



## Kimmett Cup ambassador heading to Hawaii to fulfill wish

**Bv Allison Drinnan** 

The Eagle Nine-year-old Paxton Carroll is a big

fan of nature shows. Man vs. Wild with Bear Grylls is one of his favourites, where Grylls is left out in the wilderness and uses his skills to find his way back into civilization.

"He shows you how to survive in the wild with the essentials you need. He doesn't need a tent or anything like that," said Carroll.

Thanks to the Children's Wish Foundation, Carroll and his family will be getting to go on their own adventure this year to Hawaii to see one of the most active volcanoes in the world.

Sitting next to mom Angela Schmidt, Carroll described his interest in obsidian, a naturally occurring volcanic glass that occurs when the lava cools.

"It is basically when water and metal

meet. I have snowflake obsidian downstairs in my room," exclaimed Carroll.

In February of 2013, Carroll was diagnosed with Burkitt's lymphoma. Schmidt said it is a rare cancer, but also the fastest growing cancer in humans.

Carroll has a sporadic version of the cancer, which his mother said is typically found in young children and almost never caught until stage three. Carroll had stage four, with almost three-dozen tumors and 80 per cent bone marrow involvement.

On Feb. 22, Schmidt took her son into urgent care at around 2 p.m. where they found a mass on his neck, and the next morning at 10:30 a.m. they told her that Paxton had cancer. By 9 a.m. the next morning, he was in surgery and received his first dose of chemotherapy that night.

It was a lot to take in 36 hours.

"Having him go through cancer treat-

ment was a challenge. His energy was down and he was still wanting to go and ride his bike or put on his roller blades," Schmidt said. "He handles it beautifully and I think it's the age. It's the parents that struggle with it after."

Meeting Carroll, it's easy to see the energy Schmidt talked about. He is eager to play with the family's dogs, show his extensive Pokémon collection and talk about his Karate classes - he's a vellow belt.

"I'm a daredevil. I'll do anything first try," Carroll said, smiling at his mom. "Bungee jumping, I'll go do that next."

Carroll has been out of treatment since August of 2013, and other than a couple of scares here and there, Schmidt said he is doing great.

Carroll was also named the ambassador for this year's seventh annual Kimmett Cup, and proudly wears his bright red Kimmett Cup jersey during the interview

For the complete story on Carroll, visit cochraneeagle.com.



Paxton Carroll playing at this year's Kimmett Cup. Photo submitted











Over 400 players and 100 volunteers took part in the seventh annual Kimmett Cup, which took place from Jan. 16-17 at Mitford Park and Spray Lake Sawmills Family Sports Centre. Four-time finalists The Hellbenders won the competitive division, while The Trans Canadas took the recreational division. The event raised around \$107,000 for the Children's Wish Foundation and \$16,000 for Helping Families Handle Cancer. See page 4 for the story on the Kimmett Cup's 2015 ambassador, Paxton Carroll.

1) Participants and volunteers of the Kimmett Cup take a group photo Jan. 17 at Mitford Park; 2) Molly Ferdinand sings Canada's national anthem; 3) Justin Maw dangles the puck; 4) Mike Fredrich, left, and Justin Maw come to a quick stop during game action; 5) Stu Bradley, left, and Kelly Kimmett take in some of the action; 6) the Lindsay Kimmett Pavilion memorial stands as a reminder of the event's inspiration; 7) several games were played at Mitford Park and Spray Lake Sawmills Family Sports Centre and were entertaining for those who came out to watch.

## Photos by Ryan McLeod

