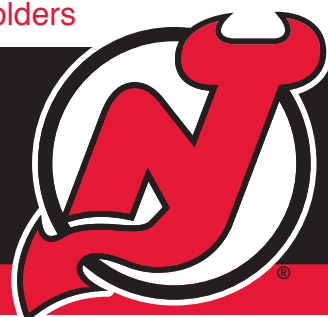


Devils Advocate



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Devils Fan Club Q&A: Travis Zajac



Zajac

F Travis Zajac met up with the Devils Fan Club last month, answering questions about the past season and his journey to the National Hockey League. [full story](#)

Emrick earns Hewitt Award

'Doc' tapped by Hockey Hall of Fame for broadcast contributions



Emrick (l.) with Devils' color analyst Glenn 'Chico' Resch broadcasting from the Fire Lounge at Prudential Center.

Mike 'Doc' Emrick has been chosen to receive the Foster Hewitt Memorial Award for outstanding contributions as a hockey broadcaster, the Hockey Hall of Fame announced.

Emrick, who is entering his 16th season (19th overall) as the television voice of the Devils, has been the lead announcer for the NHL on Versus and the NHL on NBC

since 2005. He began his hockey-broadcasting career in 1973 calling games for the IHL Port Huron Flags.

"Mike has been the pre-eminent hockey play-by-play broadcaster in the United States for many years," said Chuck Kaiton, President, NHL Broadcasters' Association. "His dedication to hockey and his enthusiasm for broadcasting make him worthy of this honor." [full story](#)



On the Tube

- The NHL Awards Show will be held at Toronto's Elgin Theatre on **Thurs., June 12** at 7 p.m. ET. Tune in to Versus for complete coverage as nominees **Martin Brodeur** (Vezina) and **John Madden** (Selke) look to bring home some NHL hardware!
- The first round of the **2008 NHL Entry Draft** is set for **Fri., June 20** at Ottawa's Scotiabank Place at 7 p.m. ET. Rounds 2-7 continue on Sat., June 21. Come out to Prudential Center for the Devils' Draft Party, or watch first-round coverage on Versus.

Watch '07-08 highlights on NJD TV!

Devils re-sign Brookbank and Mottau

The Devils have re-signed free agent defensemen Sheldon Brookbank and Mike Mottau to new contracts. The announcement was made by Devils' President, CEO, and GM Lou Lamoriello. Per club policy, no further terms were disclosed.

Brookbank, 27, completed his first NHL season/seventh pro campaign in 2007-08. He recorded eight assists in 44 appearances with New Jersey, making his season debut October 25. Brookbank also saw action in one game with the AHL's Lowell Devils.

The 6-2, 215-lb. native of Lanigan, Sask., was claimed off waivers from Columbus on October 2, 2007. Brookbank was the recipient of the 2007 Eddie Shore Award as the AHL's outstanding defenseman.

Mottau, 30, recorded four goals and 13 assists for 17 points and 48 penalty minutes during his eighth pro season. His 76 games played in 2007-08 were tops among New Jersey defensemen. Mottau signed with the Devils as a free agent on July 17, 2006. The 6'0, 190-lb. defenseman has career totals of four goals and 16



Brookbank (l.) and Mottau combined for 120 games played in 2007-08.

assists for 20 points and 61 penalty minutes in 99 games with the New York Rangers, Calgary, and New Jersey.

Mottau played four seasons at Boston College, and was the 2000

recipient of the Hobey Baker Award as the nation's top collegiate player.

The native of Quincy, Mass., was the Rangers' 10th choice, and 182nd overall selection in the 1997 NHL Entry Draft.

News & Notes

F Grant Marshall has joined the Devils' community relations staff as an alumni representative.

Marshall, 34, spent the '07-08 season with New Jersey's AHL affiliate in Lowell, scoring five goals and registering 31 assists in 65 games. He amassed 17 goals and 27 assists in 151 career games as a Devil, and was a member of the team's 2003 Stanley Cup Championship.

Marshall notched the series-clinching 3OT goal against Tampa in Game 5 of the '03 Eastern semis.



Click to send your fan pics to Devils Legion!



2008 Draft Party set for June 20



Newark's Prudential Center will be the site of this year's Devils Draft Party.

The 2008 New Jersey Devils Draft Party will take place Friday, June 20, from 7 p.m. to 10 p.m.

For the first time, the team's draft party will take place at Newark's Prudential Center. The event is open to the public free of charge, and parking will be available at the Ford Lincoln Mercury Garage for \$5.

Doors will open at 6:30 p.m., and fans can enter through the PNC Bank or Verizon Tower entrances.

Current and former Devils, as well as N.J. Devil, the team's mascot, will be on hand to sign autographs and pose for photographs. Devils/Sports Radio 66 WFAN broadcasters Matt Loughlin and Sherry Ross will host the event, and the first round of the draft will be shown live on the scoreboard, and on screens throughout the arena.

Devil Dawg, the mascot of the AHL's Lowell Devils, and Scorch, the mascot of the ECHL's Trenton Devils will also be on hand.



Fans will have the opportunity to skate on Prudential Center's practice rink (bring your own skates), and listen to interviews live from the draft floor at Ottawa's Scotiabank Place.

Other activities will include interactive games, raffles, and giveaways. A sale of Devils merchandise, as well as new and used hockey equipment will also take place.

New Jersey's previous first-round selections include: goaltender Martin Brodeur (1990), left wing Zach Parise (2003), center Travis Zajac (2004), right wing Nicklas Bergfors (2005), and defenseman Matthew Corrente (2006).

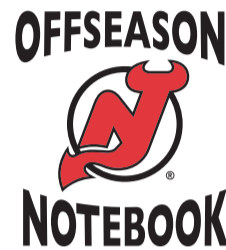
The NHL Entry Draft gives each team the opportunity to select prospects from a talent pool throughout North America and Europe, ensuring that the world's best players will compete in the NHL.

New Jersey is scheduled to select 21st in the first round, and have eight selections overall in this year's draft.

Devils sign Finnish d-man Anssi Salmela

The Devils have signed defenseman Anssi Salmela to his first North American contract. The announcement was made by Devils' President, CEO, and GM Lou Lamoriello on May 30. As per club policy, no further terms were disclosed.

Salmela, 23, recorded 16 goals and 16 assists for 32 points while appearing in all 56 games with Tappara (Fin.) in 2007-08. Among defensemen, his 16 goals scored were tops in the Finnish League.



Salmela returned to Tappara this past season after spending nearly two years with the Pelicans (Fin.).

The 5-11, 190-lb. defenseman previously played two-plus seasons with Tappara beginning in 2003-04. Salmela's Finnish League totals show 36 goals and 42 assists for 78 points and 208 penalty minutes in 226 appearances.

His European teammates included former Devils' forward Janne Ojanen (Tappara) and current prospect Vili Sopanen (Pelicans).

Internationally, Salmela represented Finland at the 2004 World Junior Championship and, most recently, the 2008 World Championship in Quebec City, Que., and Halifax, N.S.

He was born August 13, 1984 in Nokia, Fin.

Remembering the '88 playoff run

A look back at the Devils' first-ever appearance in the postseason



Twenty years ago, the Devils were a young franchise still hoping for a chance at postseason glory.

They would get that opportunity in 1988, making the playoffs for the first time in club history and coming within one win of an appearance in the '88 Stanley Cup Finals.

The last two decades have seen the Devils win three Stanley Cup championships in a span of nine seasons while winning seven Atlantic Division titles. The team's look has changed from red and green to red and black, and it now calls Newark home.

But before the Devils developed into one of the NHL's elite, they were an organization working toward postseason success.

It started with John MacLean's berth-clinching goal against Chicago in the regular season finale and continued all the way to the Wales Conference final.

Newjerseydevils.com recently took a look back at the players that were a part of that unlikely run in 1988.

[full story](#)



Patrik Sundstrom, John MacLean and Ken Daneyko (l. to r.) were integral parts of the '88 squad.