

NHL Players and Association and NHL commissioner can't reach agreement

Local players face-off against lockout

Lockout motivates Quinte-area players to work harder

By Lyndsie Baxter

While most National Hockey League players are taking the lockout as a loss, local hockey players say it's pushing them to be better.

On Saturday September 15, The National Hockey League Players' Association and NHL commissioner Gary Bettman were unable to come to an agreement. This means all NHL hockey games are on hold until a settlement can be reached.

Although the NHL may have come to a halt, local hockey has come alive.

The Trenton Golden Hawks Juvenile "A" hockey club has noticed the buzz in their town, fans need hockey and they are ready to provide. Being the defending all Ontario hockey champions, the team is confident that they have the skill and now the support to take them all the way again.

Left wing Jordy Andrews can't wait to hit the ice. He said the lockout has given him all the motivation he needs.

"This makes me want to play hockey more," said Andrews. "Not being able to go watch an NHL game, or sitting

down with the lads on a Saturday and watch some puck makes me want to play more. It drives me to play harder out on the ice. I'm the lucky one who is still playing hockey, sure I'm not getting paid for playing, but I love the game either way."

The Hawks aren't the only team seeing the NHL as a motivational push. The Belleville Bulls hockey season kicks off this Friday with an away game but the team is preparing for what they hope is their most successful season yet.

Former Belleville Bulls captain Luke Judson said that the NHL has always been his goal and even with the lockout, that goal won't change.

"I'm from Canada, the NHL has always been the goal. For a person like me who has grown up living and breathing hockey, I'll still watch when they start playing again, I'll strive to play there, and I'll admire how they conduct themselves."

Judson, now a Lakehead University Thunderwolf, said he still feels a part of the Bulls team and is excited to see what their season and their fans have in store.

"I have a great team in the OHL to keep tabs on, I feel like I'm still apart of this group there so it will be exciting to see how they do this season. We don't start playing games until this Friday, but I would assume with no NHL, there will be a few extra butts in the seats so fans can get their hockey fix."

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Former Belleville Bulls captain Luke Judson



Photo by Lyndsie Baxter

While NHL players are in limbo, hockey here continues at a fast pace, helping local fans get their hockey fix.

Pub...

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New coat of paint also part of pub renovations

In addition to new furniture, the pub has a new coat of paint in an effort to make it feel more inviting. Kevin Mitchner, a third-year Television New Media student, thinks that the new coat of paint accomplishes this.

"I think it's a lot more modern and a lot brighter," Mitchner said. "I think the chairs are great it just looks like a better place to meet everyone; it doesn't have those dark chairs and tables or those dark walls. It's a nice place for everyone to get together."

Calvin Bright, a second-year radio student, is excited.

"The student centre is actually really nice and the chairs are a lot comfier, I can dig those," said Bright. "Not having to deal with an unorganized line at Tim Hortons is a huge help too with the new dividers up."

But, Barry Salisbury, another second-year radio student, thinks that student government should spend the money elsewhere.

"I would have preferred that they put the money into the residence because they look like they're from 1985," said Salisbury. "If they're going to do a make over then make over everything not just one little spot."

Detering says any student who has a problem with what student government is doing can contact them and let them know what the issue is.

"I'd tell those people you need to tell us what you want, the survey is your best method of doing it," said Detering. "Most of us on student government are always willing to take your emails and if you get enough people together you can put a proposal together for the board and we'll bring it into the meetings. You can always go through your class rep too."

Other plans for the school include re-opening the rink behind the college and an expanded healthcare facility.

Belleville Police continue battle against gangs

Provincial government expands funding to assist in endeavour

By Steph Crosier

Belleville Police will continue to use special funding to combat gangs and gun violence in the community now that the provincial government has expanded its funding.

On July 23, the provincial government made the provincial anti-violence intervention strategy (PAVIS) permanent. Modeled after Toronto's anti-violence intervention strategy, TAVIS, Belleville Deputy Chief Paul Vandegraaf said it is in response to the escalated level of gun violence in Toronto this summer. Toronto's summer has been bloody with a number of different shootings at soccer fields, schoolyards, and neighbourhood picnics.

The latest was a double homicide in the city's west end where two men were shot and killed Tuesday night.

PAVIS, a provincial grant system for local police services, uses specialized teams to work to target illegal gangs, drugs, and weapons activities in 22 different communities by focusing on intervention, enforcement and community initiatives. Belleville Police has been using the PAVIS initiative for two years in the community, said Vandegraaf.

"We've taken a very proactive lead in getting involved at the beginning of combating gang violence," said Vandegraaf. "So our service has moved forward, received grant funding, and created a new position in the organization because of the grant funding to deal with gangs that come from the greater Toronto area or come from other provinces."

Vandegraaf is adamant that as a high-way community, visitors to the area are popular, and though calls out for weapons

are not common, he said Belleville is a central point for criminals that move up and down the 401.

"We've been very re-active in the sense with search warrants and making arrests where possible," said Vandegraaf. "But also in the pro-active side, we've brought former gang members to do presentations at schools and we've purchased new equipment to combat some of the technology side of gang activity."

Out of the PAVIS funding came the gun hotline, launched in October 2011. Vandegraaf said today people use the number as a tip line that may or may not include gun-related information.

"[The hotline is] to raise awareness that guns can become a reality in our community and we want to be on the forefront," said Vandegraaf. "It definitely provides information in relation to gun activity."

Detective Sargent Brad Robson at

Quinte West OPP's criminal investigations unit said Toronto and Quinte West gun violence-wise are nowhere similar.

"Comparing Quinte West to Toronto is a little like comparing apples to oranges," said Robson. "But typically when I look through the stats, and I look through the calls of service that we've been going to pertaining to firearms from June till now it's not very prevalent at all."

Robson said that in our area the OPP are usually called out to long guns, but there is the occasional handgun.

"It's not common for us to see handguns in this area being involved in instances, and typically those that are involved are illegally obtained," said Robson.

The largest numbers of firearm calls to the OPP are for the disposal of firearms, he said and since June there have been zero weapons calls in Quinte West.

Tribute paid to veterans of Battle of Britain

72nd anniversary of the fierce 1940 battle over the skies of Britain

By Sam Normand

Sunday marked the 72nd anniversary of the Battle of Britain, the fierce battle of 1940 for control of the skies over Britain.

Members of the 704 Air Cadets, 418 Wing veterans and servicemen from 8th Wing Trenton gathered at Westminster United Church in Belleville to pay tribute to those who fought to protect the British Isles.

"Normally every year we try to pick a different church from one of our members," said Murray Hope, president of 418th Wing of the Air Force Association of Canada.

Murray says that 418 Wing has a large number of veterans, many have seen active service in a number of campaigns.

"We have many members of our Wing that were in the service, and did their time over there. As a matter of fact, one chap was part of the Great Escape. Not the movie, the actual Great Escape. He was in the compound and helped to distribute the soil around."

Murray is a veteran of 33 years, serving in both the RCAF and CAF.

The Battle of Britain was the first and largest aerial battle in history, with Allied defenders outnumbered up to 12 to one.

Over 100 Canadian's took part in the battle; 23 were shot down.

Chris Colton, executive director of the National Air Force Museum in Trenton, said that a combination of skilled training, new tactics and technology, and land-based air defenses are attributed with victory despite overwhelming enemy numbers.

He said that the Germans over-confidence led to their eventual defeat.

Fundraising gala welcomes '60's British invasion'

By Miller Reynolds

More than 400 guests partied to save lives in their best '60's British Invasion' attire for the annual Belleville General Hospital Fundraiser Gala at the Sears Atrium on Saturday.

Although this year's goal was to raise \$300,000 for priority medical equipment, the gala fundraiser was able to raise over \$250,000 from donations, live auctions, raffles and ticket sales.

Not only did the fundraiser raise money, a \$30,000 Intensive Care Unit (ICU) ventilator machine was paid for and purchased by 10 people who donated \$3,000 each.

Drew Brown, executive director of the

Belleville General Hospital Foundation, said the donation of this piece of equipment is important.

"This will translate immediately into a higher level of care at our hospital," he said.

An ICU ventilator is a piece of equipment used to assist or replace the breathing of an ICU patient.

"That piece of equipment is going to save someone's life," he said.

The arrival of this ventilator comes at crucial time with the peak season of respiratory problems just around the corner.

Sue Kotel, director of Internal Medicine at Belleville General Hospital, said throughout the months of October, November, December and January of last

year, the ICU ventilators were in high demand.

"Our ventilator occupancy rates were greater than 80 per cent, so that's very significant when in the province the average benchmark is a little bit less than 50 per cent," she said.

"We were well above the provincial average," she said.

The Belleville General Hospital will now have a total of nine ICU ventilators.

"We're really extremely grateful for the efforts of our foundations, in these fundraising events, because without them we would not have access to this kind of life-saving equipment," she said.

Jenn Barrett, director of development for the Belleville General Hospital Foundation,

said the atmosphere at this year's gala was very positive.

"It's unlike any other gala in town," she said.

"People didn't leave the dance floor until the lights came on and it was all over. It's a really great, fun party, as well as a fantastic fundraiser," she said.

Every year the BGH has a list of over \$2 million dollars of priority equipment that is needed to improve the hospitals level of care. This list includes everything from pediatrics, ICU equipment, and surgery upgrades that will go through a prioritization process before being purchased with the help of fundraisers such as the gala.

"It's a fantastic process," she said.

Residence...

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trip. Fernhout was sent to hospital when his teammates thought he might have a concussion. He passed out and hit his head while partying.

"I did take responsibility for my actions, but the peer pressure of doing that with the teammates [drinking]... my judgment of being so excited, being a part of the team, trying to get accepted into the team," said Fernhout.

He said the veterans on the team passed a bottle of vodka around a circle of rookies and told them to finish it before it got to the end, that's when Fernhout decided to, "Go big or go home."

As much as he felt pressure at the time, he doesn't think it was necessary to do what he did.

"My train of thought at that time was to go big or go home. I know now that it doesn't matter that way, they will accept me at any time or at any time during the season," Fernhout said. "It was really stupid on my part, I did not enjoy that. Just knowing that you woke up in a hospital bed not remembering what the hell happened that night kind of scares you a little bit."



Photo by Shelby Wye

During the day, these students enjoy the pathways of Loyalist residence without hassle. By night, Belleville police patrol the walkways, helping to keep students safe on pub nights.