

ALL-STAR OFFICIALS – Referee Jason Rollins and linesmen Wally Lacroix and Mike Pearce have a total of 18 years of ECHL experience. Current NHL officials who have worked the ECHL All-Star Game are referees Ian Walsh (1997), Brian Pochmara (2001) and Justin St. Pierre (2002) and linesman Brian Mach (1999). Former NHL referee Jeff Smith worked the 1998 ECHL All-Star Game. There are 16 former ECHL officials currently working in the NHL, including linesman Tim Nowak who began his officiating career in the ECHL and in 2003 became the first former ECHL official to work the Stanley Cup Finals.

Rollins is in his sixth year as a referee and his ninth season overall in the ECHL having begun his career as a linesman in 1998-99. The 32-year-old has officiated over 500 professional games during his career including almost 400 in the ECHL. Born in Fredericton, New Brunswick, he came to the United States in 1998 as a school teacher and taught for three years. He currently works as a mortgage consultant originating loans in Florida, Georgia, North Carolina and South Carolina.

In his fourth season in the ECHL, Lacroix began officiating when he was 12 years old and worked at the junior and college level until he was 20 years old. After playing professional roller hockey and ice hockey for 10 years, he returned to officiating beginning with professional roller hockey and later returning to the ice. He is involved with youth hockey in his hometown of Las Vegas and has coached at all levels of youth hockey and at the junior level.

Pearce, who owns a landscape business in Boise, began working in the ECHL in 1996-97 and worked the conference finals in 1998 and 1999 before moving to California where he worked two seasons in the West Coast Hockey League, including refereeing Games 6 and 7 of the Taylor Cup Finals. He has worked the past two seasons in the ECHL as both a referee and linesman, primarily as a linesman in 2006-07. Pearce has worked 13 years as an official beginning with USA Hockey where he refereed the Junior A National Championship game his second season.

STARTING LINEUPS – Determined in a vote of ECHL coaches, team captains, media relations directors, broadcasters and media members:

American Conference

G – Adam Berkhoel, Dayton
D – Jon Awe, Gwinnett
D – Mike Jarmuth, Columbia
F – Kevin Baker, Texas (A)
F – *Ryan Lang, Augusta*
F – Brad Schell, Gwinnett (C)

National Conference

G – Mike McKenna, Las Vegas
D – Beau Geisler, Stockton (A)
D – Darrell Hay, Idaho (C)
F – Luke Curtin, Fresno (A)
F – Nathan Martz, Stockton
F – *Tyler Mosienko, Las Vegas*

Replacements in Italics

Lang replaced Wheeling's Sean Collins, who is on call up to Worcester of the AHL
Mosienko replaced Phoenix's Scott May, who is on call up to Iowa

CAPTAINS AND ALTERNATES – Darrell Hay of Idaho is the captain for the National Conference and Brad Schell is the captain for the American Conference. The alternate captains for the National Conference are Stockton defenseman Beau Geisler and Fresno forward Luke Curtin, who was the alternate captain in 2006 after serving as the National Conference captain in 2005. The alternate captains for the American Conference are Texas forward Kevin Baker and Reading forward Greg Hogeboom.

SKILLS COMPETITION PREDICTS WINNER OF GAME – For the first nine years (1998-2006) that the Skills Competition has been held in conjunction with the All-Star Game, the winner of the Skills Competition has gone on to win the All-Star Game.

NHL AND AHL REPRESENTATIVES – The All-Star Game provides National Hockey League and American Hockey League teams the opportunity to see some of the top young prospects in the ECHL. In attendance are New York Islanders general manager **Garth Snow**, Nashville Predators hockey operations manager **Brandon Walker**, New York Islanders director of pro scouting **Ken Morrow**, Vancouver Canucks professional scout **Jack McIlhargey**, New York Islanders professional scout **Toby O'Brien**, Florida Panthers director of hockey administration **Matt Loughran**, Chicago Blackhawks professional scout and Norfolk Admirals general manager **Al MacIsaac**, and Iowa Stars director of hockey operations **Scott White**.

TELEVISION BROADCAST – The All-Star Game is available coast-to-coast to more than 31 million homes. It is being televised live by The NHL Network and NHL Center Ice for the fifth consecutive year and on America One for the third year in a row. It is being shown live in Cincinnati and Dayton on Time Warner Cable as well as being aired live in Dayton on “Dayton’s News Source” WKEF-ABC 22/WRGT-FOX 45 and for the second straight year by Catch 47 - Tampa Bay Sports Television. More than 10 million households will have the opportunity to watch the game on tape delay on Altitude Sports & Entertainment, the official television network of the Colorado Avalanche (Jan. 23 at 7:30 p.m. MT and Jan. 28 at 5 p.m. MT), Comcast Sports Southeast (Jan. 18 at 9 p.m. ET), Comcast SportsNet West (Jan. 21 at 11 p.m. PT), Cox Sports Television in Connecticut and Rhode Island (Jan. 22 at 7:30 p.m. ET) and by Metro Sports in Kansas City (Jan. 20 at 11 a.m. CT).

TELEVISION BROADCAST TEAM – The play-by-play announcer is Joe O’Donnell of Idaho while longtime NHL executive and NHL television analyst Neil Smith will provide color commentary. Mike Kelly of South Carolina will handle interviews with players, coaches and representatives from the ECHL and the NHL. O’Donnell handles the play-by-play broadcast for the Steelheads as well as hosting the Bud Light Idaho Steelheads Hockey Show, a one-hour talk show that airs weekdays on ESPN Radio in Boise. The University of Delaware graduate joined the team in March 2005 after two seasons as the broadcast assistant for the Reading Royals during which he also assisted with media relations for the 2004 ECHL All-Star Game. It is the second All-Star appearance for Kelly, who worked as a member of the audio broadcast for the 2003 ECHL All-Star Game. Kelly is in his first season with the Stingrays after six years as the director of broadcasting and media relations for the Mississippi Sea Wolves where he also handled the play-by-play duties. Currently working as a special advisor for the Dallas Stars, Smith brings years of broadcast experience to the telecast having worked for the *NHL Network* and *TSN* as well as *ESPN* and *Versus*. He was general manager of the New York Rangers from 1989-2000 and in 1992 was promoted to president, becoming the first person in team history to hold both the title of general manager and president. During his tenure, which is the second-longest in team history to only the legendary Lester Patrick, the Rangers captured three division titles, two Presidents' Trophy honors, an Eastern Conference championship and a Stanley Cup championship.

RADIO BROADCAST – Tonight’s game is produced by Doug Lane of NHL Radio and is being carried live on HOME ICE XM 208 in the United States on XM Satellite Radio, the nation’s leading satellite radio service, and in Canada through XM partner Canadian Satellite

Radio; as well as in Boise, Idaho on 1350 KTICK - The Ticket; in Fresno, Calif. on 1550 Sporting News Radio KXEX-AM; in North Charleston, S.C. on ESPN 910 The Team; in Stockton, Calif. on AM 970 ESPN Radio; and in Salt Lake City, Utah on KKAT AM 860.

RADIO BROADCAST TEAM – The radio broadcast team is Mike Benton of Stockton, Kevin Reiter of Florida and Mike O’Brien of Trenton. Benton is in his second season as Media Relations Manager as well as play-by-play broadcaster for the Thunder. Benton also is the play-by-play announcer for the arenafootball2 league’s Stockton Lightning and is co-host on AM-970 ESPN Radio’s weekday “Mike and The Mouth” show. O’Brien is in his fourth season as Director of Public Relations and Broadcasting for the Titans. Prior to joining the Titans, O’Brien spent three years at the National Hockey League in New York, getting his start as a ticketing intern for the 2000 NHL All-Star game in Toronto. It is the second All-Star Game appearance for Reiter, who was a member of the audio broadcast team in 2003. Reiter is in his third season as Public Relations Manager and Broadcaster for the Florida Everblades and is in his sixth season as a broadcaster in the ECHL. Prior to joining the Everblades, the native of Medford, N.J. spent three years as the voice of the ECHL’s Roanoke Express.

VIDEO AND AUDIO TELECASTS ONLINE – B2 Networks, the “Official Broadband Broadcast Provider of the ECHL,” is making the same telecast being shown on television available for free online with live broadband video as well as having the audio broadcast available.

ROOKIE REPRESENTATION – Twenty-four of the 42 players in the All-Star Game are rookies with the National Conference having 13 rookies and the American Conference having 11 rookies. Of these, the American Conference has six forwards, three defensemen and two goaltenders while the National Conference has six forwards, four defensemen and two goaltenders.

American Conference Rookies (11)

Paul Albers, Texas, D
Maxime Boisclair, Johnstown, F
Cedrick Desjardins, Cincinnati, G
Colton Fretter, Gwinnett, F
Joe Jensen, Wheeling, F
John Laliberte, Trenton, F
Mike Madill, Texas, D
T.J. McElroy, South Carolina, D
Rob Rankin, Pensacola, F
David Shantz, Florida, G
Jamie Tardif, Toledo, F

National Conference Rookies (13)

Troy Bodie, Stockton, F
Rane Carnegie, Bakersfield, F
Kevin Croxton, Alaska, F
Devan Dubnyk, Stockton, G
Todd Griffith, Bakersfield, F
Jason Krischuk, Las Vegas, D
Ryan MacDonald, Fresno, G
Dave Pszenyczny, Phoenix, D

Greg Rallo, Idaho, F
Brandon Schwartz, Long Beach, F
Andy Sertich, Utah, D
Julian Talbot, Alaska, F
Tom Walsh, Fresno, D

TEAM REPRESENTATION – Teams with multiple players in the All-Star Game are Stockton (4), Gwinnett (3), Idaho (3), Las Vegas (3), Texas (3), Alaska (2), Bakersfield (2), Fresno (2), Toledo (2) and Wheeling (2).

HEIGHT BREAKDOWN – The average listed height of the National Conference is 72.43 inches compared to the American Conference at 72.76 inches. The National Conference has 15 players who are listed at 6-foot or more while the American Conference has 17 players who are listed at 6-foot or more. The tallest player is forward Bruce Graham of the American Conference at 6-foot-6 while the tallest players on the National Conference are goaltender Devan Dubnyk and forward Troy Bodie, who are both listed at 6-foot-5. National Conference forward Tyler Mosienko is the shortest player at 5-foot-8 while American Conference forwards Colton Fretter and Ryan Lang are listed at 5-foot-10. The average height of the National Conference by position is forwards (72.58 inches), defensemen (71.67 inches) and goaltenders (73.33 inches). The average height of the American Conference by positions is forwards (72.5 inches), defensemen (73.17 inches) and goaltenders (73.00 inches).

WEIGHT BREAKDOWN – The average listed weight of the National Conference is 191.38 pounds compared to the American Conference at 199.19 pounds. The heaviest player is forward Bruce Graham of the American Conference at 230 pounds while the heaviest player on the National Conference is forward Troy Bodie at 215 pounds. The lightest players are National Conference goaltender Ryan MacDonald and forward Tyler Mosienko at 175 pounds. The average weight of the National Conference by position is forwards (192.25 pounds), defensemen (189.67 pounds) and goaltenders (191.33 pounds). The average weight of the American Conference by positions is forwards (195.50 pounds), defensemen (206.76 pounds) and goaltenders (199.00 pounds).

AGE BREAKDOWN – The average age of the National Conference is 23.43 years old compared to the American Conference at 23.00 years old. The youngest player in the game at 20 years old is American Conference goaltender David Shantz, who was born on May 5, 1986, one day after National Conference goaltender Devan Dubnyk, who was born on May 4, 1986. There are 11 players who are 21 years old: Paul Albers, Paul Bissonnette, Maxime Boisclair, Jamie Tardif, Bruce Graham and Cedrick Desjardins (American Conference); Dave Pszenyczny, Julian Talbot, Todd Griffith, Troy Bodie and Ryan MacDonald (National Conference). National Conference forward Luke Curtin is the oldest player at 29 years old while forward Kevin Baker is the oldest player on the American Conference at 27 years old. The average age of the National Conference by position is forwards (23.67 years old), defensemen (24.00 years old) and goaltenders (21.33 years old). The average age of the American Conference by positions is forwards (23.42 years old), defensemen (23.17 years old) and goaltenders (21.00 years old).

NHL CONTRACTS – There are 10 players in the All-Star Game who are under contract to teams in the National Hockey League.

American Conference (8)

Paul Albers, Texas (Minnesota Wild)
Adam Berkhoel, Dayton (Buffalo Sabres)
Paul Bissonnette, Wheeling (Pittsburgh Penguins)
Bruce Graham, Charlotte (New York Rangers)
Greg Hogeboom, Reading (Los Angeles Kings)
Mike Madill, Texas (Minnesota Wild)
Brad Schell, Gwinnett (Atlanta Thrashers)
David Shantz, Florida (Florida Panthers)

National Conference (2)

Troy Bodie, Stockton (Edmonton Oilers)
Devan Dubnyk, Stockton (Edmonton Oilers)

AHL CONTRACTS – There are five players in the All-Star Game who are under contract to teams in the American Hockey League.

American Conference (3)

Maxime Boisclair, Johnstown (Springfield Falcons)
Cedrick Desjardins, Cincinnati (Hamilton Bulldogs)
Colton Fretter, Gwinnett (Chicago Wolves)

National Conference (2)

Kevin Croxton, Alaska (Peoria Rivermen)
Tom Walsh, Fresno (Worcester Sharks)

NHL ENTRY DRAFT SELECTIONS – The All-Star Game has 21 players who have been selected in the National Hockey League Entry Draft.

2004 NHL Entry Draft

Devan Dubnyk, Stockton (1st round – 14th overall – Edmonton Oilers)
David Shantz, Florida (2nd round – 37th overall – Florida Panthers)

2003 NHL Entry Draft

Bruce Graham, Charlotte (2nd round – 51st overall – New York Rangers)
Jamie Tardif, Toledo (4th round – 112th overall – Calgary Flames)
Paul Bissonnette, Wheeling (4th round – 121st overall – Pittsburgh Penguins)
Joe Jensen, Wheeling (8th round – 232nd overall – Pittsburgh Penguins)
Troy Bodie, Stockton (9th round – 278th overall – Edmonton Oilers)

2002 NHL Entry Draft

John Laliberte, Trenton (4th round – 114th overall – Vancouver Canucks)
Andy Sertich, Utah (5th round – 136th overall – Pittsburgh Penguins)
Greg Hogeboom, Reading (5th round – 152nd overall – Los Angeles Kings)
Tom Walsh, Fresno (5th round – 163rd overall – San Jose Sharks)
Brad Schell, Gwinnett (6th round – 167th overall – Atlanta Thrashers)
Mike McKenna, Las Vegas (6th round – 172nd overall – Nashville Predators)

Colton Fretter, Gwinnett (8th round – 230th overall – Atlanta Thrashers)

2001 NHL Entry Draft

Milan Gajic, Victoria (4th round – 112th overall – Atlanta Thrashers)

2000 NHL Entry Draft

Nathan Martz, Stockton (5th round – 140th overall – New York Rangers)

Ken Magowan, Toledo (7th round – 198th overall – New Jersey Devils)

Adam Berkhoel, Dayton (8th round – 240th overall – Chicago Blackhawks)

1999 NHL Entry Draft

Kevin Baker, Texas (7th round – 193rd overall – Los Angeles Kings)

Darrell Hay, Idaho (9th round – 271st overall – Vancouver Canucks)

1996 NHL Entry Draft

Luke Curtin, Fresno (5th round – 134th overall – Colorado Avalanche)

ALL-STAR COACHES AT HIGHER LEVELS – The All-Star Game has been a stepping stone to the American Hockey League and the National Hockey League for several coaches.

ECHL All-Star Coaches Currently in National Hockey League

Jim Playfair (1996 All-Star Game) is head coach of Calgary Flames

Dave Farrish (2002 and 2005 All-Star Game) is assistant coach with Anaheim Ducks

Peter Horachek (2002 All-Star Game) is assistant coach with Nashville Predators

ECHL All-Star Coaches Currently in American Hockey League

Mike Haviland (2003 and 2005 All-Star Game) is head coach of Norfolk Admirals

Claude Noel (2003 All-Star Game) is head coach of Milwaukee Admirals

Bruce Boudreau (1999 All-Star Game) is head coach of Hershey Bears

Roy Sommer (1996 All-Star Game) is head coach of Worcester Sharks

FORMER ALL-STARS IN NHL – There have been 38 players from the All-Star Game who have gone on to play in the National Hockey League, including 21 since 2002 when the lineups began having players who coaches felt were prospects to move up to a higher level. Here are the players as well as All-Star coaches, equipment managers and trainers who have reached the NHL.

2005 ECHL All-Star Game

Connor James, Bakersfield (Los Angeles Kings)

Joey Tenute, South Carolina (Washington Capitals)

Dany Sabourin, Wheeling (Pittsburgh Penguins and Vancouver Canucks)

Barry Brust, Reading (Los Angeles Kings)

Martin St. Pierre, Greenville (Chicago Blackhawks)

Coach Dave Farrish, Pensacola (Assistant Coach, Anaheim Ducks)

2004 ECHL All-Star Game

Dan Ellis, Idaho (Dallas Stars)

Alexandre Burrows, Columbia (Vancouver Canucks)

Michael Garnett, Gwinnett (Atlanta Thrashers)

Greg Jacina, Augusta (Florida Panthers)

*Arturs Irbe, Johnstown (Carolina Hurricanes)

* - Irbe was injured and did not play in the game

2003 ECHL All-Star Game

Matt Underhill, Pee Dee (Chicago Blackhawks)

Zenon Konopka, Wheeling (Anaheim Ducks)

Kevin Colley, Atlantic City (New York Islanders)

Adam Hauser, Jackson (Los Angeles Kings)

Mike Smith, Lexington (Dallas Stars)

Mike Glumac, Pee Dee (St. Louis Blues)

*Mike Bishai, Columbus (Edmonton Oilers)

* - Bishai was called up to AHL and did not play in the game

2002 ECHL All-Star Game

Vern Fiddler, Roanoke (Nashville Predators)
Pat Leahy, Trenton (Boston Bruins)
Curtis Sanford, Peoria (St. Louis)
*Michael Ryder, Mississippi (Montreal Canadiens)
Coach Peter Horachek, Trenton (Assistant Coach, Nashville Predators)
Coach Dave Farrish, Louisiana (Assistant Coach, Anaheim Ducks)
Equipment Manager Scott Moon, Mississippi (New York Islanders)
Referee Justin St. Pierre (NHL Referee)

* - Ryder was called up to AHL and did not play in the game

2001 ECHL All-Star Game

Referee Brian Pochmara (NHL Referee)

2000 ECHL All-Star Game

Ryan Kraft, Richmond (San Jose Sharks)
Jan Lasak, Hampton Roads (Nashville Predators)
Derrick Walser, Johnstown (Columbus Blue Jackets)

1999 ECHL All-Star Game

Ryan Kraft, Richmond (San Jose Sharks)
Jaroslav Obsut, Augusta (St. Louis Blues and Colorado Avalanche)
Equipment Manager Rob Thomson, Pensacola (Atlanta Thrashers)
Linesman Brian Mach (NHL Linesman)

1998 ECHL All-Star Game

Eric Boguniecki, Dayton (Florida Panthers and St. Louis Blues)
Sebastien Charpentier, Hampton Roads (Washington Capitals)
Sean Gauthier, Pensacola (San Jose Sharks)
Jean-Guy Trudel, Peoria (Phoenix Coyotes and Minnesota Wild)
Dave Van Drunen, Baton Rouge (Ottawa Senators)
Referee Jeff Smith (NHL Referee)

1997 ECHL All-Star Game

Andrei Bashkirov, Huntington (Montreal Canadiens)
Eric Boulton, Charlotte (Buffalo Sabres)
Glen Metropolit, Pensacola (Washington Capitals and Tampa Bay Lightning)
Referee Ian Walsh (NHL Referee)

1996 ECHL All-Star Game

Coach Jim Playfair, Dayton (Head Coach, Calgary Flames)

1995 ECHL All-Star Game

Brandon Smith, Dayton (Boston Bruins and New York Islanders)

1994 ECHL All-Star Game

Nick Vachon, Knoxville (New York Islanders)

1993 ECHL All-Star Game

Alex Hicks, Toledo (Anaheim, Pittsburgh, San Jose and Florida)

Steve Poapst, Hampton Roads (Washington Capitals and Chicago Blackhawks)

ECHL ALL-STAR GAMES – Here is a look at past ECHL All-Star games:

2006 ECHL All-Star Game at Fresno, Calif.

National Conference 7, American Conference 6
MVP – Luke Curtin, National All-Stars, Fresno Falcons

2005 ECHL All-Star Game at Reading, Pa.

National Conference 6, American Conference 2
MVP – Frank Doyle, National All-Stars, Idaho Steelheads

2004 ECHL All-Star Game at Peoria, Ill.

Eastern Conference 7, Western Conference 6
MVP – Randy Rowe, Eastern All-Stars, Peoria Rivermen

2003 ECHL All-Star Game at Estero, Fla.

Northern Conference 8, Southern Conference 2
MVP - Scott Stirling, Northern All-Stars, Atlantic City Boardwalk Bullies

2002 ECHL All-Star Game at Trenton, N.J.

Southern Conference 7, Northern Conference 6
MVP – Allan Sirois, Southern All-Stars, Pee Dee Pride

2001 ECHL All-Star Game at North Little Rock, Ark.

Southern Conference 9, Northern Conference 5
MVP – Jonas Soling, Southern All-Stars, Augusta Lynx

2000 ECHL All-Star Game at Greenville, S.C.

Northern Conference 8, Southern Conference 6
MVP – Jeff Mitchell, Northern All-Stars, Dayton Bombers

1999 ECHL All-Star Game at Biloxi, Miss.

Southern Conference 7, Northern Conference 4
MVP – Jason Elders, Southern All-Stars, Mobile Mysticks

1998 ECHL All-Star Game at Lafayette, La.

Canada All-Stars 11, USA/World All-Stars 7
MVP – Andy MacIntyre, Canada All-Stars, Jacksonville Lizard Kings

1997 ECHL All-Star Game at Charlotte, N.C.

Charlotte Checkers 7, ECHL All-Stars 6
MVPs – Andrei Bashkirov, ECHL All-Stars, Huntington Blizzard and David Brosseau, Charlotte Checkers

1996 ECHL All-Star Game at Tallahassee, Fla.

Northern Conference 10, Southern Conference 7
MVP – Don Parsons, Northern All-Stars, Johnstown Chiefs

1995 ECHL All-Star Game at Greensboro, N.C.

West All-Stars 6, East All-Stars 5
MVP – Jay Neal, West All-Stars, Toledo Storm

1994 ECHL All-Star Game at Norfolk, Va.

West All-Stars 7, East All-Stars 6

MVPs – Joe Cook, West All-Stars, Columbus Chill and Cory Cadden, West All-Stars, Knoxville
Cherokees

1993 ECHL All-Star Game at Wheeling, W. Va.

East All-Stars 7, West All-Stars 3

MVP – Darren Schwartz, East All-Stars, Wheeling Thunderbirds

National Conference Coaches

Glen Gulutzan, Las Vegas Wranglers

Glen Gulutzan is in his fourth season as general manager and head coach of Las Vegas. Gulutzan was named ECHL Coach of the Year in 2005-06 after the Wranglers finished second overall with 112 points and a 53-13-6 record, tying the league record for second-most wins and finishing with the third-highest point total in the 18-year history of the ECHL. The Wranglers tied the ECHL record for longest road winning streak with 10 consecutive wins from Nov. 22-Dec. 31 and tied the third-longest winning streak in league history with 12 wins in a row from Dec. 3-30. Las Vegas set team records with 53 wins, 28 home wins and 25 road wins. The Wranglers are 146-75-29 and have reached the Kelly Cup Playoffs twice in three seasons, losing to the eventual Kelly Cup champion each time. Before stepping behind the Las Vegas bench, the 34-year-old Gulutzan spent four seasons as player-assistant coach with Fresno of the West Coast Hockey League. He was named All-WCHL in 1999 and 2000 and helped the Falcons win the championship in 2002 and advance to Game 7 of the finals in 2003. Gulutzan began his professional career in 1996-97 with Fresno and had a team record 80 assists and 110 points in 60 games while also playing in the International Hockey League with Utah and Las Vegas. In addition to six seasons in Fresno, the native of The Pas, Manitoba also played in both Finland and Sweden.

Chris Cichocki, Stockton Thunder

Chris Cichocki was named the first head coach in Stockton Thunder history on May 11, 2005, joining the Thunder after serving as an assistant coach with Grand Rapids of the American Hockey League in 2004-05. Cichocki was head coach and general manager with Cincinnati of the ECHL in 2003-04 and was head coach and director of hockey operations with Arkansas of the ECHL from 2000-2003. He is 163-170-59 in the ECHL regular season and has led his teams to the Kelly Cup Playoffs two times, including 2002-03 when Arkansas was 37-24-11 and set team records for wins and points. Cichocki was associate head coach and director of player personnel for Cincinnati of the International Hockey League after spending two seasons as the team's assistant coach. Cichocki's professional playing career spanned 13 seasons including stints with the Detroit Red Wings and New Jersey Devils of the National Hockey League, scoring 23 points (11g-12a) in 68 games. The majority of the right wing's career was in the IHL and the AHL and he scored 30 goals four times, including a career best 36 with Utica in 1987-88. He scored 574 points (280g-294a) in 800 career games. Cichocki played three years at Michigan Tech University, scoring 121 points (67g-54a) in 116 games, and was signed by the Detroit Red Wings as a free agent in June 1985.

American Conference Coaches

Malcolm Cameron, Texas Wildcatters

Malcolm Cameron was hired as head coach of the Texas Wildcatters on June 8, 2006. Cameron spent the past two seasons as head coach and director of hockey operations for the Long Beach Ice Dogs, who were 79-47-18 and advanced to the Kelly Cup Playoffs both seasons. In his inaugural season in 2004-05, Long Beach was 43-20-9 and had 95 points which was a 44-point improvement from their expansion season. The 44-point improvement is the fifth-largest single-season point improvement in the history of the ECHL. Cameron, who finished third in balloting for ECHL Coach of the Year, returned to the league after spending 2003-04 in the United Hockey League and the Central Hockey League. The 36-year-old began 2003-04 as head coach of Columbus of the UHL which suspended operations in January 2004. Prior to suspending operations, Columbus was in first place and Cameron was selected as a coach for the UHL All-Star Game. Cameron spent the final two months as head coach of Corpus Christi in the CHL. In his first head coaching job in 2002-03, Cameron helped Cincinnati finish 36-29-7 and advance to the conference finals where it lost by a goal in Game 7 to Kelly Cup champion Atlantic City. Cincinnati finished third in the division with 79 points and upset Peoria (103 points) and Toledo (104 points) to reach the conference finals. Cameron spent the 2001-02 season as an assistant coach with the Columbia Inferno. He has also worked as an assistant coach with Lubbock of the Western Professional Hockey League and with Acadia University. In his playing days, Cameron's career spanned five seasons, two of which were spent in the ECHL with Huntington (1993-94) and Johnstown (1995-96). He also played in the former Colonial Hockey League with Saginaw (1994-95), in the CHL with San Antonio (1994-95), Fort Worth (1995-97), and Nashville (1996-97), and in the WPHL with Amarillo (1997-98) and El Paso (1997-98).

Gerry Fleming, Florida Everblades

In his sixth season as head coach and director of player development, Gerry Fleming is the second coach in team history and the longest-tenured coach, having been named to the position on June 1, 2001. Fleming has led the Everblades to the Kelly Cup Finals twice in the last three seasons and to the Kelly Cup Playoffs in all five of his seasons. In six seasons with Florida, he is 223-126-46 in the regular season and 29-22 in the postseason. When Florida advanced to the Kelly Cup Finals in 2004 it marked the first time that the team had won a postseason series since its inaugural season in 1998-99. Fleming, who was co-coach of the Southern Conference in the 2003 ECHL All-Star Game, played seven seasons professionally in the Montreal organization primarily with the Canadiens' American Hockey League affiliate in Fredericton, New Brunswick. He scored 112 points (44g-68a) and had 1,142 penalty minutes in 298 games with Fredericton and in 1998 became only the second player in team history to have his jersey retired. Fleming had two stints in the National Hockey League with Montreal appearing in five games in 1993-94 and six games in 1994-95. He became an assistant coach with Fredericton in 1998-99 and remained with the team when it relocated to Quebec for 1999-2000. He became head coach of Tallahassee in the ECHL in 2000-01 and led the Tiger Sharks to a 38-27-7 record, the third-best record in team history.