One of which will be answered at January's meeting. Our remaining 50-50 dates are Jan. 15th, Feb. 19th and March 19th, and there is a benefactor to be named later. Our next meeting we will discuss a charity to benefit from our remaining raffles. We have had success with our first two, which helped support our usual holiday charities. We will need help with our remaining raffles. Anyone who would like to help...please drop me an e-mail. One intermission, one pre-game, any help would be greatly appreciated.

I would like to thank Diane Melanson, and Grace Milot for their donations at the December meeting. Very nice additions to the Holiday season!!!! (Thank you Jane too!!!!!!). Did everybody but me know what a swag was???

NEWS FLASH....the club has yet to run a bus trip?? WHAT??? I know the cost of fuel has pushed up the price of road trips....but we are a proud group!! Proud of our team, and proud of our trips. We still have two trips available. Please stop by the booster club table and get the info on the adventures. We are proud of our members and our good times as well!! Get on board!!!!!!

Get-on Gettin on!!
veKni

Life in general!!!

Daniel O'Grady
Editor

It seemed like getting this month's edition out was harder than most month's. I think that I am still recovering from my drive to Florida and back for Thanksgiving and then there was the small trip up to Toronto to see the game just before the Christmas Holiday. Life can get pretty hectic but I'm hoping things settle down now that the holiday's are over.

I don't know how many of you out there have ever worked 3rd shift before but it can really throw things off. I think that after a certain number of years working 3rd that it is finally starting to get old. It can be a challenge coming up with new things each month but as I struggle through things seem to get done. Enough of the rambling!!!

I really hope that everyone enjoyed their holidays with friends & family and I hope that everyone keeps safe & healthy for this new year... Dan O.

Happy New Year!!!
2006

November P.O.M.



#29

LLM Player Chad LaRose was selected as the November 2005 Player of the Month at the December meeting. Colin Forbes & Keith Aucoin came in 2nd & 3rd in the voting. A presentation has not been made yet due to Chad being recalled to the Hurricanes. Great job Chad and keep up the good work in Carolina!!!

Lowell Lock Monsters Booster Club • General Meeting Minutes • Monday, December 5, 2005
Club Room, Tsongas Arena
Attendance: 29 People

Kevin Doyle, President: Welcome. Unfortunately our guest, former NHL referee Paul Stewart, is unable to attend tonight. He will try to come to our January meeting.

Bob Broadfield, Vice President: So far we only have 16 people signed up for the Road trip to Bridgeport on New Year's Eve. We need 40 people for the bus and the deadline to sign up is 12/10. I have sold out of the group tickets to the Bruins-Hurricanes game on March 18. I had 24 tickets. I have a call in to see if we can get more, but cannot guarantee that they will be in the same section.

Laurie Hadamovsky, Secretary: I would like to thank Tricia Dwornick for taking meeting minutes at the last meeting which I missed. Because Kevin had an issue printing the minutes, we will pass them around for review and vote later in the meeting. One quick update is as of 11/20 we had 137 members. Last year we had over 200 so I am unsure if interest is lower this year without the NHL players in the AHL or what. If you have not renewed yet, please do so. Motion to accept meeting minutes. Seconded & approved.

Mike Breneman, Treasurer: Beginning balance as of 11/07/05 of \$4,972.24. Total expenses for November of \$327.71 with no charitable contributions. Total deposits in November of \$1,378.67 including the money that we raised for holiday charities with our first 50-50 raffle of the season. Ending balance of \$6023.20 as of 12/05/05. Motion to accept. Seconded & approved.

Ilene Tatroe, Executive Chair: The Potluck Supper was a success. Everybody had a great time and the food was good. Thanks again to the volunteers who helped set-up and clean-up. I am now concentrating on the End Of The Year Banquet. I have spoken with the front office and coaches and Tom Rowe prefers a date from April 3rd-6th instead of in March. I am hoping to have our first committee meeting soon. If anyone is interested in joining the committee, please sign up after tonight's meeting.

Old Business:

Pin Update: We are now using R & R Trophy in Chelmsford for pins and plaques since All-Star is closing and moving out of state. They have promised to keep All-Star's pricing on player of the month plaques. The pin will be in the shape of a skate, black on silver backing. The lettering will be red and the pin will be roughly 1" x 1". Mike Breneman will be meeting with them this week and expects to have them in the next several weeks.

Fundraising/50-50's:

Kevin apologizes for not mentioning this at the last meeting. The front office is allowing us to run (5) 50-50 raffles this season. We have already had the first two, earmarked for our holiday charities. We raised \$1132 through these 2 raffles. The next (3) 50-50 raffles are scheduled for January 15th, February 19th and March 19th. We do not have any charities in mind yet for those and will discuss them at the January meeting. Mike Breneman makes a motion to give \$1200 to our holiday charities, \$300 to each of the following: Toys 4 Tots, Sun Santa, Salvation Army and the Empty Stocking Fund. Mike/Kevin to call WCAP and check to see if we can still sponsor the radio-thon or auction for \$100 for the Salvation Army as part of their \$300 donation. Motion seconded and approved. The Merrimack Valley Food Bank is also looking for donations. Kris Cormier suggests that we try to do a non-perishable food drive for them. Ilene Tatroe suggests that we consider them for one of the other 50-50 raffles. Discussion is tabled until January.

By-laws Discussion/Ratification:

Kevin Doyle read amendments to suggested new by-laws as voted on at last meeting. Article III, Section IV # 7 now reads, "All members including junior members will have the privilege to vote for player recognition awards" instead of "the privilege to vote for player recognition awards."

Article IV, Section IV, 6th line down now reads, "and of the Golf Tournament Committee" instead of "with the exception of the Golf Tournament Committee".

Same section, 9th line down now reads, "shall cause the books of all of the Booster Club accounts" instead of "shall cause the books of account of the Booster Club".

Article XVI, line one now reads "shall act in good faith at all Booster Club events" instead of "act in good faith at all events".

Motion to accept new by-laws as written with the above amendments. Motion seconded and approved. Kevin thanks Ilene and Laurie for their work in re-writing the by-laws.

New Business:

Raffles: Wreath donated by Grace Milot, won by Roland Poitras. Holiday swag donated by Diane Melanson won by Laurie Hadamovsky. 50-50 raffle to the winner Bob Broadfield.

Player of The Month: Won by Chad Larose with 2nd and 3rd places going to Colin Forbes and Keith Aucoin. Presenters are Ray Baillargeon and Bob Broadfield with Roland Poitras as the alternate.

Next Meeting: Monday, January 9th at the Club Room.

PLAYER PROFILES



Name: Kevin Estrada
Nickname: Wolf
Languages spoken: English
Hometown: Chilliwack, British Columbia
Family members: Mom, Dad & Sister
Favorite hockey moment: Signing with the Hurricanes
Talents & interests: Fishing, guitar, outdoors
Career I want to pursue after hockey: Fishing

My role model: Hard working players in the NHL
Favorite music & movie/TV show: Country music/ Soprano's
My teammates would describe me as: Hard working player
My quote or advice for people: "Hard work pays off"
How would I spend \$1,000,000 cash: Fishing stuff, charity, family/friends
Favorite food: Healthy foods
What would you like to say to your fans: Do I have any?



Name: Danny Richmond
Nickname: Richie
Languages spoken: English & some Spanish
Hometown: Chicago
Family members: Mom, Dad, Sister (twin) & Jake (my dog)
Favorite hockey moment: Winning the first gold medal for Team USA at World Juniors
Talents & interests: Play station Champion, fashion, checkers, Tai Bow, reading Archie

comics

Career I want to pursue after hockey: I'd like to be either a teacher or a real estate mogul
My role model: Both of my parents, they taught me what it takes to be successful in my professional & personal life & Colin Forbes because he is older than golf
Favorite music & movie/TV show: Favorite movie is The Godfather, TV show The OC. I still love listening to Country but my fav. groups are: The Killers, Franz Ferdinand, Dash Board Confessional & Death Cab for Cutie
My teammates would describe me as: Hardworking but sometimes annoying, fun to hang out with and a good poker player
Cartoon character I most resemble: Bart Simpson because I like to stir the pot and get other people in trouble
My quote or advice for people: "Be cool, stay in school;" "Don't be a slob, get a job"
How would I spend \$1,000,000 cash: All on real estate. New condo in Chicago. A cottage in Minnesota. A vacation home in Aruba and a "sick" boat
Favorite food: Liver & onions
Favorite cookie flavor & snack: Chocolate chip cookies & popcorn shrimp from Trader Joe's
What would you like to say to your fans: Thanks for all the support every night



Name: Mitch Love
Nickname: Lover
Languages spoken: English
Hometown: Quesnel, British Columbia, Canada
Family members: Harley (Father), Melanie (Mother) & Jill (Sister)
Favorite hockey moment: Breaking every expansion record in Everett 03-04/ Signing 1st pro contract
Talents & interests: Golf, baseball

Career I want to pursue after hockey: Coaching hockey
My role model: Parents
Favorite music & movie/TV show: Rap/ anchorman, ESPN Sports Center
My teammates would describe me as: Hardworking
My quote or advice for people: "Never give up on a dream"/ "Never quit"
How would I spend \$1,000,000 cash: Family/friends and of course myself
Favorite food: Steak
Favorite cookie flavor & snack: Double fudge cookies
What would you like to say to your fans: Thanks for all of your support



Name: Colin Forbes
Nickname: Old Man
Languages spoken: English (broken)
Hometown: Sherwood Park, Alberta
Family members: Shannon (Wife), Mom, Dad, Sister, Adopted Son (Danny Richmond)
Favorite hockey moment: Being Bobby Clarke's winger
Talents & interests: Crossword puzzles, rummy, taking my medicine, cross stitch,

lawn bowling, 4:30 dinner, bird walk
Career I want to pursue after hockey: Retirement
My role model: Lord Stanley
Favorite music & movie/TV show: M.A.S.H./ music: Johnny Cash & Elvis/ movie: Sound of Music
My teammates would describe me as: Very, very old, Grumpy, a father (or grandfather figure)
Cartoon character I most resemble: Grandpa Simpson, for obvious reasons
My quote or advice for people: "Stay young"
How would I spend \$1,000,000 cash: Hip replacement, Ensure & Depends
Favorite food: Soft food
Favorite cookie flavor & snack: Can't eat cookies
What would you like to say to your fans: Thanks for all the support every night

Thank you to Ken Babbitt/Lowell Lock Monsters for the player profile photo's.

Breaking News from the January 4th Edition of the Lowell Sun

Lock Monsters on block

By BARRY SCANLON, Sun Staff

LOWELL -- The future of professional hockey in Lowell is on thin ice with today's announcement that Lock Monsters owner Elkin McCallum has put the American Hockey League team up for sale.

McCallum, 61, cited business demands as the main reason for his decision.

"My business interests require my full and undivided attention, and as a result, I have made the decision to sell my equity interest in the Lowell Lock Monsters," McCallum said.

McCallum, owner of Joan Fabrics, a multinational textile company, said his business responsibilities have increased to where he is unable to devote the time necessary to run the team. McCallum's textile business is based in Tyngsboro, and he owns plants in North Carolina, Mexico and China.

McCallum, who has owned a share of the Lock Monsters since their inception in 1998, has been the team's sole owner since 2002. Sources say the price tag for the franchise is in the \$3.5 million range.

McCallum is a Lowell native and Tyngsboro resident. He said his preference is to sell the team to a local buyer who would keep it at the Tsongas Arena, the Lock Monsters' home ice.

"It's time for me to move on," he said. "Somebody else could probably do a better job, and I'd be the first to admit it. It's going to take somebody to step up. This is a great community. Very seldom do I hit this community with bad news."

Since joining the AHL in 1998, the Lock Monsters have produced some of the top hockey players in the world. Goaltender Roberto Luongo of the Florida Panthers, defenseman Zdeno Chara of the Ottawa Senators and center Eric Staal of the Carolina Hurricanes are three of the biggest names who represented Lowell.

While the franchise has excelled at developing NHL players, the Lock Monsters have been far less successful drawing fans. McCallum said losses have been "in the millions" since he, Gilbert Campbell and George Behrakis bought the franchise before the 1998-99 season.

This season, the Lock Monsters rank 25th out of 27 AHL teams in attendance. They are averaging 3,195 spectators a game at Tsongas Arena, which has a capacity of 6,496 for hockey games. By contrast, the Manchester, N.H., franchise, which joined the AHL a couple seasons after Lowell, leads the AHL in attendance, averaging 8,319 fans per game.

McCallum said he has been approached in recent years by officials from other cities wondering if he'd like to sell. Talks ended quickly, however, when McCallum asked if the team would still remain in Lowell.

At this point, McCallum said he's willing to sell to an outside buyer, though a local buyer is his preference. A Boston-based sports group is assisting in the sale.

"I'm not doing this willy-nilly," McCallum said. "I'm really not concerned with pointing fingers because I know I've done my part. I can hold my head up high. I'm really not doing this for financial reasons. At the end of the day, it's a struggle, and why should I continue struggling? Hockey is a very expensive sport, and it also has a very high fixed-cost component."

To make the franchise "viable," McCallum feels the Lock Monsters would have to draw 200,000 fans per year. In its best season, the 2002-03 campaign, Lowell drew 164,935 fans, an average of 4,123 per game.

On more than one occasion, McCallum joked that he wished he'd bought the Lowell Spinners, the highly successful baseball franchise, instead. Never a big fan of hockey, McCallum said he originally bought a one-third stake in the Lock Monsters for "one simple reason" -- the late Paul Tsongas asked him to.

When Gilbert Campbell and Behrakis wanted out in the fall of 2002, McCallum bought their shares and kept the team in Lowell because he felt it was important for the city to have the team.

McCallum said he reached a low point last spring, when the Lock Monsters racked up a 100-point regular season and made the playoffs behind a talent-rich roster of NHL stars who played in Lowell due to the NHL lockout. But despite Staal -- now the NHL's eighth-leading scorer -- Chuck Kobasew and goaltender Cam Ward, the team struggled to draw fans to the playoffs. Lowell beat Hartford but fell to Providence in the second round.

"I thought it was pathetic," McCallum said. "They played great hockey. It stunk. It was a disgrace. It's a great atmosphere when the place is full. It's a commentary on the team. The guys are out there playing their hearts out, and they like a crowd."

Lowell has also been struggling on the ice this season. If Lowell, which sports a 13-18-1-4 record, misses the playoffs -- and the team leaves the city -- the final game sits 103 days away on the schedule.

January Celebrations!



Birthdays

George Brown
 Cheryl Crone
 Christine DiLorenzo
 Kevin Doyle
 Corey Indelicato
 Steve Ficociello
 Carolyn Greene
 Maureen Greene
 Fred Isbell
 Amy Melanson

LLM Johnny Boychuk
 LLM Gordie Dwyer
 LLM Donny Grover
 LLM Mike Zigomanis

Anniversaries

None this month

My apologies if I have forgotten anyone this month. If I have, just email the Editor.

Membership Pins:

The membership pins will be available for pick up at the next home game. Please stop by the Booster Club table behind Section F at the next home Lock Monsters Game and get your pin!!!

Lowell Lock Monsters
www.lockmonsters.com

Lowell Lock Monsters Booster Club
www.lockmonstersboosters.com

American Hockey League
www.theahl.com

Carolina Hurricanes (NHL)
www.carolinahurricanes.com

Colorado Avalanche (NHL)
www.coloradoavalanche.com

Florida Everblades (ECHL)
www.floridaeverblades.com

San Diego Gulls (ECHL)
www.sandiegogulls.com

AHL Boards
www.ahlboards.com

AHL2 Boards
s10.invisionfree.com/AHLBoards2

Events and Happenings

- ◆ **Booster Club General Meeting: Mon., Jan. 9, 7 PM**
 Tsongas Arena Club Room - Lowell, MA (Use East Entrance)
- ◆ **50/50 Raffle at home game: Sun., Jan. 15, 4:05 PM**
- ◆ **50/50 Raffle at home game: Sun., Feb. 19, 4:05 PM**
- ◆ **50/50 Raffle at home game: Sun., Mar. 19, 4:05 PM**

Booster Club Thoughts and Expressions

Thank you to Ilene Tatroe for a great job as Executive Chairman on the LLMBC Board this year. Best of luck to you from the Booster Club!!!

Now that the 1st half of the season is about over, let's all help root for some great AHL action in the Tsongas for the 2nd half. Let's go Monsters— get back into the game!!!!

With the news that the team is up for sale, let's all hope for a local owner to step in and keep some great AHL hockey in the City of Lowell and surrounding Merrimack Valley!!!

Important Message from the Executive Chairman

Dear LLMBC members:

After much consideration, I've decided to step down from my position as Executive Chair of the Lowell Lock Monsters Booster Club.

I would like to take a moment to assure all of you that my decision to step down is for personal reasons. I don't feel that I can devote the time and effort I believe I need to dedicate to fulfill my duties for the remainder of the year. To be fair to both the club and to myself, I've decided it's best for me to take a step back at this time.

I have really enjoyed my time as Executive Chair. From the pot luck to the by-laws, it's been a busy and interesting year so far. And our club members have been instrumental in making this an enjoyable job. Thank you.

I would like to take a moment to encourage you to run for the open position of Executive Chair. The Executive Chair serves as a liaison between all committees and the club. And the Executive Chair is also, traditionally, heavily involved in the planning phase for the End-of-the-Year Banquet. The recently-passed by-laws can also give you good insight as to what this position was created to do.

Nominations will be taken at the January 9th meeting, so please think about running for this position. And if you have any questions, please feel free to ask me.

I will still be around the rink and hope to attend meetings. So I will see you all around the Tsongas!

Sincerely,
 Ilene Tatroe

Next Meeting:
Monday • January 9, 2006 • 7 PM
Tsongas Arena Club Room • Lowell



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Monsters Chronicle
Lowell Lock Monsters Booster Club
PO Box 1231
Lowell, MA 01853

January 2006 Events

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 New Year's Day	2	3	4	5	6 LOW @ NOR 7:15 PM	7 LOW @ NOR 7:15 PM
8 LOW @ PHI 5:05 PM	9 General Meeting Tsongas Arena 7 PM	10	11	12	13 LOW @ MCH 7:35 PM	14 LOW vs. PRO 7:35 PM
15 LOW vs. BRI 4:05 PM	16	17	18 LOW vs. POR 7:05 PM	19	20 LOW vs. BRI 7:35 PM	21 LOW @ SPR 7:05 PM
22 LOW @ HAR 4:00 PM	23	24	25 LOW @ ALB 7:00 PM	26	27 LOW vs. HAR 7:35 PM	28 LOW @ HAR 7:00 PM
29 LOW vs. TOR 4:05 PM	30	31				
				vs. =Home Game @ =Away Game		