



JOURNAL Monthly Newsletter

Keeping you informed about your home town team



Drew Gregory, 2015 ACMA Male Artist of the Year – Photo by Broken Curfew Photography

Country star makes appearance at game

On Wednesday, December 14th, nearly 600 Drumheller Dragons fans were treated to a performance by up-and-coming country music star, Drew Gregory. Gregory was born and raised in Standard, AB, about 40 minutes southwest of Drumheller. In 2015, he won the ACMA Male Artist of the Year award.

Gregory is endorsed by Cervus Equipment, which on December 14th was the game sponsor as the Dragons hosted the Brooks Bandits. The Dragons and Cervus Equipment collaborated on the first

annual Cervus John Deere Christmas Game Night, which featured giveaways, games and prizes, a guaranteed \$2000 50/50 jackpot, and performances by Drew Gregory. Gregory sang the national anthem and also performed a few songs in the first intermission, including his latest single, All About It.

“It was the first time I’d done anything like that, and I had a blast,” said Gregory. “The whole event with Cervus was really cool to be a part of, and what a great game on top of it all.” ■

2016: a year in review

Written by Coach Curran

As the coach and GM of the Dragons, there were so many good memories from 2016, and also a few that were not so good. There were victories on the ice, and there were also shortcomings. There were farewells to some people and then there was the welcoming of others.

Former assistant coach Gavin Holcomb and his wife Shelby, who was a schoolteacher in the Valley, moved on at the end of last season. They headed home to Saskatchewan where Gavin changed his career and is doing very well as an investment banker. The couple welcomed their first child in May; a boy named Camden.

Michelle Beatty, our athletic therapist and equipment manager, moved on to the collegiate level and is now the AT for the Portage College Voyageurs men's hockey team of the ACAC.

Amanda Stahl came on as our Business Manager in the summer of 2015, taking over from Pam Hartman. In 2016 Amanda really hit her stride as she became more familiar with the town and the great people that live here and support the Dragons. In fact, she has done so well this year that she has been promoted and will be stepping away from the Dragons to move into another role with Canalta.

In this job you get to work alongside so many good people and it is always tough to see them move on, but the team and the organization appreciates all that they did while they were with us. From volunteers to security to staff, and everyone in between – they have all done such great jobs whether they were here for one year or 20.

Last season did not go as expected and although I always enjoy working with the boys we were supposed to be a team that contended for a title. I always say, however, that it was one of the best learning years of my career and it definitely gave me new perspective moving forward into this season. One thing I did appreciate from last season was the interaction of our players in the community and the way the boys were involved in minor hockey and so many other community events. And that involvement has carried over into this season as well.

Last season I think our fans were disappointed with how the season ended as was I. They are such great fans, though, that they continued to show up to our games this season and that shows me that this is a great place to play and we all consider ourselves fortunate to play and coach here.

After last season ended and the farewells had come and gone, it was time for me to make a huge decision on the direction of this team. I decided that no matter the circumstances I was going to have a young team. Younger players are more eager to learn, more eager to work hard and buy into the team culture. First things first, though, was the hiring of a new assistant coach.

Enter: Darryl "Oly" Olsen. Darryl had just moved back to Canada from Utah, where he ran his own hockey skill development business along with his wife, Chrissy, who is a strength and conditioning trainer. I was very lucky to get both Darryl and Chrissy on board, as they were key to my plan for this season.

Next, we had to find a new athletic therapist and equipment manager and we were so fortunate to bring on Rachele Matisz who has done a great job with the team so far this season.

We also underwent a scouting staff change in 2016 which saw Wayne Labrie leave and Scott Martin step in as Head Scout. Scott brought on a fantastic scouting crew and they are the best I've worked with at this level. They did a great job finding quality young players for the team this year.

Over the spring and summer I met so many wonderful parents and kids that came on board knowing we were going to be the youngest team in the league. That being said, these kids are a group that I know will be exciting to watch over the next several years as they all dedicated to working hard.

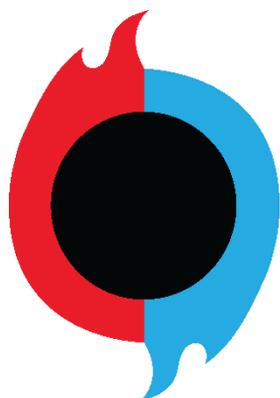
Although at this point in the season we are one game below 500, when it all comes down to it I believe that this group will cause problems for the top teams in the league down the road. As 2016 is almost at the end, I want to thank my players for making me fall in love with the game of hockey all over again. The team is in great shape and so is its future on the ice.

Wishing a safe and happy new year to all! ■

January Birthdays

January 4 – #1 Dane Dow
January 10 – Corrine Collett, Billet Coordinator
January 19 – #19 Stefan Wood

Feature Sponsor



KASHUBA

HEATING & AIR CONDITIONING

This month, the Drumheller Dragons would like to thank our friends at Kashuba Heating & Air Conditioning for their support of the Dragons this season. We certainly couldn't operate without our dedicated and loyal sponsors like you.

Team Statistics

As of January 3, 2017

	In December	Overall
Games Played	10	36
Wins	4	16
Losses	6	16
Overtime Losses	0	4
Points	8	36
Goals scored	30	113
Goals against	40	132

Dragons Top Scorers				
Player	GP	G	A	PTS
#39 Chad Hurtubise	34	9	25	34
#14 Jordan Taupert	35	11	18	29
#17 Slater Dykema	32	8	16	24
#24 Cody Young	29	12	10	22
#28 Bradley Stonnell	36	10	12	22
#18 Joren Patenaude	35	8	13	21

SOUTH DIVISION						NORTH DIVISION					
Team	GP	W	L	OTL	PTS	Team	GP	W	L	OTL	PTS
Brooks Bandits	35	28	3	4	60	Whitecourt Wolverines	39	26	9	4	56
Okotoks Oilers	36	23	8	5	51	Bonnyville Pontiacs	38	25	9	4	54
Calgary Canucks	37	23	12	1	48	Fort McMurray Oil Barons	37	26	10	1	53
Canmore Eagles	37	21	12	4	46	Spruce Grove Saints	37	24	11	2	50
Camrose Kodiaks	39	21	15	3	45	Sherwood Park Crusaders	36	20	15	1	41
Drumheller Dragons	36	16	16	4	36	Grande Prairie Storm	40	10	25	5	25
Olds Grizzlys	36	11	20	5	27	Drayton Valley Thunder	38	8	26	4	20
Calgary Mustangs	36	6	28	2	14	Lloydminster Bobcats	35	8	25	2	18



Feature Dragon

#39 Chad Hurtubise

Early in the season, the Dragons acquired Chad Hurtubise in a trade with the Bonnyville Pontiacs. As of December 31, Hurtubise was the Dragons' leading scorer.

We caught up with Hurtubise to find out more about the lighter side of the Morinville native.

DJ: Would you rather be Superman or Ironman, and why?

CH: Ironman, because he is a playboy billionaire philanthropist.

DJ: If you had to eat one food for the rest of your life, what would it be?

CH: Salmon and rice.

DJ: If you could be any animal, what would you be and why?

CH: Dog. They get lots of love, they get to chill all day and they are always happy.

DJ: Which actor would play you in a movie about your life?

CH: Eddie Murphy.

DJ: What is your theme song?

CH: Hideaway by Daya.

DJ: Who is your favourite Disney princess?

CH: Princess Fiona.

January Events

Sun, Jan 1

New Years Day

Tue, Jan 3

Game vs. Oilers @ 7:00pm

Wed, Jan 4

Game vs. Oilers @ 7:00pm

Go Bald or Go Home - Stefan Wood head shaving

Sun, Jan 8

Game vs. Canucks @ 4:00pm

Wed, Jan 11

Game vs. Oilers @ 7:00pm

\$5 Night

Fri, Jan 13

Game vs. Saints @ 7:00pm

Sun, Jan 15

Game vs. Oilers @ 4:15pm

Tue, Jan 17

Game vs. Mustangs @ 7:30pm

Fri, Jan 20

Game vs. Grizzlies @ 7:30pm

Sun, Jan 22

Game vs. Canucks @ 2:00pm

Chinook Financial Game Day & Skate w/ Dragons

Tue, Jan 24

Game vs. Mustangs @ 7:30pm

Fri, Jan 27

Game vs. Canucks @ 7:30pm

Tue, Jan 31

Game vs. Eagles @ 7:00pm

Home Game

Away Game

Stat Holiday

Dragons business manager moving on

After 18 months with the team, current Business Manager Amanda Stahl will be moving on from the business manager position in the early part of 2017 and stepping into a new role within the Canalta Group (the parent company of the Drumheller Dragons organization). It's a bittersweet move for the Red Deer native, who moved to Drumheller in April of 2015 when her husband, Tyler, took a job here after graduating college.

"I will miss the job and the people it allows me to work with in the community," said Stahl. "This position with the Dragons has enabled me to meet so many people and helped me really get to know Drumheller."

In late November, the Dragons posted an opening for the Business Manager position and received an overwhelming response.

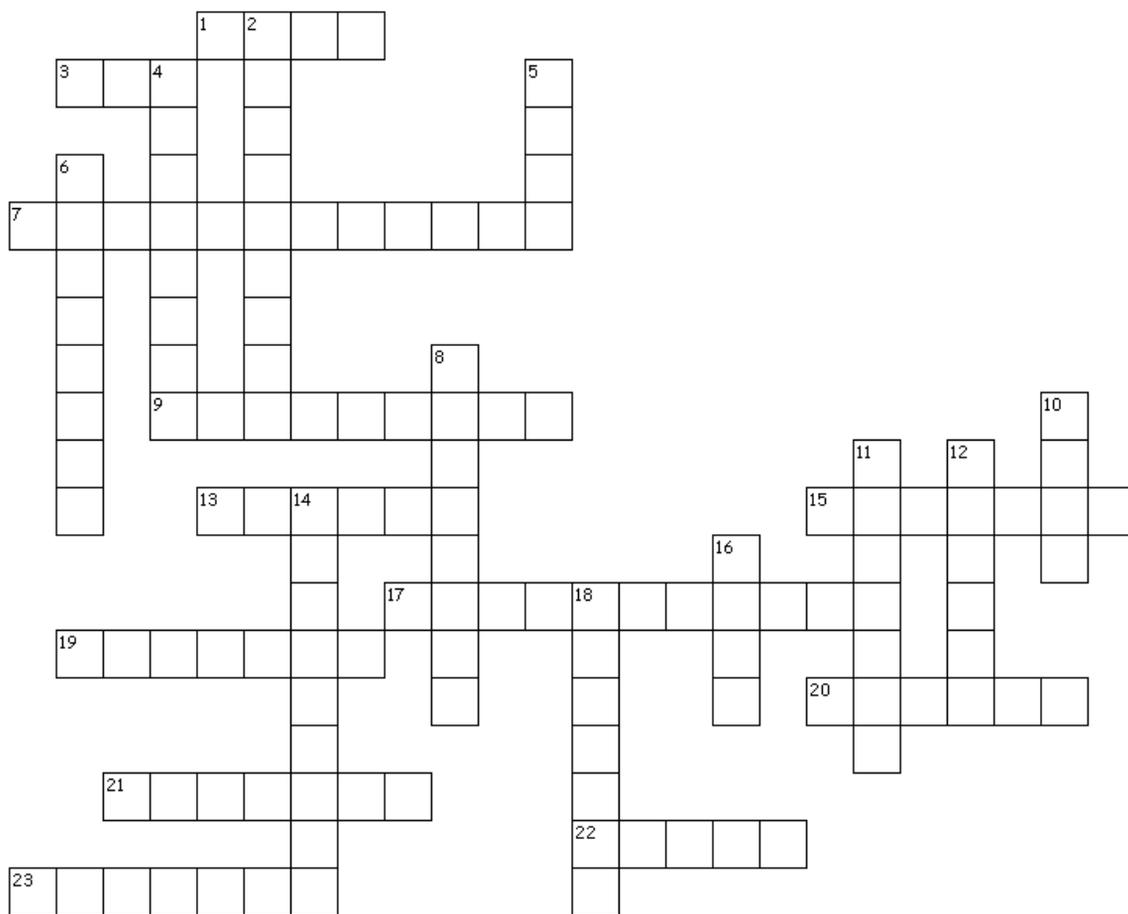
"At this point we are in the late stages of interviewing and have some very promising candidates," said Stahl. "It's taken us a while to narrow it down because we've had to conduct so many interviews."

Stahl has been part of the interview process because she will not be leaving the Dragons organization entirely. Along with her new role in Canalta, she will take on a more supervisory role with the Dragons in order to help guide and mentor the new business manager.

"It will be more of a directing role, but I will not be involved in the day-to-day business operations of the team like I am now," Stahl noted. "But I still have a vested interest in the Dragons and the next person that we bring on."

Stahl will remain with the team until the new business manager is selected, and will go through a training period with the incumbent before stepping back from the Dragons. ■

Dragons Crossword Puzzle



Across

1. This local grocer has their logo on the red line mark on the arena boards this season
3. The Dragons use this brand of hockey sticks and equipment
7. Assistant Coach Oly Olsen recently moved back to Canada from this city in Utah
9. Cody Young's hometown
13. This mountain town is where captain Stefan Wood was born
15. Yauheni Astrouski originated from this European country
17. Where Slater Dykema, Brady Risk and Jordan Taupert call home
19. The name of Brady Risk's twin brother
20. Our play-by-play radio announcer who shares a name with a famous Canadian hockey player
21. Mascot Dudley the Dragon's local sponsor
22. Number of current Dragon players that were also on the team last season
23. This is what Blake Kleiner's last name means in German

Down

2. The Dragons have lost twice in overtime and once in a shootout to this Northern team so far this season
4. Markus Boguslavsky scored his first AJHL goal against this team back in October
5. This Keeley twin is older by 3 minutes
6. This Canadian university is where Dragons athletic therapist Rachele Matisz completed her training
8. This is the number of season the Dragons have been playing in the Valley
10. This is the favourite colour of 9 current Dragons players
11. This car dealership sponsors the Dragons' jerseys this season
12. Coach Brian Curran played for this New York NHL team in the 1990-91 and 1991-92 seasons
14. This artist from Drumheller painted both Hunter Virostek and Dane Dow's goalie masks
16. Gage Misskey drives a white one of these sport utility vehicles
18. Evan Tschumi is committed to this NCAA university in New York

(answers on next page)



Player(s) of the month

November 2016

#35 Hunter Virostek – Goaltender

In the month of November, Virostek recorded 4 wins and 3 losses, posting a 3.0 GAA and a 0.887 SV% in 7 games. He also played a key role in several huge wins for the Dragons. Congratulations, Hunter!!

December 2016

#28 Bradley Stonnell – Defense

In the month of December, Stonnell posted 3 goals and 4 assists in 10 games. He is currently 5th in scoring on the team, and 14th in scoring among all AJHL defensemen. Congratulations, Bradley!

Crossword Puzzle Answers

Across

1. CO-OP
3. CCM
7. Salt Lake City
9. Saskatoon
13. Jasper
15. Belarus
17. Medicine Hat
19. Charlie
20. Crosby
21. Chinook
22. Three
23. Smaller

Down

2. Oil Barons
4. Mustangs
5. Clay
6. Manitoba
8. Fourteen
10. Blue
11. Western
12. Sabres
14. Schinnour
16. Jeep
18. Colgate

Would you like the Dragons to attend your event, school, or function?

The Dragons love hanging out in the community and getting to know the people that support them! They have gone to the seniors lodges to have coffee and baked goodies with the residents, to the Pioneer Trail Society to play pool with the seniors, to Minor Hockey practices to help young players develop their skills, to the schools to help kids learn, etc.



Above photo: Dragons Andrew Kartusch, Slater Dykema and Jordan Taupert attended the Encana Novice Raptors practice on December 19. For more photos of the Dragons in the community, visit our website and click on the "Community" tab., then "Dragons In The Community".

If you would like the Dragons to come to your school, practice, lodge or event, contact the Dragons office at 403-823-2022.

\$5 Game Night approaches

On Wednesday, January 11, Dragons fans will only have to pay \$5 to get into the game versus the Okotoks Oilers.

“Last year we did a \$5 Night and it was a huge success,” said Dragons Business Manager Amanda Stahl. “We wanted to do it again this year to entice people to come to the games who maybe normally wouldn’t. Dragons games are pretty cheap family entertainment normally, but at \$5 per ticket on January 11th you really can’t go wrong, even with

the tough economic climate right now.”

Each ticket including child (ages 5-12), student (13-17), adult (18+) and senior (55+) is only \$5, which is a savings of anywhere from \$3-\$8 per ticket. As usual, kids under 5 years old do not require a ticket.

Like last year, season and Flex ticket holders will receive a voucher for a free small popcorn. All they have to do is show their game ticket at the North Doors. ■



WED, JANUARY 11TH
vs. Okotoks

\$5 night

GAME TIME 7:00PM

ADULTS	\$5
SENIORS	\$5
STUDENTS	\$5
KIDS	\$5

...everyone is \$5!

PLUS
SEASON &
FLEX TICKET
HOLDERS GET
FREE SM
POPCORN!



Dragons sharpen culinary skills

On Wednesday and Thursday nights in November, the Drumheller Dragons attended a private cooking class at DVSS under the instruction of Ryan Hatch. They learned how to cook healthy and nutritious dishes, as well as what foods to avoid before hitting the ice.

“Ryan showed us some fast ways to put a breakfast or pre-game meal together,” said Dragons 20-year-old forward Cody Young. “I think it surprised us all how easy it actually was. It was also nice to learn

what we shouldn’t be eating before games.”

After several weeks of practice, the players had a cooking competition finale on Thursday, December 1, with the dishes being judged by Coach Curran and billet coordinator Corrine Collett.

The winning dish was butter chicken and rice that was prepared by Cody Young, Tyler Kreklewich, Evan Tschumi, Jeff Fasegha and Chad Hurtubise.

The Dragons would like to thank DVSS, Charlene Green and Ryan Hatch for organizing the class. ■

2017 hockey school dates announced

The 2017 Drumheller Dragons Hockey School date has been set for the week of August 14-18. As per usual, the camp will run over 5 days and will include no less than two ice sessions per age group. The organization has also decided to revamp the schedule to include more structured gym time, daily nutrition or sport psychology sessions, team building workshops, and off-ice skill development.

“After last year’s hockey school, we sent out a survey to all the parents of the kids who attended, asking how we could make next year even better,” said Business Manager and hockey school organizer, Amanda Stahl. “The consensus was that there was too much free time and the kids got bored sometimes. We’re going to try to make sure the kids

are never bored this year by bringing in a nutritionist and a sport psychologist to fill those time gaps in the day.”

Last year there were several current Dragons players helping to instruct the hockey school, as well as a couple former players like Trent Ouellette and Chris Rauckman. This year the Dragons are planning to continue the trend of bringing on former Dragons to help out.

The hockey school is for kids aged 6-14, with the option of a goalie clinic and a shooting/checking clinic as well. There will also be another Jr. prep camp for players in midget or junior who are looking to sharpen their skills and conditioning before the 2017-18 season. ■