

2015 - 2016

TOURNAMENT GAME 3 (quarterfinals): Hershey 2 – Lac St.-Louis Sud Lions 5
Saturday, February 20, 2016 @ 9:15AM - Centre Videotron

Hershey's Final Game in Quebec Proves Bittersweet

Quebec City- It was a cold, snowy morning in Quebec City. Centre Vidéotron was beckoning. The Hershey Bears marched into a Quarterfinal matchup against a LAC St. Louis team coming off an overtime thriller versus Blainville-Boisbriand Armada just the day before. Parents, siblings and their billet families filed into Centre Vidéotron and took up residence again in Section 120.

The game started to the anticipation and cheers of the Hershey faithful. The Bears used the first few minutes to find their stride and adjust to the speed of the game. The Lions would have the early legs and dictate the pace. At the **8:00** mark, LAC would see the first chance of the game and spring a break that would see Michael Roby, on a nice backcheck, chase down and deny a Lions drive to the net.

A minute later, the Bears would get the first power play of the game, but it would be our goalie, Austin Zavoda, who would stand strong in the net. A turnover in the neutral zone would allow the SUD penalty killer to pick up the puck at mid-ice and break in for a shot that Zavoda confidently turned away. The penalty would expire and play would resume to 5 on 5.

At the **4:33** mark, however, as play continued back and forth in the neutral zone, a quick 2 on 1 would emerge after another LAC St. Louis steal. And this time, the Lions would bury it.

0-1 LAC_

Hershey's first great opportunity would emerge at the **3:45** mark. Pressure in the Lions end and a great keep in at blue line by Christo Walker would find linemate Bryan Garry, who would make a sweet move to the crease but ultimately was denied from putting the biscuit in the basket.

A minute and a half later, the Bears would go on another power play. However, a hooking call against the Hershey negated the man advantage and even play would resume. 4 on 4 play gave the Bears open ice and another scoring opportunity with a well-executed breakout by Nolan Woudenberg and Ryan Hanson leading to a quality chance by Alexander Moeller, only to be denied on the doorstep.

Towards the end of the period, a faceoff in Hershey's defensive zone would allow SUD to establish their cycle. The defense kept the puck to the outside, but a bouncing puck would settle in the right slot where a waiting Lions player would hammer it home for a goal. The Lions would outshoot the Bears 9-6 in the first frame.

Hershey 0-Lions 2 at the end of 1st period.

The second period started with a power play for LAC St. Louis. The penalty killers did a stellar job limiting the Lions from getting pucks easily toward the net. A great chance ensued when Dylan Gratton was sprung from the penalty box. A 2 on 1 developed, but a diving Lions defender would break up a pass and the Bears would be denied.

Momentum seemed to start to ebb Hershey's way with a series of rushes leading to some quality scoring chances--but they did not materialize. A minute later, however, LAC would win a race for the

puck and a good 1 on 1 effort for a snipe from the slot would find the net.

0-3 Hershey trailing.

At the 10-minute mark, a hooking call on the Lions would give Hershey their 3rd man-advantage of the game. However, the Bears would come up empty again.

Hershey continued to push and would start to find their game. The Bears were matching speed and possession better and the chances were starting to come.

And then, at the [6:07](#) mark, a Hershey rush would see Michael Roby ring the bell for the Boys from Chocolatetown on a sweet 2 on 1 break with a primary from Alex Moeller off a nice feed from Owen McLaughlin.

1-3 score Hershey on the board

Minutes later, Hershey executed a great center ice faceoff win just outside the Bears blue line to Max Samuels setting up on right D. Samuels corralled the puck and sent a sharp pass to Dylan Gratton on the left. Gratton surveyed the ice and took it into his own hands. He skated into the neutral zone and crossed the blue line wide to the left. Gratton made a nice power move, cutting in towards the left of the crease and jamming in a backhand low and right. Le BUT!!!! (GOAL!!!)

2-3 score

After the goal, the Lions had another breakaway chance. Gavin Peduzzi raced after the SUD player and showed incredible speed and stick control in what proved to be a game saver at the time. And [at 3:45](#) left in the second frame, Matthew Brille had one of his best looks of the game--narrowly missing but ringing the post to try and even the score.

LAC continued to pack it in tight on the defensive side to try spring their high forward. Austin Zavoda was tested yet again 30 seconds later, making a stellar save on another breakaway chance. The Lions continued with a flurry in the Hershey zone but Zavoda stood tall in goal and stifled the Lions.

The Bears woke up after going down 0-3. Momentum in the second half of the middle frame belonged to the Bears. There was some very good play in the final minutes of the period in the Lions zone for Hershey, and at the end of the period the ice was starting to tilt, with the Bears outshooting LAC St. Louis 7-6. However, time would wind down in the 2nd with Hershey trailing 2-3.

2-3 after 2

The third period started after a 15-minute intermission for an ice cut. At the beginning of the 3rd, Hershey put the pressure on. Center Owen McLaughlin started off the period with a great shot on a Bears rush that was gloved by the Lions goalie. Another rush to net saw a shot by Sam Lipkin sitting on the goalie's lap, but a whistle stopped play before a Bears player could push it through. Hershey started to cycle the puck more, creating more flow and opportunity, but the collapsing defense of LAC St. Louis kept the Bears away from the net.

Play started to swing back the other way, but an LAC 2 on 2 rush was denied by Samuels and Gratton, standing up the Lions players in the defensive zone. The defense would continue to hang tough, with good backtracking from the two-way forwards.

Ultimately, a Bears ice of the puck would find a faceoff back in Hershey's zone. And at the 11:34 mark, a defining goal would emerge from a broken play and the Lions would score on the back door.

2-4 score

With Hershey down by 2, another cherry pick by SUD would be broken up by great hustle by Peduzzi to save a goal just a minute after the last Lions tally. Play stayed pretty even over the next few minutes with no significant opportunities for either club.

With around 7 minutes to go, the Bears killed another penalty with strong work from Nolan Westlake and Christo Walker at a very crucial time. And at the 4:33 mark, Zavoda would be tested again and deny the Lions speedsters with an amazing save and give Hershey yet another boost.

With 3:50 to go in the 3rd, a roughing call on the Lions gave the Bears a power play and some hope. Hershey would win some good draws in the Lions defensive zone and set up with great puck movement, but despite the great control, the boys from Chocolatetown could not will the puck across the goal line.

With one minute and twenty seconds left in the game, Hershey called a time out. The goalie was pulled and the big guns set up for a decisive offensive zone draw. A hard fought faceoff by Magnus Gadowsky sent a tumbling puck back towards the blue line, and it jumped the stick of our boys and popped out to the Lions defender who cruised in for the empty netter.

2-5 Final

As time wound down to the inevitability of the season's end, the boys from Hershey were not able to realize their dream of ultimately competing in the final rounds of the Tournoi Pee Wee for 2016. These were a special group of boys, and the last 10 months help solidify their character. The boys skated to center ice to shake the hands of the victors. Ultimately, a final curtain call came as the boys in Chocolate and White circled Centre Videotron one last time, with heads and sticks held high, to salute the fans who had so graciously welcomed them nearly a week before. As they rounded section 120, you could feel the pride that the families had for these young men. And like that, it was over.

The game was the game. Tearful kids came out of the locker room to the waiting cheers and hugs of family. It was emotional--yes. But, we must not forget as one of our parents stated and our bus driver John reiterated on the way home, that "this is an incredible game played by 12 year old boys." And I will add that there are milestones in life that define a person. We have had the honor to have Coach Doug Yingst, Coach Matt Yingst, Coach Frannie Bonenberger, Coach Warren Lewis, Coach John Hrabovsky, Coach Dave Umberger, Goalie Coach Scott Stuccio and beloved manager Lori Rich help shape and mold our boys into fine young men. The life lessons, leadership skills and level of commitment that was instilled in our boys will make them not only better hockey players, but more importantly, better people. Thank you for this incredible and defining moment in our boys lives. This is not the end--it's just the beginning!

WE ARE!! HERSHEY!!



HERSHEY	0	2	0		2
PIM	2	0	2		4
SOG	6	7	7		20
LAC St. Louis	1st	2nd	3rd	OT	TOTAL
SCORE	2	1	2		5
PIM	4	2	2		8
SOG	9	6	10		25

Forwards:

Magnus Gadowsky, Sam Lipkin, Matthew Brille, Frankie Hipp, Michael Roby, Bryan Garry, Carson Hall, Alex Moeller, Cristo Walker, Owen McLaughlin, Nolan Westlake

Defense:

Dylan Gratton, Max Samuels, Gavin Peduzzi, Ryan Hanson, Nolan Woudenberg, Logan Dittenhafer, Jeremy Seyfert

Goalies:

Austin Zavoda
Liam Cunningham

Head Coach: Doug Yingst

Asst. Coaches: Matt Yingst
Warren Lewis
Fran Bonenberger
Dave Umberger

Goalie Coach: Scott Stuccio

Video Coach: John Hrabovsky

Team Manager: Lori Rich

Coaches Assistants: Mac Gadowsky
 Brody Haynes
 Ian McDonald
 Colin Nemshick
 Tyler Rolston

Bus Driver in Quebec: Ronny Lindberg

Game Summaries: Jay Samuels
 Mike Brille
ghost writers

A very special thanks to Caroline Hall,, M.D. who was recruited and took on the roll as team physician!

TOURNAMENT GAME 2: Carolina Jr. Hurricanes 2 – Hershey 7

Thursday, February 18, 2016 @ 8:00AM - Centre Videotron

Quebec City – Game 2 of the tournament saw the Bears take on a tough Carolina Hurricanes squad, who had advanced to the second round of the winners bracket by coming back from two goals down in the third period to defeat the Anaheim Ducks 4-3. The Bears, well aware that the competition will only get tougher from this point forward, took to the ice at the Centre Videotron prepared for a close contest.

Hershey carried the play in the first period, keeping almost constant pressure on the Hurricanes in their own zone. The Chocolate and White were rewarded for their effort just 2:42 into the first period when Alex Moeller found himself in close on the Carolina keeper with the puck on his stick off a nice feed from Bryan Garry. Moeller patiently corralled the biscuit and roofed it backhand, leaving the Carolina goalie shaking head. **1-0 Bears!** Hershey kept the pressure on for the rest of the first, registering 9 shots on goal to just 1 for the ‘Canes, as the Bears defensive corpse let almost nothing through to Zavoda. Yet the score would remain 1-0 until just before the end of the first, when the Bears put several pucks on net and crashed the crease, with Matthew Brille finally putting the backhand home off helpers from Garry and Magnus Gadowsky. **2-0 Bears. End of 1.**

The momentum would quickly change just 30 seconds into the second period, however, when the ‘Canes, capitalizing on a late first period Hershey tripping penalty, would put in a back door rebound on the ensuing power play, cutting the Bears’ lead in half. **2-1 Bears.** One minute later, the Canes would strike again, using a strong forecheck to create a defensive zone turnover and tie the score less than two minutes into the second period. While the Hershey faithful may have been a bit nervous at this point, the Bears were just the opposite, maintaining their composure and continuing to play their game. So it was that just over three minutes later, the Bears would regain the momentum, when Brille gathered the puck in the corner and banked one in off a Carolina defenseman for his second of the game to put the Bears back on top **3-2.** Zavoda would keep the Canes at bay for the rest of the period, and the Hershey faithful would have been content to head to the third with a one goal lead. The Bears, though, were not done. With less than a minute to go until intermission, the Hershey faithful were treated to a bit of wheeling and dealing by Michael “We love” Roby, who slashed through the Canes defense and went five hole to restore the Bears’ 2-goal lead. **Huge Goal!! 4-2 Bears, End of 2.**

In the third, the Bears would increase their lead with sustained pressure on the ‘Canes defense. Just three minutes in, Brille and Gadowsky would find Sammy Lipkin skating on the ‘Canes defense, and Lipkin would do the rest, putting the puck high to the short side in on the ‘Canes keeper for a commanding **5-2 Hershey lead.** Four minutes later, Logan “Itty Bitty” Dittenhafer would find Owen McLaughlin at the opposing blue line for a two on one with Alex Moeller. McLaughlin deftly drew the ‘Canes defenseman toward him before filling Moeller’s order in the slot with extra sauce, and Moeller buried the ensuing wristed top left corner for his second goal of the game and a **6-2 Hershey lead.**

Before the ensuing faceoff, Cunningham would enter the game in relief of Zavoda and kept the door shut. The threesome of Walker, Westlake and Hipp worked hard all game long, and would see their efforts rewarded late in the third when Jeremy Seyfert unleashed a very dapper slapper from the point that went straight up into the air off the right pad of the 'Canes netminder and bounced into the goal to finish the scoring. **Final Score: Bears 7, 'Canes 2.**

On the defensive side of the ice, Dylan Gratton, Max Samuels, Gavin Peduzzi, Ryan Hanson, Nolan Woudenberg, Logan Dittenhafer, and Jeremy Seyfert limited the 'Canes to just 14 shots on goal for the game.

Next Game: Quarterfinals on Saturday, February 18, 2016 @ 9:15 AM at Centre Videotron

HERSHEY	1st	2nd	3rd	OT	TOTAL
SCORE	2	2	3		7
PIM	2	0	2		4
SOG	8	5	9		26
CAROLINA	1st	2nd	3rd	OT	TOTAL
SCORE	0	2	0		2
PIM	0	2	0		2
SOG	1	6	7		14

EXHIBITION GAME 6: North Shore Winter Club 3 - Hershey 7

Friday, February 17, 2016 @ 12:30 PM La Cage Aux Sports Complex les 3 Glaces

Quebec City – After a morning of stimulating the Canadian economy at L'Entrepot du Hockey, the parents--a little lighter in the wallet--moseyed on back to Les 3 Glaces for a match against The North Shore Winter Club from Northern Vancouver.

The Bears would start things off quickly, and get on the board within the first minute of play. Matthew Brille would win a race to the puck along the right boards entering into Vancouver's zone. Brille would rush towards the net where the puck would find Christo Walker in the high slot. Walker would pivot and feed a pass to Dylan Gratton at the left point who would wind up for a slapshot and find Brille cruising through the high slot for a sweet tip. At 14:10 in the 1st period, the Hershey Bears would lead **1-0**.

Then, nearly 3 ½ minutes later, Nolan Woudenberg would corral the puck and play a perfect pass off the right center ice boards to a streaming Brille, who would take the puck all the way, beating the defense and the goalie low and left for the score. **2-0** Boys from Chocolatetown. The Bears would heed the words of Coach Yingst and see to it that Vancouver would have trouble exiting their zone. Great forechecking in Vancouver's zone netted a positive return when Alexander Moeller would steal the puck on the forecheck and place a shot that deflected off the goalie and popped up. Michael Roby would rush the net and use great hand-eye coordination to bat the puck in for Hershey's third tally. **3-0** Good Guys

Vancouver, being outplayed for most of the first period, would come back with a tally of their own. Studying the effectiveness of the Hershey forecheck, the North Shore Winter Club would pressure Hershey inside their zone and would cut into the Bear's lead with a wrister to the upper right corner of the goal. **3-1**.

Not to be outdone, the Boys from Hershey would get one more score before the end of the 1st period. The defense would settle down and Gratton would throw a 50/50 puck off the boards.

Alexander Moeller raced after the puck and would overtake the Winter Club defenseman with a great stick lift, capture the puck and slide it through the five hole with 12 seconds left in the period, for a **4-1** Bears lead. Hershey would outshoot North Shore 10-4 in the first period.

The second period saw fairly even play with good chances for both sides. The North Shore Club flirted with a goal, but Liam Cunningham would make a great save on a quality chance to keep the 3-goal margin for the boys in Chocolate.

At the 6:48 mark in the 2nd, a beautifully crafted breakout from the defensive zone would see precision tic-tac-toe passing from Seyfert to Walker to Gadowsky, who would put the biscuit in the basket for the 5th goal for the Chocolate and White. Hershey would keep the pressure on, and at the 4:08 mark in the middle stanza, a nice steal in the defensive zone would lead to a nice rush down the ice and a great setup from Michael Roby to Owen McLaughlin that would bear fruit and increase the Bears lead to **6-1**. That is how the score would remain as time wound down in the 2nd period, and a stellar 9 to 1 shot advantage for the Bears.

The 3rd period would see our boys play with a commanding lead, however, at about the midway point of the frame Hershey committed a 4 minute roughing minor that allowed North Shore a prolonged power play-- and they answered. At 6:30 in the third, a fumble at the center stripe allowed a 2 on 1 that saw a shot from the left side find the net. **6-2** is the score. With time still on the double minor penalty, Vancouver would strike yet again. A streaking North Shore player would eventually circle the net and fire from the right slot over the goalie and make a dent, cutting the lead in half, **6-3**.

The second half of the third period saw rougher play and some frustration from both sides, as well. This time, Hershey would get the man advantage and they would put the nail in the coffin of Vancouver. A push up ice would see an odd-man rush where Brille would chip a beautiful timing pass to Roby at the door step. Roby would get the shot off, and the goalie would make the initial save, but Brille charged the net, gathered the loose change and knock in his 3rd goal of the game. Hatty!!! The score was 7-3 and the Bears would run out the clock to finish the game.

The Defensive unit of Gratton, Samuels, Peduzzi, Hanson, Woudenberg, Dittenhafer and Seyfert did their job this game, with Gratton getting 2 primary and 2 secondary helpers and Seyfert a primary assist, as well. The D kept the opposing shots on goal to just 9 for the entire game, while combining with the forwards for 24 shots of their own.

Austin Zavoda and Liam Cunningham again split this game, giving up 3 goals on 9 shots.

Sam Lipkin sat out today's game and we look forward to having him back rested and ready for tomorrow's game at 8 AM at Centre Videotron v. Carolina Jr. Hurricanes in a second round matchup for the tournament. GO BEARS!

HERSHEY	4	2	1		7
PIM	0	0	4		4
SOG	10	9	5		24
NSWC	1st	2nd	3rd	OT	TOTAL
SCORE	1	0	2		3
PIM	0	0	2		2
SOG	4	1	4		9

TOURNAMENT GAME 1: NY Islanders 0 – Hershey 7
Monday, February 15, 2016 @ 2:15PM - Centre Videotron

Quebec City – Gameday. It's time. Nothing more needs to be said. Almost nine months ago, these 20 players waited to take the ice as individuals with the rest of the massive group of hopefuls at the Giant Center, looked at those around them, and wondered, "will it be him or me?" Today, nine months later, those same 20 players waited to take the ice at the Centre Videotron, no longer as individuals, but as team. This time when they looked at each other, they did so as friends – as teammates – knowing they had come together for a common purpose, and knowing their time had come. This time it counts. The journey starts now. Let's get after it.

The Hershey faithful took up residence in Section 120. The moms wore their jerseys proudly and everyone cheered loudly as the Bears took the ice in their dark uniforms and launched chocolate bars into the stands during their warm up. After the opening faceoff, both teams skated hard but it was clear that that it would take some time for the teams to settle in. Just as the Islanders were trying to find some rhythm, however, Christo Walker played the puck to Max Samuels who hit Bryan Garry with a stretch pass as Garry streaked down center ice. Garry deked the Islander goalie and scored just three minutes into the first period. Chocolate rained down from the heavens! **1-0 Bears**. Although the boys had several more quality scoring chances, outshooting the Islanders 7-2, they could not find the back of the net for the rest of the period. **1-0 End of 1.**

In the second, the Bears quickly started to impose their will. The Roby, McLaughlin, Moeller line was all over the ice and was quickly rewarded when McLaughlin found Roby all alone in the slot and Roby buried it. **2-0 Hershey**. Zavoda kept the Islanders at bay with a couple of nice pad saves and, just three minutes later, Matthew Brille let loose a sweet backhand to beat the Islanders goalie off an assist from Seyfert to make it **3-0 Bears**. The chocolate blizzard was on. On the defensive side of the ice, Dylan Gratton and Max Samuels kept everything to the outside, while Gavin Peduzzi, Ryan Hanson, Nolan Woudenberg, Logan Dittenhafer, and Jeremy Seyfert continually frustrated the Islanders forwards, giving up only 3 shots on goal for the entire period. **End of 2, 3-0 Bears.**

After a long intermission, the Bears came out in the third determined to break the Islanders' hearts, and the determination paid off on the first shift when Sammy Lipkin made it **4-0 Bears** just 36 seconds in. More chocolate in the stands!! Cunningham relieved Zavoda and quickly made several nice saves. Six minutes later, Matthew Brille got his second goal of game when he redirected another Woudenberg laser beam past the Islanders goalie, making it **5-0 Bears**. Uh oh. We may not have brought enough chocolate! The Chocolate and White was now rolling. One minute later, Magnus Gadowsky finished off a nice passing play from Brille and Lipkin to increase the lead yet again. **6-0 Bears**. Michael Roby would finish off the scoring just one minute later, notching his second goal of the game off of a wicked wrist shot that beat the Islanders goalie high to the glove side. **Final score: Hershey 7 – New York 0.**

Zavoda and Cunningham combined for another shutout.

Next Tournament Game: Carolina Hurricanes on Thursday, February 18, 2016 @ 8:00 AM at Centre Videotron.

HERSHEY	1st	2nd	3rd	OT	TOTAL
SCORE	1	2	4		7
PIM	0	2	2		4
SOG	7	7	12		26
New York	1st	2nd	3rd	OT	TOTAL
SCORE	0	0	0		0
PIM	0	2	0		2
SOG	2	3	4		9

EXHIBITION GAME 5: Hershey 3 – Hockey Academie 2

Sunday, February 14, 2016 @ 12:00PM - Arena St. Anne-de-la-Perade

Quebec City-The Hershey faithful braved the -30° C windchill and ventured down Highway 40 and across the fishing village on the Riviere Sainte Anne for the Chocolate and White's last exhibition before tomorrow's opening round game at Centre Vidéotron. This noontime friendly versus the Panthers ADHF College Marie de l'Incarnation (Academie) would prove to be the closest battle and the quickest team Hershey has faced in exhibition play thus far.

Quick back and forth play initiated the game, and At 3:03 in the **1st**, a quick breakout would have Seifert finding Lipkin cruising through the neutral zone and ultimately finding Woody jumping up in the rush to score on a nice feed a the top of the left crease. **1-0** Bears. The speed of the game was evident on both sides and Cunningham made some nice glove saves early to keep Academie off the board. A late power play flourish for the Bears saw a loose puck find the net but time had just expired keeping the game a one goal affair. Hershey would outshoot ADHF 9-5 in the 1st.

The **2nd** period started with a face-off win but a quick steal by Academie at the center line resulted in the game tying goal just 12 seconds into the 2nd period. We are all evened up at 1 apiece. However, just one minute later, Academie committed a foul and the power play unit did it's job. Moeller corralled the puck on the far wall and sent it to Lipkin who made a slick pass to Gratton, moving nicely without the puck, on the left wing and buried a shot. **2-1** Hershey. Throughout the second, the boys continued to move the puck more confidently and killed a penalty, giving up only one shot on the Academie man-advantage. At the end of the 2nd period, the Chocolate and White led **2-1**, and outshot Academie 7-5.

The **3rd** period would see the puck played in Hershey's defensive zone early. A broken play gave up the puck in the high slot, but a beautiful diving shot block by Hall kept the score the same. Both sides would move the puck well in the third, but solid chances did not emerge, and Zavoda looked sharp in net. At the 11:33 mark, and late into a power play of their own, the PK unit would give up a goal on a clear to the center stripe that ultimately found an Academie player cross the blue line and hit a snapshot that would ramp up and find the back of the net. Score tied **2-2**.

Not to be deterred, the boys from Chocolatetown BEARED down and found a way. Hanson corralled the puck in the defensive zone and proceeded to break the puck up the right boards. Brille waited along the wall and played a sweet little bump out to out to Lipkin who blasted through the neutral zone, over the blue line and pierced through two defensemen and deked the goalie low and left with 43 seconds left in the game. The Hershey crowd roared. **3-2** Bears.

Academie pulled their goalie and did everything they could to keep the puck in Hershey's zone. A late flourish for the host team erupted. Amid diving bodies and rebounds, the puck slid toward the net with a huge mountain of bodies, but time had expired.

The Bears squeezed out a victory in the best contest of the exhibition round **3-2**, outshooting Academie **24-15** for the game. The teams congratulated each other at center ice, took off their gloves and helmets and posed for a group photo. That's what hockey is all about.

The boys played again without Bryan Garry who is on the mend and resting up for the big game at the Videotron Center tomorrow.

HERSHEY	1st	2nd	3rd	OT	TOTAL
SCORE	1	1	1		3
PIM	0	2	2		4
SOG	9	7	8		24
ACADEMIE	1st	2nd	3rd	OT	TOTAL
SCORE	0	1	1		2
PIM	2	2	0		4
SOG	4	5	6		15

EXHIBITION GAME 4: Hershey 6 – San Jose 1

Saturday, February 13, 2016 @ 10:10AM - La Cage Aux Sports Complexe les 3 glaces

Quebec City – After three games against international competition, Game 4 for the Bears would be an affair with another U.S. team: the Sharks from San Jose. The Chocolate and White would take to the ice a bit shorthanded today as fever has set in for one of our own. In the meantime, the boys took to the ice against the Sharks with a collective message for their ailing teammate: “Rest up Bee Gee, we got this.”

The boys came out hard to the cheers of their faithful fans and quickly set up camp in the San Jose zone, buzzing the net and keeping the pressure on. Gadowsky, Lipkin, and Brille found each other several times for scoring chances but could not light the lamp, while the Gratton, Samuels, Peduzzi, Hanson, Woudenberg, Dittenhafer, and Seyfert relentlessly held the blue line. Carson Hall and Frankie Hipp were all over the Sharks’ defense creating turnovers. But the puck seemed to have eyes of its own early on, consistently missing the net high or wide by just a hair. Undeterred, the speedy line of Alex Moeller, Michael Roby, and Owen McLaughlin continued to pressure the Sharks on every shift and would finally strike first for the Bears when Gavin Peduzzi hit Roby streaking down the left side of ice. Roby buried the wraparound and the ice was broken. **1-0 Bears**. That would be the only scoring during the first period, although the Bears dominated possession, putting 9 shots on goal and giving up only 2.

In the second, Roby, Moeller, and McLaughlin continued right where they left off with another strike – this one by Moeller off a sweet passing play from both his line mates – just 30 seconds into the period. **2-0 Bears!** But midway through the period, the Sharks would bite back, collecting some chum off a scramble in front of Cunningham to cut the Bears’ lead in half. The boys would keep their composure, however, and strike back with four minutes left in the period, when Matthew Brille redirected a point shot from Sammy Lipkin into the back of the net, with the secondary apple from Gadowsky. **End of 2, 3-1 Bears.**

The third period began with the Bears faithful a little on edge with the boys holding on to the most dangerous lead in hockey. The Sharks opened the period attempting to take the body at every opportunity, and skating hard, but they quickly stepped over the line when they introduced Westlake to the boards with a check from behind. Power play Bears! It would not take long for boys in brown and white to strike again, this time it was McLaughlin collecting a feed from Gratton and Lipkin at the side of the crease and going backhand top shelf on the Sharks’ netminder. **4-1 Bears!** What a snipe! The crowd erupts, the tension eases a bit, and the Hershey faithful form a spontaneous human pyramid in joyous celebration. (Wait, I may be mixing memories). Anyway, they were happy. Five minutes later, Peduzzi would score a nice “dirty” goal off a rebound in the crease on shots by Christo Walker and Nolan Westlake. In closing, Walker would end the scoring unassisted with three minutes left to go by putting in his own rebound off a wicked snapper from the slot. Game over! **6-1 Bears!!**

Six goals. Six different goal scorers. Balance.

The Defensive unit again stood tall holding off the Sharks for a total of 5 SOG and the "balanced offense" recording 31 shots.

Liam Cunningham and Austin Zavoda were again dialed in and played well despite not seeing a lot of rubber.

HERSHEY	1st	2nd	3rd	OT	TOTAL
SCORE	1	2	3		6
PIM	0	0	0		0
SOG	9	12	10		31
San Jose	1st	2nd	3rd	OT	TOTAL
SCORE	0	1	0		1
PIM	0	0	2		2
SOG	2	2	1		5

EXHIBITION GAME 3: Slovakia 1 – Hershey 8

Friday, February 12, 2016 @ 12:40PM - La Cage Aux Sports Complexe les 3 glaces

Quebec City – After two consecutive, successful trips to the mall—The Chocolate and White sharpened their skates and ventured out to La Cage Aux Sports Complex for an afternoon tilt with team Slovakia. Coming off two decisive wins, it was time for the boys from Hershey to Bear down. Donning their Chocolate brown sweaters, the boys strode onto the ice from the end boards and behind the goal to the enthusiastic and adoring fans cheering above. Looking focused yet relaxed, the boys quickly got into game mode for puck drop.

Very early on in the 1st period, the penalty killing unit was put to the test and responded very well, giving up virtually no chances. The early part of the first frame saw even play on both sides. The free-flow play led to some quality chances for the Bears, with Slovakia's goalie getting pressured time and again. The quick legs of Hershey drew a penalty. Using all five players and moving the puck with precision and focus, the power play unit netted an early power play goal by Roby from Brille with a great assist at the door step. **1-0 Bears** at the end of period 1, with the Bears outshooting Slovakia 11-3 in the first frame.

The 2nd period saw the continuation of a Bears man down situation that started in the 1st period. However, the boys killed the penalty virtually the entire time in the Slovak's zone, yet again, with zero shots allowed. Then, at the 12:29 mark of the 2nd, a great keep by Peduzzi as he streamed along the boards and assisted from behind the net to a ready Roby in the high slot, channeling his inner *Stastny*, for a goal, his second of the game. **Good guys lead 2-0.**

Hold on ----- just a minute later Seyfert scores on a beautiful slapper from the right point, somewhat *Chara-esque*, to beat the goalie on the lower left side. **3-0 Hershey.** The second period continued a balance of great end-to-end rushes, good spacing, nice passing and heads up hockey. Then, half way through the second, with great vision and an awaiting stick on the ice, McLaughlin finishes a sweet behind the net pass from *Roby*. **4-0 Boys from Chocolatetown.**

The end of the second saw the Bears roaring, and at 1:50 to go in the frame, building on their momentum, a doozy from Peduzzi, moving well with the puck towards the net and flipping it over the goalie short side. **5-0 HB** With great forechecking at the end of the period, Westlake gathers the puck off sideboards, curls and drags and roofs a shot with just 16 seconds left in the period. End of two: **Hershey 6 Slovakia 0** and a dominating 12-1 shot advantage

The boys continued to roll at the beginning of the last frame. At the 11:57 mark in the 3rd, a sweet pass from *Brille* to Lipkin rushing the net lit the lamp yet again.

7-0 Hershey The 3rd period was played mostly in Slovakia's zone, but the Czech Republic's neighbor to the south did manage to get some shots on net. The shutout didn't last, however, as Marian Hossa's nephew twice removed, scored on an end-to-end rush for the team from Slovakia. **7-1**

The defense would show it's wares with a nice sprawling play from Woody on 2 on1 odd-man rush to deny a pass and force Slovakia to shoot high, with Zavoda making a solid glove save. Then, with 2:21 left in the 3rd, the boys would score once more on a perfectly played 2 on 1 rush, with Moeller to Hipp and back to Moeller for the tap in. **8-1 Bears** The end the game saw the Bears control the running clock with good possession, and a slight 6-5 shot advantage.

The Defensive unit of Gratton, Samuels, Peduzzi, Hanson, Woudenberg, Dittenhafer and Seyfert continued their stellar D, contributing 2 goals and 2 assists on a total of 29 shots while keeping the opposing shots on goal to 9 for the entire game.

Both Cunningham and Zavoda were focused and stellar in goal, giving up 1 goal on 9 shots for the game.

EXHIBITION GAME 2: Hershey 4 – Zurich Lions 1

Thursday, February 11, 2016 @ 11:20AM - Galeries de le Capitale

Quebec City – Exhibition Game 2 saw the boys from Chocolatetown face off against a tough Zurich Lions squad, who, rumour has it, was looking to show their adversaries (and all the weekday mall shoppers) that yesterday's decisive victory by the Bears over the Swiss Eastern Selects was not going to be the last word in the debate over whether U.S. domination over Swiss hockey would ever end. When the Bears broke their goal line huddle and turned a steely gaze up ice, they saw a determined Lions team roar onto the ice prepared to do battle. As our boys skated confidently toward the bench, and the starting lineups skated to center ice for the opening faceoff, a nervous hush fell over the standing-room-only crowd.

Then, just as the puck was about to drop for the opening faceoff, a lone voice broke the silence and could be heard rising up from the crowd: B-E-A-R-S!!! Bears! Bears! Bears! B-E-A-R-S!!! Bears! Bears! Bears! B-E-A-R-S!!! Bears! Bears! Bears! WOOOOOOO!!!! And there they were: the parents had arrived. Having braved the elements and an almost 12-hour bus ride, the most devoted fan base in hockey – and providers of seemingly never-ending financial and emotional player support without ever receiving enough credit – quickly helped the team claim the hotly contested world record for loudest crowd roar at a sports stadium as noise at the Galeries de le Capitale quickly reached an ear-splitting (and very unofficial) 142.9 decibels. As usual, the boys quickly shook off their typical pre-teen embarrassment and came out flying.

As in their first game, Hershey struck first, this time on the first shift of the game at the 27 second mark with a goal by Sammy Lipkin after Magnus Gadowsky and Matthew Brille kept the puck alive during a scramble in front of the net. The Bears had the Lions back on their heels a bit during the first ten minutes of the game, but could not beat the goalie a second time, and just like that the Lions struck back with goal of their own at the 10 minute mark. The rest of the period was evenly played and ended tied at 1, with Hershey putting five shots on net to just two for the Lions.

Hershey tilted the ice again in the second period after words of inspiration from Coach Yingst and his assistants quickly got them back on track. Their hard work paid off when a laser beam by Nolan Woudenberg went bar down off assists by Bryan Garry and Cristo Walker, allowing the Bears to regain the lead. At the end of the second, Bears led 2-1, outshooting the Lions 12 to 5.

In the third period, the boys took it up a notch and showed the benefits of all their off ice workouts. The furious pace had the parents scurrying back and forth on the overhead bridge. Forwards

Carson Hall, Frankie Hipp, and Michael Roby were particularly relentless on the forecheck. The Bears' hard work paid off when they struck for a third time on a sweet breakaway finish by Owen McLaughlin off nice neutral zone steal by Alex Moeller at the 3:15 mark, and they potted a fourth goal six and half minutes later, as Walker finished a nice feed from Westlake and Garry to finally put the Lions to sleep tonight. (Sorry...).

The Defensive unit of Gratton, Samuels, Peduzzi, Hanson, Woudenberg, Dittenhafer and Seyfert was stout all game long, including an extended period of six on five at the end of the game, and kept the opposing shots on goal to just 7 for the entire game, while combining with the forwards for 24 shots of their own.

Austin Zavoda and Liam Cunningham again split this game, giving up only 1 goal on seven shots.

Two games. Two solid wins. Onward!

The next exhibition game is Friday, February 12 versus Slovakia at La Cage Aux Sports Complexe les 3 glaces.

HERSHEY	1st	2nd	3rd	OT	TOTAL
SCORE	1	1	2		4
PIM	0	2	0		2
SOG	5	7	12		24
ZURICH	1st	2nd	3rd	OT	TOTAL
SCORE	0	1	0		1
PIM	0	2	2		4
SOG	2	3	2		7

EXHIBITION GAME 1: Hershey 6 – Swiss Eastern Selects 0

Wednesday, February 10, 2016 @ 11:20AM - Galeries de le Capitale

Quebec City - After "checking in" at the brand new Videotron Center and a hearty breakfast at Mike's the Hershey Jr. Bears squared off against the Swiss Eastern Selects at the Galeries de le Capitale mall. A roller coaster roaring overhead and a carousel in the background, the Jr. Bears ignored the distractions while netting 6 goals. That is not a typo regarding the roller coaster! There is an indoor amusement park overlooking the ice rink. SWEET!

This was the first test of the chocolate and white in front of a standing room only crowd of predominantly Swiss Eastern Selects fans and the mall shoppers. The Hershey fans consisted of the Coaches Assistants, staff and our beloved Ronny the bus driver!

Hershey struck first at the 7:32 mark of the 1st period with a goal by Matthew Brille off a sweet tape to tape pass from "slammin" Sammy Lipkin. 1-0 good guys! 1 minute and 18 seconds later the lamp was lit by a goal from Magnus Gadowsky off an offensive zone rush pass from Carson Hall. "Are you kidding me!" is what was rattling through my mind as that second goal just quieted the Swiss fans' horns & clappers to the sounds of little kids screaming and the whizzing sound of the roller coaster. Another 1 minute and 55 seconds later, Michael Roby found the back of the net after a two pass assists from Dylan Gratton and Nolan Westlake. End of 1, Hershey with 12 shots and 3 goals while the stellar Defensive unit held the opponents to just 2 shots and no goals.

The second period was again dominated by the boys from chocolatetown with a goal from Owen McLaughlin assisted by Bryan Garry followed up with the 4th tally from Lipken off of Roby. The Defensive unit of Gratton, Samuels, Peduzzi, Hanson, Woudenberg, Dittenhafer and Seyfert once again stood tall and kept the shots on goal for the Swiss to just 5 with Hershey registering 11 for a two period total of 23.

Third period was much of the same with the exception of the game getting just a bit chippy. The Jr. Bears added 1 more goal by Sammy Lipken, his second of the game with assists from Gratton and Dittenhafer.

This game was played by both net minders Austin Zavoda and Liam Cunningham who each faced a similar amount of shots with the same outcome. No goals against!

Game over and the butterflies are no more!

The Hershey Jr. Bears packed up from the Galeries de le Capitale mall and headed to the Complexe Sportif for a practice and game review.

The next exhibition game is Thursday February 11 vs the Zurich Lions right back at the Galeries de la Capitale. Greater fan participation will be highly anticipated!

HERSHEY	1st	2nd	3rd	OT	TOTAL
SCORE	3	2	1		6
PIM	0	0	0		0
SOG	12	11	9		32
SWISS	1st	2nd	3rd	OT	TOTAL
SCORE	0	0	0		0
PIM	0	0	0		0
SOG	2	5	4		11

Forwards:

Magnus Gadowsky – Sam Lipkin - Matthew Brille – Frankie Hipp - Michael Roby – Bryan Garry – Carson Hall - Alex Moeller - Cristo Walker – Owen McLaughlin - Nolan Westlake

Defense:

Dylan Gratton – Max Samuels – Gavin Peduzzi – Ryan Hanson – Nolan Woudenberg – Logan Dittenhafer - Jeremy Seyfert

Goalies:

Austin Zavoda - Liam Cunningham

