

Game 2 Recap, Chiefs vs. Unknowns
3/22/05, 9:30 p.m., Cabin John Ice Rink

The Washington Chiefs continued their inaugural season tonight as they faced off against their classmates from Hockey North America's winter 2005 beginner hockey school, the Washington Unknowns. The Unknowns won the contest with a 6-0 shutout, as the Chiefs continue to skate towards that elusive first victory. The Unknowns' hockey school goalie, Rob Truhn, was a notable scratch last night as they skated a previously unseen goalie, whose name was unavailable as of press time. Media coverage outside the Unknowns locker room provided no information as to Truhn's status, but stay tuned to the Chiefs Hockey Network for continued updates of this developing situation. The HNA elite league game preceding last night's beginner league matchup, turned bush league quickly as extracurricular on-ice activities caused an undue delay enabling the Chiefs to discuss their approach to tonight's contest.

From the opening face off, the daughters and sons of Hiawatha were much smarter in their positioning, and put on a greatly improved display overall from their last outing. A natural rivalry has begun to develop between these two teams that should provide drama throughout the remainder of the season. Judging by the league standings after tonight's game, with the Unknowns at 2-0, the Ducks at 1-1, and the Tribe at 0-2, the Unknowns are clearly the team to beat.

Sustained offensive pressure and overall shots on goal continue to present a challenge for this budding powerhouse, however Ira Rabin, Ryan Fayhee, and John Walker kept the puck moving positively throughout the evening. Rabin showed great patience when, after being blatantly hauled down by #5, Ed "Dr. Hook" Carey, he skated away from the incident avoiding a possible retaliatory situation. Carey's penalty put the Chiefs on the man advantage, however the penalty expired without a goal. The Chiefs own doctor was in last night and taking house calls as Paul Kobernick made his debut for the Chiefs skating at center and providing some much needed speed and tenacity. Susan Wood put on a skating exhibition all night long as she was a constant pest, particularly on the forecheck, frustrating the Unknowns repeatedly and earning the Chiefs Most Valuable Player of the game award. Chiefs winger JoLinda Johnson reached into her toolbelt and brought out the hammer (or is it a gavel?) on several occasions providing a physical presence in the offensive zone.

The Chiefs legal team was fully represented last night as Dave Leib, pulled on the white, red and black for his first game. Playing on defense, Leib brought his experience to the blueline. Robert Dewey put his marathon skills to work during a 2 minute plus shift that included the aforementioned power play. Great hustle was displayed by Jerry Tollander on two occasions in which he skated hard back into the play to thwart breakaways that surely would have led to 2 additional goals.

Goalie John Bretschneider battled some tough gremlins between the pipes all night long. On giving up a long slap shot to #25, "that guy's no beginner!" Fortin, Bretschneider said, "That's a puck that I have to get. That's not anyone's responsibility but mine. I wasn't looking for it, and he caught me unaware. I was a bit surprised to see that so early in the season, as that's a bit like a football team kicking on-sides from their first kickoff." Again, as in the previous game, many of his best saves came well after the outcome was certain, proving he plays each shot as best he can, regardless of the game's current score.

Tonight's scratches included triggerman, Josh Schopf, and utilitywoman, Maria Cecil. Chiefs physician Dr. Dmitri Slapshotovich provided a concise and clear report by stating that Schopf's ankle continues to improve and yet nag at the same time. An experimental bionic implant may be tried should current therapy prove ineffective. Cecil is expected back in the lineup for the Chief's next game, while Schopf remains questionable. Josh's presence on the bench in street clothes showing his support was greatly appreciated by the team.

Fans come out and whoop it up to see your Chiefs on the reservation, next Tuesday, March 29th as they take on the Baltimore Ducks in a rematch of game 1. Game time is 8:15pm at the Wheaton Indoor Ice Rink. Don't forget to take advantage of our special fan promotion and secure your complimentary, inaugural season, full color program now! Available rink side only, at all Washington Chiefs games!