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ASSOCIATION OF AMERICAN HOCKEY LEAGUE BOOSTER CLUBS

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Rochester Americans Booster Club Among Three Inducted into Amerks Hall of Fame

Submitted by RABC...

Since the Rochester Americans are celebrating their 60th anniversary season in the American Hockey League, it's only fitting that this year's Hall of Fame class features two of the most iconic players to ever wear the sweater and an organization that has provided unwavering support for nearly half a century.

While the Amerks have made an increased effort all year long to pay tribute to the past, they will etch yet another chapter into their storied history on Friday night as they welcome Calder Cup winners Richie Dunn and Daren Puppa, in addition to the team's loyal Booster Club, as the newest members of the Amerks Hall of Fame.

The trio will be formally enshrined prior to Friday's 7:05 pm matchup against the Springfield Falcons, becoming 57th, 58th and 59th members of the prestigious club. "It's truly an honor being inducted with so many great Rochester Americans players," said Dunn, who played parts of five seasons for the Amerks from 1985-86 to 1989-90 and put together one of the all-time great runs by a Rochester blueliner.



"If you had to play in the AHL, Rochester was it with the hockey atmosphere and great fans supporting you. There really was no better place to play."

In 276 career games for Rochester, Dunn recorded 161 points on 41 goals and 120 assists, along with 226 penalty minutes. His 161 points still rank him eighth

all-time among Amerks defensemen. He also ranks seventh in both goals and assists among Rochester defensemen and served as a team captain during the 1988-89 season.

After splitting the 1985-86 campaign between the Amerks and Buffalo Sabres, Dunn posted arguably his best season in 1986-87. In 64 games, he registered 32 points on six goals and 26 assists to lead all Amerks blueliners in scoring and was named to the AHL First All-Star Team. In the postseason, he collected seven points (1+6) in 18 games to help the Amerks win the Calder Cup championship.

"The group of guys we had that year...you couldn't have asked for a better group," said Dunn in reference to the 1987 Calder Cup team.

Dunn upped his offensive contributions the following season, scoring an AHL career-high 12 goals and adding 35 assists to rank fifth on the team in scoring and tops among defensemen, earning a place on the AHL Second All-Star Team. He went on to add 58 more points (16+42) over 110 games over his final two seasons with the Amerks before retiring in 1990.

In addition to his Hall of Fame career with Rochester, Dunn spent significant time in the NHL, recording 176 points (36+140) in 483 career games with the Buffalo Sabres,

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Mission Statement

The purpose of this organization will be:

- a. To promote better understanding between Booster Clubs and the American Hockey League Organization.
- b. To Compare and attempt to alleviate problems confronting each individual Booster Club.
- c. To act as a social organization for Booster Club members.

Submitting an Article

To submit an article to this newsletter, please email it to lighthouseman2@yahoo.com with "AAHLBC Newsletter" in the subject line.

Please note: Your club must be a member of the AAHLBC in order to submit an article to this newsletter.

Editor: Bill Walch

Monsters bring Calder Cup back to Cleveland

From www.theahl.com

CLEVELAND (theahl.com) ... The Lake Erie Monsters won their first Calder Cup on Saturday night, defeating the Hershey Bears, 1-0 in overtime, in Game 4 of the American Hockey League's championship series at a sold-out Quicken Loans Arena.

[Oliver Bjorkstrand](#) scored with 1.9 seconds left in the first overtime period as the Monsters finished off the Bears, four games to none. Lake Erie completed its postseason run with 15 wins in 17 games, the best record ever for a team requiring four playoff rounds.

Bjorkstrand, a 21-year-old rookie and a third-round selection by Columbus in the 2013 NHL Entry Draft, was awarded the Jack A. Butterfield Trophy as the MVP in the Calder Cup Playoffs after totaling 10 goals and six assists for 16 points in 17 games. Bjorkstrand tied an AHL record with six game-winning goals and set a new mark with three overtime goals in a single postseason.

[Anton Forsberg](#), who made 23 saves in the Game 4 shutout, finished the postseason with a 9-0 record in his 10 appearances, a 1.34 goals-against average and a .949 save percentage.

In their first season as the top development team of the NHL's Columbus Blue Jackets, the Monsters followed up their second-place finish in the Central Division (43-22-6-5, 97 points, .638) with series wins over the Rockford IceHogs (3-0), the Grand Rapids Griffins (4-2) and the Ontario Reign (4-0) before sweeping Hershey in the Finals. Including their final 11 regular-season contests, Lake Erie went 24-4 over its final 28 games in 2015-16 en route to winning the 10th Calder Cup ever for the city of Cleveland; the original Cleveland Barons won nine titles in their existence from 1936-72, the last coming in 1964.

Attendance at Quicken Loans Arena on Saturday night was 19,665, the largest crowd ever to see a professional hockey game in the state of Ohio and the second-largest postseason crowd in American Hockey League history. For the regular season and Calder Cup Playoffs combined, a total of 7,129,963 fans attended AHL games across North America in 2015-16, the highest total ever. Lake Erie's victory brings an end to the AHL's historic 80th-anniversary season. In operation since 1936, the AHL continues to serve as the top development league for all 30 National Hockey League teams. More than 88 percent of today's NHL players are American Hockey League graduates, and more than 100 honored members of the Hockey Hall of Fame spent time in the AHL in their careers.

2016 Calder Cup Finals – Best of 7

Game 1 - June 1, 2016 - Lake Erie 4, HERSHEY 1

Game 2 - June 3, 2016 - Lake Erie 5, HERSHEY 3

Game 3 - June 6, 2016 - LAKE ERIE 3, Hershey 2

Game 4 - June 11, 2016 - LAKE ERIE 1, Hershey 0 OT



(Rochester...continued from page 1)

Calgary Flames and Hartford Whalers. He also won the Eddie Shore Award as the AHL's outstanding defenseman in 1984-85 as a member of the Binghamton Whalers.



Puppa, meanwhile, joined the Amerks in 1985-86 and played in 105 games over parts of four seasons in Rochester, compiling a record of 55-35-8, making him one of the winningest goaltenders in franchise history. His 55 victories rank 13th in Amerks history, though only one of the goalies ahead of him on the list appeared in fewer than the 105 games Puppa played in. He also recorded three shutouts along with a 3.12 goals-against average and a .894 save percentage

during an era of high-scoring hockey.

"I am looking forward to going into the Hall of Fame on Friday night," said Puppa, a fourth-round draft choice by the Buffalo Sabres in 1983. "It's going to be a special night to be inducted with my good friend and former teammate, Richie Dunn, and the Booster Club, who supported me greatly while I was in Rochester."

Puppa began his professional career with the Amerks in 1985-86 after a standout college career at RPI. The native of Kirkland Lake, Ontario, went 8-11-0 as a rookie while also making his NHL debut with the Sabres. It was the following season when Puppa emerged as a star. In 57 games during the 1986-87 regular season, he went 33-14-6 with a 2.80 goals-against average and a .900 save percentage. Those numbers earned him the honor of being the AHL First All-Star Team goaltender, becoming just the fourth Amerks netminder to earn the honor at the time. Puppa then backstopped the Amerks to the 1987 Calder Cup championship, going 10-6 during the postseason and making 31 saves in their Game 7 victory over Sherbrooke in the Final.

"Winning the Calder Cup in 1987 was a great thrill for me,"

said Puppa. "The fans in Rochester were very supportive of us and helped propel us into winning it all. "We had a great team with a good mixture of young and old players. The wisdom and experience I learned that year was immeasurable."

After going 14-8-2 in 1987-88 while splitting the season between Rochester and Buffalo, Puppa went on to spend the next 12 seasons in the NHL with the exception of two brief conditioning stints. He finished his NHL career with a record of 179-161-54 while appearing in 429 games with the Buffalo Sabres, Toronto Maple Leafs and Tampa Bay Lightning. In 1989-90, he finished as the runner-up to Hall of Famer Patrick Roy for the Vezina Trophy.

Representing the contributor category is the Amerks Booster Club. Currently celebrating its 50th season, the Club has been supporting Rochester Americans hockey and the local community in a variety of ways since its inception in 1966. The idea for the club originally came from Mike and Nancy Sullivan, who, with the help of then Amerks Head Coach and General Manager Joe Crozier, launched the Amerks Executive Club in 1966-67 for the purpose of promoting hockey, supporting the team and assisting the front office. Along the way, the club has supported countless charitable causes.

"On behalf of the Amerks Booster Club, I would like to thank the organization and Hall of Fame committee for this great honor," said Amerks Booster Club President Virginia Paddock.

Over the years, the Booster Club assisted the Amerks in a variety of ways, such as helping sell tickets at local malls, creating team awards, executing on-ice promotions like Scoro, providing food for the team during road trips and crafting personalized scrapbooks for players each year. In addition, the Meet the Players Dinner has become an annual event that every Amerks team has participated in since 1966. And when they are not cheering for the Amerks at home or on the road, members of the Booster Club are actively involved in the community, raising money and assisting others.



Booster Club Happenings

The **Albany Devils Booster Club** will hold its annual picnic on August 14th.

The **Binghamton Senators Booster Club** collected items for Mike Brodeur and his family (in particular, hockey items from his days with any team - Binghamton, Rochester, Elmira or any other city). Mike and his family lost everything in the Alberta fires...The Binghamton Senators Booster Club held its annual picnic at a recent Binghamton Mets baseball game. Before the game, attendees were treated to an all-you-can-eat picnic. Attendees were able to indulge on barbeque favorites for an hour and a half. The menu consisted of items like chicken speidies, hot dogs, hamburgers, potato chips, baked beans, desserts, water and unlimited soda. After the food, the gang moved to their seats to watch the Mets take on the Portland Sea Dogs.



The **Bridgeport Sound Tigers Booster Club** recently attended its annual Bridgeport Bluefish baseball game.

The **Chicago Wolves Booster Club** will attend their annual night at a Schaumburg Boomers baseball game on August 5. It is Star Wars Night! There will be post game fireworks, plus a prize wheel from WBIG.

The **Hershey Bears Booster Club** is helping to sponsor a five day cruise to Bermuda in September, 2017 with Royal Caribbean Cruise Lines and Boscov Travel...HBBC raffles and events raised an astounding amount of money (\$38,317) during the 2015-2016 season. This allowed them to make many monetary donations to organizations like the Ronald McDonald House of Central PA (\$8,700), Four Diamonds Fund of Central PA (\$8,700), Autism Society of Harrisburg (\$5,100), Susquehanna Service Dogs (\$3,087), American Cancer Society (\$3,087), Hunter's Hope (\$1,192), Allegheny Valley School (\$1,000), C A T R (\$1,000), Cops for K.O.P.S. (\$1,000), Hospice of Central PA (\$1,000), Jimmy V Foundation for Cancer Research (\$1,000), Silence of Mary (\$1,000), Pink Hands of Hope (\$650), Bethesda Mission (\$646), Central Pennsylvania Food Bank (\$555), Hockey Camp for one local youth (\$350) and to the Association of AHL Booster Club Convention Charity (not yet named) (\$250).

The **Lehigh Valley Phantom Phan Club** recently attended a Lehigh Valley Iron Pigs baseball game...The LVPPC summer picnic is set for August 20.

The **Manchester Monarchs Booster Club** will hold its annual cookout on August 13...MMBC election results:

President: Noelle Clark
Vice President: Mandi Koodin
Secretary: Michelle Comeau
Treasurer: Mary-Lynn Belforti
Member at Large: Melissa Leccese

The **Rochester Americans Booster Club** will hold its annual summer picnic on August 14...RABC election results:

President: Thomas David
Vice President: Mark Polizzi
Secretary: Mary Blik
Treasurer: Ann Paddock
Membership: Chris Spangenburg

The **San Antonio Rampage Booster Club** will be participating in the Foam Glow 5K event on September 9...Over the last season, the SARBC helped organizations like Operation Comfort, San Antonio Youth Hockey, World Car Valor Games, San Antonio Food Bank and participated in the 2015 Foam Glow 5K and Walk for ALS...SARBC election results:

President: Phil Hallberg
Vice President: David Evans
Treasurer: John Shipley
Secretary: Vicki Foster
Constitution: Donna Evans
Membership: Ilona Shipley
Events: Laura Read
Hospitality: Tory Christopher
Communications: Cody Klein

The **Wilkes-Barre/Scranton Penguins Booster Club** will gather at Art n Vino on August 13 for a fun evening of painting and socializing.



Around the AHL

From www.theahl.com

Springfield, MA Loses Team to Tucson, AZ

The Arizona Coyotes announced today that the Club's American Hockey League (AHL) affiliate will be called the Tucson Roadrunners. The team's name and logo were revealed by Coyotes' President and CEO Anthony LeBlanc at an open house event at the Tucson Convention Center.



"We are very proud to name our AHL affiliate the Tucson Roadrunners," said LeBlanc. "The Tucson Roadrunners will build on the great traditions of hockey in Arizona dating back to 1967. Roadrunners was the overwhelming fan favorite during our 'Name the Team' contest, and we thank the thousands of fans who helped us select a great name that creates a strong connection to the City of Tucson, reflects our state pride, and extends the reach of the Coyotes brand."

The Tucson Roadrunners' primary logo features design elements that convey a new brand personality for the AHL team while maintaining a connection with the highly regarded Arizona Coyotes logo. The Roadrunners logo features a fierce bird that is ready for game action, wearing a hockey uniform, skates and carrying a hockey stick. The hockey sweater on the roadrunner includes the flag of Arizona (in Coyotes colors) which is also used by the Coyotes as a shoulder patch on the team's jerseys. The roadrunner's head, tail, gloves and striping on his jersey, pants and socks are all copper in reference to Arizona's nickname "Copper State," which celebrates the fabulous mineral wealth in Tucson and Arizona. While today the Tucson Mountains are largely protected within the confines of the Saguaro National Park and the Tucson Mountain Park, they once were mined extensively for copper, gold, silver, lead and other metallic elements. The Coyotes colors of Brick Red, Desert Sand and black embody the logo, along with copper, and reflect the symmetry between the Coyotes and the Roadrunners teams.

The Roadrunners name has a rich tradition in the state of Arizona. In 1967, the Phoenix Roadrunners of the Western Hockey League (WHL) became Arizona's first professional sports team. They played hockey at the Veterans Memorial Coliseum in Phoenix. The Roadrunners were the WHL champions in both 1973 and 1974. When the WHL disbanded in 1974, the Roadrunners became a part of the World Hockey Association (WHA), and subsequently the Pacific Hockey League (PHL) until 1979. Ten years later, in 1989, the Roadrunners were back as part of the International Hockey League (IHL) and remained in the Valley until 1997. The Roadrunners returned to Phoenix in 2005 as a member of the ECHL until 2009.

The Tucson Roadrunners will begin the 2016-17 AHL season in October.

From www.theahl.com

Portland Team Moves to Springfield, MA

Springfield's new American Hockey League franchise will take the ice for the upcoming 2016-17 season as the Springfield Thunderbirds. With hockey fans and local dignitaries looking on from center ice seats at the MassMutual Center, team officials announced the new name through a pulsating two-minute video on the arena's state of the art LED scoreboard.



"The Springfield Thunderbirds' name represents the strength and pride of western Massachusetts. It is a nod to our hockey past, a tribute to the men and woman of the Air Force who are so vital to this region, and a symbol of the new energy and spirit that is palpable in Springfield," said Nathan Costa, the Thunderbirds Executive Vice-President.

Thunderbirds is an allusion to two previous Springfield AHL hockey team names, the Indians and the Falcons. The name refers to the animal of Native American legend that creates thunder and lightning by flapping its massive wings. Like the falcon, it is also a fierce bird of prey. The name also refers to the famous demonstration planes of the U.S. Air Force and serves as an homage to Barnes Air National Guard Base and the Westover Air Reserve Base, in Westfield and Chicopee respectively.

The announcement follows a "name the team" campaign that solicited suggestions from the public in a survey coordinated in partnership with MassLive and the Springfield Republican. The survey received over 2,600 responses.

"We would like to thank the thousands of fans who participated in this survey. We were overwhelmed by the creativity and enthusiasm of those who submitted suggestions. Our fans wanted a name that honored the proud history of AHL hockey in Springfield while at the same time reflecting the new energy and excitement of this franchise. We believe the Thunderbirds captures this spirit," commented Costa.

The logo features a bird's head in bright blue with a curved beak against a background of red and yellow. The team's name is picked out in yellow and white.

In coordination with the team name announcement, the franchise also launched its new website, www.SpringfieldThunderbirds.com.



Board of Governors concludes Annual Meeting

From www.theahl.com (July 7, 2016)

SPRINGFIELD, Mass. ... The American Hockey League's Board of Governors has concluded its 2016 Annual Meeting, held this week at Hilton Head Island, S.C.

Chaired by AHL President and CEO David Andrews, the four days of meetings, which concluded today, included presentations from National Hockey League Deputy Commissioner Bill Daly, USA Hockey and the Professional Hockey Players' Association.

The Board has approved the following items to be implemented beginning in 2016-17:

Playing Schedule/Standings:

The 2016-17 regular season will consist of 1,116 games, played between October 12 and April 16. All teams will play 76 games each with the exception Bakersfield, Ontario, San Diego, San Jose, Stockton and Tucson, who will play 68 games each. The full league schedule will be announced later this summer.

- Teams will receive two points for a win and one point for an overtime or shootout loss. The top four teams in each division ranked by points percentage (points earned divided by points available) will qualify for the 2017 Calder Cup Playoffs.
- The 2017 Calder Cup Playoffs will feature a divisional playoff format, leading to conference finals and ultimately the Calder Cup Finals. The division semifinals are best-of-five series; all subsequent rounds are best-of-seven.
- Teams will wear light jerseys at home until the Christmas break, and dark jerseys at home after the Christmas break.

Rule 46 ("Fighting")/Rule 23 ("Game Misconducts"):

- Players who enter into a fight prior to, at, or immediately



following the drop of the puck for a faceoff will be assessed an automatic game misconduct in addition to other penalties assessed.

- During the regular season, any player who incurs his 10th fighting major shall be suspended automatically for one (1) game. For each subsequent fighting major up to 13, the player shall also be suspended automatically for one (1) game.
- During the regular season, any player who incurs his 14th fighting major shall be suspended automatically for two (2) games. For each subsequent fighting major, the player shall also be suspended automatically for two (2) games.
- In any instance where the opposing player was assessed an instigator penalty, the fighting major shall not count towards the player's total for this rule.

Rule 82 ("Icing"):

- In addition to not being permitted to make player substitutions, the offending team on an icing violation also may not use its team time-out.

Rule 1.10 ("Ice Cleaning"):

- The ice cleaning procedures used during promotional timeouts will also be used prior to overtime during the regular season, replacing the "dry scrape."

In operation since 1936, the AHL continues to serve as the top development league for all 30 National Hockey League teams. More than 88 percent of today's NHL players are American Hockey League graduates, and more than 100 honored members of the Hockey Hall of Fame spent time in the AHL in their careers. In 2015-16, over 7.1 million fans attended AHL regular-season and playoff games across North America, the highest total attendance in league history.





2016 Convention Photo Contest



Join the AAHLBC's 7th Annual Convention Photo Contest. We are looking for the funniest photo from Convention 2016 Springfield. The winner will receive a \$20 gift card to a national chain restaurant of their choosing and their photo will be featured in the September/October edition of Faceoff, as well as, the Association of AHL Booster Clubs Recap Video (by Dennis Gottesman).

All entries must be submitted to Bill Walch at lighthouseman2@yahoo.com, no later than September 30, 2016 by 12:00 noon eastern. Photo must have been taken by the submitter. Photos that have captions written on them and/or altered (i.e. designs, graphics, Photoshop, etc, with the exception of dates that automatically show up on digital photos) or are obscene in nature in ANY way, shape or form will NOT be considered. Submitted photos must be taken at Convention 2016 or any Convention 2016 related event in order to be considered. **Two photos per person maximum.**



AAHLBC Convention DVD Order Form



To purchase a copy (one DVD) of the AAHLBC Convention Recap videos, contact Dennis Gottesman. Ten percent of DVD sales will be donated to this year's convention charity. DVD orders must be postmarked **no later than** Nov. 30th, 2016 & DVD's will be shipped out soon after.

Please circle the convention years you would like on your DVD:

2016 Springfield

2015 Albany/Utica

2014 Pittsburgh

2013 Rochester

2012 Cleveland

2011 Hershey

2010 Binghamton

2009 Baltimore

_____ **Number of copies you are requesting.**

\$15 Each DVD

\$_____ **Total Amount Due**

Please mail your DVD order to: Dennis Gottesman, 25 N. Lancaster St, 1st Flr, Jonestown, PA 17038

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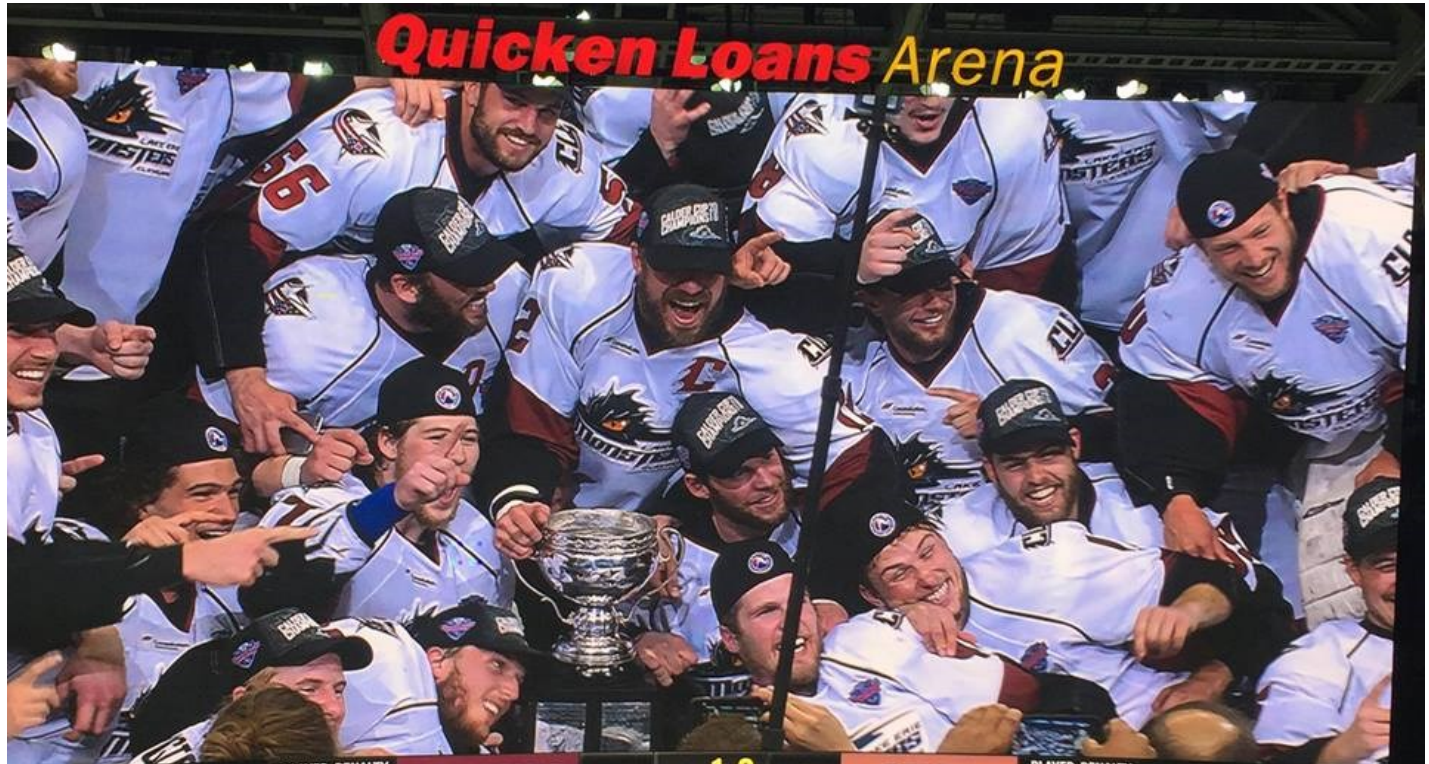
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If you have any questions regarding DVD sales, you can contact Dennis Gottesman via email at icecold061@gmail.com or by phone (717) 991-2037.

PLEASE DO NOT MAIL CASH!!!

Congratulations!!!

Quicken Loans Arena



PLAYER PENALTY	MONSTERS	1	1.9	0	BEARS	PLAYER PENALTY
	SHOTS 33 SAVES 23		PERIOD OT		SHOTS 23 SAVES 32	

