



MEDIA INFORMATION

WASHINGTON CAPITALS

2008 WASHINGTON CAPITALS DEVELOPMENT CAMP

**Kettler Capitals Iceplex • Arlington, Virginia
July 7-12, 2008**



CAPITALS DEVELOPMENT CAMP NOTES

What is it? – Capitals development camp is an annual week-long summer session with on- and off-ice workouts designed to help Capitals prospects improve their games and allow the Capitals to evaluate their progress. Past development camps have been held in Odenton, Md., and Hershey, Pa.; last year was the first time it was held at Kettler Capitals Iceplex.

All on-ice sessions, including the three intrasquad games, are free and open to the public.

Who is invited? – Attendees include first- and second-year Capitals prospects who are under contract and recent Capitals draft picks who have not been signed yet.

Caps Fan Fest – Kettler Capitals Iceplex hosts Capitals Fan Fest on Saturday, July 12, the centerpiece of which is the camp's third and final game between Groups A and B at 10:30 a.m.

Fan Fest also features:

- the Capitals' annual equipment sale
- interactive games and street hockey
- free public skating
- autograph sessions
- a Q&A session with chairman and majority owner Ted Leonsis

CAMP SCHEDULE

Sunday, July 6

Players Arrive

Monday, July 7

10 a.m.: Group A on ice
2:30 p.m.: Group B on ice

Tuesday, July 8

10 a.m.: Group B on ice
2:30 p.m.: Group A on ice

Wednesday, July 9

10 a.m.: Group A on ice
11:15 a.m.: Group B on ice
3:30 p.m.: Intrasquad scrimmage

Thursday, July 10

10 a.m.: Group B on ice
11:15 a.m.: Group A on ice
3:30 p.m.: Intrasquad scrimmage

Friday, July 11

10 a.m.: Group A on ice
11:45 a.m.: Group B on ice

Saturday, July 12

Capitals Fan Fest
10:30 a.m.: Intrasquad scrimmage

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2008 Development Camp Guide

CAMP STORYLINES

First things first – First-round draft picks from each of the last four NHL Entry Drafts are in attendance this week: John Carlson (2008), Karl Alzner (2007), Simeon Varlamov (2006) and Sasha Pokulok (2005).

Making an impression – Two players who attended last summer's development camp ended up playing for the Capitals in 2007-08: Nicklas Backstrom spent all year in D.C., while defenseman Sami Lepisto appeared in seven games.

King Karl – Defenseman Karl Alzner returns to camp after captaining Team Canada at the World Junior Championship and earning WHL Player of the Year honors last season. He was also the WHL's Defenseman of the Year. Alzner signed a three-year entry-level contract with the Capitals on May 22 and is the No. 9 ranked NHL prospect by *The Hockey News*.

Recent additions – Alzner is one of eight players in attendance who have signed their first NHL contracts with the Capitals since this time last year. Joining him are Jay Beagle, Francois Bouchard, Josh Godfrey, Michal Neuvirth, Oskar Osala, Mathieu Perreault and Simeon Varlamov.

Bear necessity – Eight camp attendees played for the Hershey Bears at some point in 2007-08, and even more may find their way to Chocolatetown sometime this season. Hershey's success – making the playoffs in all three years of its affiliation with Washington and winning the Calder Cup in 2006 – is a key element in the Capitals' growth as an organization. Thirteen players who suited up for the Caps this year, plus head coach Bruce Boudreau, were former Hershey Bears.

Carolina on our mind – Four camp attendees played for the South Carolina Stingrays at some point last season, Washington's ECHL affiliate.

Q rating – The leading scorers in the QMJHL each of the last two seasons are in attendance: Mathieu Perreault (2007-08) and Francois Bouchard (2006-07). Both were 2006 draft picks of the Capitals who joined Hershey for the end of the 2007-08 season.

Paying their way – College players and future collegians attending NHL summer development camps – like Phil DeSimone, Dan Dunn, Andrew Glass and Greg Burke – must pay their own way in order to maintain their college eligibility.

Hoping to return – College players in attendance would love to be back in D.C. for the first weekend in May, when Verizon Center hosts the 2009 NCAA Frozen Four. The Frozen Four D.C. organizing committee will hold its monthly meeting at Kettler Capitals Iceplex on Wednesday and will be in attendance for that afternoon's intrasquad game.

Goal standard – The Capitals have two talented goaltenders in attendance who figure to make their North American professional debuts in 2008-09: Simeon Varlamov and Michal Neuvirth. Both were selected in the first two rounds of the 2006 NHL Draft, and at least one could land with the Hershey Bears this season (another talented goaltending prospect, Daren Machesney, is under contract after spending all last season in Hershey).

Teammates and future teammates – Karl Alzner and Keith Seabrook played together in Calgary (WHL) this past season. Phil DeSimone and Greg Burke will be teammates at New Hampshire when Burke enrolls in the fall of 2009.

Wise men – The four oldest players in attendance – all 1984, '85 or '86 birthdates – are all former college players who spent at least part of last season in Hershey. Defenseman Sasha Pokulok and forwards Jay Beagle, Andrew Gordon and Steve Pinizzotto are the "veterans" at this week's camp, each having participated last year and looking to make a positive impression entering 2008-09.

Young guns – Two 2008 draft picks – John Carlson and Stefan Della Rovere – are the lone 1990 birthdates in attendance.

Happy birthday – Andrew Glass, a former prep school star who will attend Boston University this fall, will turn 19 two days after camp concludes.

NOTABLE PLAYERS BY GROUP

Group A

Karl Alzner, Francois Bouchard, Eric Mestery, Oskar Osala, Mathieu Perreault, Sasha Pokulok

Group B

Jay Beagle, Francois Bouchard, Joel Broda, John Carlson, Phil DeSimone, Andrew Gordon, Keith Seabrook

Goaltenders' groups are TBD

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ROSTER OF CAPITALS PROSPECTS AT CAMP WITH 2007-08 STATISTICS & NOTES

No.	Name	Pos.	Ht.	Wt.	Birthdate	2007-08 Team	Acquired
30	Michal Neuvirth	G	6'1"	197	3/23/88	Plymouth/Windsor/Oshawa (OHL)	Draft '06 <i>2007-08: Went 17-7-5-3 (3.12, .911) with three teams in the OHL; ninth in the league in save pct.</i>
34	Sasha Pokulok	D	6'5"	220	5/25/86	Hershey (AHL)/S. Carolina (ECHL)	Draft '05 <i>2007-08: Spent most of the year with Hershey (44 GP, 1-6-7)</i>
36	Francois Bouchard	RW	6'0"	180	4/26/88	B.-Comeau (QMJHL)/Hershey (AHL)	Draft '06 <i>2007-08: Finished eighth in the QMJHL in points (68 GP, 36-56-92)</i>
40	Simeon Varlamov	G	6'1"	183	4/27/88	Yaroslavl (Russia)	Draft '06 <i>2007-08: Top goalie for Yaroslavl in the Russian Super League, with a 2.45 GAA and 3 SO in 44 GP</i>
46	Patrick McNeill	D	6'0"	195	3/17/87	Hershey (AHL)/S. Carolina (ECHL)	Draft '05 <i>2007-08: Fourth among Hershey rookies in scoring with 1-13-14 in 48 GP</i>
47	Karl Alzner	D	6'2"	206	9/24/88	Calgary (WHL)	Draft '07 <i>2007-08: WHL Player and Defenseman of the Year; 7-29-36 and 15 PIM in 60 GP</i>
48	Oskar Osala	LW	6'4"	217	12/26/87	Blues Espoo (Finland)	Draft '06 <i>2007-08: Rookie of the Year in the Finnish League; second on his team in goals; 53 GP, 18-17-35</i>
58	Maxime Lacroix	LW	6'0"	180	6/5/87	Quebec (QMJHL)/Hershey (AHL)	Draft '06 <i>2007-08: Led team with 6 GWGs; fifth on the team in scoring with 30-32-62 in 67 GP</i>
63	Andrew Gordon	RW	5'11"	180	12/13/85	Hershey (AHL)/S. Carolina (ECHL)	Draft '04 <i>2007-08: Tied for fourth among AHL rookies in scoring with 16-35-51 in 58 GP</i>
65	Andrew Glass	LW	5'11"	180	7/14/89	Nobles (USHS)	Draft '07 <i>2007-08: Had 27-23-50 to finish second on his team in scoring</i>
67	Justin Taylor	C	5'11"	180	2/8/89	London (OHL)	Draft '07 <i>2007-08: Fifth on the team in scoring with 26-29-55 in 68 GP</i>
70	Braden Holtby	G	6'1"	205	9/16/89	Saskatoon (WHL)	Draft '08 <i>2007-08: Went 25-29-0 with a 2.45 GAA while playing 64 of the Blades' 72 games</i>
73	Josh Godfrey	D	6'0"	197	1/15/88	S. Ste. Marie (OHL)/Hershey (AHL)	Draft '07 <i>2007-08: Ranked eighth among OHL blueliners (first on his team) in points with 17-34-51 in 60 GP</i>
74	John Carlson	D	6'2"	212	1/10/90	Indiana (USHL)	Draft '08 <i>2007-08: Second among USHL defensemen in scoring with 12-31-43 in 59 games; USHL All-Star</i>
75	Phil DeSimone	C	5'11"	193	3/19/87	New Hampshire (H-East)	Draft '07 <i>2007-08: Third among UNH freshmen in scoring with 3-10-13 in 38 games</i>
79	Joel Broda	C	6'0"	196	11/24/89	Moose Jaw (WHL)	Draft '08 <i>2007-08: Recorded 30-23-53 in 70 GP; third on the team in goals and fourth in points</i>
80	Dan Dunn	G	6'4"	200	6/20/88	St. Cloud State (WCHA)	Draft '07 <i>2007-08: Went 3-2-2 (2.63, .910) as a backup in his freshman year at St. Cloud</i>
81	Brett Leffler	RW	6'0"	198	5/19/89	Regina (WHL)	Draft '07 <i>2007-08: Posted 9-5-14 in 56 games for the Pats</i>
83	Jay Beagle	C	6'3"	201	10/16/85	Hershey (AHL)	Free agent (3/26/08) <i>2007-08: Led bears rookies in goals with 19-18-37 in 64 games</i>
84	Stefan Della Rovere	LW	5'10"	196	2/25/90	Barrie (OHL)	Draft '08 <i>2007-08: Led team with 171 PIM; fifth in scoring with 13-19-32 in 68 GP</i>
85	Mathieu Perreault	C	5'8"	151	1/5/88	A.-Bathurst (QMJHL)/Hershey (AHL)	Draft '06 <i>2007-08: Led QMJHL in scoring with his second consecutive 100-point season (34-80-114 in 65 GP)</i>
86	Eric Mestery	D	6'5"	190	5/28/90	Tri-City (WHL)	Draft '08 <i>2007-08: Had 2-14-16 in 71 GP with 65 PIM</i>
89	Keith Seabrook	D	6'0"	198	8/2/88	Calgary (WHL)	Draft '06 <i>2007-08: Posted 4-13-17 in 59 games and was tied for fourth on the team at +26</i>
90	Steve Pinizzotto	RW	6'1"	195	4/26/84	Hershey (AHL)/S. Carolina (ECHL)	Free agent (3/16/07) <i>2007-08: Played 23 games in Hershey (0-4-4); recorded 15-17-32 in 40 GP with South Carolina</i>
91	Greg Burke	LW	6'1"	185	5/16/90	New Hampshire (EJHL)	Draft '08 <i>2007-08: Led the Jr. Monarchs in scoring with 21-25-46 in 40 GP; had 5-4-9 in 6 playoff games</i>