



Senators Host Magic Paint Brush Project

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It was one magical mess at the Broome County Veterans Memorial Arena as the Bsens helped bring a little color and a lot of fun into the lives of special needs children and their families.

"Yeah, he had fun. He's too tired right now but we made a good painting over there and everybody had a good time from the kids to the players, so I think it was a positive experience," said Bobby Robbins of the Senators.

The magic paintbrush project uses art and fun to inspire these children's abilities, not focus on their disabilities.

"The children who normally paint in the workshop have a chance to show the players what they do and have a chance of interaction between the two teams," said Jennifer O'Brien, the Magic Paintbrush Coordinator.

"It's a lot of fun. Just to see the kids enjoy themselves and see the smile on their face. It's pretty rewarding," said B-Sens forward Serge Payer.

"It's nice. Anytime we get out in the community. Especially kids like this. It's a good time and a great experience," said Jeff Heerema, another B-Sens forward.

And as theraputic as a day full of washable paint was for the kids, it might have been even more fun for the players themselves.

"I've got a lot of grudges on a few guys and I dumped a few pales of paint on them. Especially my roommate. I got him real good. So I think we had a pretty good time, too."

"It's really hard to say who has had more fun. It's a 50-50 job. It's all about team work out there so if they're working together they're doing great."

"That's a close call. I think the kids are having a blast. But you see a lot of guys having fun, too. You see Tomas Malec have the most fun with the paint in his mouth."

Later this season, the B-Sens will paint plates at the clayground in Vestal that will be auctioned to support the Magic Paintbrush Project.

"Oh, it's going to take us a while to get all this paint off but it was worth it."

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