



Time Out

Vierumäki Faces of the Day



Each day, one player at the 2008 IIHF Women's Hockey Development Camp will be featured as the Camp's Player of the Day. Today, we feature two players Team White's Anneke Murphy and Team Red's Alivia Del Basso both from Australia are highlighted.

Anneke Murphy and Alivia Del Basso have been around the world and back to get to this year's Development Camp... or at least it feels that way. The Team White and Red forwards had a 48-hour trip to get to Vierumäki, an experience that they are sure not to forget anytime soon.

"It started with a delay in Sydney," Murphy begins. "Then we had another delay in Singapore and had to wait four hours. When we arrived in Frankfurt, we missed our connection to Helsinki and had to wait another six hours. Then

when we got to Helsinki, our bags were delayed."

Needless to say, Murphy, Del Basso and the rest of the Australian group was very happy when they set foot in Vierumäki.

"It's really amazing here. I thought it would just be a hockey rink with some dorms, but there's every kind of sport you can imagine here," Murphy says.

For the duo, it is their second trip to Europe in a month as both played at Red head coach Peter Elander's hockey camp three weeks ago in Sweden.

"It's been a lot of traveling," concedes Del Basso, who is one of the youngest players at the camp, born in 1993.

Now the two that have spent the last 48 hours glued together at airports will face-off against each other in the first day of action as Red plays White.

"It's really a great idea that all the countries are split up on different teams," Murphy said. "That way you're not tempted to hang out with only people from your country."

It must be a big game for the duo... bragging rights for the long trip home are on the line.

Two Minutes in the Box

Today's Highlights:

Today camp officially started with the Opening Ceremony. All 290 participants were welcomed by their Finnish hosts and the IIHF and are now ready for a week packed with hockey action.

Tuesday's Weather:

It seems that the skies above Vierumäki will stay grey for at least another day. The high will be around 18 degrees with rain on and off all day.



Olympic Update

Your host nation, Finland, won its first medals at the 2008 Summer Olympics in Beijing. It seems the Nordic country excels at shooting as they won the women's gold in Trap Shooting and the men's bronze in Air Rifle. The Air Rifle bronze medalist actually trained for the Olympics here in Vierumäki. Finland also earned bragging rights at the World Sauna Championship held in nearby Heinola. Finns won both the men's and women's competitions.

Did You Know?

Vierumäki was the host of the World Women's Division II Championship last winter.

Reminders

A good way to avoid those pesky Finnish mosquitoes in your room is to be sure to turn your lights off when the windows are open.

2008 DEVELOPMENT CAMP BY THE NUMBERS

290 Participants at this year's Women's Development Camp. In comparison, the last time the IIHF held a women's development camp there were 205 participants.

135 Of the participants at this year's camp that are players. The girls on ice are between the ages of 15 and 18.

35 Number of IIHF nations represented at this year's camp. New Zealand and Australia had the longest to travel to the camp.

58 The number of Development Camps that the IIHF has held. This includes regional development camps and the Asian Development Camps. It is the fifth development camp in Vierumäki.

12 Biggest delegation of participants from a country. Host Finland has eight players, one team manager, one equipment manager one coach and one mentor coach at the camp.

2 Smallest delegations. Serbia and Malaysia each only have two participants at the camp.

15 The number of programs that are being run at this year's development camp. The programs include, players, team coaches, mentor coaches, referees, referee supervisors, leadership, equipment managers.

100 Kilometers north from Helsinki where Vierumäki is located. The closest cities are Lahti and Heinola.

0 Number of moose sightings so far at this camp. If you're the first to bring a photo of a moose you saw here, bring it to the IIHF office for a prize.

On the Ice: Meet Teams Red & White

Team White Players:

Räty, Piia	Finland	Goalie
Nielsen, Kamilla	Denmark	Goalie
Thalmann, Sandra	Switzerland	Defense
Zebere, Sandra	Latvia	Defense
Ballardini, Elisa	Italy	Defense
Pinter, Zsoifia	Hungary	Defense
Bednjanec, Katja	Croatia	Defense
Gunay, Nilay	Turkey	Defense
Niskanen, Tanja	Finland	Forward
Sabatine, Kelly	Canada	Forward
Dalen, Andrea	Norway	Forward
Weber, Janine	Austria	Forward
Cornford, Holly	Great Britain	Forward
Herichova, Maria	Slovakia	Forward
Murphy, Anneke	Australia	Forward
Avrigean, Diana	Romania	Forward
Merino, Ainhoa	Spain	Forward

Väliäho, Kalle	Finland	Mentor coach
Shchelchkova, Zhanna	Russia	Coach
van der Linden, Nancy	Netherlands	Coach
Rollins, Laura	USA	Student Coach
Bednjanec, Robert	Croatia	Team manager
Belobrck, Zoran	Croatia	Equipment mngr.

Team Schedule:

Aug. 11	vs. Red
Aug. 12	vs. Blue
Aug. 14	vs. Green
Aug. 15	vs. Yellow
Aug. 16	vs. Teal



About the Team:

White Warriors! This is a team that had its motto handed to them—literally! When the teams met for the first time they were given bracelets in their team color with the word Warrior printed on them, easy inspiration for the squad. The team is very European-based with only two players coming from overseas. Of course that doesn't mean there's not a rainbow of languages on the ice. Only three players have English as their first language, but the good news is they seem to have no problem understanding the language of hockey.

Team Red Players:

McElhinney, Alana	Canada	Goalie
Berger, Christine	Norway	Goalie
Mäenpänen, Karoliina	Finland	Defense
Pekarkova, Barbora	Czech Rep.	Defense
Rother, Desiree	Austria	Defense
Schneider, Anna	Austria	Defense
Abrisqueta, Leticia	Spain	Defense
Raselli, Evelina	Switzerland	Forward
Unser, Lauren	USA	Forward
Casassa, Eugenia	Italy	Forward
Jensen, Nicoline	Denmark	Forward
Cupkova, Nikol	Slovakia	Forward
Del Basso, Alivia	Australia	Forward
Brgles, Nora	Hungary	Forward
Thorlacius, Hrund	Iceland	Forward
Smolec, Martina	Croatia	Forward

Elander, Peter	Sweden	Mentor coach
Verworner, Eva-Maria	Austria	Coach
Andrisevska, Lolita	Latvia	Coach
Posio, Matias	Finland	Student Coach
Kottova, Barbora	Czech Rep.	Team mngr.
Kiiski, Sami	Finland	Equip. mngr.

Team Schedule:

Aug. 11	vs. White
Aug. 12	vs. Black
Aug. 14	vs. Yellow
Aug. 15	vs. Teal
Aug. 16	vs. Maroon

About the Team:

Talking to mentor coach Peter Elander, it sounds like red is ready for action. The Swedish women's national team coach always has high standards, but was happy with what he saw in the first day of action. The team has a heavy Austrian influence with a pair of players and a coach from the nation. The team also has four players from Nordic nations -- Elander is sure to feel right at home.

