

RINK READER



team spotlight
SQUIRT BI GOLD

team spotlight
2013-2014 UIOB WHITE

player spotlight
RILEY MCMAHON

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PAT CHRISTOPHERSON

omgha's

State of the State

**SIX 2013-2014
OMGHA TEAMS
MAKE IT TO
STATE TOURNAMENT
...AND TWO WIN
THE CHIP!**

Team Spotlight

SQUIRT B1

GOLD



ROSTER

Coach: Matt Margenau

Manager: Jessica Brunner

Assistant Coaches: Andrew Olson, Chuck Sawicky, Mike Kernan, David Holmgren, Paul Dalthorp, Paul Steenerson

Goalie: Michael Burtness

Skaters: Sam Peters, Blake Steenerson, Bennett Davison, Damon Humphrey, Jake Miron, Wyatt Olson, Jayden Grant, Justin Holmgren, Jack Kernan, Luke Margenau, Luke Sawicky, Joey Dalthorp, Talan Wessman, Jack Schrader

RECORD

24-1-0 (through February 10)

STATE RANKING

#2 (Youth Hockey Hub, 2/9/15)

BIGGEST WIN TO DATE

"The biggest win to date was on Monday, January 19, at the Youth Hockey Hub Squirtacular in Richfield. We beat a very good team from Phoenix, Arizona, 6-1. The score doesn't reflect how competitive the game was. We had a great effort from all players, getting goals from players on every line and defensemen. The goaltending was outstanding, keeping a very strong attack from scoring." -- *Coach Margenau*

WHY ARE THE SQUIRT B1 GOLDS A TEAM TO WATCH?

"It's fun to watch such talented 9-, 10- and 11-year-olds play and enjoy the game of hockey. They pride themselves on fast, hard shots and aggressive play. The defense is stingy, not allowing many shots from opponents. If a shot does happen to get through the defense, our goalie will gobble up any rebound from occurring." -- *Coach Margenau*



Team Spotlight

2013-2014 U10B

WHITE



ROSTER

Coach: Todd Sherner

Managers: Tiffany Lewis, Kristine Angrimson, Susan Carroll

Assistant Coaches: Jason Bauerly, Jeremy Lewis

Goalie: Linnea Johnson

Skaters: Reese Plaude, Kaitlyn Carroll, Ashley Angrimson, Jesse Wheeler, Aster Devick, Taylor Pauly, Greta Spanier, Alex Bauerly, Taverie Sherner, Kiera Laney, Chloe Lewis

RECORD

12-21-6

HIGHLIGHT OF THE SEASON

The 2013-2014 U10B White team finished the season with an amazing performance in the District 3 Tournament. Entering the double-elimination tournament as the 9th seed (out of 11 teams), the U10B Whites lost their first game, 0-2, to their friends on the OMGHA U10B Black team. But in a run for the ages, OMGHA White then went on to win five consecutive nail biters to reach the championship game. They lost a 0-1 heartbreaker to a tough Delano squad in the battle for the 'chip, but still earned a spot in the Regional Tournament of Champions. Like their White team counterparts, the OMGHA U10B Black team also outperformed their #8 seed, finishing 4th place in the District 3 Tournament.

"Our backs were against the wall after losing game one, but we rode a five-game winning streak—which included winning in OT, a shootout, and a couple one-goal games—to reach the championship," said U10B White coach Todd Sherner. "I could not have written a better movie script about how well our girls played. I was a very proud coach and dad!"

**Editor's Note: The 2013-2014 U10B White team was to be featured as a "Team Spotlight" in a Spring 2014 edition of Rink Reader that ended up not being published.*

Spotlight

by Erica Dovenberg

PLAYER



riley mcmahon

Riley, the son of Kyle and Deb McMahon, is the goalie for the Bantam B2 Gold team. An 8th-grader at Osseo Junior High, Riley has played OMGHA hockey for 7 years.

What has been your favorite moment playing OMGHA hockey so far?

"My favorite moment was in the 3rd place game in Peewee B2 districts against Hopkins last year that ended up going into a shootout. We had lost to Hopkins 1-7 just a few weeks earlier. In the shootout, I stopped four of five shots to help my team win the game and 3rd in districts."

What do you like most about playing hockey?

"I love the intensity and the constant action of the game."

Who is your favorite NHL player, and why?

"My favorite player is Darcy Kuemper with the Wild. He isn't playing well this season, but he is still an amazing player who won't back down, even if the team isn't playing well."

COACH



pat christopherson

Pat is the head coach of the Bantam B1 team. He is new to OMGHA this year, but not to coaching hockey. Pat has 20 years of experience under his belt, having spent time coaching Bantams and Junior Gold in Edina, Peewees and Bantams in Silver Bay, and as the High School Varsity coach for Worthington and Pine City high schools. Pat learned to play hockey in Wayzata (we'll try not to hold that against him) when he was 5 years old and finished his career at Edina as a Junior Gold player. He works as the county administrator for Kanabec County in Mora, Minnesota.

What do you enjoy most about being a coach?

"MMMMM...the smell! :)"

What's been your favorite OMGHA moment so far?

"Being told by several team moms that I needed to provide a 'push' gift to my wife, who recently delivered our second child."

Other than a hockey arena, where are we most likely to run into you on the weekend?

"Chasing my 2-year-old around the house until a heart attack ensues or cross-country skiing."

OMGHA TRAVELING TEAMS IN

State Rankings

2014-2015

Bantam AA
#13 (Let's Play Hockey, 2/5/15)

Pewee AA
#4 (Youth Hockey Hub, 2/9/15)
#4 (Let's Play Hockey, 2/5/15)

Pewee A
#8 (Let's Play Hockey, 2/5/15)

Pewee B1
#4 (Youth Hockey Hub, 2/9/15)
#10 (Let's Play Hockey, 2/5/15)

Squirt A
#2 (Youth Hockey Hub, 2/9/15)

Squirt B1 Gold
#2 (Youth Hockey Hub, 2/9/15)

Squirt B1 White
#4 (Youth Hockey Hub, 2/9/15)

Squirt B1 Black
#5 (Youth Hockey Hub, 2/9/15)

U14B
#8 (Let's Play Hockey, 2/5/15)

U12B White
#6 (Let's Play Hockey, 2/5/15)

*These rankings were compiled from the February 9 edition of the Youth Hockey Hub Staff Rankings and the February 5 edition of Let's Play Hockey.

FINAL 2013-2014

Junior Gold A
#5 (Let's Play Hockey, 3/20/14)

Junior Gold B Black
#5 (Let's Play Hockey, 3/20/14)

Junior Gold B Crimson
#6 (Let's Play Hockey, 3/20/14)

Bantam AA
#13 (Let's Play Hockey, 3/20/14)

Bantam A
#18 (Let's Play Hockey, 3/20/14)

Pewee AA
#4 (Youth Hockey Hub, 3/19/14)
#4 (Let's Play Hockey, 3/20/14)

Pewee B1 Black
#8 (Youth Hockey Hub, 3/19/14)
#13 (Let's Play Hockey, 3/20/14)

Pewee B1 Crimson
#12 (Let's Play Hockey, 3/20/14)

Squirt A
#1 (Youth Hockey Hub, 3/19/14)

Squirt B1 Gold
#2 (Youth Hockey Hub, 3/19/14)

Squirt B1 Black
#3 (Youth Hockey Hub, 3/19/14)

Squirt B1 Crimson
#6 (Youth Hockey Hub, 3/19/14)

U14A Gold
#1 (Let's Play Hockey, 3/20/14)

*These rankings were compiled from the March 19, 2014 edition of the Youth Hockey Hub Staff Rankings and the March 20, 2014 edition of Let's Play Hockey.



SIX 2013-2014 OMGHA TEAMS MAKE IT TO STATE TOURNAMENT...AND TWO WIN THE CHIP!

omgha's "State of the State" by Nicole Kustermann

The 2013-2014 hockey season was filled with countless hours of ice time, a thankless number of volunteers, too many pretzels and Airheads, and, also, six OMGHA teams that earned state tournament births and experienced state tournament success!

The following OMGHA '13-14 state tournament teams deserve our recognition:

- * U14A Gold, State Champions
- * Peewee AA, 4th Place
- * U19B, State Champions
- * Junior Gold A, 4th Place
- * Junior Gold B Black, 4th Place
- * Junior Gold B Crimson, 6th Place

The teams traveling the furthest distance for their state tourney experiences were the Girls U14A Gold team, which traveled to Grand Rapids, and the Boys Peewee AA team, which made the trek to Thief River Falls. According to the teams' spokespeople, the travels were worth it!

Jon Erickson, head coach of the girls U14A Gold team, recounted the team's road to the championship as an "extra special" one. His team went undefeated in both the district and region tournaments, beating Wayzata, Orono, Farmington, Lakeville and Como. In the state tournament, OMGHA defeated Anoka, 4-1, in game 1 and Eagan, 3-1, in game 2, setting up a David versus Goliath match-up against the heavily favored Edina Green team for the state championship.

As Coach Erickson explained, those who followed U14A last season would have never guessed that anyone other than Edina Green would be state champions. On that Sunday last March, however, OMGHA beat Edina, 3-2, to give the girls the honor of being the first OMGHA youth "A" team to win a state championship since Osseo and Maple Grove merged teams 10 years ago.

"Everything about that day was an awesome experience," said Coach Erickson. "The bus ride back home to Maple Grove from Grand Rapids seemed like it finished before it started. The exclamation point on Sunday night was having Maple Grove's Finest provide a police escort for our bus back to the rink, where a small crowd of our fans was waiting to congratulate the girls. It was pretty cool for us all."

Speaking of bus rides, the boys from the OMGHA Peewee AA team describe bonding on the bus ride to and from Ralph Engelstad Arena as one of the most memorable parts of their state tournament experience; that, in addition to playing at the historic and hockey-significant "Ralph." While the boys would have liked to bring a banner back to Maple Grove, they all agree they had a season to remember and that their season proved to each of them what hard work can accomplish.

Team manager, Michelle Winkelman, described the road to the "Ralph." The experience began with district pool play, where the top two teams out of three would move on to the regional tournament. After two close losses to Wayzata and a blowout win over Minneapolis, OMGHA and Wayzata advanced to regions.

At regions in Lakeville, OMGHA had wins over Lakeville South, 4-1, and Chaska Chanhassen, 4-2. In a comeback win to advance to the state tournament, OMGHA beat Rochester, 3-2, after being down 0-2 going into the third period.



U14A Gold

2013-2014 OMGHA U14A Gold, State Champions: Players—Lauren Reynolds, Paige Cassibo, Kalli Prekker, Annika Swanson, Andrea Kunz, Julia Pias, Erin Roehl, Emily Elias, Maia Martinez, Elli Corbin, Keely Schwager, Morgan Palmer, Taylor Helvey, Brianna Davey; Head Coach—Jon Erickson; Assistant Coaches—Dane Roehl, Dan Pias, Jim Cassibo, Tim Swanson; Manager—Kathy Prekker

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SIX 2013-2014 OMGHA TEAMS MAKE IT TO STATE TOURNAMENT...AND TWO WIN THE CHIP!

Continued

omgha's "State of the State"

At the state tournament, OMGHA finished 4th out of 8 teams. The tournament began with an exciting, 2-1 overtime win over Hermantown, who had beaten OMGHA earlier in the year. OMGHA lost in the semifinals, 3-6, to Edina, who went on to win the state tournament. In the third place game, OMGHA lost, 3-6, to a talented Sibley team.

While disappointed in the outcome, the entire Pee wee AA team felt fortunate for the unique experience and for the unforgettable season.

Closer to home, the girls U19B team experienced the ultimate success in the state tournament held at New Hope Ice arena. The team battled White Bear Lake and earned a 2-1 victory in game one of the tournament. In the state championship game, OMGHA shut out Eden Prairie/Minnetonka, 3-0, to be crowned champions in convincing fashion.

Also locally, the OMGHA Junior Gold teams participated in the A and B state tournaments at Braemar Arena in Edina.

The Junior Gold A team finished 4th place, after defeating Eden Prairie, 2-1, in the quarterfinal match-up, losing a close game to Wayzata, 2-3, in the semifinal game, and losing another close game to St. Louis Park, 2-3, in the 3rd place game.

In the B tournament, OMGHA Black finished 4th, losing a 0-1 game to Wayzata Gold in the 3rd place game. OMGHA Crimson went 1-2 in their state tournament experience, losing a tough game to Wayzata Blue in the 2nd round of the consolation bracket.

As their seasons ended, the coaches, players, managers, parents and fans of the six OMGHA teams highlighted in this story walked away with cherished memories and influential hockey experiences that we can all hope to achieve this season.

Congratulations, OMGHA state tournament teams!
You made OMGHA proud!



Pee wee AA

2013-2014 OMGHA Pee wee AA, State Tournament 4th Place: Players—Cooper Olson, Miles Ezell, Nick Latvala, Jack Dorholt, Connor Kelley, Trevor Janicke, Spencer Dahlquist, Mannon McMahon, Tyler Kostecky, Ben Leafblad, Tyler Oakland, Trevor Kukkonen, Connor Winkelman, Ian Slotsve, Ty Ballinger, Alec Zejdlík, Parker Slotsve; Head Coach—Curtis Janicke; Assistant Coaches—Chris Dopp, Andrew Prosser, Brandon Mitchell; Managers—Kim Kostecky, Michelle Winkelman



U19B

2013-2014 OMGHA U19B, State Champions: Players—Jacqueline Bakos, Keanna Belau, Samantha Comeau, Hailey Fischer, Amanda Fossen, Heidi Haverinen, Rachel Hegerle, Sarah Hendrickson, Carleigh Johnson, Carlin Koehler, Rebecca Mannstedt, Mary Mcfee, Meagan Prusak, Morgan Schmidt, Alexis Smith, Sarah Southorn, Lindsey Whipps; Coaches—James Dulin, James Kirshbaum

Around the ASSOCIATION

*EDITOR'S NOTE:

Coaches and Managers—Did your team do a great job representing OMGHA at a tournament or other event? Send a short recap and photo to news@omgha.com and we will highlight your team's effort in a future edition of Rink Reader!



The Squire A team has won three of four tournaments it has played in this season: Burnsville's Scott Benedict Memorial Thanksgiving Classic, OMGHA's Squire Extravaganza and the Youth Hockey Hub Squirtacular. Members of the Squire A team include: Players—Jackson Betker, AJ Tollas, Parker Wenthe, Ben Thompson, Sawyer Skanson, Aiden McMahon, Cameron Elder, Ethan Sillerud, Josh Giuliani, Ryan Keiper, William Matzke, Grant LeNeau, Beau Blashack, Landen Gunderson, Tyler Friedrichs, Nathan Jaglo, Alec Juenke; Head Coaches—Lance Tollas, Trent Gunderson; Assistant Coaches—Joe Giuliani, Joel Betker, Eric Keiper, Cisco Skanson; Managers—Brian Blashack, Jill Wenthe



The Squire B1 Gold team has won all three tournaments it has played in this season: the Minneapolis Cup, OMGHA's Squire Extravaganza and the Youth Hockey Hub Squirtacular. Members of the Squire B1 Gold team include: Players—Michael Burtneiss, Sam Peters, Blake Steenerson, Bennett Davison, Damon Humphrey, Jake Miron, Wyatt Olson, Jayden Grant, Justin Holmgren, Jack Kernan, Luke Margenau, Luke Sawicky, Joey Dalthorp, Talan Wessman, Jack Schrader; Head Coach—Matt Margenau; Assistant Coaches—Andrew Olson, Chuck Sawicky, Mike Kernan, David Holmgren, Paul Dalthorp, Paul Steenerson; Manager—Jessica Brunner



The Squire B1 White team won the championship of the River Lakes Fire on Ice Tournament, held January 9-11 in Paynesville. Members of the Squire B1 White team include: Players—Jack Roach, Jacob Bodin, Michael Carlson, Hayden Caywood, Connor Edlund, Jay Ellingson, Blake Forrest, Benjamin Jameson, Kameron Konsela, Andrew Leafblad, Dylan Lempe, Noah Lindberg, Benjamin Migely, Rudy Runyon, Carter Winkelman; Head Coach—Mark Ellingson; Assistant Coaches—Jason Forrest, Bert Jameson, Matt Roach, Bret Caywood, Andy Leafblad; Manager—Kimberly Caywood

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Around the ASSOCIATION *Continued*



The U10B Black team won the championships of the Eastview Lightning Tournament, held December 5-7 in Apple Valley, and the OMGHA Cabin Fever Classic, held February 6-8. Members of the U10B Black team include: Players—Regan Gross, Danielle Key, Tessa Strand, Mia Fagerlee, Reese Plaude, Jordyn Borsch, Gwynavere Marcaccini, Audrey Mlekoday, Hailey Hudrik, Taylor Pauly, Zoe Smith, Madison Soukup, Alexa Hanrahan; Head Coach—Ron Mlekoday; Assistant Coaches—Nate Strand, Colin Fagerlee, Patrick Key; Manager—Theresa Strand



The Pee wee B1 team won the championship of the Head of the Lakes Hockey Classic, held December 12-14 in Duluth. Members of the Pee wee B1 team include: Players—Jack Wieneke, Alex Doucette, Cole Anderson, Caleb Manson, Adam Larson, Ethan Braasch, Jack Polar, Jack Johnson, Daniel Ellingson, Matthew Benzelock, Alexander Mills, Jacob Valerius, Brady Laurance, Michael Gorman, Ryan Reid, Gavin Jones; Head Coach—Chic Pojar; Assistant Coaches—Jesse Braasch, Mark Ellingson, Dennis Manson, Chris Anderson; Manager—Chad Wieneke



The Pee wee B2 Gold team won the championship of the Champlin Rebel Thanksgiving Classic, held November 28-30. Members of the Pee wee B2 Gold team include: Players—Joe Schmidt, Leighton Price, Xavier Morris, Blake Levesque, Samuel Sjelin, Thomas Kampsula, Brady Glad, Cort Isaacs, Jordan Kunz, John Nord, Gabe Klitz, Jake Solle, Jace Uzzell, Dale Pfannenstien; Head Coach—Jim Nord; Assistant Coaches—Mark Glad, Kelly Sjelin, Tony Kunz; Manager—Brian Pfannenstien

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Around the ASSOCIATION *Continued*



The Pee wee B2 White team won the championship of the Forest Lake Ranger Classic, held November 14-16. Members of the Pee wee B2 White team include: Players—Jason Sinitsin, Grant Nagel, Brandon Savoie, Luke Schroeder, Nick Mayer, Caden Wilson, Noah Germanson, Tyler Kraus, William Karkoc, Skyler Morales, Kaden Sandberg, Cayden Ackerman, Brenden Smith, Kyle Stelljes; Head Coach—Jack Germanson; Assistant Coaches—Matt Stelljes, Jason Sandberg, John Morales; Managers—Larysa Karkoc, Jennifer Smith



The Pee wee A team won the championship of the Pee wee Showdown Tournament, held December 27-30 in Bloomington. Members of the Pee wee A team include: Players—Cooper Olson, Calvin Kiefer, Grant Zick, Jacob Hicks, Cameron Benson, JT House, Jonathan Halstrom, Sam Jacobs, Chris Kernan, Cade Wessman, Matthew Gruss, Kamron Cline, Lucas Kiesow, Cody Fischbach, Jordan Mutz; Head Coach—Josh Hicks; Assistant Coaches—Tim Jacobs, Mike Kernan, Kurt Halstrom; Manager Leeann Gruss



The Pee wee AA team won the championship of the Youth Hockey Hub Big Pumpkin Pee wee Invitational Tournament, held October 31-November 2 in Moorhead. Members of the Pee wee AA team include: Players—Ethan Haider, Spencer Dahlquist, Ian Barbour, Connor Kelley, William Thompson, Justin Janicke, Mannon McMahon, Cal Thomas, Ben Leafblad, Henry Nelson, Brandon Reller, Brock Faber, Tyler Oakland, Ethan Elias, Ty Ballinger, Kyle Kukkonen, Parker Slotsve; Head Coach—Curtis Janicke; Assistant Coaches—Nate Wood, Chris Dopp, Kyle Koop; Managers—Sara Oakland, Karri Faber

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Around the ASSOCIATION *Continued*

Winter FaceOff



The MPLS vs OMGHA Faceoff took place throughout January, with OMGHA and Minneapolis Hockey teams squaring off against each other in a series of 26 games at all levels. It was a fun, city versus suburb rivalry, with OMGHA teams coming out on top this year, winning 15 of the 26 matchups.



On January 9, during the warm-ups before a battle between OMGHA's U10B White team and Minneapolis Hockey's U10B Purple team, an astonishing 500 fans spilled into Osseo West Arena to watch the game as part of a "flash mob" celebration of the MPLS vs OMGHA Faceoff. It goes without saying that everyone in attendance, including Wild mascot "Nordy" and especially the girls on both teams, experienced an evening to remember. OMGHA's U10B Whites won the game, 3-0.

Upcoming EVENTS

MARCH 8

OMGHA Monthly Board Meeting
Maple Grove Community Center

MARCH 14

OMGHA Mite Jamboree
Osseo Arena

MARCH 20

OMGHA End-of-Season Gala
Location TBA

APRIL 20

OMGHA Annual Board Meeting
Maple Grove Community Center

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