

News Release

FAIR PLAY
AND RESPECT



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Our heroes deserve life long recognition

It's about paying tribute to the people who did so much for hockey. That's why the IIHF Hall of Fame program is so important. We tend to forget our former greats, at least in Europe.

On September 26, the IIHF announced the eight former international hockey greats who will be inducted into the IIHF Hall of Fame during the 2003 World Championship in Finland. (See pages 2, 6 - 7). The IIHF Hall of Fame was introduced in 1997. Since then, 119 former heroes from 20 countries have been inducted.

■ ■ The recently concluded 30 year anniversary of the historic 1972 Summit Series between the Soviet Union and Team Canada once again showed what a difference there is between North America and Europe when it comes to paying tribute to former heroes of the game. All of Team Canada's players, most of them in their mid fifties or sixties, are still revered by the fans who remember not only the stars but also the role players.

Most of the players seem well off, at least they don't seem to suffer financially. Once a champ, always a champ. This is the way it should be.

It's different in Russia. When I was in Moscow some weeks ago for the Russian 30 year anniversary I had the privilege to meet some of the former Soviet greats who have fared very well; goaltender superstar Vladislav Tretiak and newly inducted IIHF Hall of Famer Aleksander Yakushev. But a substantial number of the players who mesmerized the hockey world in the autumn of 1972 live on small pensions, in tiny apartments, and are largely forgotten.

■ ■ This is definitely not only a Russian problem. I am being told that today's hockey fans in Sweden have only very vague memories of former heroes like Ulf Sterner, Ronald "Sura-Pelle" Pettersson or Nisse Nilsson. Accomplished international allstars, like Pekka Marjamäki or Lasse Oksanen, can walk the streets of Helsinki without any one recognising them.

Only a few die hard fans and hockey historians in Czech Republic know about the outstanding feats of Josef Malecek, who was among the eight IIHF Hall of Fame inductees this year. He amassed his amazing numbers in the 30s, but fell into total oblivion later on.

In Canada, you are not considered a serious hockey fan if you don't know about the exploits of Howie Morenz, Malecek's contemporary in the NHL.

These are the reasons why the IIHF is committed to its Hall of Fame program, in order to preserve the memories of players, officials and builders who contributed to make international ice hockey the great show that it is today. It is our duty and responsibility to make today's hockey fans appreciate the efforts of these former greats. Those who don't know their history, are not able to build the future.

□ New ideas on the EHL re-launch

■ ■ The re-launch of the European Hockey League has been an ongoing theme since the EHL ceased operations following the 1999-2000 season. This means that ice hoc



Photo: SEVA KUKUSHKIN, Sport Express

THE MAN THEY CALLED "RAGS". Alexander Ragulin, one of the truly greats of international hockey, poses in front of a painting depicting him during his GSKA hey days. Ragulin is an IIHF Hall of Famer, inducted in 1997.

key is the only team sport of significance without any major European club competition for its top teams.

There are many ideas regarding the format of the new competition and I would like to present mine.

■ Champions (and only champions) of the eight highest ranked nations in Europe take part.

■ They are divided into two groups of four and play a round robin series, three home games and three away in October, November and December.

Continued on page 2

2 x 4 and a Final Four is the new formula



EURO DANCE: The EHL, here represented by Manchester Storm and Sparta Prague, should be a 8 team circuit according to René Fasel.

Continued from page 1

■ The two top teams advance to a Final Four playoff round which will be played at one venue, in mid January, to determine which is the best club team in Europe.

This idea, as far as I can see, holds several advantages.

■ The format gives the tournament absolute integrity and exclusivity. Top eight teams, only champions, only the best of the best will take part. The limited number of games also means that every game is important.

■ The first stage of the tournament requires that the national associations and leagues reserve only six playing days (preferably Tuesdays) in their national league schedule for EHL games. All top European leagues play today between 50 and 60 regular season games and additional playing dates are hard to find.

■ The format is easy to understand and easy to overlook for fans, media and partners.

It will be up to the IIHF to find TV and marketing partners so the tournament can be exposed, promoted and the teams rewarded.

Finally, one can see the EHL winner playing the Stanley Cup champion for world club supremacy the following autumn. This could also be organized in a "Final Four" format with the EHL finalists playing the teams that played in the Stanley Cup finals.

It is on our agenda to invite the representatives of the major European national associations and leagues to Zurich to further discuss these ideas.

René Fasel
IIHF President

Eight former international greats inducted to IIHF Hall of Fame

René Fasel, IIHF President, and Walter L Bush Jr, Chairman of the IIHF Hall of Fame Selection Committee announced on September 22 the names of the 2003 inductees to the IIHF Hall Fame.

■ **To player's category:** Bengt-Ake Gustafsson (SWE), Timo Jutila (FIN), Josef Malecek (CZE) and Alexander Yakushev (RUS).

■ **To builder's category:** Curt Berglund (SWE) and Heinz Henschel (GER).

■ **To referee's category:** Josef Kompalla (GER) and Unto Wiitala (FIN).

Check the IIHF.com for complete bios of the inductees. The IIHF Hall of Fame was introduced in 1997. Since then, 119 hockey greats from 20 countries have been inducted.

The Hall of Fame inductions and ceremonies will be held during the 2003 IIHF World Championships in Helsinki, Finland. The date will be announced later.

Short bios:

■ Gustafsson; one of the best leaders and playmakers of the 80s, both in the NHL and on the Swedish national team for which he played 117 times.

■ Jutila; a rock on defense for the Finnish national team from the mid 80s til the mid 90s. Crowned his

career by leading Finland to the 1995 IIHF World Championship gold medal.

■ Malecek; a super star of the 20s and 30s but was largely forgotten during the communist era. Played 107 national team games where he amassed 121 goals (!). Moved to the United States after his ice hockey career and lived in Bay Port, Long Island until his death on September 26, 1982, at the age of 79.

■ Yakushev; billed as the first modern Soviet super star during the early 70s. Starred in the 1972 Summit Series vs Team Canada. Won two Olympic golds and seven IIHF World Championships.

■ Berglund; 15 years as the "Minister of Finance" for the IIHF, retiring in 1990. Helped establishing the IIHF financially as well as prestigiously.

■ Henschel; 25 years with the German Ice Hockey Association during which he served as delegation leader in eight Olympics and 27 IIHF World Championship events.

■ Kompalla; officiated in 2019 games, three Olympics, twelve IIHF World Championships as well as the 1972 Summit Series. See more on Kompalla on pages 6-7.

■ Wiitala; after representing Finland in both Olympics and world championships he made a quick transition to world class referee.

Olympic referees to work the World U20 tournament in Canada

Top crop of IIHF referees and linesmen is assigned to work the 27th IIHF World U20 Championship in Canada (Halifax and Sydney) December 26, 2002 - January 5, 2003.

Eight referees and ten linesmen from nine countries will work the tournament which will draw enormous interest in primarily Canada and Europe.

Of the assigned referees, Danny Kurman and Ulf Radbjør officiated at the 2002 Olympics in Salt Lake City while Vladimir Sindler and Tor Olav Johnsen worked the 2002 IIHF World Championship in Sweden. Timo Favorin, Alexander Poliakov and Rick Looker are returnees from the 2002 IIHF World U20 Championship in Czech Republic.

Referees:

Timo Favorin	FIN
Tor Olav Johnsen	NOR
Danny Kurmann	SUI
Rick Looker	USA
Rob Matsuoka	CAN
Alexander Poliakov	RUS
Ulf Radbjør	SWE
Vladimir Sindler	CZE

Linesmen:

Stanislav Barvir CZE, Michel Cormier CAN, John Costello USA, Derek Doucette CAN, Peter Feola USA, Stefan Fonselius FIN, Miroslav Halecky SVK, Pavel Makarov RUS, Daniel Stricker SUI, Leo Takula SWE.

IIHF is moving on October 25

The IIHF is moving from its premises at Parking 11 in Zurich. It's sounds dramatic, but it's not. We are moving to Brandschenkestrasse 50 -- a two-minute walk from the office where the IIHF has dwelled since August 31, 1996.

The first stage of the move will start on Friday, October 25 and all systems will shut down at Parking 11 at 17.30 that day. As of Monday, October 28 we will be installed at the new premises.

See our new telephone and fax numbers and also the new general e-mail address below.

The move will be completed on January 7, 2003 when a new adjacent office building will be ready for takeover.



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Fasel elected as President of AIOWF

IIHF President and IOC member René Fasel was elected as President of the International Olympic Winter Sport Federation (AIOWF) on Monday, August 26, 2002 in Lausanne, Switzerland.

René Fasel defeated co-runner Gian Franco Kasper four votes to three. IIHF's General Secretary Jan-Ake Edvinsson was also elected as new General Secretary of the very same federation.

The AIOWF consists of the seven Olympic Winter Sport Federations; Biathlon (IBU), Bobsleigh (FIBT), Curling (WCF), Luge (FIL), Skating (ISU), Ski (FIS) and Ice Hockey (IIHF).

Congress approves changes for 2003

The IIHF held its Semi-Annual Congress in Taormina, Sicily, Italy on September 12 - 14. The Congress approved two changes, which were proposed by the national associations participating in the 2003 IIHF World Championship in Finland.

Overtime Operations

The 4-on-4 format will be applied. For all overtime periods of the 2003 IIHF World Championship the length will be twenty minutes. Previously a ten-minute overtime period was used in the quarter-finals and semi-finals. All overtime periods will start after a 15-minute intermission. This new overtime rule refers to the 2003 IIHF World Championship only. After an evaluation, the rule can be made permanent for all IIHF championships at the 2003 IIHF General Congress.

Number of players per team

From the start of the second round (Qualification round) the teams will be able to add two players (two skaters or one skater and one goalkeeper) to their basic roster of 20 players and 3 goalkeepers. The bylaw permitting teams to add five players for the Final Round is deleted for this championship.

IIHF News

■ KIHA, the Korean Ice Hockey Association, announced on October 7 that Seong-yeong Cheon was appointed as the new General Secretary of the association.

■ Ukraine association has a new website: www.hockey.org.ua

■ Correct fax number to Rickard Fagerlund +46 8 550 11 462.

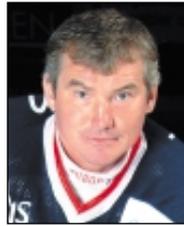
■ Alois Schloder (GER) replaces Klaus Rambold on the IIHF Oldtimer Committee.

Dump & Chase from the World of Hockey

Father and son score in top league game

Danish hockey history was written on October 6 when champions Rungsted IK played at Fredrikshavn in the Danish top league. Rungsted's 39-year old Russian veteran **Leonid Trukhno** was joined by his son **Slava Trukhno**, only 15. With the home team leading 1-0, Slava scored his first goal in a senior league game, assisted by father Leonid. In the beginning of the third period Leonid scored the 2-1-winner, assisted by Slava who will celebrate his 16th birthday on February 22, 2003.

Leonid played for CSKA Moscow and Khimik Voskresensk in the old Soviet league for 11 seasons but has been played in Denmark since 1992. Slava, who is a Russian citizen, has still not decided whether to join the Russian or Danish national team program. He is already 180 cm and 80 kilos -- and still growing. Pretty soon scouts will be crowding the Rungsted rink.



Leonid Trukhno, 39



Slava Trukhno, 15

to IIHF World Championship gold medals both in 2000 and 2001 but who was fired after the 2002 tournament in Sweden, was called upon by HC Havirov at the end of September when the team was already dead last in the 14 team Czech league. Augusta did not manage to turn things around immediately. With the former national team coach behind the bench Havirov lost 4-0 to Karlovy Vary and 1-0 to Litvinov and had only two points after nine games.

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The 2004 World Cup of Hockey is still two years away but the Canadian Hockey Association has already asked **Wayne Gretzky** if he would be interested to try to repeat the magic of Salt Lake City 2002 where Canada won its first Olympic gold medal in 50 years. This as reported by the TSN in Canada. "The good thing is the World Cup is still two years away, so there is no rush there", Gretzky told TSN. "I told **Bob Nicholson** (president of CHA) we'll talk about it as we get closer to it."

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Pernilla Winberg is believed to be the youngest player ever to suit up for a national hockey team. Pernilla, 13, was selected to represent Sweden's national women's team as the Olympic bronze medallists from Salt Lake City 2002 took on Finland in two exhibitions in September. "The bronze medal in Salt Lake was very important for my decision to make a commitment for Turin 2006", Pernilla told the Swedish tabloid Aftonbladet. "I want to be there and Team Sweden shall play in the final. That's our goal." According to reports the 13-year old was the best goal scorer in Team Sweden scrimmages leading up to the exhibition games.

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The Faceoff.com website had a pool of experts select the ten best European players who played in the NHL. **Jari Kurri** (FIN), **Peter Stastny** (SVK) and **Borje Salming** (SWE) were the top three, followed by **Dominik Hasek** (CZE), **Igor Larionov** (RUS), **Jaromir Jagr** (CZE), **Mats Sundin** (SWE), **Peter Forsberg** (SWE), **Teemu Selanne** (FIN) and **Sergei Fedorov** (RUS).

□ □ □

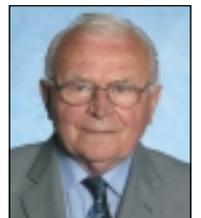
The Haringey Racers, one of the greatest teams in the history of British and European hockey, are playing again after an absence of many years. The Racers were created by Canadian Brigadier General **A.C. Critchley** following Great Britain's gold medal win in the 1936 Olympics. Many of the players on that team went on to form the Racers.

For 22 years the Racers remained in action and defeated many of Europe's top teams and were both English and British National League Champions for many years. The reborn Racers are competing in the English National Premier League and they had a 1-6 (win-loss) record after seven games.

□ □ □

Karel Gut, the President of the Czech Ice Hockey Association, celebrated his 75th birthday on September 16, 2002.

Gut is one of the most accomplished hockey personalities in the world. As a player, he represented his Czechoslovakia on 114 occasions, taking part in nine IIHF World Championships and three Olympics. As a coach Gut led Czechoslovakia to two world championship gold medals (1976 and 1977) as well as four silver medals. Gut also coached the national team on the 1976 (silver) and the 1980 (silver) Olympics.



Karel Gut, 75



Boris is back

Former head coach of the Russian national team, **Boris Mikhailov**, was on October 3 appointed as the coach of SKA St. Petersburg of the Russian Professional Hockey League. Mikhailov, one of the greatest players of the Soviet era, replaced Nikolai Puchkov just a couple of hours before a league game against AK Bars Kazan. SKA lost the game 2-1 on OT but Mikhailov's magic worked better two days later when his team hosted Neftechimik. SKA held the visitors to a 0-0 tie.

It's the third time that Mikhailov is appointed coach of the St. Petersburg club, formerly known as SKA Leningrad.

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Only Vancouver (CAN), Salzburg (AUT) and Pyeongchang (KOR) are left among the cities bidding for the XXI Olympic Winter Games in 2010. The fourth applicant, Berne (SUI), withdrew from the race on September 22. The election of the host city will be done by the full IOC membership at the 115th IOC Session in Prague, in July 2003.

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Saturday 21st of September 2002 will forever be remembered in the annals of the Finnish Hockey League. For the first time in that league history did a team lose a six-goal advantage when Tappara of Tampere were playing at IFK Helsinki. At 2.46 of the second period Tappara had taken a 6-0-lead and the home team were still six goals down until 15.27 of the second when IFK got their first goal of the evening. The score was 6-2 for Tappara when the third period started and most of the 6.955 in the old Helsinki ice rink couldn't believe their eyes when the home team scored five unanswered goals to make it 7-6 for IFK at 17.38 of the third.

Only 44 second before the end IFK's **Tuomo Ruutu** (Chicago's 2001 first round, 9th overall draft choice and brother of NHL Canucks' Jarkko) scored again -- into his own goal, to make it 7-7 in what probably was the craziest game ever seen in the Finnish league.

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Boris Mikhailov is not the only ex-national team coach who has taken a club job. **Josef Augusta**, who led the Czech Republic

Modern hockey needs modern arenas

The development and popularisation of hockey and building new state-of-the-art arenas goes hand in hand. In Europe, Sweden is presently in the forefront in replacing cold, outdated rinks with new modern arenas.

The times are past when hockey fans crowded ice stadiums and happily paid for standing room only, poor sightlines and a hot-dog between periods. Replays could be seen only if you rushed home after the game and made it in time for the late sports news on TV.

■ The modern hockey spectator expects comfort. He or she wants to spend some time before and after the game in friendly confines, maybe having a decent snack or even a dinner, and watch the highlights on the arena jumbotron. Spacious outlets which sell club merchandise and souvenirs are today an integral part of brand marketing and an important part of the club's revenue.

Swedish champions Farjestad of Karlstad boast the beautiful and new Lofbergs Lila Arena with a capacity of 8,150 spectators. HV71 from Jonkoping refurbished the run down Rosenlundshallen built in 1958 and play today out of the Kinnarps Arena which holds 6,500 fans. Farjestad and HV71 not only play in new buildings, they own them as well which means that they don't have pay rent or share revenues from concessions. Both arenas were sites of the 2002 IIHF World Championship in Sweden.

■ Many teams in the Swedish elite league are to follow. Lulea totally refurbished their arena for this season; Brynas' ancient Gavlerinken will be replaced in 2005 by new arena for 7,000 - 8,000 spectators; Malmo's owner Percy Nilsson is planning a 12,000 seat Malmo Arena for 2007, while both MoDo and Linkoping will invite their fans to new arenas before the 2004-2005 season.

Djurgarden (Globen Arena 13,850), Frolunda (12,200) and Sodertalje (6,900) are happy with their more or less modern homes and only Leksand and Timra are not in the economic position to either build a new arena or refurbish the old one.

Still, when the process is completed, 10 out of 12 SHL teams will perform in what can be called modern buildings.

"The clubs in the Swedish Hockey League have realized that in order to be able to continue to draw fans you have to have modern facilities", says Tommy Topel, Sports Director of the SHL. "In the long run it means that the clubs will be able to stay financially sound and enter the era where sports is part of the entertainment industry."

□ In some other European countries:

FINLAND: Jokerit Helsinki (Hartwall Arena 13,665), TPS Turku (Elysee Arena 11,820) and Espoo Blues (LänsiAuto Areena 7,000) have new and fully modern arenas, while HIFK Helsinki, HPK Hämeenlinna and the Tampere teams Ilves and Tappara have refurbished buildings. The 2003 IIHF World Championship will be



Photo: CITY-PRESS BERLIN

VIEWER FRIENDLY: Comfortable seating, VIP-facilities, good sightlines, no huge, atmosphere killing gaps between the rink and the stands and replays on the jumbotron - these are some criteria which make for a modern hockey arena. This photo shows the 10,767 Preussag Arena, home of the DEL Hannover Scorpions.

played in the Hartwall, Elysee and Tampere venues.

RUSSIA: SKA St. Petersburg are taking full advantage of the Ice Palace (12,000) which was built for the 2000 IIHF World Championship, while champions Lokomotiv Yaroslavl have completed their inaugural season at the wonderful 9,097 seat Arena-2000.

GERMANY: Kolner Haie play out of the 18,500 seat Kolnarena, probably the best and definitely the biggest hockey arena in Europe, while the Hannover Scorpions enjoy the friendly confines of the 10,767 Preussag Arena, and the Nurnberg Ice Tigers have the 8,500 ARENA Nurnberg. All three were venues for the 2001 IIHF World Championship.

The Philip Anschutz-owned Hamburg Freezers are - as we write - about to move into the brand new Color Line Arena which will hold 13,886 for hockey. Newly promoted Ingolstadt are moving into their new arena in 2003.

GREAT BRITAIN: The British Superleague (ISL) is often struggling, but is still doing a fine job in allowing its clubs to perform in modern buildings. Manchester Storm (17,250), Nottingham Panthers (7,500), Sheffield Steelers (8,500) and Belfast Giants (7,300) are playing in arenas which have no match in some other countries with a far more developed hockey program and much better national leagues.

■ Switzerland is the European country which has probably made the greatest progress with their hockey program during the last ten years. But while the Swiss national team (especially the juniors) can play with anybody nowadays, and the Nationalliga A is among the strongest leagues in Europe, the arenas are hopelessly outdated and stink of tobacco after decades of persistent smoking at the hands of the fans who couldn't care less about the no smoking signs.

SC Bern, which last season was the top draw in Europe

with an average of 11,310 fans, plays in the 16,771 Allmendstadion, but the seating capacity is a paltry 4,460. A new arena is planned for 2008, which seems like an eternity for SCB fans right now.

■ The Zurich Lions are a good draw at the ancient Hallenstadion (site of the 1998 IIHF World Championship) but the old cycling velodrome simply has to be one of the worst, and smokiest, hockey arenas in the world. The building, which stands under heritage protection, cannot be torn down, but will be renovated for the 2005-2006 season.

The Geneve Servette Eagles, to take another example, play at the Les Vernets, which looks virtually the same as it did when the IIHF organized the 1961 World Championship there.

"In the long run it means that the clubs will be able to stay financially sound and enter an era where sports is a part of the entertainment industry"

The mostly wooden and standing room stadium in Davos, home of champion HC Davos and the annual Spengler Cup classic, is charming, and so is the Valascia arena of the HC Ambri-Piotta in the Italian part of Switzerland. The ice rink, where only 2,000 out of the capacity 7,000 are seats, is only partially covered. There are no walls behind the short ends and standing behind one goal you can enjoy a wonderful view of the Gotthard mountain through the open end of the arena.

When the wind blows right through the Valascia in February and the thermometer inside the rink shows minus eight degrees Celsius, the charm factor becomes rather limited.

■ IIHF's Swiss born President René Fasel said this to the Zurich daily newspaper Tages Anzeiger the other week: "There will not be any IIHF World Championships organized in Switzerland unless there are two new state-of-the-art arenas built."

Switzerland is an applicant for the 2008 IIHF World Championship. (sz)

Hockey is the genes of the Tambellinis

New GM brings family pride to Team Canada

In many ways, Steve Tambellini represents the best of Canadian hockey. So it was hardly surprising when the Canadian Hockey Association introduced him on September 26 as the general manager of the Maple Leaf squad for the 2003 IIHF World Championships in Finland.

The 44-year-old Vice-President of Player Personnel with the Vancouver Canucks was all smiles at the GM Place press conference. Tambellini has good reason to feel upbeat as he pursues this fresh opportunity.

■ After helping Lanny McDonald steer Team Canada through the 2001 IIHF World Championship in Germany, Tambellini knows more about the delights and dangers of that tournament than many veteran NHL general managers. And collaborating with his nation's greatest hockey minds at the 2002 Olympics proved to be a golden experience.

"Salt Lake was a formula for only one thing: success," said Tambellini. "Wayne Gretzky and Pat Quinn set a tone. Our group became very powerful."

Now the question is whether Canada can replicate that potent attitude in the country where it captured its last Worlds gold in 1997. Both the domestic and international media criticized the Canadians for not icing a better team in 2002. Tambellini knows that to avoid another sixth-place finish, he can't afford to have some 60 NHLers turn down invitations to Finland, as was the case with Sweden.

"Hopefully, I can point to when the players had a chance to see the Olympics and the opportunities that guys like Ryan Smyth enjoyed," said Tambellini. "Ryan agreed to come to the World Championships in Germany, and he was a young guy who was on our list for consideration for the Olympics. He was an incredible representative for Canada on the ice. It really accelerated his run up the ladder."

■ But the issues run deeper. Participating at the IIHF World Championships is more than just a stepping stone to the Olympics. Each year, international hockey prestige is on the line. Getting that message through to the Canadian NHL talent available next April is a challenge Tambellini is ready to embrace.

"Other hockey nations judge their success so much on how they play against the Canadian teams," Tambellini said. "It always has been that way and it always will be. Would we like to win every year at the World Championships? Absolutely. Sometimes we haven't had enough weapons to do that. You need a mature group if you expect success. These teams you're playing have experienced international players who understand that game. So my goal this year is to make sure that we do get the very best players available for Canada."

To get his countrymen thinking the same way, Tambellini will also encourage NHL general managers to release suitable prospects playing in North America for the Deutschland Cup, Spengler Cup, Sweden Hockey Games and Swiss Cup this winter. If he succeeds, it should benefit everyone.

"Experiences at that level of hockey can really progress the development of some of these players," said Tambellini. "They may be playing in the American Hockey League or on the bubble with their NHL teams. I'm looking for more of a nucleus of players from Canada who will push our European-based talent. We think we can bring back a better player afterwards to his National Hockey League team."



Photo: DAVE SANDFORD

NO STRANGER TO GOLD: Steve Tambellini (left) was one of the brains behind Canada's gold at Salt Lake City. His new job will be to bring back glory to Canada's World Championship teams and make players like Ed Jovanovski (right) jump at the opportunity.



Photo: HOCKEY HALL OF FAME

STEVE'S DAD: Addie was a member of the fabled 1961 Trail Smoke Eaters.



Photo: HOCKEY HALL OF FAME

STEVE'S SON: Jeff (with Addie's nr. 15) has already played for Canada's U18 team.

■ Tambellini is a man who backs up his words. He has shown he doesn't believe the Stanley Cup is the be-all and end-all for North American hockey players.

He got his name on the cherished silver mug as a young center with the New York Islanders in 1980. But he also ranks his appearances at the 1978 World U20 Juniors, 1981 World Championship and 1988 Olympics in Calgary among the proudest moments of his career.

"At the World U20 Juniors in Montreal, Wayne Gretzky was only 16 years old when he played with our bronze medal team," Tambellini reminisced.

"Watching a 140 pound young man dazzle the world and lead the tournament in scoring was incredible. Then, those World Championships in Sweden were interesting with Don Cherry as our coach! It was a great experience to play with Lanny McDonald and Larry Robinson and Guy Lafleur in 1981. And representing Canada at the Calgary Olympics was a very emotional experience. I have treated every time when I've been asked to participate internationally as a privilege."

■ That's no wonder when you consider his family history. Tambellini's father Addie was a member of the 1961 Trail Smoke Eaters, the last Canadian amateur team to win gold at the World Championships.

This accomplishment was all the more remarkable coming from a small British Columbia town of around 10,000 inhabitants, dominated by the ore smelting industry. The memory provides an inspiration that drives Steve Tambellini to this day.

"This is something that we grew up with in Trail," said Tambellini. "International play was a huge part of our life. It was always brought up in the media locally or internationally that my dad's hockey team was very special, and they were."

■ Today, Steve's son Jeff is carrying on the family tradition in international hockey. The 5-11, 185-pound forward played for Canada's gold medal team at the 2001 Six Nations U18 Cup in the Czech Republic. As an 18-year-old scoring star with the Chilliwack Chiefs of the British Columbia Hockey League, Jeff was also honored as Canada's Junior A Player of the Year for 2002. That's a great sign. Past winners include Paul Kariya and Mike Comrie, both of whom have represented Canada at the IIHF World Championships.

Steve acknowledges that it would be a coup for his son to wear the Maple Leaf jersey on home turf at the upcoming U20 Worlds in Halifax, Nova Scotia if selected. But he's happy to watch Jeff continue to progress at his own pace this season at university with the Michigan Wolverines.

From the start of his playing career to the end, Steve Tambellini demonstrated his class. Look at his WHL Most Sportsmanlike Player awards with the Lethbridge Broncos in 1977 and 1978. Or his 81 point effort with the Austrian club VSV Villach in his final year, 1989-90.

Whichever way you analyze it, Canada is privileged to have a man with such a rich international hockey history at its helm today.

LUCAS AYKROYD, Vancouver

IIHF Hall of Famer "Jupp" Kompalla

KREFELD, Germany:

■ As soon as you walk over the threshold of Josef Kompalla's apartment you cannot avoid seeing the framed photograph which hangs in the hallway. Photos of that size, which are given such a prominent position in a modest two-room apartment are usually from a wedding or depict children.

This one is neither. It's a three decades old shot showing Canadian hockey player Jean-Paul Parisé swinging his stick like an axe at referee Josef Kompalla who cringes desperately in order to avoid being hit.

It was September 28, 1972, game 8 of the Summit Series between the Soviet Union and Team Canada at the Luzhniki Arena in Moscow.

"I remember thinking: if he hits, he hits. There is nothing I can do", recalls Kompalla.

Parisé, a usually mild-mannered forward on the 1972 Team Canada, stopped his assault just an instant before contact.

"There was really nothing to discuss after that. Ten minute misconduct and a game misconduct. Parisé was gone."

■ It's almost thirty years to the day after what some hockey observers call the "biggest game in hockey history" when the IIHF is invited to Josef Kompalla's home in this city in western Germany, some twenty kilometres from the Dutch border. It's like walking into a mini Hockey Hall of Fame.

Kompalla has saved almost everything from his remarkable refereeing career, which saw him officiate in 12 IIHF World Championships, two IIHF World U20 Juniors, the 1976, 1980 and 1984 Olympics, the 1972 Summit Series, the 1974 Series which featured the WHA Team Canada against the Soviet Union, countless European Cup games and games in the German and South African hockey leagues.

The 66-year old German, who was born in the Polish city of Katowice, shows us his old referee jerseys, player jerseys, hockey sticks with autographs, at least 100 hockey pucks from all kinds of tournaments, commemorative plaques and plates, statues, trophies and diplomas, photos with him and Gretzky, photos with

him and Tretiak, pennants, programs, a huge world map with pins stuck in marking the cities on five continents where Kompalla has officiated games, and a collector pin set to die for if you love hockey and memorabilia.

"I really don't know what I am going to do with this", he says. "When I die, someone will probably just throw

"I almost fell off my chair when Fasel called and told me that", says Kompalla. "I am very honoured and proud. It's like receiving an Oscar, I guess. The biggest acknowledgement."

■ He pulls two notebooks out of a drawer. The pages are full with carefully handwritten notes of all the games that Kompalla has officiated between 1970 and 1994. All dates, teams who played, competitions, and the name of the fellow game officials are marked in straight columns. All in all 2,019 hockey games.

"But I have never been involved in anything as emotional as the 1972 series", reminisces Kompalla. "Neither before nor after. Those two games in Moscow were the highlight of my career, my most memorable moments as a referee. They were also the toughest games I have ever been assigned to work. My head was spinning like a ball-bearing. There was action everywhere."

"The whole hockey world was watching. At that time I never could have imagined that the teams were writing hockey history and shaping the future of the game."

"Canada re-discovered that hockey was a team sport, while the Russians learned how to play hockey the tough way", is Kompalla's simple assessment.

■ Kompalla has very fractional memories of the series and the games he officiated. He was invited to follow the four games in Canada (which were refereed by US officials) and recalls the Montreal Forum being as "silent as during a funeral" when the Soviets were running up the score in game one. Kompalla was assigned games 6 and 8 in Moscow. He does not remember Bobby Clarke's wicked slash to Valeri Kharlamov's ankle in the first one, although Clarke was assessed a minor and a misconduct penalty for the two-hander.

He cannot recall the whole Alan Eagleson drama which followed Canada's 5-5-equalizer, and he is surprised when he hears that Paul Henderson's winner came with 34 seconds left.

"I thought it was something like six seconds left", says Kompalla.

But he has, of course, very vivid memories of the J-P Parisé incident. The image hanging on his hallway wall is a daily reminder. A Russian photographer gave him this picture some years later when Kompalla was back in Moscow working the annual Izvestija tournament.



Photo: SZYMON SZEMBERG, IIHF

30 YEARS AFTER. Josef Kompalla poses with his unique treasure in his living room in Krefeld, Germany. "If he hits, he hits. There's nothing I can do", Josef remembers thinking of the incident.

all this into a container."

Soon, Josef "Jupp" Kompalla will be able to put up another plaque on his personal wall of fame. On Tuesday September 17, 2002 IIHF President René Fasel called Kompalla to tell him that he is among the eight hockey greats who will be inducted to the IIHF Hall of Fame during the 2003 IIHF World Championship in Finland.

a: Games of '72 my best memories

"I was never mad at Parisé, not even then. It was in the heat of the moment. I was a player for 20 years and I know how a player can react when he loses his temper."

■ The name of the photographer is unknown and it is believed to be the only existing photograph of this infamous incident. Kompalla generously allowed us to bring it to the IIHF offices in Zurich to copy it and to publish it for this anniversary. We exchanged pleasantries and presented Kompalla with a commemorative four video set of highlights from the '72 Series.

He has never seen the games on TV or video, nor the highlights from the games since he refereed them 30 years ago. "Wonderful", said Kompalla upon receiving the gift. "It will be a great thrill to see that all over again. And a very good reason to fix my broken video recorder."

Kompalla is aware that he is not held in high esteem in Canadian hockey lore following those historic games. It doesn't bother him. For Canadians he is the guy "who messed up games six and eight" of the series. How many people in North America know that he officiated in 2,019 games, among them three Olympics and 12 world championships?

In the 30th anniversary commemorative issue of *The Hockey News*, Phil Esposito still calls Kompalla "a cheater, a plain all-out stinkin' cheater".

Kompalla has much nicer words for Team Canada's MVP of 1972. Asked a question about who is the best player he has ever seen during his refereeing career, Kompalla, a little surprisingly, answers: "Phil Esposito".

"He didn't have the skill of other players, especially the Russians, but he was the biggest character player I ever saw", says Kompalla. "He was the reason why Team Canada could turn the series around. The Russians didn't have anyone who was like that. And he had this incredible knack for scoring goals, he just banged them in. They are no players like Phil Esposito anymore."

■ Kompalla started to play hockey in his native Poland in the 50s and won three Polish junior championships with Gornik Katowice before migrating to the German Federal Republic (West Germany) in 1958 where he played another 13 seasons with

Preussen Krefeld of the German top league.

"I believed that a referee with a solid player background would always be better than those who never really played the game", says Kompalla. "You understood the players, you knew how they felt because you had been there. This gave me the confidence to use the rulebook as a guidebook. A good ice hockey referee can never go a hundred percent by the book. This, and my desire always to be fair, were my strengths as a referee."

■ Hardly any referee rose to prominence as quickly as Josef Kompalla. In his second season as an IIHF official he was selected to work the 1972 IIHF World Championships in Prague. He was assigned to both Czechoslovakia vs Soviet Union games and, in the early 70s, hockey games didn't come more passionate than those encounters.

It was at this world championship in the spring of 1972 that the Summit Series was negotiated and finalized. Kompalla was one of four European referees assigned to work the four Moscow games.

Even though the Czechoslovakia - Soviet Union games were always extremely hard fought, nothing really - before or after - ever came close to the competitiveness of the Summit Series. What started as friendly exhibition games in Canada became a struggle of life and death in Moscow.

"Emotional" and "competitive" are understatements. "Ugly" and sometimes "plain dirty" are words that

better describe what really happened. "It's a war out there" Canadian TV play-by-play legend Foster Hewitt commented to his viewers back home. Phil Esposito's comments that he "was prepared to kill" to win also reflect the sentiments that those games created.

■ Two years later Kompalla was assigned for the 1974 Series, which featured a Team Canada selected from the rival WHA league against the Soviet Union. Kompalla refereed game 1 in Quebec City (a 3-3-tie) and game 8 in Moscow (3-2 Soviets).

"It was not the same", said Kompalla. "Not even close."

At least, that series didn't come with a photo of someone trying to pole axe him.

Footnote I: Despite going into retirement one year ago Josef Kompalla still works as referee-in-chief for the German DEL-league and is a member of the referee's committee of the German Ice Hockey Association.

Footnote II: A couple of days after our visit in Krefeld, Kompalla called the IIHF office in Zurich and said: "I took the video tapes to a friend and watched the entire game 8 and especially the situation where I gave Parisé the initial penalty", said Kompalla. "It was a correct call."

SZYMON SZEMBERG, IIHF



UNDER PRESSURE. Team Canada's Jean-Paul Parisé loses his composure and threatens Kompalla with a swing. Vladimir Vikulov (far right) looks on astonished. This is believed to be the only photograph depicting this incident which occurred at 3.44 of the first period in game 8 of the 1972 Summit Series.

Photo: UNKNOWN, Moscow

Summary of major rule changes 2002-2006

The following is a brief summary of the major IIHF rule changes for the 2002 to 2006 seasons.

Section 1 - Ice rink

In this section the new rule changes concern:

- The length of the player's benches, penalty benches, scorekeepers benches. (Rule 140, 141, 142, 143)
- End Zone Nets are compulsory (Rule 106)

Section 2 - Teams, Players and Equipment

- During the pre-game warm-up and during the game, all players must wear a hockey helmet that meets approved international standards, with chinstrap properly fastened. (Rule 223)
- All players in the age category under 20, and not wearing a full-face mask, must wear a custom-made mouth guard. (Rule 227)
- Dimensions of the Goalkeepers Gloves (Rule 233)
- Goalkeepers face masks must be constructed in such a way that a puck may not get through it (Rule 234).

Section 4 - Playing Rules

- Starting Line-up rule deleted (Rule 401)
- The players and Goalkeepers may be changed at any time from the player's bench while the game is in progress. (Rule 411)
- Change of Goalkeepers During Play rule deleted. (Rule 414)
- When a goalkeeper substitution has been made during a stoppage of play, the goalkeeper who left the game may re-enter the game as soon as the play resumes (Rule 415).
- If a player obtains possession of the puck by way of a hand pass from a teammate in the neutral zone, play shall be stopped and the puck faced-off at the location where the offence occurred, unless the offending team gains a territorial advantage, then the face-off shall be where the stoppage of play occurred.
- However, when the puck is passed with the hand from a player in the neutral zone to a teammate in his defending zone, the referee will stop the play with the Face-off at point of stoppage.
- If a teammate of such a player obtains possession of the puck in attacking zone, the referee will stop the play with the face-off at the neutral zone face-off spot outside the attacking zone (Rule 490).
- Kicking the puck shall be permitted in all zones, but a goal may not be scored by the kick of an attacking player unless deflected off the stick of an attacking player (Rule 491).
- If the puck has been high stuck by an attacking player in his attacking zone the face-off shall take place at the nearest spot in the neutral zone.
- If the puck has been high stuck by a player in his defending zone or in the neutral zone face-off shall take place where the offence occurred unless the offending team gains a territorial advantage, then the face-off shall be where the stoppage of play occurred (Rule 492).

Section 5 - Penalties

- For a MAJOR PENALTY, any player, including the goalkeeper, will be ruled off the ice for the balance of the game (Game Misconduct penalty) and substitution

shall be permitted after five minutes (Rule 503).

- Gross Misconduct Penalty rule deleted (Rule 506)

FOULS AGAINST PLAYERS

For the infractions such as: Boarding (Rule 520), Charging (Rule 522), Clipping (Rule 524), Elbowing (Rule 526), High Sticking (Rule 530), Kneeing (Rule 536) and Tripping (Rule 539) a player shall be assessed at the discretion of a referee a Minor Penalty or Major Penalty plus an automatic Game Misconduct Penalty or Match Penalty. A player who injures his opponent as a result of such infractions listed below shall be assessed at the discretion of a Referee a Major Penalty plus an automatic Game Misconduct or Match Penalty.

- For the infractions such as Hooking (Rule 533), Slashing (Rule 537) a player shall be assessed at the discretion of a referee a Minor Penalty or Major Penalty plus an automatic Game Misconduct Penalty
- A player who injures his opponent as a result of such infractions listed below shall be assessed at the discretion of a Referee a Major Penalty plus an automatic Game Misconduct or Match Penalty.
- Any player who commits an action not permitted by the rules that may cause or causes an injury to an opponent, to a team or game official shall be assessed a Match penalty (Rule 527)
- A player who directs a check or blow, with any part of his body, to the head and neck area of an opposing player, shall be assessed at the discretion of the Referee a Minor penalty plus an Automatic Misconduct penalty or Major penalty plus an Automatic Game Misconduct penalty or Match penalty. A player who injures an opponent, as result of checking to the Head and Neck Area shall be assessed, a Match penalty (Rule 540)

OTHER PENALTIES

- A player who challenges or disputes the ruling of any official during the game, intentionally shoots the puck out of reach of an official who is retrieving it, or enters or remains in the Referee Crease while the referee is reporting to any official shall be assessed a Misconduct penalty. For any further dispute, he shall be assessed a Game Misconduct penalty (Rule 550)
- Any player who intentionally touches a game official with hands or stick, holds or pushes or checks with hands, stick or body, trips, slashes, hits in any manner or spits at a game official, or makes a travesty or interferes with or is detrimental to the conducting of the game, or spits to any person on the ice or anywhere in the rink, shall be assessed a Match penalty (Rule 550)
- If any team official, holds or strikes an official, makes a travesty or is detrimental to the conducting of the game, or spits at a game official he shall be assessed a Match penalty (Rule 551)
- For a second violation by any player of the same team for any equipment offence, the Referee shall assess a Misconduct Penalty to the offending player (Rule 555).
- A player who physically interferes with a spectator shall be assessed, at the discretion of the Referee, a Match penalty (Rule 561)
- Changing The Starting Line Up rule deleted (Rule 574)

Section 6 - Specific Rules

- In women's ice hockey, if a player makes a direct body-check, she shall be assessed, at the discretion of the Referee, a Minor penalty or Major penalty plus an Automatic Game Misconduct penalty (Rule 601).



2002-2006 IIHF Rule Book Available on the net and on CD

The new 2002-2006 IIHF Rule Book is now available for national associations to order through the IIHF Office in Zurich. The rules are also available on the IIHF Web site at www.iihf.com

Complimentary copies of the first issue were distributed to all member national associations at the recent IIHF Semi-Annual Congress held in Taormina, Sicily.

Copies of the CD containing the complete 2002-2006 IIHF Rule Book are now available for translation purposes by the member national associations. The CD's have been produced using a Quark program and contain the working plus the pictures and schematics for use by national associations producing the book in their own language.

The cost of purchasing IIHF Rule Books to national associations is set at CHF 30.00 per book plus the cost of shipping.

Please forward your orders and requests through Konstantin Komissarov at the IIHF office in Zurich, komissarov@iihf.com

IIHF Coaching Symposium gets new look

■ The 2003 IIHF Coaching Symposium will be held in Espoo Finland from May 1 to 4, 2003.

As always, the IIHF Coaching Symposium will be held in conjunction with the 2003 IIHF World Championship with attendees participating in an educational forum while also attending World Championship games in Helsinki.

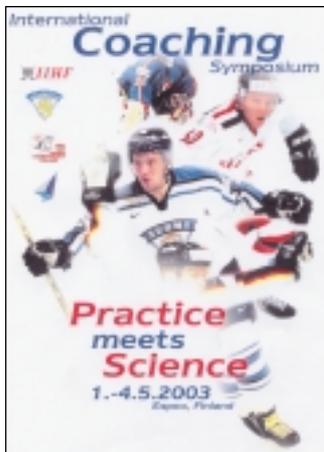
However, that is where the similarity from previous symposiums ends. The IIHF and the Finnish Ice Hockey Association have teamed up to create an all-new look to this annual symposium. This year, the intention is to mix coaching and science together to provide both a challenging and thought-provoking seminar for attendees.

Entitled "Practice Meets Science", the program incorporates research and mixes it with the science of coaching under four primary themes consisting of demands, prevention, experiences and support.

■ With "Demands" we explore physiological and other possible demands, recognising what ice hockey and other team sports demand from players, coaches and all other persons involved.

■ With "Prevention" we explore medical as well as educational means to prevent injuries, violence or other unethical issues that can hinder the development of fair and safe competition.

■ With "Experiences" we explore the experiences that are important for players, coaches, parents and organizers when they are involved in highly competitive team



NEW THEME: *Practice meets science*

sport activities.

■ With "Support" we explore the emotional, social, medical, economical or other support services that players, coaches or others need get when participating in ice hockey or other team sports.

The 2003 IIHF Coaching Symposium is open to elite coaches, physicians, physiotherapists, managers and scientists from all sporting disciplines.

We also open the program to researchers from different disciplines to present their posters and ideas in seminar sessions. Physiological, psychological, medical, sociological, educational, cultural, gender and other aspects influencing coaching under the umbrella of our mentioned themes are welcome.

The symposium will involve the services of the Finnish Society for Research in Sport and Physical Education and will take place at

the conference facilities and technologies of the Dipoli Conference Centre in Espoo.

Accommodation arrangements have been arranged at the Radisson SAS Hotel Espoo, located within 100 metres of the conference centre.

■ Additional details and registration will be made available shortly on the IIHF web site www.iihf.com and the web site of the Finnish Ice Hockey Association www.finhockey.fi

Finland to host next global development camp

■ The next worldwide Development Camp to be held in Vierumäki, Finland from July 6 to 12, 2003.

The camp will follow the success of the two previous camps held in Nymburk, Czech Republic in 1999 and again in 2001.

All IIHF member countries will be invited to attend this camp with players, game officials, coaches, instructors, and hockey operations personnel. More than 300 participants are expected to attend this third global development camp.

Programs planned for operation during this camp include the following:

- Player Development Program
- Game Officials Program
- Coach Mentorship Program
- National Association Referee Instructor Seminar
- National Association Coaching Instructor Seminar
- National Association Learn to Play Instructor Seminar

■ Plans are underway to operate a leadership program involving national association hockey operators plus a new marketing and communications component.

The camp will be open to the best male players born in 1988 from each National Association and promising game officials between the ages of 18 and 25. National

Association Instructors will also be encouraged to attend, especially the Coaching instructors, as the new IIHF Level II Coaching Program will be launched during this camp.

A new coaching mentorship program will allow select coaches from participating countries to operate and coach the teams throughout the week long program.

■ All participants will all be actively involved in the theoretical and practical sessions, a "Fitness Challenge", games, and other activities.

There will be daily meetings, seminars and planning sessions for each of the groups, as well as "hands on" participation. The entire program is designed as a comprehensive teaching/learning experience for all participants.

Once participants have returned to their home country, they will be expected to initiate and/or operate a development program within their own national association as part of a seasonal development plan.

The IIHF will distribute a complete information package to all member national associations within the next few weeks, which will provide more specific information and application requirements.

LTP program goes global

The newest IIHF educational initiative, the Learn To Play Program, was introduced on a global scale this past summer to 47 member countries.

The operation of two National Association Learn to Play Instructors Seminars, (one in Vienna, Austria in June and the second in Karuizawa, Japan during the recent Asian Oceania Hockey Development Camp in July) has made this achievement possible.

This represents the largest and most widespread launch of an IIHF Development Program to date.

Following these two seminars held this summer, the puck was passed to the national associations to use these new educational resources to develop our sport within their country, and to help them grow the grass root base of players within each member national association. This program is currently underway in several emerging hockey nations.

Some of the initiatives already undertaken include:

■ Forty coaches met at the San Jeronimo Rink in Mexico City to take the LTP Program one step further in the country.

■ In Harbin, China 24 instructors took part in their inaugural seminar from August 29-31, in this hockey hotbed.

■ Instructors and coaches from all 14 hockey clubs in Belgium were present during their clinic on October 13.

■ In Norway 60 representatives from 24 clubs travelled to Oslo to learn of this new program.

■ Holland had their initial Learn to Play seminars on Saturday, October 12 with excellent participation by their membership.

Early reports by our members indicate that the IIHF educational program is achieving great success in its global launch. The commitment of the national associations and the enthusiasm of the instructors throughout the world is a very positive step for the future of our sport.

Game officials handbook prepares for assignments

The IIHF Referee Committee has just produced the newest IIHF publication entitled the "Game Officials Handbook".

The handbook is designed to prepare game officials for assignments at IIHF competitions. The contents include information that will help an official adequately prepare to travel to an event and will outline the operation of the officiating program while the official is attending the championship.

It will also include current officiating procedures plus highlight selected regulations that explain a game official's duties during an IIHF Championship.

The handbook will be updated each season to ensure that the information is current and accurate. To guarantee its widespread availability, the handbook is only available on the IIHF web site www.iihf.com

Will "The Musquito" add some sting to Swedish hockey?

■ The Swedish Ice Hockey Association announced on October 9, 2002 that Claes-Goran Wallin will replace departed Anders Hedberg as the manager of the Swedish national team program.

Wallin, 49, will be in charge of the entire national team program including the junior teams, the women's national team as well as the flagship Tre Kronor, the men's national team.

Wallin, known to most Swedish hockey fans as "Myggan" (The Mosquito), had a successful playing career as a forward for the top club Djurgarden of Stockholm 1971 – 1981. During that period Wallin also represented the national team on 14 occasions.

■ He is no stranger to international hockey. From 1983 until 1987 Wallin served as head coach for several Swedish national junior teams, from U16 to U20 and

led Sweden to IIHF European U18 Championship gold medal in 1987 and to the silver medal at the 1989 IIHF World U20 Championship in Anchorage.

■ He also coached Mannheim in the German league, Graz in Austria and Sodertalje of the Swedish elite league. Wallin served as Sports director for Swedish top club AIK Stockholm 1997 – 2000 and was also on the IIHF Junior Committee 1994 – 1998.

Anders Hedberg, who held the position as General Manager of the Swedish national team program for



Claes-Goran Wallin

two years, resigned following the 2002 IIHF World Championship to assume the position as Director of Player Personal for the NHL Ottawa Senators.

"I am proud to accept this prestigious position", said Wallin. "It is a wonderful challenge and I am ready for it."

■ Wallin's appointment coincides with rather lean years for the Swedish national teams. The senior team's last IIHF World Championship gold is from 1998, the U20 team has not won any World Junior (U20) gold medal since 1981 and the U18 team finished a record low ninth at the 2002 IIHF World U18 Championship in Slovakia, barely avoiding relegation.

There is no relation between Cleas-Goran and former national team GM Peter Wallin who was in charge of the Tre Kronor in the late 90s.

Halifax gets ready to embrace the world

■ How excited is Halifax to be hosting the 2003 IIHF world junior hockey championship this year?

"The most telling indicator is we've already broken the attendance record and we haven't played a game," said Chris Larsen, the event manager for the 2003 IIHF World U20 Championship.

Well, the first game is still more than two months away (Dec. 26) and the event has already sold enough tickets to break the attendance record. All they need now is for people to walk through the turnstiles.

■ Winnipeg set a record for the event in 1999 when 186,000 fans watched the event that saw Russia win gold. Organizers have already sold 220,000 tickets for this year's event. Most of those (210,000) are in the 10,500 seat Metro Centre in Halifax, which will host Group B round-robin games (including Canada) and the medal round.

Fans have purchased 10,000 tickets for games in Sydney, which will stage the Group A round-robin. "We'll sell at least 30,000 in Sydney and we might sell 40,000," said Larsen.

There's been a spike in sales in Sydney recently and they surged even more after the Canadian Hockey Association announced Canada would play an exhibition game against Slovakia Dec. 20 at 4,500-seat Centre 200. But what about all the fans in Halifax who won't be able to get tickets? Organizers realize there's more demand in the marketplace for tickets than they can sell.

■ So, to give every hockey fan a chance to feel like they are part of the tournament, even though they might not be able to see a game live, there will be a fan festival in Halifax that will surpass in grandeur any other seen at a world junior event. "It will be similar what one would see at an NHL all-star game," said Larsen.

There will be exhibits from the Hockey Hall of Fame, six super skill competitions for fans who want to test their shooting accuracy or measure how hard they can shoot a puck.

It is anticipated that dozens of celebrities from NHL

teams will be on hand to scout the tournament and will be available in a celebrity corner. Their ranks will be bolstered by previous members of Team Canada's gold medal winning junior teams and players from the 1972 Summit Series between Canada and the former Soviet Union.

■ There will be hockey memorabilia and hockey equipment on display and if you get an urge to reenact your country's win from the previous day, you can suit up for a game of three-on-three on a 60-foot by 40-foot indoor rink set up for roller hockey.

It's all part of the show as the World Trade and Convention Centre, just nextdoor to Metro Centre in Halifax, will devote 35,000 square feet of convention space for the fan fest.

But the best part of it all is you won't have to put your parka on for any of it.

"You can go from your hotel, to the rink, to the fan fest, get a beer, get a hot dog - all indoors," said Larsen.

■ Then there's the hockey, of course which will be some of the highest calibre that Nova Scotia has ever seen. And that's the reason why this province is embracing this event. As impressive as the ticket sales have been, equally impressive is the 1,200 volunteers who have signed up to help manage the event.

"We only have three staff," said Larsen. "The rest is volunteer management and that tells you the incredible volunteer support that we're enjoying. That's a trademark of Nova Scotia."

■ As is the hospitality for which Nova Scotians have become world famous for in recent years when members of grieving Swiss families came here to mourn their lost loved ones after the Swiss Air crash in 1998 and last year when several trans-Atlantic flights were forced to land in Halifax after the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks.

"Maritimers are proud of their heritage of hospitality," said Larsen. "People who come here this Christmas will remember it for the rest of their lives." The official web site of the 2003 IIHF World U20 Championship will be www.canadianhockey.ca. A link to the official website and all live scores and stats will be on www.iihf.com.

RYAN VAN HORNE, Halifax



NHL assists 13 youth programs globally

The NHL A.S.S.I.S.T. seven-person committee, which includes IIHF Sports Director Dave Fitzpatrick, has decided that the following youth clubs will be the 2002 grant recipients from the program:

Big Stone Lake Area Hockey Ass., Oakville, Min, USA.
Bosna Hockey Club, Sarajevo, Bosna-Herzegovina.
DASA Dynamites, St. Charles, Mis, USA.
Edison Youth Hockey Association, Minneapolis, USA.
Hockey Club Topolcany, Slovakia.
Ice Hockey in Harlem, NY, USA.
Johnny's Jems & Jets Hockey, Chicago, USA.
Lumby & District Minor Hockey Ass., Lumby, Canada.
Maple Creek Minor Hockey Ass, Maple Cr. Canada.
Rogue Valley Youth Hockey Ass, Medford, Ore, USA.
Salmon Hockey Association, Salmon, Idaho, USA.
South African Ice Hockey Association, Johannesburg, South Africa.
Youngstown Borderhawks Hockey Club, Ohio, USA.

Since the NHL A.S.S.I.S.T. was established in 1997 to Assist Skaters and Shooters In Succeeding Together, 75 youth hockey programs from around the globe have received a total of \$600,000 in financial support. Applications for 2003 NHL A.S.S.I.S.T. grants will be available in January 2003.

IIHF News & Appointments

Konstantin Komissarov is the new Sport Development Manager of Officiating for the IIHF. Konstantin was a member of the IIHF Referee Committee from 1998, a position he left after being appointed to the IIHF job.



Komissarov, 49, was a top on ice official in the 80s and 90s. He was a linesman for 13 years (1980 - 93) and an international referee 1994 - 2002. Konstantin has altogether spent 23 years as an official working the Soviet and Russian top league and also several IIHF tournaments.

Komissarov, who was a resident of St. Petersburg, Russia before moving to Zurich and assuming the IIHF position on October 9, 2002, was also one of six referee supervisors during the 2002 Olympic Winter Games in Salt Lake City.

RESULTS SUMMARY

Continental Cup 2001/2002

First Round (21 -23 September)

Group A - Barcelona, Spain

Riga 2000 - KHNL Zagreb	5:0
Tilburg Trappers - FC Barcelona	11:4
Tilburg Trappers - Riga 2000	1:7
FC Barcelona - KHNL Zagreb	1:4
KHNL Zagreb - Tilburg Trappers	1:4
FC Barcelona - Riga 2000	4:12

1. Riga 2000 (LAT)	3	0	0	2	4 - 12	6
2. Tilburg Trappers (NED)	3	2	0	1	16 - 12	4
3. KHNL Zagreb (CRO)	3	1	0	2	5 - 7	2
4. FC Barcelona (ESP)	3	0	0	3	9 - 27	0

■ Riga 2000 (LAT) promoted to Second Round tournament Pool F in Rouen (FRA).

Group B - Amsterdam, Netherlands

Kazzinc Torpedo - Vojvodina	9:4
Tigers Amsterdam - CH Jaca 2000	7:1
Vojvodina - Tigers Amsterdam	2:8
CH Jaca 2000 - Kazzinc Torpedo	0:13
Vojvodina - CH Jaca 2000	5:3
Tigers Amsterdam - Kazzinc Torpedo	4:5

1. Kazzinc Torpedo (KAZ)	3	3	0	0	27 - 8	6
2. Tigers Amsterdam (NED)	3	2	0	1	19 - 8	4
3. HK Vojvodina (YUG)	3	1	0	2	11 - 20	2
4. CH Jaca 2000 (ESP)	3	0	0	3	4 - 25	0

■ Kazzinc Torpedo (KAZ) promoted to second round tournament Pool J in Linz (AUT).

Group C - Georgheni, Romania

Acroni Jesenice - Medvescak	1:1
BB Ankara - Progyam Apicom	5:8
BB Ankara - Acroni Jesenice	0:24
Progyam Apicom - Medvescak	4:5
Medvescak - BB Ankara	14:1
Progyam Apicom - Acroni Jesenice	4:11

1. HK Acroni Jesenice (SLO)	3	2	1	0	36 - 5	5
2. Medvescak (CRO)	3	2	1	0	20 - 6	5
3. Progyam Apicom (ROM)	3	1	0	2	16 - 21	2
4. BB Ankara (TUR)	3	0	0	3	6 - 46	0

■ HK Acroni Jesenice (SLO) promoted to second round tournament Pool H in Liepaja (LAT).

Group D - Beograd, Yugoslavia

Dunaferr SE - HC Slavia Sofia	26:0
Red Star Beograd - HC Maalot	10:2
Dunaferr SE - HC Maalot	16:0
HC Slavia Sofia - Red Star Beograd	3:10
HC Maalot - HC Slavia Sofia	3:10
Red Star Beograd - Dunaferr SE	0:11

1. Dunaferr SE (HUN)	3	3	0	0	53 - 0	6
2. Red Star Beograd (YUG)	3	2	0	1	20 - 16	4
3. HC Slavia Sofia (BUL)	3	1	0	2	13 - 39	2
4. HC Maalot (ISR)	3	0	0	3	5 - 36	0

■ Dunaferr SE (HUN) promoted to second round tournament Pool I in Oswiecim (POL).

Group E - Székesfehérvár, Hungary

Energija Elektrenai - Steaua Bucuresti	3:5
Alba Volán - HK Bled	5:0
HK Bled - Steaua Bucuresti	1:3
Alba Volán - Energija Elektrenai	12:5
HK Bled - Energija Elektrenai	2:7
Steaua Bucuresti - Alba Volán	1:3

1. Alba Volán (HUN)	3	3	0	3	20 - 6	6
2. Steaua Bucuresti (ROM)	3	2	0	1	9 - 7	4
3. Energija Elektrenai (LTU)	3	1	0	2	15 - 19	2
4. HK Bled (SLO)	3	3	0	3	3 - 15	0

■ Alba Volán (HUN) promoted to second round tournament Pool I in Oswiecim (POL).

Second Round (18 -20 October)

Group F (at Rouen, France)

HC Rouen (FRA)
Ayr Scottish Eagles (GBR)
Storhamar (NOR)
Riga 2000 (LAT)

Group G (at Linz, Austria)

GKS Katowice (POL)
EHC Linz (AUT)
GMH 38 Grenoble (FRA)
Kazzinc Torpedo (KAZ)

Group H at (Liepaja, Latvia)

Liepajas Metalurgs (LAT)
Jukurit Mikkelä (FIN)
Neman Grodno (BLR)
Acroni Jesenice (SLO)

Group I at (Oswiecim, Poland)

Unia Oswiecim (POL)
Khimvolokno-Mogilev (BLR)
Dunaferr (HUN)
Alba Volan (HUN)

Third Round 22 - 24 November

Super Final 10 - 12 January, 2003 at Lugano (SUI) and Milan (ITA)

Ceska Pojistovna Cup

Zlín, Czech Republic 5 - 9 September

Sweden - Finland	2:0
Czech Republic - Russia	1:3
Sweden - Russia	1:2
Finland - Czech Republic	2:7
Russia - Finland	0:1
Czech Republic - Sweden	6:5

Russia	3	2	0	1	5 - 3	6
Czech R.	3	2	0	1	14 - 10	6
Sweden	3	1	0	2	8 - 8	4
Finland	3	1	0	2	3 - 9	2

■ Russia wins tournament on head-to-head result

Individual scoring

1. Josef Beranek, CZE	3	3	1	4
2. Radek Duda, CZE	3	2	2	4
3. Richard Kral, CZE	2	1	3	4
4. Tomas Vlasak, CZE	3	2	1	3
5. Jaroslav Balastik, CZE	3	1	2	3
6. Tomas Kucharčík, CZE	3	0	3	3
7. Thomas Rhodin, SWE	3	0	3	3

Tournament All Star Team

Goalkeeper: Maxim Sokolov (RUS).

Defense: Denis Grebeshkov (RUS) and Thomas Rhodin (SWE).

Forwards: Radek Duda (CZE), Ivan Nepriyayev (RUS) and Alexander Suglobov (RUS).

Four Nations U20

Solleftea, Sweden 6 - 8 September

Sweden - Czech Republic	3:1
Russia - Finland	4:1
Sweden - Russia	1:4
Czech Republic - Finland	2:4
Russia - Czech Republic	5:1
Sweden - Finland	0:2

Russia	3	3	0	0	13 - 3	6
Finland	3	2	0	1	7 - 6	4
Sweden	3	1	0	2	4 - 7	2
Czech R.	3	0	0	3	4 - 12	0

Individual scoring

1. Aleksander Ovechkin, RUS	3	6	1	7
2. Yuri Trubachev, RUS	3	1	4	5
3. Alexander Polushin, RUS	3	0	5	5
4. Arttu Luttinen, FIN	3	3	0	3
5. Nikolai Zherdev, RUS	3	2	0	2
6. Henrik Juntunen, FIN	3	2	1	2
7. Sergei Anshakov, RUS	3	1	1	2
8. Alexei Kaigorodov, RUS	3	1	1	2
9. Martin Liba, CZE	3	1	1	2
10. Denis Yezhov, RUS	3	0	2	2
11. Juha Fagerstedt, FIN	3	0	2	2

Euro Ice Hockey Challenge

Nottingham, GBR 29 Sept. - 1 Oct

Belarus - Hungary	2:1
Great Britain - Slovenia	4:4
Slovenia - Hungary	3:1
Belarus - Great Britain	6:0
Slovenia - Belarus	2:4
Hungary - Great Britain	6:3

Standing

1. Belarus	3	3	0	0	12:3	6
2. Slovenia	3	1	1	1	9:9	3
3. Hungary	3	1	0	2	8:8	2
4. Great Britain	3	0	1	2	7:16	1

Individual scoring

1. Jeff Hoad, GBR	3	3	1	4
2. Krisztian Palkovics, HUN	3	3	0	3
2. Andrei Mikhalev, BLR	3	3	0	3
4. Balazs Ladanyi, HUN	3	2	1	3
4. Sergei Chernyavski, BLR	3	2	1	3
6. Vadim Bekbulatov, BLR	3	1	2	3
6. Yevgeni Kurilin, BLR	3	1	2	3
8. Viktor Tokaji, HUN	3	0	3	3
8. David Longstaff, GBR	3	0	3	3

Val Gardena, ITA 30 August - 1 sept.

Poland - Norway	0:1
Italy - Netherlands	4:5
Norway - Netherlands	6:1
Italy - Poland	2:0
Netherlands - Poland	0:5
Italy - Norway	2:3

Standing

1. Norway	3	3	0	0	10:3	6
2. Poland	3	2	0	1	7:1	4
3. Netherlands	3	1	0	2	6:15	2
4. Italy	3	0	0	3	6:10	1

Individual scoring

1. Kjell R. Nygard, NOR	3	5	0	5
2. Adrian Parzyszek, POL	3	1	3	4
3. Mateusz Malinowski, POL	3	3	0	3
4. Mads Hansen, NOR	3	1	2	3
5. Henrik Aaby, NOR	3	0	3	3
6. M. Wojciechowski, POL	3	0	3	3
7. Daniele Veggiato, ITA	2	2	0	2
8. Sebastian Biela, POL	2	1	1	2
9. Anders Bastiansen, NOR	3	1	1	2
10. Leo van de Thillart, NED	3	1	1	2
10. Armando Chelodi, ITA	3	1	1	2
10. Dave Livingston, NED	3	1	1	2
10. Roland Ramoser, ITA	3	1	1	2

Riga, LAT 29 Sept - 1 October

France - Denmark	1:3
Latvia - Ukraine	4:2
Ukraine - France	2:3
Latvia - Denmark	5:2
Denmark - Ukraine	3:3
Latvia - France	5:0

Standings

1. Latvia	3	3	0	0	14:4	6
2. Denmark	3	1	1	1	8:9	3
3. France	3	1	0	2	4:10	2
4. Ukraine	3	0	1	2	7:10	1

Individual scoring

1. Vitalijs Galuzo, LAT	3	2	2	4
2. Aleksandrs Belyavskis, LAT	3	1	3	4
3. Aleksandrs Semjonovs, LAT	3	2	1	3
3. Francois Rozenthal, FRA	3	2	1	3
3. Aleksandrs Kerck, LAT	3	2	1	3
4. Sergejs Senins, LAT	3	1	2	3
4. Aleks Macijevskis, LAT	3	1	2	3
4. Laurent Gras, FRA	3	1	2	3

Does future of hockey spell Ovechkin?

By Szymon Szemberg, IIHF

The last time a 17-year old kid dominated an IIHF World U20 Championship (for players who are 19) was in 1978. His name was Wayne Gretzky. This scenario might happen again. This time the name will be Alexander Ovechkin.

All hockey observers, among them professional scouts, are raving about this precocious Moscovite who had his 17th birthday as late as September 17 this year. He was born in 1985 and will go against those born in 1983 at the upcoming IIHF World U20 Championship in Canada (December 26 - January 5, 2003).

The scouts are drooling, but they will have to salivate for two more years. Ovechkin, who already stars for the mighty Dynamo Moscow of the Russian Professional Hockey League, is not draft eligible until 2004.

Ovechkin himself keeps a low profile. "I will do my best to make the Russian team for the world junior championship in Canada", says Ovechkin in this IIHF interview and adds:

"And my only ambition there is to win the gold medal with my team."

■ The people who make a living following and scouting Ovechkin in the most obscure rinks of the hockey world know not only that he will be there, but that he will be an attraction there.

"He will dominate the tournament", says Inge Hammarstrom, the former Swedish national team player and scout for the Philadelphia Flyers. "If he keeps up his current pace, he will be outstanding."

"Ovechkin already looks fantastic", says Thommie Bergman who evaluates talent for the Toronto Maple Leafs and who was the first European to successfully break a NHL lineup when he joined the Detroit Red Wings in 1972. "He should be one of the best players at the world juniors."

Goran Stubb, the Finnish based Director of European Scouting who has followed virtually every IIHF World U20 Championship for the last twenty years, doesn't hesitate in his assessment:

"He will be a superstar at the championship and a huge attraction for the fans", says Stubb who saw Ovechkin break out on the international scene last April at the IIHF World U18 Championship in Slovakia when he broke all previous tournament records with 14 goals and four assists in eight games.

Ovechkin has since then cemented his status as the best junior player in the world.

□ He won the scoring title at the 8 Nations U18 Tournament in Slovakia last August with seven goals and five assists in five games.

□ Still at the age of 16, Ovechkin led his team to first place and won the scoring at the 4 Nations U20 Tournament in Sweden in early September with six goals and one assist in three games.

□ Playing with seasoned pros, Ovechkin has quickly established himself as a regular second or third liner on the Dynamo Moscow, a top team in one of the best pro leagues in the world.



ALEXANDER THE GREAT?: That's what the experts say about this 17-year old new Wonderkid of Russian hockey.

"For his age he is... very, very good" says Aleksey Panfilov, the English speaking Sports Director of Dynamo Moscow and who was the translator for this interview. "I cannot compare him with anyone I have seen earlier. He is not like Maltsev, not like Lemieux, he is not like Gretzky... he is... Ovechkin."

The more one asks hockey observers about this Russian "Wunderkind", it seems impossible for anyone to say anything negative about Ovechkin. As good as he is on ice, Alexander seems to be a perfect an example of a well-behaved youngster outside as well.

"He is already a great role model", says Panfilov. "He is a good son, a good brother and a good neighbour. He doesn't drink, he doesn't smoke, he is good in school and he lives hockey."

■ Alexander joined the Dynamo Moscow hockey school at the age of nine. "I fell in love with hockey at once and I decided very early that I wanted to become a professional ice hockey player and my parents have always supported me in my choice", says Alexander who considers himself as "pretty good" in soccer, basketball and tennis.

His parents, Mikhail and Tatiana, are no strangers to pro sports. His father has always been involved with the Dynamo basketball operations, while Tatiana Ovechkina is a double Olympic gold medal winner with the Soviet Union women's basketball team. She captained the team to gold in the 1976 games in Montreal and repeated the feat four years later in Moscow.

"It's a dream of every athlete in the world to be an Olympic champion. My mother has two gold medals and it would be very nice to bring home a third", says Alexander with the 2006 games in Turin, Italy in mind.

■ All his answers show a total focus to becoming the best he can be and achieving the best possible results. He has a way of saying pretty cocky things in a

humble way.

One of the questions he was given was: **How do you compare yourself with Ilya Kovalchuk, your characters and your skills?**

"I like Kovalchuk very much", said Aleksander of the fellow Russian who made a similar impact as Ovechkin on the world junior scene two years ago and who became the first Russian player to be drafted first overall at the 2001 NHL Entry Draft. "I think our characters are very similar, but skill wise I want to be better than Ilya".

Regarding his qualities and development:

"I feel that my best quality is my desire to work hard. I am one hundred percent hard work. I am always looking to win, always very hungry for victory. I do not rest on my achievements, I always try to improve my skill level. Without that it is not possible to reach high level results in modern hockey."

About the loss to Team USA in the gold medal game in the IIHF World U18 Championship last spring:

"I was very disappointed with that loss. I did not understand why I was given so little ice time in the most important game of the championship."

About who will be the toughest opponent when Russia defends its World U20 title in Halifax and Sydney:

"All teams in the championship are the main opponents and we will have to work hard against them all. But Canada is playing at home."

■ He lists a player he has never seen live (former Dynamo and Soviet superstar Aleksander Maltsev) as his all time favourite. "He was a giant of a player and I love him", says Ovechkin about Maltsev whom he only has seen on video. Of the current players he likes, the answer is pretty unexpected.

"Owen Nolan", says Ovechkin and indicates that he doesn't mind a little ruggedness to come along with all the skill. He also says that Nolan's San José Sharks are his favourite NHL team, but he emphasizes that he has no thoughts at all of the 2004 NHL draft and that all his focus right now is on "thinking how to play better, how to be more useful to my club Dynamo Moscow."



ACCEPTS DEFEAT: Despite ripping the U18 World Championship apart with his scoring, Ovechkin (left) had to congratulate Team USA to the gold medal.

A normal day in the life of Alexander Ovechkin starts very early with him jogging together with his dog, then studying at the Military Institute for boarder guards, after that comes practise with Dynamo and the Novgorsk training facility, and the evenings are spent at home with his parents and brother.

He lists going to the movies with his friends, playing computer games and spending time with his family as his hobbies.

He seems to be as perfect as they possibly can come.