

Youth Ice Hockey

Hamilton's Jon Bendorf to play in Pee Wee International Quebec tourney

Hamilton Township resident Jonathan Bendorf, age 12, has been chosen to represent the Philadelphia Flyers at the prestigious 53rd Annual Pee Wee International Quebec Tournament in February.

Bendorf, a 5-foot-6, 130-pound left-handed shooter, is currently playing club hockey with the Mercer Chiefs 99AAA team of Hamilton. His father Mike is the former Nottingham High ice hockey coach and his brother Brenden graduated last year as the all-time scoring leader in Nottingham history.

The yearly international tournament gathers the best 12-year-old players in the world, to compete during an 11-day event that coincides with the Annual Ice Festival in Quebec City, Canada and boasts crowds totaling around 200,000.

Over 130 teams for this age group are brought together with approximately 2,300 hundred players from 16 different countries in attendance. Many superstars from the National Hockey League have passed through this Tournament, including Brad Park, Guy Lafleur, Marcel Dionne, Gilbert Perrault, Mark Howe, Wayne Gretzky, Mario Lemieux, Sylvain Côté, Eric Lindros, etc.

Bendorf as selected from a group of 80 players who tried out from the Philadelphia area in October, and is joined on the squad by numerous children of Philadelphia Flyers (past and present) Keith Primeau, Danny Briere, Jon LeClair and Derian Hatcher.

Bendorf is the lone Mercer County-based resident to make the team this year, following in the footsteps of Hamilton's Chris Hemlinger, who competed on the New Jersey Devils' squad last year.



Jonathan Bendorf is headed for the bright lights of the biggest youth hockey tournament in the world next month.