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2,500 MILE ODYSSEY BEGINS TODAY FOR ICE

WEEK IN CANADA ENDS WITH CCM JUNIOR CLASSIC GAMES ON FRIDAY AND SATURDAY

The Indiana Ice hit the road this week for a 2,500 mile round trip adventure that begins today in Toronto, Ontario and ends this weekend in Quebec with a pair of games against some elite Quebec Major Junior Hockey League competition.

Indy plays the Omaha Lancers this afternoon in a scrimmage game from the Herbert H. Carnegie Centennial Centre in Toronto, Ontario which was ironically the same rink that Ice CEO/GM Paul Skjodt and Head Coach Charlie Skjodt played their first year of junior hockey back in the mid-70's.

After today's contest, the Ice will visit the CN Tower and Hockey Hall of Fame in downtown Toronto and have dinner tonight at Wayne Gretzky's Restaurant, before departing for Montreal late this evening. Wednesday includes a visit to the historic Montreal Forum and some sightseeing before the team heads to northern Quebec to participate in the CCM Junior Classic.

The CCM Junior Classic held this Friday (9/7) and Saturday (9/8) will be the first ever meeting between teams from the United States Hockey League and the Quebec Major Junior Hockey League. The Ice play the Rimouski Oceanic at 7:30 p.m. on Friday and the Quebec Remparts at 7 p.m. on Saturday. Rimouski was the former "Junior Home" of current NHL star and Pittsburgh Penguin, Sidney Crosby, while Quebec's co-owner and general manager is NHL Hall-of-Famer and four-time Stanley Cup winner, Patrick Roy.

"The players from both Indy and Omaha are really excited about this opportunity that the QMJHL teams presented to us in this friendship mini-tourney," said Ice CEO/GM Paul Skjodt. "The majority of these players have never seen such "hockey tradition" cities as Toronto, Montreal, Quebec City and Rimouski. We certainly are appreciative of our league sponsor CCM, Patrick Roy and the QMJHL in hosting this event which will be an experience the players will never forget. It is also a great time for some team bonding as we prepare for the regular grind of the season come October."