



Game #3 — Thursday, February 13, 2020
Complexe Sportif Wendake
Wendake, QC

Hershey Jr Bears Quebec Team — 6
Japan Select — 3

The Hershey squad took to the ice again Thursday morning in Wendake, this time against the Japan Select Team. As snow flurries fell rapidly outside and temperatures dropped, things heated up on the ice quickly. The Japanese crew skated fast and the pace was quick right from the opening draw. Spirited play led to some early penalties, resulting in power play opportunities for the Bears. Blake Umberger, a forward quarterbacking the PP for the Chocolate and White, took a nice dish from center Joey Argentina and broke the ice with a rocket from the left point that cut through some strong net front traffic and dented the twine to put Hershey ahead 1-0. Not long after, Japan sent two skaters to the box on the same sequence, giving Hershey a 5-3 power play opportunity. Brady Logue fed Umberger on the left side boards, and Ummu patiently worked the puck deeper into the Japan offensive zone and then surgically threaded a nifty cross-ice feed to a streaking Shelby Shane pinching from her right D spot, who took the pass and buried a swift wristed into the Japanese net for a 2-0 Bears lead. The Bears continued strong offensive play throughout the period, with the line of Lily Straub, Brady Cox and usual D-man Cam Ross seeing some time upfront, putting lots of pressure on the Japanese defense and generating some quality scoring chances.

The Second period started with a carryover Power Play for Japan, and they converted just :33 seconds into the frame. Hershey sent another player to the box shortly after, and again Japan took advantage and knotted things up at 2-2 with the goals coming just over 2 minutes apart. Hershey continued to attack offensively, with forwards Dom Rotella, James Holden and Jack Torr using their creativity to generate quality scoring chances, and the Japanese goalie absolutely robbing Evan Kensey on a dazzling series of moves on a partial breakaway. Midway through the period, Japan took advantage of a play in the neutral zone and potted their third straight marker to put them ahead 3-2. From there, the Hershey defense buckled down, as d-men Ian Mohr, Blake Junkins and Carter Erwin locking things down with strong d-zone play, and netminder Jacob Aranda refusing the Japanese shooters any hope of beating him. Two minutes after the Japanese crew went ahead, Rearguard Ellie Dimatos fed Shane a nice pass, and she launched a hard shot toward the Japan net and Umberger pounced on the rebound to knot things up at 3 apiece, where things would stay till the end of the period.

The Third period went at a furious pace as both teams grappled to take the lead. Midway through, Hershey once again went on the man advantage and Japan all but killed it off till d-man Will Gregorio found speedy forward Dom D'Eletto who in turn surprised the Japan netminder with a quick release that found the back of the net and caused to bench and the Hershey faithful to erupt with great cheers as the Chocolatetown heroes regained the lead 4-3! Japan came right



back and could not solve Aranda or the stingy Hershey defense. After many back-and-forth sequences, Hershey broke through again, with Logue feeding Ross at the right point, and his point shot being turned away only to have the rebound come to Straub, who wasted no time in popping into the cage past the fallen netminder, making it 5-3 Hershey! Hershey poured it on even further, with Umberger hitting d-man Martyn Ogorodnikov in stride, who then carried the puck deep into the Japan zone and fed a perfect pass over to Argentina, who opened up on his off-wing and deftly buried the difficult-to-execute, in-motion one-timer high into the net just :45 seconds later to make it 6-3 Hershey! Japan refused to go down quietly and unloaded everything on Aranda, who stopped it all including a rapier-like glovehand on one laser of a shot. Team Japan moved the puck around with great accuracy and looked like they had a Grade A scoring chance on a slick feed to their left point, and the rearguard unleashed a bullet of a shot, but big forward Hunter Strohm would have none of it, and he courageously faced the Japanese shooter head-on, with the shot making a booming echo through the Arena as it caromed off his shin pad and skittered into the neutral zone, sealing the victory for the Bears!

In the ultimate show of honor and sportsmanship, the Japan Select team nobly bowed to the Hershey fans, and then embraced the Hershey squad with bro-hugs and congratulatory shoulder pad taps, despite how valiantly they battled each other just moments before. A great tilt and a great showing of the brother- and sisterhood of the game.

On Friday will play another exhibition game, and then begin Tournament play on Saturday at the famed Videtron Centre. Stay tuned for another write-up tomorrow, and Let' Go Jr Bears!!!



EXHIBITION GAME 2: Hershey 4 – Austrian Selects 0

The Hershey Jr Bears Quebec Team took to the ice on Wednesday morning for their second exhibition game leading up to the 61st Annual Pee Wee International Tournament, taking on the Austrian Selects in a true International competition. The Hershey crew put on a strong performance in all aspects of the game and posted a 4-0 victory!

The Jr Bears got the ever-crucial first goal in the 1st Period, with Blake Umberger popping home a rebound after some great puck movement from linemates Joey Argentina and Dom D’Eletto, who picked up the assists. The Hershey defense did a strong job limiting Austrian scoring attempts thanks to spirited play by Shelby Shane, Ellie Dimatos, Martyn Ogorodnikov and Ian Mohr. Goaltender Patrick Quinlan was a brick wall, thwarting many Austrian attempts and taking the Bears into the first intermission up 1-0.

In the second stanza Hershey continued to dictate the play, as forwards Dom Rotella, Hunter Strohm and Jack Torr created many top quality scoring chances, and Brady Cox and Lily Straub forechecked relentlessly and kept the play bottled up in the Austrian zone. On the defensive side, d-men Will Gregorio, Cam Ross and Blake Junkins protected Quinlan and the Hershey net with tight D-zone coverage. The Bears added to their lead late in the frame when Argentina took a pass from winger James Holden and buried a high wrister that beat both the Austrian netminder and the buzzer to make it 2-0 Hershey.

In the 3rd the Bears dialed it up further, posting two more tallies just 3:18 apart to double the lead to 4-0. Forward Evan Kensey potted the first goal, with the helpers going to Jack Torr and D’Eletto, his second apple of the tilt. Brady Logue added the final marker on a setup from Kensey.

Congrats to the squad and Coaches Doug Yingst, Dave Umberger and Paddy Carey on the victory! Stay tuned here for more updates as the Bears embark on their Quebec journey.