

Hocktoberfest to showcase more than 100 female teams

Hockey tourney kicks off Thursday

THE WINDSOR STAR OCTOBER 17, 2009



The explosive growth of female hockey will be on full display next weekend when more than 100 teams visit the area for the second-annual Hocktoberfest Female Hockey Festival.

This year, the tournament, which features teams from the under-10 division to senior A players, has drawn clubs from California, British Columbia and Alberta as well as the English national women's senior and 16's teams.

The four-day event, which also features clinics and a variety of off-ice activities, gets underway with the Windsor Spitfires holding Hocktoberfest Night as part of their Oct. 22 contest with their archrivals from London.

As part of the game, the Windsor Wildcats atom C team will play a mini-game.

There'll also be a shootout competition involving the Southwest Wildcats Jr., Windsor Wildcats AA, Chatham Outlaws, Highwood Raiders (High River, Alberta), Pursuit of Excellence Academy (Kelowna, B.C.) and the English national team.

Tournament action gets underway Friday morning and runs through Sunday's finals.

Games are being held in Tecumseh, Essex, LaSalle, Windsor Arena, South Windsor Arena, Forest Glade and the WFCU Centre.

WILSON JOINS ELITE GROUP

Windsor's Ryan Wilson became the 17th Windsor Minor Hockey Association graduate to play in the National Hockey League when he was in Colorado's lineup for Thursday's 3-2 victory over the Montreal Canadiens.

The other players are Darren Banks, Bob Boughner, Dan Jancevski, Ed Jovanovski, Rick Kehoe, Scott Lehman, David Liffiton, Ed Mio, Barry Potomski, Bob Probert, Brad Smith, D.J. Smith, Bob Sneddon, Alex Stojanov, John Tucker and Tom Williams.

Smith will be inducted into the Windsor/Essex County Sports Hall of Fame at the Caboto Club tonight.

The other inductees are Jennifer Robinson, Mark Renaud, Sam Sisco, Carol Mielczarek and Lou Veres.

The reception begins at 5 p.m., presentations at 6 p.m. and dinner at 7:30 p.m.

O'REILLY SEES ICE TIME

Ex-Spittfire Cal O'Reilly was in the Nashville lineup for the first time this year in Thursday's 3-1 loss to the Chicago Blackhawks.

O'Reilly had 13:59 of ice time with one shot on goal.

His younger brother, Ryan, scored the winning goal in Colorado's 3-2 win over the Habs Thursday.

© Copyright (c) The Windsor Star