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2000, 2002, 2003, 2004, 2005, 2006,
2011

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April 12, 2012

Eight WCHA Alums Among First 17 Players Named by USA Hockey to 2012 U.S. Men's National Team Roster

Group Includes Richard Bachman, J.T. Brown, Joey Crabb, Justin Faulk, Alex Goligoski, Ryan Lasch, Kyle Okposo, Paul Stastny

(release courtesy of USA Hockey)

COLORADO SPRINGS, Colo. - USA Hockey has announced the first 17 players that will compete for the 2012 U.S. Men's National Team at the International Ice Hockey Federation (IIHF) Men's World Championship, May 4-20, in Helsinki, Finland and Stockholm, Sweden. The group, which includes eight Western Collegiate Hockey Association-member team alums, consists of one goaltender, five defensemen and 11 forwards.

WCHA alums named to the squad to date are goaltender Richard Bachman (Colorado College), defensemen Justin Faulk (Minnesota Duluth) and Alex Goligoski (Minnesota), and forwards J.T. Brown (Minnesota Duluth), Joey Crabb (Colorado College), Ryan Lasch (St. Cloud State), Kyle Okposo (Minnesota) and Paul Stastny (Denver).

Also highlighting the roster are six players with U.S. Olympic or U.S. Men's National Team credentials. Forwards Paul Stastny (St. Louis, Mo./NHL-Colorado Avalanche/Univ. of Denver) and Bobby Ryan (Cherry Hill, N.J./NHL-Anaheim Ducks) and defenseman Jack Johnson (Ann Arbor, Mich./NHL-Columbus Blue Jackets/Univ. of Michigan) each collected silver medals at the 2010 Olympic Winter Games in Vancouver, B.C. Stastny also played on the 2007 U.S. Men's National Team. Ryan skated on the 2006 U.S. National Junior Team. Johnson has extensive Team USA experience, playing for four U.S. Men's National Teams (2007, '09-11), two U.S. National Junior Teams (2006, '07-bronze medal) and a pair of U.S. Men's National Under-18 Teams (2004-silver medal, '05-gold medal).

Defenseman Cam Fowler (Farmington Hills, Mich./NHL-Anaheim Ducks) joins Johnson as a returnee from the 2011 U.S. Men's National Team that played in Slovakia. Fowler has helped Team USA win gold medals at the 2010 IIHF World Junior Championship and the 2009 IIHF World Under-18 Men's Championship. Forward Kyle Okposo (St. Paul, Minn./NHL-New York Islanders/Univ. of Minnesota) is a two-time veteran of the U.S. Men's National Team, skating in 2009 and 2010. Okposo also played on the 2007 and 2008 U.S. National Junior Teams, winning a bronze medal in 2007. Forward Jim Slater (Lapeer, Mich./NHL-Winnipeg Jets/Michigan State Univ.) was a member of the 2006 U.S. Men's National Team and the 2002 U.S. National Junior Team.

Four more players have participated in IIHF World Championships, including forward Nathan Gerbe (Oxford, Mich./NHL-Buffalo Sabres/Boston College), who played for two U.S. National Junior Teams (2006, '07-bronze medal) and two U.S. Men's National Under-18 Teams (2004-silver medal, '05-gold medal). Defenseman Justin Faulk (South St. Paul, Minn./NHL-Carolina Hurricanes/Univ. of Minnesota Duluth) won a gold medal with the 2010 U.S. Men's National Under-18 Team and a bronze medal with the 2011 U.S. National Junior Team. Forward Max Pacioretty (New Canaan, Conn./NHL-Montreal Canadiens/Univ. of Michigan) was a member of the 2008 U.S. National Junior Team, while defenseman Alex Goligoski (Grand Rapids, Minn./NHL-Dallas Stars/Univ. of Minnesota) was a member of the 2005 U.S. National Junior Team.

Additionally, seven players will be making their Team USA debuts with the 2012 U.S. Men's National Team, including goaltender Richard Bachman (Salt Lake City, Utah/NHL-Dallas Stars/Colorado College), defenseman Jeff Petry (Ann Arbor, Mich./NHL-Edmonton Oilers/Michigan State Univ.) and forwards Cam Atkinson (Riverside, Conn./NHL-Columbus Blue Jackets/Boston College), J.T. Brown (Burnsville, Minn./NHL-Tampa Bay Lightning/Univ. of Minnesota Duluth), Patrick Dwyer (Spokane, Wash./NHL-Carolina Hurricanes/Western Michigan Univ.) and Nate Thompson (Anchorage, Alaska/NHL-Tampa Bay Lightning). Forward Ryan Lasch (Lake Forest, Calif./Lahti

Pelicans/St. Cloud State Univ.) played for Team USA's entry in the 2011 Deutschland Cup in Germany.

Notes: Four of the 17 players announced are products of USA Hockey's National Team Development Program: Justin Faulk, Cam Fowler, Nathan Gerbe and Jack Johnson ... Fourteen of the 17 members of Team USA announced today played U.S. college hockey ... Eleven NHL teams are represented on the roster ... The Dallas Stars, Carolina Hurricanes, Anaheim Ducks, Columbus Blue Jackets and Tampa Bay Lightning have two players apiece ... The average age of the 17 players is 24 years, nine months ... Scott Gordon was named the head coach of the 2012 U.S. Men's National Team on Tuesday, April 10. Greg Cronin was also announced as an assistant coach ... The 2012 U.S. Men's National Team is under the direction of the U.S. Men's National Team Advisory Group, led by Jim Johansson, assistant executive director of hockey operations for USA Hockey ... Other members include NHL general managers Stan Bowman (Chicago), Brian Burke (Toronto), Paul Holmgren (Philadelphia), Dean Lombardi (Los Angeles), David Poile (Nashville), Ray Shero (Pittsburgh) and Dale Tallon (Florida) and Pittsburgh Penguins pro scout Don Waddell ... USA Hockey's international council, chaired by Tony Rossi, vice president of USA Hockey, has oversight responsibilities for all U.S. national teams ... Sixteen teams will compete at 2012 IIHF Men's World Championship ... There will be two groups of eight with one group playing in Helsinki, Finland and the other playing in Stockholm, Sweden ... The semifinals and medal games will be conducted in Helsinki ... All teams at the 2012 IIHF World Men's Championship may begin the tournament with 22 skaters and three goal-tenders, and can add two players after the first three games ... NBC Sports is scheduled to televise all Team USA games in the 2012 IIHF Men's World Championship ... A final broadcast schedule will be available in the near future.

**Team USA 2012 IIHF Men's World Championship Schedule
May 4–20 • Helsinki, Finland & Stockholm, Sweden**

| Date | Opponent | Location | Time (ET) |
|-------------|-------------------|-----------------|------------------|
| May 4 | France | Helsinki | 5:15 am |
| May 5 | Canada | Helsinki | 12:00 pm |
| May 7 | Slovakia | Helsinki | 1:15 pm |
| May 10 | Belarus | Helsinki | 9:15 am |
| May 11 | Kazakhstan | Helsinki | 9:15 am |
| May 13 | Finland | Helsinki | 9:15 am |
| May 15 | Switzerland | Helsinki | 1:15 pm |
| May 17 | Quarterfinals | Helsinki | TBD |
| May 19 | Semifinals | Helsinki | TBD |
| May 20 | Bronze-Medal Game | Helsinki | 9:00 am |
| | Gold-Medal Game | Helsinki | 1:30 pm |

Arenas: Hartwall Arena (Helsinki); Ericsson Globe (Stockholm)