

## All we asked for - and a little more



Photo: IC Pinheiro / HHOF-IIHF Images

**ALL HANDS ON SILVER MUG:** The Russian juniors performed a minor miracle in the final against Canada, coming back from being 3-0 down. Their celebrations saw no limits.

## 35th World U20s set records; underline head-shot policy



How much more success can you ask for from a championship than a new attendance record for the hosting country, an all-time TV-record, and an unforgettable - and historic - gold-medal game?

### RENÉ FASEL EDITORIAL

■ All this was delivered with the 2011 IIHF World U20 Championship in Buffalo and Niagara. USA Hockey, the host organizers, sold 329,687 tickets for the 31 games in the eleven-day tournament, which means that this was the best-attended IIHF event in United States history.

Not only did the 35th World Juniors solidly surpass the previous best Under-20 event in the U.S. (the 2005 championship in Grand Forks had a total attendance of 193,256), but it also drew more spectators than the men's tournament at the 2002 Olympics in Salt Lake City, which attracted 268,139 fans for 35 games.

Although we are, of course, aware of that these numbers were to a large extent possible thanks to the overwhelming support from Canadian fans from north of the border, it is nevertheless a tribute to the excellent work done by USA Hockey and the hosts in Buffalo and Niagara.

■ But the question is, which is more amazing - the record in the arenas or the one produced before the TV sets in Canada? An incredible 14.2 million Canadians watched some or all of the gold-medal game between Canada and Russia. In a country of 33 million, that represents nearly half the population.

Viewership peaked at 9.3 million late in the third period. The game was the most watched

show on Canadian television since the 2010 Olympics in Vancouver ten months earlier. And we know that some of the above mentioned records - definitely the attendance in the arenas - will be broken next year when the junior championship will be hosted by Calgary and Edmonton, the first time this event will be played in two NHL arenas.

■ On top of all that, we saw a gold-medal game that few of us will forget. Favourite Canada held a seemingly comfortable 3-0 lead after two periods, but Russia staged the biggest comeback in the history of the U20 tournament, scoring five goals in the third.

This is what makes our sport so great and so fascinating. Sometimes a momentum shift comes when one least expects it. Two remarkable things: This was Russia's first World U20 gold medal in eight years, but it also marked Canada's tenth consecutive gold-medal game appearance. After back-to-back final game losses (USA won in overtime in 2010), you may rest assured that the Canadians will be highly motivated in Alberta in 2012.

■ Finally, this event underlined the IIHF's uncompromising and steadfast position on its policy that there is no such thing as a clean hit to the head. Five players received supplementary suspensions of ten games in total for blatant violations. These suspensions were meted out by our Single Judge, the well-respected Dan Marouelli, who brought a quarter of a century of NHL officiating experience to his position at the U20.

As much as the IIHF wants to avoid suspending players - especially at the youth level - the international hockey community is united when it comes to this infraction. Hits to the head must be taken out of our game and this is a necessary education process that we are going through.

**René Fasel**  
IIHF President



## IIHF presents Champions Hockey League relaunch plan

■ The IIHF presented a plan for a relaunch of the Champions Hockey League for 2011-2012 to the representatives of the national member associations, their professional leagues and clubs of Austria, Belarus, Czech Republic, Finland, Germany, Russia, Slovakia, Sweden and Switzerland at a meeting in Zurich, Switzerland on January 20.

The league would consist of 16 teams (total of 60 games) for the first three seasons with a total investment of 17.6 million Swiss Francs over three years, divided into participation money, prize money, travel support and a settlement for the clubs who qualified for the Champions Hockey League in 2009-2010, the season which was cancelled due to the global financial crisis.



The meeting, which was attended by representatives of the National Hockey League, decided that all participating countries will come back with an answer regarding their participation by February 17. If the invited countries accept the invitation, the Champions Hockey League will start in October 2011 with a Final Four playoff being held in January 2012.

■ Information regarding national composition of the 16 teams, playing dates, and detailed format will be announced after February 17, pending the reply from the meeting participants.

The first and so far only Champions Hockey League season was 2008-09 with ZSC Lions Zurich winning the final by defeating Russia's Metallurg Magnitogorsk over two games.

## IIHF.com honours Gretzky, 50

Wayne Gretzky, arguably the best player our game has seen, turned 50 on January 26. Gretzky had an immeasurable impact on hockey, both in North America but also internationally. IIHF.com honored No. 99 with a ten-day series listing his ten most important accomplishments on the international scene, where he was a dominant figure as player and manager for 28 years.

For all ten stories, go to [IIHF.com/Gretzky](http://IIHF.com/Gretzky)

**FACEBOOK:** The IIHF has been on Facebook for a year now. More than 28,000 fans follow us in the world's biggest social network to receive news and discuss about international ice hockey. Join us too on Facebook or enter [IIHF.com/Facebook](http://IIHF.com/Facebook)



Photo: Hamu Lindroos / IIHF

## NEWS & NOTES FROM THE HOCKEY WORLD

■ **CANADA:** The IIHF approved the disputed international transfer of Russian forward **Roman Berdnikov**, 18, from Avangard Omsk back to the Owen Sound Attack of the Ontario Hockey League. Berdnikov played for Owen in the 2009-2010 season, but went back to Russia and signed a contract with Avangard in August 2010. The IIHF's investigations showed that Berdnikov had a valid two-year contract with Owen at that time, which meant that the contract with Avangard was invalid according to IIHF regulations.

■ **NORWAY:** The national association organized six "Girls' Hockey Days" before Christmas with 300 girls participating and learning fundamentals.

■ **NETHERLANDS:** As part of the Dutch All-Star Game, the national association has scheduled an Ice Hockey Day on February 12, featuring a "Try Ice Hockey" event and a parents' education meeting

■ **ROMANIA:** Romanian team **HSC Csikszereda**, formerly known as SC Miercurea Ciuc, won the MOL Liga that included six teams from Hungary and three from Romania. The Transylvanians defeated Dunaujvaros 4-1 in the final series. The teams from both countries will now play the rest of the season within their borders for national supremacy.

■ **HONG KONG:** China won a newly established tournament of the IIHF's Asian Development Plan, the 2011 Hong Kong U16 Invitational Tournament. All Chinese IIHF member associations took part in this event: The People's Republic of China, its special administrative regions Hong Kong and Macau, as well as Chinese Taipei. China struggled in the preliminary round, but defeated Hong Kong 5-1 in the final.

■ **MALAYSIA:** The Malaysia Ice Hockey Federation received an unusual offer from the government in view of the Asian Winter Games where Malaysia battled with Asia's second tier in the Premier Division. "Bring back a medal and we will build an international-sized ice hockey arena," **Datuk Seri Ahmad Shabery Cheek**, the Youth and Sports Minister of the country, issued in a statement. "We are ready to help the sport and the ministry will do its part to help promote and develop the sport. It is not impossible to see the sport become a favourite among Malaysians one day."

■ **SWITZERLAND:** SKA St. Petersburg won the **Spengler Cup** for the fourth time after three wins in the '70s when the club was called SKA Leningrad. The Russians defeated the Mark Messier-coached selection of Canadians from the Swiss National League A 4-3 in the New Year's Eve final. It was the third consecutive win by a KHL club. Team Canada won the trophy last time in 2007 when it defeated Russian rival Salavat Yulayev Ufa in the final.

## Khomutov for Kazakhstan

Kazakhstan named former Soviet and Russian national team forward **Andrei Khomutov** its new national team coach. The 49-year-old won six World Championships, three Olympic Games and the 1981 Canada Cup. He played most of his career for CSKA Moscow and for HC Fribourg-Gottéron in Switzerland where he also launched his coaching career. Last year he was behind the bench of MVD Balashikha and joined Kazakh KHL rival Barys Astana last summer. His first task with the Kazakh national team were the Asian Winter Games on home ice in Astana.

For a story on **Khomutov**, go to [IIHF.com/Khomutov](http://IIHF.com/Khomutov)

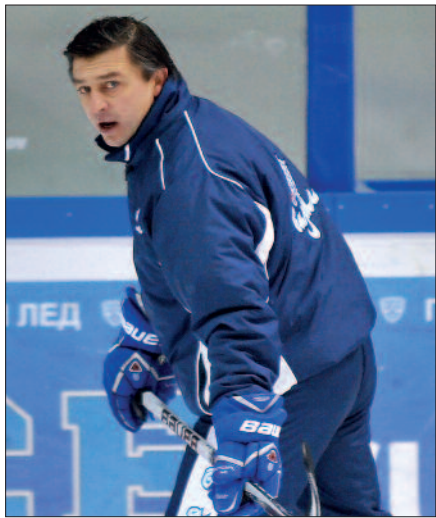


Photo: Marat Akimzhanov / Barys Astana

## Asian Winter Games

13 nations of different calibre from Kazakhstan to Bahrain played at the men's and women's tournaments. For scores, go to [IIHF.com/AWG](http://IIHF.com/AWG)

**MEDIA ADVISORY:** The media accreditation period opened for the 2011 IIHF World U18 Championship in Germany (deadline 25th March) and for the 2011 IIHF World Women's Championship in Switzerland (deadline 1st April). Also forms for the 2011 IIHF World Championship Division I in Hungary and Ukraine are available. For more information, go to [IIHF.com/media](http://IIHF.com/media)

## OBITUARIES

■ **Alexei Volchenkov.** The former defenceman of CSKA Moscow passed away on January 10, 2011 in Moscow at the age of 57. Volchenkov, father of New Jersey Devils defenceman Anton, represented the army club CSKA 1971-1984 during which time he won ten national championships and nine European Cup trophies. Volchenkov took part in the 1975-1976 Super Series against NHL clubs notably in the legendary 3-3 New Year's Eve game against the Montreal Canadiens. Although Volchenkov played some games with the Soviet national team, he was one of the few CSKA players who never played at the World Championships or Olympics.

■ **Arto Javanainen.** The Finnish hockey league's second best scorer of all time passed away at the age of 51 on January 25, 2011 in Turku, Finland after a long illness. Javanainen scored 462 goals for a total of 792 points in 17 seasons with Ässät Pori and TPS Turku. The forward represented Finland in three World U20 Championships, two World Championships, the 1984 Olympics and the 1981 Canada Cup, totalling 82 national team games. Javanainen, who also played 14 games with the NHL Pittsburgh Penguins in 1984-85, had the distinction of having been drafted twice by NHL clubs; 1983 by Montreal and in 1984 by Pittsburgh. He ended his career in the Danish league where he scored 55 points in 29 games with Rungsted in 1994-95.

# My name is Varlamov, Semyon Varlamov

## The IIHF's new transcription standards; sound-emulating, consistent and simple

The IIHF used the 2011 World U20 Championship to introduce a new, modified standard for transliterating of names which are originally written with the Cyrillic alphabet. The Russian transcription is also used for Belarus and Kazakh names. A different standard will be used for the Ukrainian language. The IIHF explains why a reform was needed.

**Q: Why did the IIHF decide to modify the rules of Romanization of Russian language names?**  
**A:** There was a clear lack of consistency from one tournament to the next, one country to the next. Everybody seemed to follow a different set of rules and very few of them made sense. We were looking for a global standard of transcribing, but there was none. So we worked together with the Slavic faculty of the University of Zurich and its professor in Russian language.

**Q: So what has been wrong with how the names were transcribed until 2010?**  
**A:** Simply, the English transliteration didn't reflect how Russians really pronounce their names. And this is the whole point of transliteration - to write Russian names with Roman letters so it comes as close as possible to the original pronunciation.

**Q: Can you give some examples of that?**  
**A:** Take a name like Fyodor. It most places it was "Fedor" which is wrong. The Pittsburgh star Malkin's first name must be spelled Yevgeni and not "Evgeni". Very few Russian first names start with an "E-sound". Two examples are Enver and Edvard. The first sound in the original spelling of Malkin's first name is Cyrillic "E", which looks like Roman "E" but is pronounced "Ye". Thus: Yevgeni.

**Q: What prompted the reform?**  
**A:** In short-term it was the request from the Russian national team and Washington goaltender Semyon Varlamov to have his first name spelled just like that instead of the incorrect "Semen". Long-term it was that we are three years away from the first Olympic hockey tournament in Russia. We felt that come Sochi 2014, the names of the hosting country should be transcribed correctly. It's long overdue already. But primarily, we wanted to get it right.

**Q: What were the IIHF's guiding principles when doing this?**  
**A:** First and foremost it was the sound-emulating aspect. It is a matter of correctness and respect to the individual. When a player from a country that uses Cyrillic spelling takes part in our events, he or she should expect that the organizer spells his or her name in a way that it reflects how it is originally pronounced. The second principle was consistency and the third simplicity.

**Q: Give us some examples of consistency?**  
**A:** If we take the above example with the correct Semyon, we can't have other players be "Artem". The crucial Cyrillic letter here is "e" which is pronounced "yo". Thus: Semyon and Artyom. The recognition of this letter has far reaching consequences on many names which have been consistently transliterated incorrectly. So players who earlier were known as "Fedorov" and "Kovalev" will be correctly spelled as Fyodorov and Kovalyov.



**TRANSCRIBING RUSSIAN:** New rules are in place for the '10-11 season. Photo: Bob Martin / Sports Illustrated

**Q: But that looks strange for those who are used to Kovalev.**  
**A:** It may be, but Kovalyov is correct and that's the most important thing. People get used to things quickly if you apply the new rules in a consistent manner. Some years ago it was unthinkable to refer to the Chinese capital other than "Peking". Today, everyone has accepted Beijing. The place we knew as "Bombay" is Mumbai nowadays. Arguably, the most famous athlete in the world, known as Cassius Clay, became Muhammad Ali.

**Q: Okay, please give an example of the third principle, simplicity.**  
**A:** We have taken away the unnecessary endings like "iy" at the end. They just complicate things and don't add anything as far as sound-emulating. So it will be Vitali instead of "Vitaliy" and Sushinski instead of "Sushinskiy". Also, we have decided not to try to transliterate the Cyrillic letter "Shch" - as its Russian sound simply cannot be correctly reflected with Roman letters.

So, for example, the venue which hosted the 2007 IIHF World Championship and was spelled "Mytishchi" or even "Mytishchi" at that time will be simplified to Mytishi to come closer to the original sound. Names like "Troschinski" and "Borschevski" will simply be Troshinski and Borshevski. It's not perfect, but it's the best option.

**Q: Finally, will the IIHF be the only international organization that will use this?**  
**A:** We hope not. We have already contacted Google about this and hopefully also the NHL and other sports bodies will eventually adopt this standard. (SZ)

For full overview of rules, go to [IIHF.com/transliteration](http://IIHF.com/transliteration)

## WOMEN'S HOCKEY NEWS

# Stanley Cup winner Ryan Walter to coach Canada in World Women's

■ Former NHL player and Stanley Cup winner Ryan Walter will remain head coach of Canada's women's national team for the 2011 IIHF World Women's Championship. Walter replaced Melody Davidson in November for the Four Nations Cup in Newfoundland in November, guiding Canada to the gold medal after defeating the U.S. 3-2 in overtime. He will be joined by Dan Church and Lisa Jordan.

The 52-year-old, who played 1,003 NHL games, was the Vancouver Canucks' assistant coach last season. It's the

first coaching position with Hockey Canada for Walter, who represented his country in three World Championships and one World U20 Championship.

"I really enjoyed working with the national women's program and look forward to the 2011 IIHF World Women's Championship," Walter said. "We have a lot of work ahead of us, but I know our players and staff are a strong team capable of accomplishing our ultimate goal of winning gold."



Photo: Matthew Manor / Hockey Canada

# Gunilla Andersson sets new women's record

■ Gunilla Andersson is the new record holder among female players for most games played for the senior national team. The 35-year-old defender has represented Sweden in 288 games.



Andersson reached the 288-game mark by playing four games at the six nations tournament MLP Nations Cup in Kreuzlingen, Switzerland, in January, surpassing Christina Fellner (-Oswald), who represented Germany on 287 occasions before retiring in 2009.

31-year-old Swedish forward Erika Holst is chasing Fellner, having reached the 285-mark in Kreuzlingen where Sweden finished second behind Canada.

The United States' Angela Ruggiero is leading among North American female players with 251 games. Hayley Wickenheiser is the Canadian record-holder in games, having played for the women's national team on 225 occasions.

With 288 games Gunilla Andersson has reached a magic number among female players - one also reached by legendary Soviet goalkeeper Vladislav Tretyak in men's hockey. She also surpassed Jörgen Jonsson, who is the Swedish record-holder among male players with 285 games. But there are still some games to be played to reach the 330 games Raimo Helminen played for Finland.

# EWCC in Lugano

■ The final tournament of the European Women's Champions Cup will take place in Lugano, Switzerland, February 25-27, at the Resega rink that already hosted finals of the Continental Cup and of the former European Hockey League in the past.

It's the first time the EWCC final will be held in Switzerland. The hosting comes in the same year Lugano celebrates the 20-year anniversary of its women's team.

HC Lugano and Kazakhstan's Aisulu Almaty were the winners of the second-round tournaments in December. They will be joined in the final event by SKIF Nizhni Novgorod (RUS) and Ilves Tampere (FIN), who finished second.

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## Ice hockey is for me - join the Recruitment Program

■ Since the "Ice Hockey is for Me" Recruitment Campaign was featured in the Ice Times' October edition, it has continued to grow steadily, especially with the opening of the "Ice Hockey is for Me" page on IIHF.com

This page features a children-specific page, a page to provide information for parents as well as reports on IIHF member national associations' activities. It is hoped this page will answer many of the questions about ice hockey and explain the advantages for children in playing. It will also give the user a platform to access ice hockey in their nation.

■ The site will offer all the campaigns resources including the recruitment leaflet in a total of nine different languages: Bosnian, Dutch, English, Flemish, French, German, Hungarian, Icelandic and



Romanian. The "Welcome to Hockey" brochure will be available in four languages. In the near future there will be a competition to name the "mascots" on the children's page and the "Ice Hockey is for Me" Interactive Video will be available to watch.

We hope that the "Ice Hockey is for Me" page will assist all national associations in their efforts to recruit more children to play the game in their nations.

### The Hockey Centre

■ The IIHF Hockey Centre is available for national associations wishing to set up their own recruitment program and events, to download, use and translate all Recruitment Program resources and materials. The hockey centre can be accessed from the IIHF.com front page.

## Burlington gets 2012 World Women's Championship

■ The 2012 IIHF World Women's Championship in the United States was awarded to Burlington, Vermont.

The Gutterson Fieldhouse - home to the University of Vermont men's and women's NCAA Division I ice hockey programs - will serve as the primary venue and will host all U.S. and Canada games, as well as the playoff and medal rounds.

Meanwhile, Cairns Arena, also located in Burlington, will serve as the secondary facility for the event. The eight-nation tournament, which will tentatively run from April 7-14, 2012, includes 22 games and features the top female hockey players in the world.

■ "It will be a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity for those



in the New England region to see the best women's players in the world up-close and in person," said Robert Corran, associate vice president and director of athletics for UVM.

It will be the third time the event comes to the U.S. after Lake Placid in 1994 and Minneapolis in 2001.

### Five bids for 2013

■ Hockey Canada received five letters of intent to bid for the 2013 edition from: City of Kamloops, Destination St. John's/Hockey Newfoundland and Labrador, Ontario Women's Hockey Association, Ottawa Senators Sports and Entertainment and finally Vancouver Island Amateur Hockey Association.

The 2013 World Women's will be the last one before the 2014 Olympics in Sochi, and it will be the sixth time the event will be hosted in Canada. The host will be selected by the end of April this year.

### Premiere in Switzerland

■ The 2011 event will be hosted in Zurich and Winterthur, 16-25 April. It will be the first time the event comes to Switzerland, currently ranked fifth in the Women's World Ranking.

## Youth Olympics: One year left until Innsbruck 2012

■ The inaugural Winter Youth Olympic Games will open in less than a year on 13th January 2012 in Innsbruck, Austria.

Ice hockey will be represented with two men's and two women's events.

■ There will be five teams each in the men's and women's tournaments. Four teams for each tournament from eight different nations will be selected according to a combined men's and women's world ranking that will be established after the 2011 IIHF World Championship in May. Austria as the host nation will be awarded one male team and one female team to participate in each of the tournaments.

■ Besides the team tournaments, an individual Skills Challenge for women and men will be held for the very



Innsbruck 2012 will showcase over 1,000 young athletes representing their countries in the seven sports on the programme: biathlon, bobsleigh, curling, ice hockey, luge, skating and skiing.

## Coaching Symposia

■ This year's Symposium will focus on all the different aspects of the game: physical, mental, technical, tactical and theoretical, and how they relate to the integration of young players into the professional game.

The IIHF International Coaching Symposium will be held 6-8 May, and the IIHF International Youth Coaching Symposium from 30th April to 1st of May. Both symposia will take place in Bratislava during the 2011 IIHF World Championship.

The deadline for registration is 28th February. For more information and registration in English and Slovak, visit <http://2011.iihfworlds.com> and click on IIHF Events.

### Calling all women's hockey coaches

Following the footsteps of the highly successful coaching symposia held in previous years for youth and senior male hockey, April will mark the inaugural Women's Coaching Symposium. Open to anyone involved in coaching female hockey players of any age, the weekend event will provide an insight into how to develop high performance athletes, both on and off the ice.

Esteemed members of the women's hockey community will lead the sessions with some of the topics being: The Medal Plan; The Stories of the Vancouver 2010 Medalists; Coaching Female Hockey-the Best Side; Preparing for Success Off the Ice; and, Breaking Through the Cultural Roadblocks.

As part of the 2011 IIHF World Women's Hockey Championship in Zurich, Switzerland, the registration will include all conference sessions as well as quarterfinal and semi-final tickets. Further information will be available on IIHF.com in early February.

## Study in Vierumäki

■ The application deadline for the Bachelor Degree Program in Sports and Leisure with Emphasis on Ice Hockey Coaching offered at the Vierumäki Sports Institute by the HAAGA-HELIA University of Applied Sciences is on 15th February. The application is to be done electronically on [www.admissions.fi](http://www.admissions.fi)

The program provides a unique opportunity for young enthusiastic coaches interested in pursuing an educational approach to ice hockey coaching. At the same time the program incorporates research and actual experience of new ideas and initiatives generated directly from within the sport as part of the program curriculum.

## Arena Conference

■ The second biannual conference on Ice Hockey Arenas and Facilities IHA 2011 will take place 23-24 March in Tampere, Finland. The event at the Tampere Exhibition and Sports Centre TESC is arranged by the Finnish Ice Hockey Association, with the support of the IIHF.

Promoting and developing national ice hockey requires first and foremost decent facilities. The aim of the IHA 2011 is to make things easy for you. During the event you can get the latest know-how and see the best practices. You will also have the opportunity to network with the right people and companies - all in one place. This is the best way to gain success in any project, be it a one-rink project or a large development scheme.

The organizers hope that every IIHF member country will send at least one participant to the conference to represent different organisations, such as the national association, developers, architects, engineers or investors.

## Netherlands breaks new ground with Field Lab

■ On 18th November, the new Ice Hockey Field Lab and its new High Tech Center officially opened at the Eindhoven Ice Sport Center in the Netherlands. Recently 11 high-definition cameras were installed in the Ice Sport Center. The Dutch are now able to view and record games, practices, and use the material to further analyze all movements in detail and conduct university research with their athletes to benefit the further development of ice hockey talent in the Netherlands.

The creation of the new Ice Hockey Field Lab is the joint result of the two Dutch national coaches, Tommie Hartogs and Robb Serviss. Hartogs - a former national team captain and player in Germany with Krefeld, Duisburg, Kassel and Mannheim - was born and raised in Eindhoven and has been the Netherlands' national team coach the last five years. Serviss is a former CIS/OHL graduate from Canada and a long time Dutch U20 national team coach and college professor. The Ice Hockey Association of The Netherlands united the two last season with the start of this new CTO Junior Olympic Development program.

Talent development in Eindhoven has been shaped according to the model of USA Hockey's National Team Development Program (NTDP) in Ann Arbor, Michigan. The new fulltime Junior Olympic Development program plays under the name Eindhoven High Techs in the Dutch first division with the majority of selected players coming from the national U18 and U16 teams.

■ Guest speakers at the opening ceremony were former NTDP player and U18 world champion Jason Lawrence, who currently plays for the club team in

Eindhoven, and the Detroit Red Wing Alumni Jerry Serviss. "A picture is worth a thousand words" was the slogan of his presentation.

■ The CTO Eindhoven is one of four Centers for Excellence in the Netherlands initiated by the Dutch Olympic Committee and the Dutch Sports Federation. This is a location where young elite athletes can practice, live and study in one sole location without having to worry about travel and other "down time". The Ice Hockey Association of The Netherlands decided to participate in this project and since September 2009 young Dutch ice hockey talents practice, play, live and study in Eindhoven with one ambition: to participate in the 2018 Olympic Winter Games.

These players, supported and mentored by Hartogs and Serviss, practice twice a day and follow a professional off-ice program that includes a strength and conditioning coach, sport psychologist, nutritionist, life skills coach, a goalie coach and sport physiologist.

"The foundation has been laid to create better ice hockey players in this country. It's our job as coaches now to show our players what they need to do to play at the highest level," said Hartogs. (MM)



## Developing Mongolian coaches

■ At the beginning of December, the first international coaching clinic was held in Mongolia. After arriving in the capital of Ulaanbaatar, a further 12-hour train trip brought the crew to the city of Erdenet.

The 1975-built mining town has become the second-biggest city thanks to its huge deposit of copper ore and it could possibly become Mongolia's hockey centre with a project to build the country's first covered ice arena within the next few years.

The event was funded by the Olympic Solidarity Program "Scholarships for Coaches" and is focused on basics in ice hockey coaching and off-ice training, this due to the fact that Mongolian ice hockey is only played outdoors in short seasons from December to mid-February.

Despite the rough conditions, Mongolia has a league and almost 1,000 players, but their national teams can hardly keep up with Division III nations due to the short calendar and lack of practice. While an arena would be an essential step to improve Mongolian hockey, coaching education should also help move the progress.

■ "The first day was spent in the classroom," said Jukka Tiikkaja, the IIHF's Asian Sport Development Manager. "We were going through the principles underlying the physical development and effect of physical maturation on trainability from the perspective of the Long Term Athletic Development Model originally created by Istvan Balyi but nowadays implemented also by many ice hockey associations in their player development programs."

The event was attended by Mongolian coaches and officials such as general secretary Baasandavaa Chojijiljav, who was

## Yale is No. 1 - for the first time in 115 years

■ When Keith Allain returned from coaching Team USA at the 2011 IIHF World U20 Championship in Buffalo to his regular coaching job at Yale University in January, he got a pleasant surprise. His men's college team was ranked No. 1 in the two major college hockey polls - the U.S. College Hockey Online and USA Today/College Hockey Magazine rankings.

It's nice, but what is the big thing? Well, this is the first time in the history of Yale Hockey that the college is ranked No. 1 in the nation. This becomes even more impressive considering that the school's hockey history dates back to February 1896.

It was 115 years ago that the Yale Bulldogs played in the first American intercollegiate game, against John Hopkins University in Baltimore. In mid-January, the Bulldogs had a league record of 14 wins and only one loss, their best start since 1929-30. It's a huge turnaround, mainly credited to coach Allain, who took over Yale in 2006. Before 2007-08, the Bulldogs had losing records in 12 of the previous 14 seasons.

But a mid-season ranking, as prestigious as it is, is just a ranking. Yale's goal will be to win the national championship, Frozen Four, for the first time. (SZ)



Training in open air, with the temperatures down to minus 15°, made it certainly a special event.

■ "The Mongolian National Olympic Committee is interested in developing ice hockey, and this clinic is a concrete example of the co-operation," Tiikkaja said. "These possibilities are also important to improve partnership between ice hockey associations and the National Olympic Committees at a domestic level. Especially in Asia, the role of the NOCs is relatively big.

"After the clinic, the vice-president of Mongolian NOC expressed the desire to continue the co-operation with the IIHF and the MIHF to develop the sport in Mongolia."

With the conclusion of the clinic, the Mongolian league was ready to start before the men's and U18 national teams will go on to play internationally. (MM)



READY TO LEARN: The Mongolians are eager to move their ice hockey program forward.

Photo: MIHF



# Ten lessons to take away from Buffalo 2011

Russia has heart, age is a factor, we may have seen Malkin II, Canada will be fine - and 2012 could be even better

By Lucas Aykroyd

Everyone will remember Russia's dramatic comeback in its 5-3 gold medal win over Canada at the 2011 World U20 Championships. But what about the big picture? IIHF.com reporter Lucas Aykroyd, who has followed all World Juniors since 1999, offers ten lessons to take away from Buffalo.

1 Canada-Russia remains the greatest rivalry

It has become fashionable in Canada to hype its cross-border hockey rivalry with the United States as the hottest thing going. Doubtless, that impression has been stoked by the large number of Americans chosen in the first round of the NHL draft each year, as well as the two recent all-North America Olympic finals that Canada won (2002, 2010).

However, the reality remains that since 1999, Canada and Russia have faced off seven times in the World Junior gold medal game. In those meetings, Russia has won four times (1999, 2002, 2003, 2011) and Canada three times (2005, 2006, 2007). The Americans, meanwhile, have managed to defeat Canada in the final twice in that span (2004, 2010). The American Eagle needs to sharpen its claws before it can seriously challenge the Russian Bear as Canada's greatest rival.

2 Bodychecking is not a cure-all solution

Anyone who listened to the Canadian media prior to the gold medal game would have concluded that all Team Canada needed to do was pound the Russians into submission in the first period and victory was guaranteed. However, the Russians weathered the Canadian physical assault early on, began to throw more hits of their own as the game wore on, and won the open ice they wanted to execute plays.

The lesson is clear. The Canadians may be the biggest and best when it comes to bodychecking, but they don't have a monopoly on physical play. And if you push back, sometimes they'll fold, just as they hope other teams will when they apply the battering-ram approach.

3 Timing is everything for coaches

In the final, Russia's Valeri Bragin had good timing, and Canada's Dave Cameron didn't. Unlike Vyacheslav Bykov's questionable decision to leave Yevgeni Nabokov in goal until Canada led 6-1 in the Olympic quarterfinal in Vancouver, Bragin wisely chose to send a wake-up call to his roster by pulling Dmitri Shikin when the red-and-white opponents went up 3-0 in the second period. It wasn't that Shikin had performed terribly, but it was a signal to his team.

Meanwhile, in the third period, Cameron didn't call a time-out to settle down his squad until Russian captain Vladimir Tarasenko had tied the score at 3-3. By that time, the momentum had already swung irreversibly in Russia's favour. Cameron's gesture was probably too little, too late.

4 Age matters

It's been said for many years that this is a tournament for 19-year-olds. Russia went with exclusively 1991-born players, with the exception of 18-year-old phenom Yevgeni Kuznetsov. Canada, meanwhile, iced five 1992-born players in the final, including goalie Mark Visentin, who was unable to come up with clutch saves down the stretch. Looks like there's something to the old truism.

5 Don't question Russia's heart

Just as it's unfair to stereotype Canadian players as crude barbarians who simply dump the puck in, hit everything in sight, and bang in rebounds, it's equally silly to claim that Russian players are effete wimps who rely solely on skill, lack determination, and vanish in key situations. In its last three World Junior gold medal victories, Russia has come from behind to defeat Canada in each case. It rallied from a 4-2 deficit in 2002, a 2-1 deficit in 2003, and, of course, a 3-0 deficit this year. (Not to mention its preceding comeback wins over Finland and Sweden.)

Even a rib injury after being hit by a skate didn't stop Russian captain Vladimir Tarasenko on January 5.

6 The Super Series was a sign

No, we're not talking about the 2007 junior Canada-Russia Super Series, where

the Canadians easily prevailed with seven wins and one tie. Think back to November, when the latest incarnation of the Subway Super Series was played. It's a yearly six-game tour of Canada by Russian junior all-stars, facing off against the best of the QMJHL, OHL, and WHL.

The Russians had never won the series since 2003 (the year of their last World Junior title). Until November, that is, when they prevailed with four wins and two losses. Incidentally, their leading scorers, with six points apiece, were Maxim Kitsyn and Nikolai Dvurechenski, both of whom tallied for Russia in the gold medal game.

7 Kuznetsov looks like the next Malkin

While Canada's Brayden Schenn impressed throughout the tournament with his goal-scoring and playmaking abilities, tying Dale McCourt's Canadian record of 18 points, it was Yevgeni Kuznetsov, who saved his very best for the playoff round. Not only did he singlehandedly save Russia from a quarterfinal loss versus Finland by racking up two goals, including the OT winner, and an assist, but he also helped set up three of Russia's five goals against Canada. And as the 18-year-old did so, his "swooping hawk" profile and deft puckhandling resembled nothing more closely than Russian international veteran and 2009 Conn Smythe Trophy winner Yevgeni Malkin.

It will be fascinating to see how the Traktor Chelyabinsk winger, whose NHL rights belong to Washington, pans out when he begins to fill out. (He is still a relatively slight 184 cm and 78 kg.)

8 They're stars, but they're kids too

Now, take a moment, and set aside what was just said about Kuznetsov. Remember to treasure the memories of the young talents you watched on both sides, because there's no telling whether they will go on to pro stardom and Olympic glory, or simply eke out journeyman careers. Unless you're dealing with surefire prospects like Sidney Crosby or Alexander Ovechkin, that question mark is always there.

Think of Igor Grigorenko and Yuri Trubachyov, who keyed Russia's offence in the 2003 gold medal game. They've had respectable but not legendary careers in the Russian league. Or what about Canadian goalie Justin Pogge? He shut out Russia 5-0 in the 2006 final, but at age 24, he's played just seven NHL games and currently toils for the AHL's Charlotte Checkers.

9 Canada will be fine

As per usual when Canada loses a big international tournament, the country has sunk into a black funk that could only be topped if Tim Hortons went out of business and Neil Young was eaten by a polar bear. However, let's be objective: Canada has made the World Junior final ten years in a row, a level of consistency that is the envy of every other hockey nation.

The Canadians also still have the deepest talent pool, and the most overwhelming love of the game, which will become apparent when Calgary and Edmonton co-host the 2012 World Juniors. A total attendance of 573,417 is projected, which would amazingly outstrip the 2004 IIHF World Championship (Yes, the men's



THE RIVALRY IS BACK! Just when you thought that the classic Canada vs. Russia rivalry was dead, it reappeared with a bang in Buffalo - much to the delight of some fans. At the end they may have preferred another opponent, as Russia won the final, 5-3. Photos: Matthew Manor / Andre Ringuette / HHOF-IIHF Images



event that is) attendance record of 552,097, set in the Czech Republic.

10 The result is good for hockey  
Young Russian players will be inspired to defend their title in 2012. Canada will be hungry for revenge. The Americans will be keen to prove that, after underachieving at home, their sum can for once surpass their parts. Sweden, which has brought a "We're ready to win" attitude since the 2008 tournament, will be raring to snap a 30-year drought. The Finns, Swiss, Czechs, and Slovaks will be even more fed up with having gone home empty-handed at recent World Juniors.

It's a fun, exhilarating tournament, and in so many ways, from the fan response to the skill and heart of the players, it just seems to get better every year. That's something all hockey lovers can be grateful for.

## Schenn sweeps individual awards



Jack Campbell, USA:  
All-Star Team Goaltender & Directorate Best Goaltender.



Ryan Ellis, CAN:  
All-Star Team Defenceman & Directorate Best Defenceman.



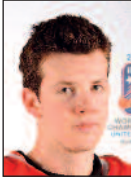
Dmitri Orlov, RUS:  
All-Star Team Defenceman.



Brayden Schenn, CAN:  
Most Valuable Player, All-Star Team Forward & Directorate Best Forward.



Yevgeni Kuznetsov, RUS:  
All-Star Team Forward.



Ryan Johansen, CAN:  
All-Star Team Forward.

## Buffalo breaks TV record

■ The 2011 IIHF World U20 Championship with 329,687 tickets sold for the 31 games was not only the best attended IIHF event in the U.S., but also the second-most attended IIHF World U20 Championship after Ottawa two years earlier.

But the event was not only followed by many fans at HSBC Arena in Buffalo, it also set a new World U20 record for TV audience in Canada.

An incredible **14.2 million** Canadians watched some or all of the gold-medal game. In a country of 33 million, that represents nearly half the population.

TSN posted an average of 6.23 million viewers, and RDS, the French-language arm of the broadcaster, attracted a record 652,000 viewers. The total of **6.88 million** was also a record.

Viewership peaked at **9.3 million** late in the third period as the Russians were completing their historic comeback. The game was the most watched show on Canadian television since the 2010 Olympics in Vancouver last February.



2012 IIHF World U20 Championship will be hosted in two NHL arenas, the Rexall Place in Edmonton and Calgary's Scotiabank Saddledome. The event will most likely set a new World U20 attendance record, surpassing Ottawa 2009's total attendance of 453,282.

Over 225,000 tickets were sold to season ticket holders in the venues and the 17,000 remaining ticket packages found their customers after a draw with no less than 186,781 registered applicants.

### Tremendous demand for 2012 tickets

2012 IIHF World U20 Championship Group A in Calgary	Group B in Edmonton
Russia (1)	Canada (2)
Sweden (4)	United States (3)
Switzerland (5)	Finland (6)
Slovakia (8)	Czech Republic (7)
Latvia* (9)	Denmark* (10)

*The final- & relegation round will be played in Calgary.*  
*\* Promoted from World U20 Division I.*

**Future World U20 Championships:**  
2013: Russia (Ufa)  
2014: Sweden (venues TBA)  
2015: Canada (venues TBA)



# Women's U18 is clearly USA's domain

By Risto Pakarinen

■ ■ USA defeated Canada 5-2 in the gold medal game of the 2011 IIHF World Women's U18 Championship. So now there is no question about it - the United States own the Women's U18.

Consider this: Since the inception of this youngest category of the IIHF's championship program in 2008, the USA has won three out of four gold medals, and in the process won 19 out of 20 games with a goal difference of 173-19.

The only game that the U.S. girls have lost in four years came last year at the 2010 championship when they were defeated in a heartbreaker against Canada, 5-4, in overtime. Ironically, that was the only women's U18 so far to be played in the United States (Chicago).

■ ■ This year's championship in the northern Stockholm communities of Husby and Stora Mossen was actually the most emphatic American victory so far; 11-0 against the Czech Republic, 7-1 vs. Japan and 10-0 vs. Sweden in the preliminary round, then the Czechs again in the semi-final (14-1) and finally 5-2 against Canada, in the fourth consecutive WW18 final between the two North American teams.

The USA was never really threatened, enjoying leads of 3-0, 4-1 and 4-2 after two periods, while outshooting Canada 24-9. The 5-2 goal in the third was an empty-netter.

■ ■ The superior win reflected on the individual scoring and the Best Player Awards. Four U.S. players were on top of the scoring chart; Alex Carpenter (6+4=10), Hannah Brandt (5+5=10), Amanda Pelkey (4+6=10) and Emily Field (4+5=9). Carpenter was named Best Forward, while teammate Milica McMillen was selected Best Defenceman. The only non-American awardee was Finland's Isabella Portnoj, who won the goaltender's honours.

It's worth mentioning that out of the twelve Best Player recognitions awarded since 2008, eight have gone to U.S. players.

■ ■ Isabella Portnoj backstopped her team to the bronze medal - Finland's first medal at WW18 - by defeating the Czechs 3-0 in the 3rd-place game. Considering that Finland always has been a medal contender in the World Women's and Olympics, the WW18 has not been a successful event for the Finnish junior program.

In the three previous championships, the Finnish girls have ended up 6th, 5th and 5th, so the 2011 championship was the improvement which was expected by the country's hockey association. For Sweden, especially when playing at home, the 5th place was a disappointment after finishing 4th, 3rd and 3rd in the three first events.



Photo: Phillip MacCallum / IIHF-IIHF Images

**GETTING THE GOLD BACK:** Team USA dominated the 2011 IIHF World Women's U18 Championship and claimed back the gold from Canada.

■ ■ Japan was relegated to WW18 Division I next year, but only after losing a best-of-three relegation series 2-1 against Switzerland. The Japanese won the second game 5-1, but they lost the two others 4-0 and 5-1.

The team which will be promoted to the 2012 WW18 (host TBA) will be determined at the Division I championship in Dmitrov, Russia (March 28 - April 3). The hosting team is probably to be considered as the favourite and they will be challenged by Austria, Norway, Slovakia, Kazakhstan and France.

# Yunost claims Continental Cup on home ice

By Martin Merk

■ ■ Yunost Minsk won the IIHF Continental Cup for the second time. The Belarusians defeated last year's winner Red Bull Salzburg 4-3 in front of 14,550 spectators at Minsk Arena to claim the Continental Cup winner's plate.

It was the anticipated last game between the 2007 winner and the Austrians that decided about first place. And it became a perfect revenge for last year when Salzburg won the competition ahead of Yunost thanks to a 5-3 head-to-head win.

It was the second win by Yunost in the 14-year history of the Continental Cup that included 18 national cham-



**HOME ICE SUCCESS:** Yunost Minsk celebrates on home ice after defeating Red Bull Salzburg to claim the Continental Cup plate. Photo: Vyacheslav Tsuranov

pions from leagues outside of Europe's "top-seven leagues" in six tournaments over four stages.

■ ■ "After the second place last year, which wasn't considered a good result here in Belarus, and the fact that it was tough to play these teams here, it was really wonderful to win the Continental Cup this time," Yunost head coach Mikhail Zakharov said.

"We had been preparing for this tournament very hard and we knew Salzburg, their players and their style of play pretty well. Compared to last year we were more disciplined and we improved our penalty kill."

Two lines contributed to the four goals for Yunost's win. Andrei Stepanov (1+1) and Olexander Materukhin (0+2) had two scoring points each.

All three Salzburg goals were scored by Canadians; Douglas Lynch, Steve Regier and Ryan Duncan. For the Austrians, it was a bad ending after starting with wins against the Rouen Dragons and SønderjyskE Vojens.

■ ■ The hosts had the better start and the game seemed to be pre-decided after Yunost's 3-0 goal late in the first period.

"The first period against Yunost was our worst in this tournament. We simply overslept the beginning. We gave everything we had in the end," Salzburg captain Thomas Koch commented after the game.

"We made mistakes we can sometimes afford in the league, but not at this level. The Belarusians were simply too smart and too efficient."

■ ■ Salzburg struggled finding the means for a comeback win until the last period when they cut the lead to 4-3 with five minutes left in regulation time. But the Austrians didn't come any closer than that.

"We played smart in the last minutes," Yunost goalie Mika Oksa said. "One shot can make a difference, but they didn't have any good chances in the last minutes."

■ ■ The Continental Cup was also a sweet success for Denmark's SønderjyskE Vojens. The team needed a shootout in Asiago, Italy, in November against the home side to become the second Danish team to advance for the Super Final, and the third-place finish in Minsk became the biggest success of a Danish team at the event.

SønderjyskE made some 30 travelling and chanting fans in Minsk happy after defeating French champions Rouen Dragons 3-2 in the last game.

"We're extremely proud of our performance. We gave up five goals in three games at this level of hockey. We're proud of the way we played defensively," SønderjyskE coach Mario Simioni said.

The club hopes to host a future Continental Cup event as its new 5,000-seat arena opened just two weeks later.

■ ■ Rouen has been the only French team that won a tournament to advance to the Super Final, in 2004 and 2010. They edged out Great Britain's Coventry Blaze to book their trip to Minsk.

# IIHF Hall of Fame names Class of 2011

■ ■ Karyn Bye, USA, will become the fifth woman to be inducted to the IIHF Hall of Fame. She will be joined by players Tord Lundström (Sweden), Bohumil Modry (Czech Republic), Ladislav Trojak (Slovakia), Doru Tureanu (Romania), and Kalevi Numminen (Finland) in the Builders' category.

The IIHF Hall of Fame Induction Ceremony will be held on May 15, 2011 in Bratislava, Slovakia on the final day of the 75th IIHF World Championship. The inductees will be joined by Yuri Korolev (Russia), who will be awarded the Paul Loicq Award for outstanding contributions to international hockey.



**KARYN BYE (-DIETZ) - USA** May 18, 1971 in River Falls, Wisconsin, United States

One of the longest tenured members of the U.S. Women's National Team, Karyn Bye captured a medal at all 10 of her International Ice Hockey Federation competitions.

Bye played on boys' teams until the age of 18 and had to always prove that she belonged while registering as K.L. Bye so that people wouldn't know there was a girl on the team.

She led the United States to the gold medal at the 1998 Olympic Winter Games, and silver medals at the 2002 Olympic Winter Games, six IIHF World Women's Championships (1992, 1994, 1997, 1999, 2000, 2001) and two IIHF Pacific Women's Championships (1995, 1996).

Bye starred in two (1998, 2002) Olympic Winter Games for the U.S. Women's Olympic ice hockey team and helped lead her country to the first gold medal presented for women's ice hockey, at the 1998 Olympic Winter Games in Nagano, Japan. She recorded 51 points (27 + 24) in 30 games during her six IIHF World Women's Championship appearances and totaled 84 points (47 + 37) in 51 career games wearing the Team USA sweater.



**TORD LUNDSTRÖM - SWE** March 4, 1945 in Kiruna, Sweden

Tord Lundström was one of Sweden's greatest forwards, dominant both on the national team and in domestic play. He played in 200 national teams games between 1964 and 1977, took part in nine IIHF World Championships, and captured three silver medals and four bronze medals during an era of Soviet dominance.

In 73 World Championship games, Lundström collected an impressive 40 goals and 26 assists, underlining his status as a point-per-game player for almost 15 years.

Lundström's accomplishments domestically were equally impressive. In 14 top league seasons, he led his club Brynäs to a record nine national titles during a period when he amassed 629 points in 453 games in various competitions. He was named Sweden's Player of the Year in 1971 and 1975 and was named to the Swedish league All-Star Team on eight occasions.

In 1973, at the age of 28, Lundström signed with the Detroit Red Wings and played in 11 NHL games during the 1973-74 season. He became only the second Swedish forward to score an NHL goal.



**BOHUMIL MODRY - CZE** September 24, 1916 in Prague, Bohemia (Czech Republic)

Bohumil Modry was considered the top European netminder of the immediate pre- and post-World War II era. He led Czechoslovakia to IIHF World Championship titles in 1947 and 1949 and won the Olympic silver medal and the European Championship in 1948. As well, he participated in the World Championships from 1937 to 1939, representing Czechoslovakia in a total of 71 games. Modry posted an impressive 1.27 goals-against average in his 35 World Championship games and a 2.00 GAA in Olympic competition.

In domestic league play, Modry played in the Czechoslovak elite league from its inception in 1936 and won six championship titles with LTC Prague. In 1950, Modry and the entire Czechoslovak national team fell victim to fabricated treason accusation by the Communist regime. Modry was sentenced to 15 years in jail, and although released before the end of his sentence, he died in 1963 in poor health as a result of the imprisonment.

Before his death, Modry became the first player to produce material about special education for goaltenders, publishing articles about goaltending training.

Photos: Mark Kauffman / Time Life Pictures / Getty Images, Jan Collisiö / Scanpix, IIHF Archive



**LADISLAV TROJAK - SVK** June 15, 1914 in Kosice, Austro-Hungarian Monarchy (Slovakia)

Ladislav Trojak was the first Slovak ice hockey player to represent Czechoslovakia internationally, and he became the first Slovak to win an IIHF World Championship gold medal while representing Czechoslovakia, this at the 1947 World event in Prague. With this, Trojak became an inspiration for all Slovak athletes who dreamt about competing on the world stage.

Prior to the 1947 success, the first time Czechoslovakia won gold, Trojak was a five-time Czechoslovak champion with LTC Prague.



Trojak was first selected to the national team for the 1936 Olympics in Garmisch-Partenkirchen. He was also selected for the five following World Championships, including the 1948 Olympics. In total, Trojak represented his country on 75 occasions, an impressive number in an era when national team games were rare.

Czechoslovakia's final game at the 1948 Olympics – a 4-3 win over the United States – would be Trojak's last championship game for the national team. On November 8 the same year, Ladislav Trojak perished in an airplane crash over the English Channel along with five other members of the Czechoslovak team.

His sweater number 9 has been retired and hangs in the rafters of the 2011 IIHF World Championship venue, which is named in honour of Trojak, in his home town Kosice,



**DORU TUREANU - ROU** January 11, 1954 in Bucharest, Romania

Doru Tureanu was arguably the best Romanian forward during a period of almost two decades when Romanian ice hockey was at its best. A star for the perennial national champion Dinamo Bucharest between 1971 and 1987, Tureanu was the key element of the Romanian national team forming its top offensive line with Marian Costea and Dumitru Axinte.

Tureanu participated in two Olympic Games (1976, 1980) as well as 17 IIHF World Championships (A, B, and C Pools). During this period, he represented his country in 100 international games scoring an incredible 74 goals and 39 assists, for a total of 112 points. In ten games at the Olympics, he scored ten goals and a total of 17 points.

A confident and skilful forward, Tureanu was blessed with an eye for a pass and capable of scoring against anyone. Legendary Soviet coach Viktor Tikhonov was one of his admirers and once said that Tureanu had the skill to play for any team in the world. His finest hour was scoring two goals in a 5-4 win over the United States in the 1977 World Championship in Vienna, Austria, in what was arguably the greatest game ever played by the Romanian national team.



**KALEVI NUMMINEN - FIN** Builders' Category - January 31, 1940 in Tampere, Finland

Kalevi Numminen was the first truly modern coach in Finnish hockey. He coached Tappara Tampere in total of ten seasons winning three national titles, three silvers, and one bronze. Additionally, he coached the Finnish national team in 161 games with a record of 51 wins, 30 ties and 50 losses including five World Championships, one Olympic Games (1980), and the 1981 Canada Cup.

Numminen began his ice hockey career as a defenceman for Tappara, a club he represented during his entire career of 201 games. Numminen played 143 games with the Finnish national team, scoring 32 points, and represented Finland in seven IIHF World Championships and two Olympic Winter Games. Numminen was inducted into the Finnish Hall of Fame in 1986, and the Coach of the Year award in the Finnish Hockey League is named after him.

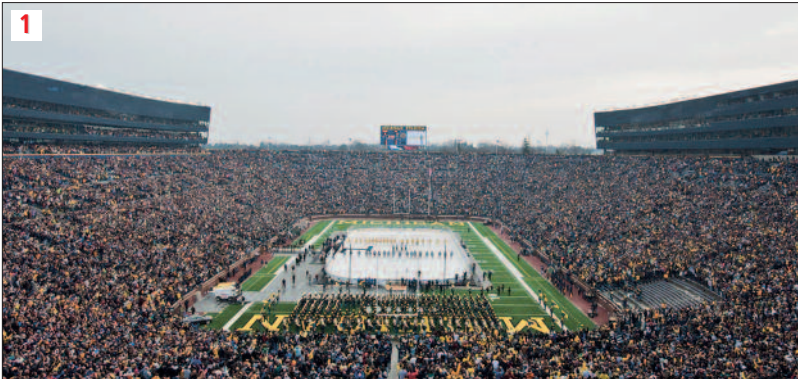


**YURI KOROLEV - RUS** Paul Loicq Award

Yuri Korolev has devoted 55 years of his life to hockey. Not having the qualities to fulfill his dreams to become a player, Korolev decided early to help other aspiring athletes reach their goals. He entered the Institute for Physical Culture in 1954, ironically the year the Soviet Union won its first World Championship.

Korolev later started to educate coaches and between 1964 and 1992 he was the head of the national ice hockey team research group whose work led to 17 World Championship gold medals and seven Olympic titles. In 1992, Korolev was elected to the IIHF Council and he was member of the IIHF's executive body for six years, during which he also was the head of the Coaching Committee.





## Hockey fever everywhere

Hockey fans swarmed to arenas and outdoor stadiums in 2010-2011 - and this trend was not only limited to the highest level such as the annual NHL Winter Classic. Ice Times lists some main events:

**1 MICHIGAN.** Michigan claimed back the attendance world record in an NCAA game when the Michigan Wolverines hosted state rivals Michigan State Spartans in front of 113,411 fans at Michigan Stadium in Ann Arbor. Played in freezing weather in the football stadium, the Wolverines won the game 5-0, on a international-sized ice surface .

Dubbed “The Big Chill at the Big House”, the game was a re-match of the first modern outdoor game, held at Spartan Stadium in East Lansing, Michigan, in 2001. That game, called “The Cold War”, was played before a then-record crowd of 74,554 and ended in a 3-3 tie.

The previous world record, the 2010 IIHF World Championship opening game USA vs. Germany in Gelsenkirchen with 77,803, remains the record for a hockey game played indoor.

**2 ZAGREB.** “Ice Fever” was the motto at Arena Zagreb that is normally used for sports Croatia is better known for, such as basketball and hand-ball. But for four games of the Austrian EBEL league, the 2008-opened arena was transformed into a state-of-the-art hockey venue. 15,200 fans filled the seats at the arena, although most fans were standing to cheer on their team. They also received a message from former NHL star Joe Sakic, whose parents emigrated from Croatia, from the video cube.

With an average attendance of 6,560 at their regular rink, Medvescak Zagreb might crack the IIHF’s Top-15 list over attendance in European club hockey. Hockey was on a decline in Croatia after the breakup of Yugoslavia with just 85 senior players listed, but since the Austrian league expanded to Zagreb last season, hockey craziness is back.

**3 PARIS.** The French Cup Final was sold out with 13,364 fans in Paris-Bercy, setting a new attendance record in France. The final of the Cup competition moved to France’s most famous indoor arena in 2007 and has become a national rendezvous for French hockey since. Rouen claimed the Trophée Pete-Laliberté with a 5-4 shootout win against Angers.

**4 MEXICO.** The probably most picturesque venue was the rink on the Plaza de la Constitución, commonly known as Zócalo, in Mexico City. The opening game of the 2011 IIHF World Championship Division III took place there, between Aztec pyramids, the Cathedral, and the National Palace. 3,000 fans on the temporary tribunes and probably 10,000 altogether with restaurant guests and people from rooftop viewpoints, saw Mexico win its opening game against Bulgaria. The game that was broadcast live on TV was part of the one-month Magia de la Navidad (“Magic of Christmas”) featuring wintery events in the mild climate. Eventually, the Mexicans won the tournament in front of a capacity crowd of 3,000 at the Lomas Verde indoor rink to earn promotion back to Division II. (MM)

**Photos:** Matthew Baumer, University of Michigan; Andreas Robanser, puckfans.at; Martin Merk; Gabriel Roux

### IIHF RESULT SUMMARY

#### IIHF World U20 Championship

##### Top Division

Buffalo & Niagara, Canada December 26 to January 5

##### Preliminary Round, Group A

Germany - Switzerland	3 - 4	(0-4, 1-0, 2-0)
Finland - United States	2 - 3	(0-1, 1-1, 1-0) OT
Slovakia - Germany	2 - 1	(0-0, 1-1, 0-0) OT
Switzerland - Finland	0 - 4	(0-1, 0-1, 0-2)
United States - Slovakia	6 - 1	(2-0, 4-1, 0-0)
Finland - Germany	5 - 1	(1-0, 3-0, 1-1)
Switzerland - Slovakia	6 - 4	(3-1, 1-1, 2-2)
Germany - United States	0 - 4	(0-2, 0-2, 0-0)
Slovakia - Finland	0 - 6	(0-3, 0-3, 0-0)
United States - Switzerland	2 - 1	(1-1, 1-0, 0-0)

United States	4	3	1	0	0	15	-	4	11
Finland	4	3	0	1	0	17	-	4	10
Switzerland	4	2	0	0	2	11	-	13	6
Slovakia	4	0	1	0	3	7	-	19	2
Germany	4	0	0	1	3	5	-	15	1

##### Preliminary Round, Group B

Russia - Canada	3 - 6	(1-1, 2-2, 0-3)
Norway - Sweden	1 - 7	(0-2, 0-2, 1-3)
Czech Republic - Norway	2 - 0	(0-0, 1-0, 1-0)
Canada - Czech Republic	7 - 2	(2-1, 3-0, 2-1)
Sweden - Russia	2 - 0	(2-0, 0-0, 0-0)
Norway - Canada	1-10	(1-6, 0-1, 0-3)
Sweden - Czech Republic	6 - 3	(3-1, 2-2, 1-0)
Russia - Norway	8 - 2	(2-2, 1-0, 5-0)
Canada - Sweden	5 - 6	(3-2, 1-2, 1-1) PS
Czech Republic - Russia	3 - 8	(1-4, 1-4, 1-0)

Sweden	4	3	1	0	0	21	-	9	11
Canada	4	3	0	1	0	28	-	12	10
Russia	4	2	0	0	2	19	-	13	6
Czech Republic	4	1	0	0	3	10	-	21	3
Norway	4	0	0	0	4	4	-	27	0

##### Relegation Round

Slovakia - Germany	2 - 1	(0-0, 1-1, 0-0) OT
Czech Republic - Norway	2 - 0	(0-0, 1-0, 1-0)
Slovakia - Norway	5 - 0	(2-0, 0-0, 3-0)
Czech Republic - Germany	3 - 2	(0-0, 1-1, 2-1)
Germany - Norway	1 - 3	(0-1, 1-0, 0-2)
Czech Republic - Slovakia	5 - 2	(2-0, 3-2, 0-0)

1. Czech Republic 9, 2. Slovakia 5, 3. Norway 3, 4. Germany 1.  
Norway and Germany are relegated to World U20 Championship Div. I

##### Playoff Round

##### Quarterfinals

Canada - Switzerland	4 - 1	(1-1, 1-0, 2-0)
Finland - Russia	3 - 4	(1-1, 1-0, 1-2) OT

##### Semi-finals

Sweden - Russia	3 - 4	(0-1, 1-1, 2-1) PS
United States - Canada	1 - 4	(0-2, 0-1, 1-1)

##### 5th place game

Finland - Switzerland	2 - 3	(2-1, 0-1, 0-0) PS
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##### Bronze medal game

Sweden - United States	2 - 4	(0-0, 1-1, 1-3)
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##### Gold medal game

Canada - Russia	3 - 5	(2-0, 1-0, 0-5)
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#### Division I Group A

Bobruisk, Belarus December 13-19

Japan - Italy	0 - 6	(0-0, 0-3, 0-3)
Great Britain - Latvia	1 - 6	(0-1, 0-4, 1-1)
Ukraine - Belarus	2 - 7	(0-1, 1-2, 1-4)
Italy - Great Britain	0 - 2	(0-0, 0-2, 0-0)
Latvia - Ukraine	9 - 0	(3-0, 2-0, 4-0)
Belarus - Japan	4 - 1	(1-0, 0-1, 3-0)
Great Britain - Ukraine	5 - 1	(0-0, 2-1, 3-0)
Latvia - Japan	2 - 1	(1-1, 1-0, 0-0)
Belarus - Italy	4 - 2	(0-0, 2-1, 2-1)
Ukraine - Japan	0 - 6	(0-3, 0-1, 0-2)
Italy - Latvia	0 - 1	(0-0, 0-1, 0-0)
Belarus - Great Britain	2 - 1	(0-1, 0-0, 2-0)
Japan - Great Britain	1 - 3	(0-0, 0-2, 1-1)
Italy - Ukraine	5 - 1	(1-0, 4-0, 0-1)
Latvia - Belarus	3 - 1	(1-1, 1-0, 1-0)

Latvia	5	5	0	0	0	21	-	3	15
Belarus	5	4	0	0	1	18	-	9	12
Great Britain	5	3	0	0	2	12	-	10	9
Italy	5	2	0	0	3	13	-	8	6
Japan	5	1	0	0	4	9	-	15	3
Ukraine	5	0	0	0	5	4	-	32	0

Latvia is promoted to 2012 World U20 Championship in Canada  
Ukraine is relegated to 2012 World U20 Championship Division II

#### Division I Group B

Bled, Slovenia December 12-18

Kazakhstan - Denmark	1 - 7	(0-2, 1-1, 0-4)
Lithuania - Austria	0 - 5	(0-1, 0-3, 0-1)
Croatia - Slovenia	3-11	(0-4, 2-5, 1-2)
Austria - Kazakhstan	5 - 2	(0-1, 4-1, 1-0)
Denmark - Croatia	12-3	(4-1, 5-1, 3-1)
Slovenia - Lithuania	10-3	(6-1, 2-1, 2-1)
Austria - Croatia	4 - 3	(0-0, 2-1, 1-2) OT
Lithuania - Kazakhstan	4 - 6	(2-0, 1-3, 1-3)
Denmark - Slovenia	2 - 1	(1-1, 1-0, 0-0)
Kazakhstan - Croatia	6 - 2	(2-0, 2-2, 2-0)
Denmark - Lithuania	9 - 1	(6-1, 0-0, 3-0)
Slovenia - Austria	3 - 2	(1-0, 0-0, 2-2)
Croatia - Lithuania	5 - 2	(0-1, 1-1, 4-0)
Austria - Denmark	8 - 5	(2-2, 5-2, 1-1)
Slovenia - Kazakhstan	6 - 4	(0-2, 1-2, 5-0)

Denmark	5	4	0	0	1	35	-	14	12
Slovenia	5	4	0	0	1	31	-	14	12
Austria	5	3	1	0	1	24	-	13	11
Kazakhstan	5	2	0	0	3	19	-	24	6
Croatia	5	1	0	1	3	16	-	35	4
Lithuania	5	0	0	0	5	10	-	35	0

Denmark is promoted to 2012 World U20 Championship in Canada  
Lithuania is relegated to 2012 World U20 Championship Division II

#### Division II Group A

Tallinn, Estonia December 13-19

1. France 15, 2. Netherlands 10, 3. Spain 9, 4. Belgium 5, 5. Estonia 3, 6. Iceland 3.

France is promoted to U20 Division I, Iceland is relegated to Division III

#### Division II Group B

Miercurea Ciuc, Romania December 13-19

1. Poland 15, 2. Hungary 12, 3. Korea 9, 4. Romania 6, 5. Australia 3, 6. China 0.

Poland is promoted to U20 Division I, China is relegated to Division III

#### Division III

Mexico City, Mexico January 9-18

1. Mexico 18, 2. Serbia 15, 3. DPR Korea 12, 4. Turkey 9, 5. New Zealand 6, 6. Bulgaria 2, 7. Chinese Taipei 1.

Mexico and Serbia are promoted to U20 Division II

**For more scores and statistics, go to [IIHF.com/scores](http://IIHF.com/scores)**

#### IIHF World Women’s 18 Championship

Stockholm, Sweden January 1-8

##### Preliminary Round, Group A

Canada	3	3	0	0	0	23	-	2	9
Germany	3	2	0	0	1	6	-	10	6
Finland	3	1	0	0	2	4	-	8	3
Switzerland	3	0	0	0	3	4	-	17	0

##### Preliminary Round, Group B

United States	3	3	0	0	0	28	-	1	9
Sweden	3	2	0	0	1	5	-	13	6
Czech Republic	3	1	0	0	2	6	-	15	3
Japan	3	0	0	0	3	3	-	13	0

##### Final Round

##### Relegation Round (Best of 3)

Japan - Switzerland	0-4, 5-1, 1-5
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Japan is relegated to 2012 World Women’s U18 Championship Div. I

##### Quarterfinals

Germany - Czech Republic	1 - 3	(0-0, 0-1, 1-2)
Sweden - Finland	2 - 3	(0-0, 1-2, 1-0) OT

##### Semi-finals

Canada - Finland	6 - 1	(2-0, 3-0, 1-1)
United States - Czech Republic	14-1	(2-1, 5-0, 7-0)

##### 5th place game

Germany - Sweden	0 - 2	(0-2, 0-0, 0-0)
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##### Bronze medal game

Finland - Czech Republic	3 - 0	(1-0, 2-0, 0-0)
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##### Gold medal game

United States - Canada	5 - 2	(2-0, 2-2, 1-0)
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## Continental Cup Super Final

Minsk, Belarus January 14-16

Salzburg - Rouen	6 - 1	(2-1, 1-0, 3-0)
Yunost Minsk - SønderjyskE	2 - 1	(1-0, 1-1, 0-0)
Rouen - Yunost Minsk	2 - 4	(1-0, 1-2, 0-2)
Salzburg - SønderjyskE	3 - 2	(2-1, 1-1, 0-0)
SønderjyskE - Rouen	3 - 2	(0-0, 1-1, 2-1)
Yunost Minsk - Salzburg	4 - 3	(3-1, 1-0, 0-2)

Yunost Minsk	3	3	0	0	0	10	-	6	9
Red Bull Salzburg	3	2	0	0	1	12	-	7	6
SønderjyskE Vojens	3	1	0	0	2	6	-	7	3
Rouen Dragons	3	0	0	0	3	5	-	13	0



**PROMOTED:** The Latvian and Danish U20 national teams will play in the Top Division next year.  
**Photos:** A. Antashkevich / S. Vidic

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# Putting Quebec City back on the map

## Marcel Aubut lobbies for Olympics and the return of the Nordiques

By Martin Merk

**Marcel Aubut is on a mission. The former patron of the Quebec Nordiques does not only want to bring NHL hockey back to Quebec City, but he also campaigns for a 2022 Olympics bid.**

Marcel Aubut has been one of the most prolific sports personalities in North America for the last 30 years. He was the main man behind the NHL Quebec Nordiques, but he was also the one who had to see them leave to become the Colorado Avalanche in 1995.

Sixteen years later he is committed to bringing the Nordiques back and since he is at it, why not also the Olympic Winter Games to the capital of the province?

As Marcel Aubut was visiting Zurich, *Ice Times* sat down with the former club president and owner to talk about the Nordiques and the idea for a bid for the 2022 Olympic Winter Games.

**Tell us a little bit about the dream of bringing the Nordiques back to the NHL and building a new arena.**

It's not a dream anymore. It will become reality soon. There's a chance that we very soon will be able to announce the construction of a new arena for \$400 million. We have a good and active mayor in Quebec City, who feels that it will be possible. With the new Colisée and with several NHL clubs struggling, there's a chance that a team will return to such a great market as Quebec City, and that the NHL will get the opportunity to correct a mistake done in the past. It would be perfect timing to do so.

**Would the new Colisée be in the same area as the original building?**

### Olympics in Quebec?

❑ Marcel Aubut was not only in Switzerland to visit the IIHF, but also to campaign for Quebec City's intention to bid for the 2022 Olympic Winter Games. "It would be a second Lillehammer," said Aubut, who became President of the Canadian Olympic Committee in 2009.

❑ More than a dozen countries work on a bid for 2022, but prior to that the 2018 Olympics will be awarded on July 6. The candidates are Annecy (France), Munich (Germany) and PyeongChang (Korea).

Yes, it will be constructed beside the old arena, and the old one will remain so we have two venues there if we get the 2022 Olympics.

**Can you tell us anything about the potential owners?**

Several groups are interested, but in my opinion, the best one is led by Pierre Karl Péladeau, who owns the media empire Quebecor. It would be logical having him

**In 1995, the market in Quebec City wasn't big enough to support an NHL team. What is the difference between 1995 and now?**

Quebec City has completely changed. It has become a dynamic city of national importance. It's a city that functions well, it is successful in the high-tech industry and a place that wasn't hit by the recession. It has the highest employment rate in the country. The mayor and the political scene have completely changed and it has helped making Quebec City a modern place, while still remaining a tourist attraction.

**You were the most prolific person behind the original Nordiques (1979-1995). Will you somehow be involved if the club returns?**

Maybe I could have a role, like the chairman of the board, but the project also needs other people who are capable.

**How would you describe the hockey scene in Quebec City nowadays?**

There are junior teams that are very successful and attract 12,000 spectators each game. The fans are great and they really want the Nordiques to return.

**Is there a more passionate rivalry in sports than Canadiens vs. Nordiques?**

I think such a rivalry doesn't exist in North America. There's no rivalry you could compare to the one between Quebec City and Montreal. You can look in the NBA, NFL or MLB, and you won't find such a strong rivalry. If you want to compare, you have to find examples in European football such as FC Barcelona vs. Real Madrid.

**Do you think this rivalry can be brought back and would it be the same?**

I think it would be even stronger than what it was in the 80s and 90s.

**You were the man behind the Rendez-Vous '87, probably the most successful NHL All Star Game event ever when the NHL All Stars met the Soviet national team over two games. Would you like the NHL All Star Game become an international event again?**

The All Star Game is a challenge for the NHL. It's a game with players that don't touch each other. I think we should bring international competition back to the NHL All Star Game. It would bring emotions, prestige and motivation. But the NHL knows about the problem and there are ideas how to change it.



Photo: Martin Merk

**REVIVE LES NORDIQUES:** Marcel Aubut poses with a Quebec Nordiques jersey at the IIHF headquarters in Zurich before heading to the IOC in Lausanne.

as the owner given the backing of his vast media empire.

**What needs to be done to get the Nordiques back?**

We need the commitment for a return and a team that can be competitive. I think the NHL would also be ready to let the team play in the old Colisée until the new arena opens. We also need to see which NHL franchise can be sold and relocated to Quebec City.

**Have you received positive signals from the NHL that they would endorse having Quebec City back?**

The NHL told us that an expansion is not a priority right now, but they acknowledge the mistakes done with Quebec City and Winnipeg and they would like to correct that. That's a positive signal for us. But first Quebec City must be able to guarantee the construction of an NHL-sized arena.

**When can NHL hockey can be back in Quebec City?**

I think in three years from now.

### NHL players say "Oui!"

❑ In a poll conducted by CBC/NHLPA among NHL players in January, Quebec City was the clear choice as deserving of an NHL team. Out of 300 players polled, 53 percent picked Quebec, ahead of Winnipeg (25%), a second team in Toronto (16%), and Hamilton (5%).