

OIL COUNTRY

VOLUME 2 | ISSUE 15



**SHIRTS
OFF OUR
BACKS**
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**83 MATT
BENNING**



EDMONTON OILERS vs PHILADELPHIA FLYERS

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 14, 2018 |  **ROGERS PLACE.**



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INSIDE OIL COUNTRY

THE OFFICIAL MAGAZINE OF THE EDMONTON OILERS



9 THE GLOBAL GAME

The Oilers had the honour of opening the 2018-19 season abroad in Gothenburg, Sweden for the NHL Global Series as they took on the New Jersey Devils. The trip, which also included an exhibition game in Cologne, Germany, was a showcase of Oilers fandom on an international stage as hundreds of supporters travelled from North America to enjoy the unique opportunity, while loyalists living in Europe finally got to cheer their team on in person.

41 HOCKEY FIGHTS CANCER

Throughout the month of November, all 31 NHL teams participated in the Hockey Fights Cancer campaign, with the Oilers hosting their game night on Sunday, Nov. 18 against the Vegas Golden Knights. The evening featured an emotional ceremonial faceoff with 13-year-old Ava DeGannes, who battled osteogenic sarcoma, as well as Oilers and Golden Knights players, coaches and support staff displaying "I Fight For" cards with personal names and causes written on them.

53 ALL ABOUT MOSS

Iconic Oilers dressing room attendant Joey Moss was celebrated for his 35th anniversary with the team and his 55th birthday at the Edmonton Oilers Community Foundation's second annual Iron & Frost Gala on Thursday, Nov. 15 at Rogers Place. The gala featured a dinner, hot-stove panels with current and former players and a mock casino with present-day Oilers serving as dealers. Proceeds were directed to the Edmonton Down Syndrome Society and Special Olympics Edmonton.

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FREEZE FRAME

It was another home opener for the ages as the Oilers made their 2018-19 Rogers Place debut on Oct. 18 against the Boston Bruins! Kailer Yamamoto scored his first NHL goal, Ryan Nugent-Hopkins also tallied in regulation and Connor McDavid set up Leon Draisaitl for the thrilling overtime winner as Edmonton was victorious 3-2 in front of a raucous home crowd. The victory was part of the Oil's red-hot 5-1-1 stretch during the opening month.





630 | CHED

AFTERNOON NEWS

WITH J'LYN NYE & ANDREW GROSE
WEEKDAYS 2:00PM - 6:00PM



ROSTER 101

19 MIKKO KOSKINEN

HOMETOWN: I'm from a city called Vaanta. It's 50 minutes away from Helsinki.

NICKNAME: Guys used to call me Kossu, since I was 10 years old. Here, they call me Mik or Kosk.

WHY DO YOU WEAR #19? I got 19 when I was a little kid. They just gave me that number. I was wearing that my whole junior years and then when I went to the KHL.

IF YOU COULD HAVE DINNER WITH ANYONE, DEAD OR ALIVE, WHO WOULD IT BE? Roger Federer

WHAT IS YOUR MOST PRIZED POSSESSION? My first Gagarin Cup (KHL championship).

WHAT IS YOUR SECRET TALENT? I don't really have one... just goaltending.

HOW DO YOU LIKE TO SPEND YOUR OFF DAYS? Spending time with my family and playing with my son.

WHAT IS YOUR GREATEST HOCKEY MEMORY? When we won the first Gagarin Cup with SKA Saint Petersburg in 2015.



FAVOURITES

SPORT OTHER THAN HOCKEY? TENNIS

TV SHOW? HOUSE OF CARDS

VACATION DESTINATION? GREECE

HOME-COOKED MEAL? LASAGNA

EMOJI? MUSCLE FLEX

ROAD CITY? CHICAGO



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THE GLOBAL GAME

BY RYAN FRANKSON

IT WAS THE PERFECT NHL GLOBAL SERIES MOMENT.

As if eight-year-old Isak Axelsson's day could have gotten any better.

Decked out in his brand new Global Series hat and bright orange and blue Edmonton Oilers hoodie, Isak and his mom had arrived at a Gothenburg pizza café a couple of blocks away from the Scandinavium arena.

They had just finished watching Isak's hockey heroes skate during their open practice at the Scandinavium, one day prior to their first 2018-19 regular season game against the New Jersey Devils.

Hockey. Pizza. Quality time with mom. How do you improve on that?

Enter Swedish-born defencemen Oscar Klefbom and Adam Larsson, arriving at the café to shoot an episode of Oilers TV's new series The Drill.

Oilers Senior Director of Hockey Communications J.J. Hebert was part of the contingent for the video shoot and noticed Isak and his mom in the café as Klefbom and Larsson took their seats and were prepped for their interview.

continued on page 10



Hebert brought Isak over to meet the Oilers players and as the youngster approached the defensive duo with wide eyes and a big smile, he asked them the burning question he had circulating in his mind.

“Do you know where Connor McDavid is?”

Classic. Klefbom, Larsson and everyone else sitting around the table enjoyed a collective chuckle before Oscar had to break the news to Isak that the Oilers captain wouldn't be joining them for lunch and they didn't know where he was at the time.

Though Isak was a little bit disappointed he didn't get to meet the two-time defending Art Ross Trophy and Ted Lindsay Award winner, he was beaming from ear to ear as Klefbom and Larsson signed his Oilers gear and took some photos with him after Oscar scooped him up off the floor and plopped him down between them in the booth.

At first, the Oilers players assumed their new little buddy was visiting Gothenburg from Edmonton, likely as part one of the many tour groups who made the journey to Germany and Sweden to watch the Global Series games. They were pleasantly surprised to find out that Isak was in fact a local and has been following the Oilers all the way from Sweden.

They conversed a bit more in their native language before Isak and his mom said goodbye to the Oilers players and returned to their table.

“I get this question a lot,” laughed Klefbom, reflecting on Isak's inquiry regarding the whereabouts of their superstar teammate.

“Even if we were playing in my hometown (Karlstad, which is about a three-hour drive from Gothenburg) it would be, ‘Hey, Oscar, where's Connor?’ That's just how it is. I would be the same, so I don't blame them.”

The endearing interaction between the pint-sized Oilers fan and two players from his favourite team was an appropriate microcosm of what the Global Series is all about – engaging with international hockey fans and raising the NHL's profile outside of its immediate demographic in Canada and the United States.

In September, the Calgary Flames and Boston Bruins played a pair of exhibition games in China as the NHL continues to embrace that rapidly-growing hockey market. Then, it was the Oilers and Devils turn to log some long hours on an airplane as they headed to Europe.

New Jersey's first stop was Switzerland as they played their final pre-season game against SC Bern in 2017 first-overall pick Nico Hischier's homeland before travelling north to Sweden to take on the Oil in the opener. Edmonton's final tune-up game was contested in Cologne, Germany, hometown of Leon Draisaitl, whose father Peter coached the Oilers opponent for the exhibition affair, the Kölner Haie.

The Oilers stayed right in the heart of Cologne for their four days in Deutschland, directly across the street from the train station and the city's famous cathedral. Each day, more and more Oilers jerseys could be spotted in the area, and by the time Wednesday's game rolled around, a crowd of about 100 fans gathered outside of the team hotel to bid the Oilers adieu as they departed for Lanxess Arena.

That impressive display was just the start of the German fandomium as a sold-out crowd of 18,400 packed the largest hockey arena outside of North America and made the foundation shake throughout the Edmonton vs. Cologne matchup with raucous cheering.

"The fans like to be loud, they like to bring their drums and just chant the whole game," said Tobias Rieder, the other German on the Oilers roster who grew up in Landshut, about a five-hour drive from Cologne.

One of the loudest crowd eruptions came when Draisaitl set up his fellow countryman Rieder for the game's opening goal, paving the way for a thrilling 4-3 overtime victory for the visiting squad from Edmonton. Some Oilers players had prior experience with European crowds, having played in IIHF events earlier in their careers, but they were still blown away by the boisterous supporters.

"That was one of my favourite hockey memories to date," said Ryan Strome, who scored the game-winning goal with a crafty redirect during the sudden-death frame. "It's great for the game and great to see how much they love their team here... It's not every day we get that kind of experience, so we made sure to soak it in."

"The fans were unbelievable," echoed the team captain McDavid. "It was a fun environment to play in. They were loud. I'm sure the game and the score helped that. They were really, really fun to play in front of. European fans usually are."

"The atmosphere in the stands, the different emotion in the stands that we don't experience as much at home with the singing and that type of stuff... it was a great experience for our players," added Oilers Head Coach Todd McLellan.

Next stop: Gothenburg for the season opener against the Devils and even more NHL fanfare with not one but two big league teams converging on Sweden's second-largest city. Several hundred enthusiasts flocked to the Scandinavium for New Jersey and Edmonton's open practices the day before their game – a healthy mix of Oilers fans who live in Europe and those from Edmonton who joined one of the many Global Series tours.

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The Oilers spearheaded one of those tours for fans in the Edmonton area, with Season Seat Holders getting the first opportunity to purchase the Germany and Sweden package. Spots didn't last long, according to OEG Executive Vice President Stew MacDonald.

"We thought, it's our first chance to go over to Europe to kick off a regular season in the franchise's story and there may be a few Oilers fans who may want to go," said MacDonald, who joined the group on the Euro trip. "We partnered with a travel company and thought there might be 20 or 30 seats sold, but we wanted to provide them with the opportunity. Within a day, all 100 seats had been spoken for."

Richard Carignan, an Oilers Season Seat Holder for the last 12 years, was one of the fired-up fans who jumped at the opportunity to cheer on his team abroad while also seeing the sights of Amsterdam, Cologne and Gothenburg.

"Right away we said let's go," said Carignan, sporting his bright orange McDavid jersey shirt during one of the group outings at a Cologne restaurant and beer hall. "We love watching the Oilers and this was the trip of a lifetime. We didn't want to miss it."

For some Oilers fans on the trip, the chance to have an international experience with their team was supplemented by some meaningful personal connections.

"It's been a dream of mine to watch them play in Sweden," said Mary-Lou Sinclair, another Oilers Season Seat Holder. "My ancestors are from Sweden and we are such Oilers fans so we didn't think twice about this opportunity."

No matter how far they travelled to be there or what their motivations were, Oilers fans were out in full force at both NHL Global Series games, providing their team with a home-away-home-ice advantage.

"You look at it from both sides," said MacDonald. "It's cool to be here and have European fans wearing their Oilers jerseys who are following the team and fans of the team from thousands of miles away. But to have this many fans say hey, this is going to be my vacation this year, I'm going to jump on a plane, come over to see a bit of Europe but be there for two games for the Oilers and, most importantly, the regular season kick-off, really feels good for not just us as an organization, but even the players have commented extensively about it, having the orange jersey in the stands in both of these cities."

Unfortunately for the Swedish Oilers players, the team wasn't able to cap off the trip with a win over the Devils – in front of 12,000+ at the Scandinavium – but they didn't let the result sour an experience they wouldn't have even imagined possible a short time ago.

Klefbon and Larsson agreed the NHL's popularity in their home country has skyrocketed since they entered the league, due in large part to increased online accessibility to games and highlights.

"It's crazy... if we would have come here even five years ago, Connor wouldn't be that big like he is today," said Klefbon, shortly after the comical interaction with the diminutive Oilers fan Isak. "It's crazy to see how big of an impact social media has had and how easy it is now to see highlights, to see games online. It's crazy how fast the league has just exploded over here."

Neither Klefbon nor Larsson watched a big league game in its entirety until they traveled to North America for their respective World Juniors experiences, Larsson in Buffalo in 2011 and Klefbon in Edmonton and Calgary the following year.

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The blueliners said when they were growing up it was much tougher for people in Europe to be fans of the NHL, considering the majority of games were contested in the wee morning hours local time.

"I did not follow the NHL too much to be honest with you," admitted Larsson. "When you're a kid, you're kind of looking up to the local hockey players. Or that's what I did, at least. Our hometown team. NHL was so hard to see on TV, being up at night. You just didn't do that as a kid. I didn't get into the NHL until I was probably 15 or 16.

"The NHL is getting more popular over here the last couple of years. Nowadays, it's so much easier to watch highlights and games."

"Back in the day, you couldn't stay up all night to watch an NHL game and then go to school," added Klefbom. "That was probably the biggest difference. I would have probably seen a lot of NHL games if it was like today and you had the option to stream the games whenever you want.

"It's not the same nowadays. Young players are looking up to Connor, Crosby, Ovechkin. We didn't really do that. It was so hard for us to follow."

Klefbom said his childhood hockey heroes played just down the road from him, rather than across the Atlantic Ocean.

"If someone asked me when I was younger, 'If you could dream a little, where do you see yourself in a couple years?' it was not the NHL," he said. "It was Färjestad, my hometown team. That was the deal. But the older you got, the more you learned about the NHL, the big league overseas. It was so far away but then when you start getting older and playing with the national team and getting more information about what's happening overseas, you start figuring out, 'that's where I want to be, that's where I want to end up.'"

NHL Deputy Commissioner Bill Daly spoke in Cologne as the Oilers played their Global Series Challenge game against Peter Draisaitl's club. He said the league is committed to engaging with more international fans and introducing the NHL to fledgling hockey markets.

"The buzz that a National Hockey League team and a National Hockey League game can create can do a lot for the sport, can lift the sport, can lift the importance and relevance of the sport," said Daly.

"There are markets where hockey is relevant and significant but may not be the most popular or among the most popular sports. And then there are markets where we want hockey to be relevant and we want to kind of plant the seeds."

It's only a matter of time until there are mini fans like Isak Axelsson all over the world, cheering on their favourite hockey team from afar and hoping to one day have a chance encounter with their hockey heroes. 💧

PS4

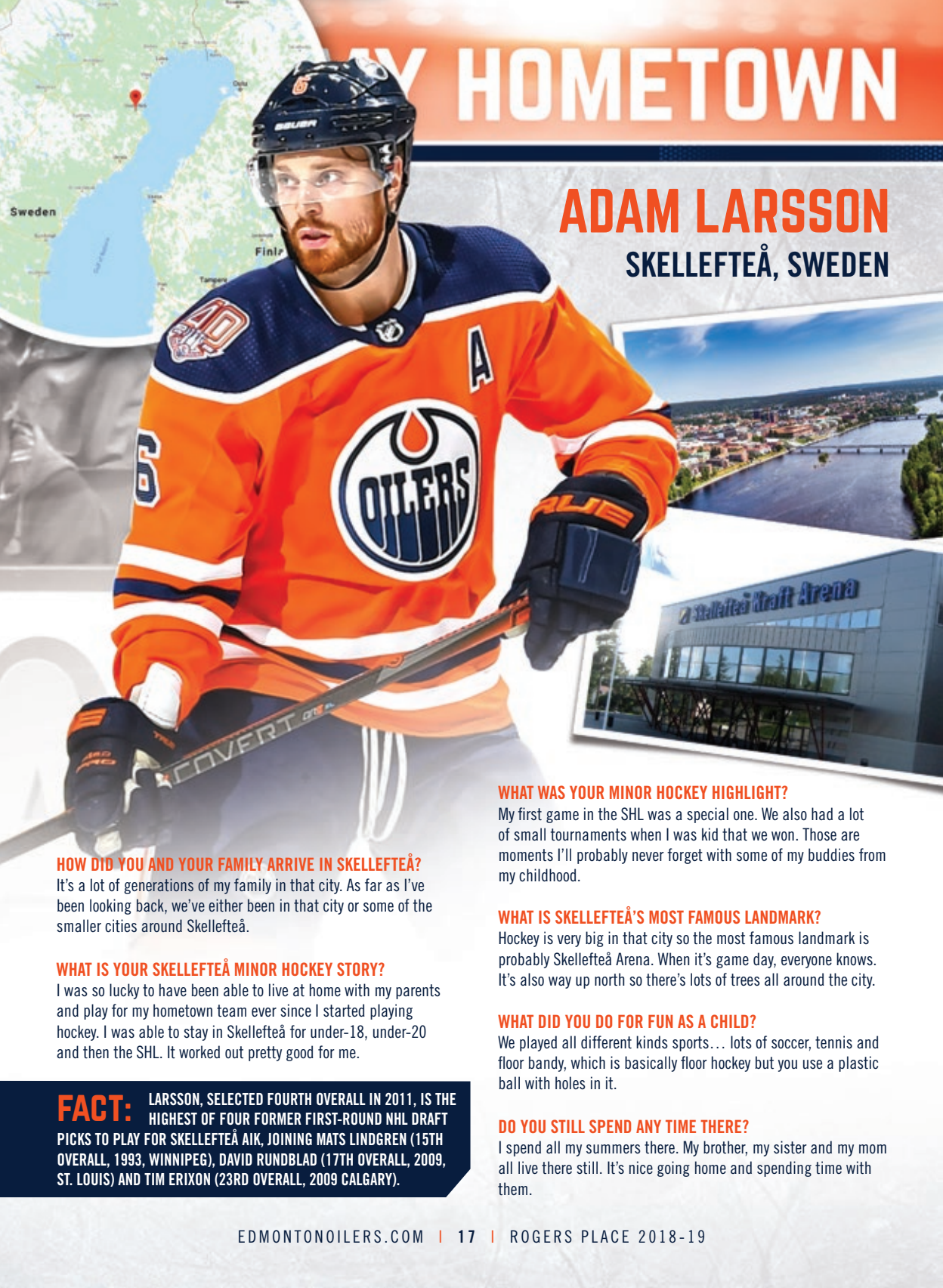
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MY HOMETOWN

ADAM LARSSON SKELLEFTEÅ, SWEDEN

HOW DID YOU AND YOUR FAMILY ARRIVE IN SKELLEFTEÅ?

It's a lot of generations of my family in that city. As far as I've been looking back, we've either been in that city or some of the smaller cities around Skellefteå.

WHAT IS YOUR SKELLEFTEÅ MINOR HOCKEY STORY?

I was so lucky to have been able to live at home with my parents and play for my hometown team ever since I started playing hockey. I was able to stay in Skellefteå for under-18, under-20 and then the SHL. It worked out pretty good for me.

FACT: LARSSON, SELECTED FOURTH OVERALL IN 2011, IS THE HIGHEST OF FOUR FORMER FIRST-ROUND NHL DRAFT PICKS TO PLAY FOR SKELLEFTEÅ AIK, JOINING MATS LINDGREN (15TH OVERALL, 1993, WINNIPEG), DAVID RUNDBLAD (17TH OVERALL, 2009, ST. LOUIS) AND TIM ERIXON (23RD OVERALL, 2009 CALGARY).

WHAT WAS YOUR MINOR HOCKEY HIGHLIGHT?

My first game in the SHL was a special one. We also had a lot of small tournaments when I was kid that we won. Those are moments I'll probably never forget with some of my buddies from my childhood.

WHAT IS SKELLEFTEÅ'S MOST FAMOUS LANDMARK?

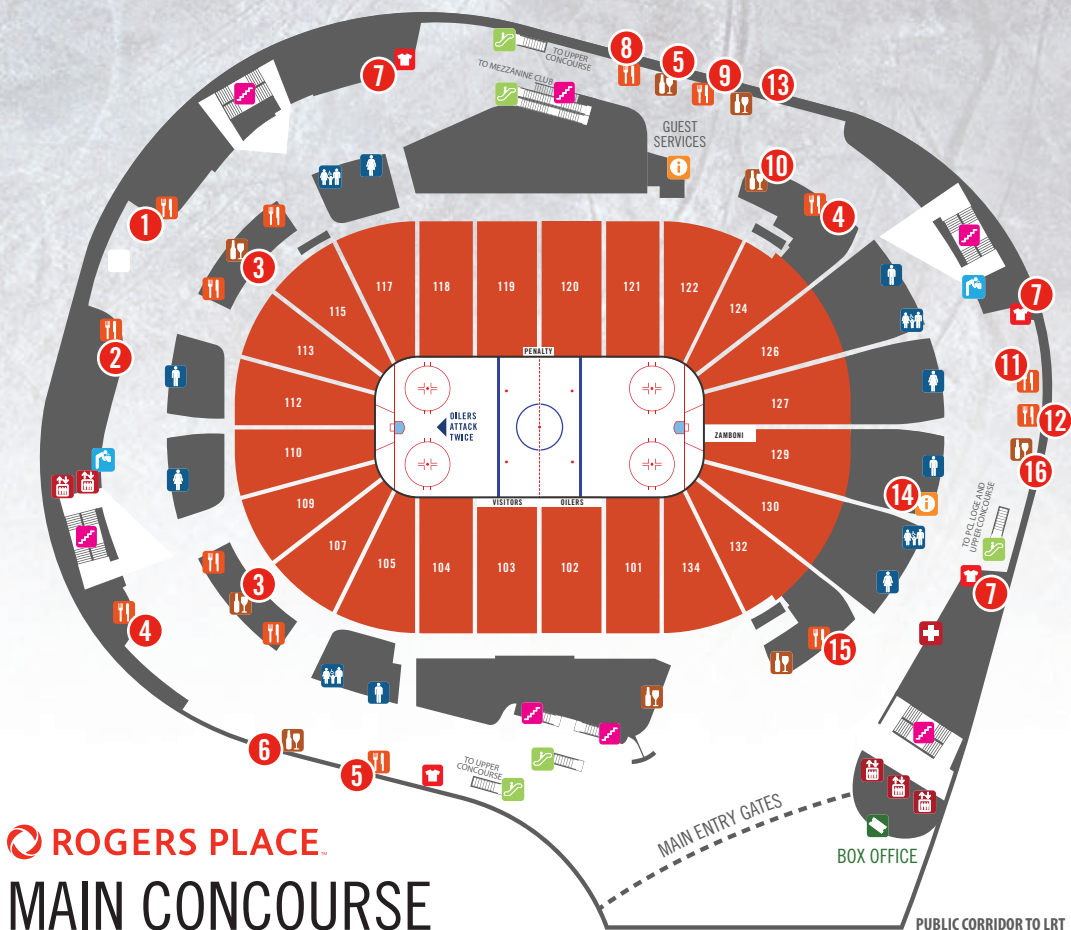
Hockey is very big in that city so the most famous landmark is probably Skellefteå Arena. When it's game day, everyone knows. It's also way up north so there's lots of trees all around the city.

WHAT DID YOU DO FOR FUN AS A CHILD?

We played all different kinds sports... lots of soccer, tennis and floor bandy, which is basically floor hockey but you use a plastic ball with holes in it.

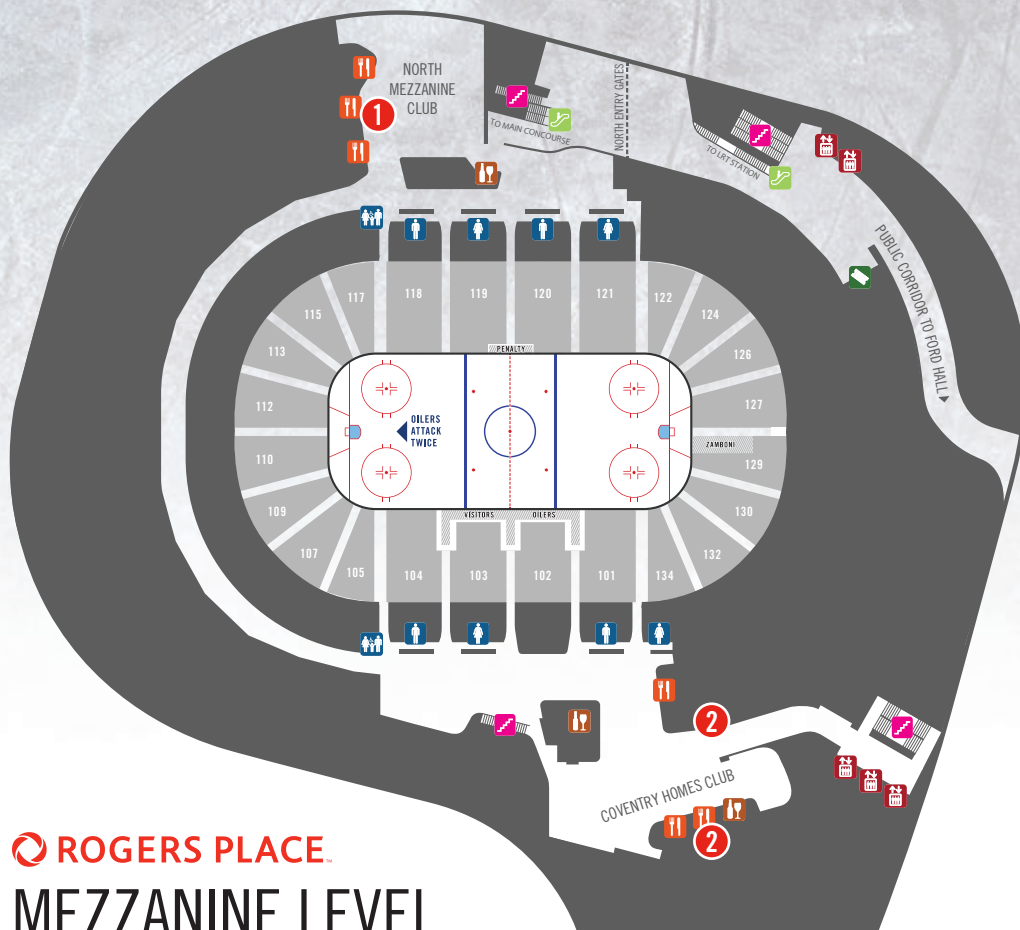
DO YOU STILL SPEND ANY TIME THERE?

I spend all my summers there. My brother, my sister and my mom all live there still. It's nice going home and spending time with them.



ROGERS PLACE. MAIN CONCOURSE

- 1 BOBBY NICK'S GRILL**
Inspired by Bob Nicholson, this is our take on the gourmet burger and a must-try item.
- 2 104 AVE FOOD CO.**
104 Ave Food Co. is a treat for the senses! Combining fan favourites options and delicious signature dishes, you're sure to find something for everyone.
- 3 MOLSON CANADIAN FAN DECK**
Chef attended carving stations creates a unique and sophisticated experience. This upgraded food and beverage location let's guests know they are in for something special.
- 4 PIZZA 73**
Not only does Pizza 73 have the most popular flavours of pizza but it also has a rotating monthly feature pizza that everyone needs to try!
- 5 DRAUGHT**
Rogers Place has a wide selection of draught beer to choose.
- 6 LINK 72**
Link 72 is an innovative take on a classic fan favourite. Our signature dogs have something for every fan.
- 7 THE OILERS STORE**
- 8 ALBERTA SMOKED**
To celebrate Alberta beef, our chefs pick the choicest local cuts, smoke them in house and hand carve them. Enjoy!
- 9 URBAN CURRY**
Curry done the Rogers Place way. This modern take on Indian cuisine will offer guests a taste that is both unique and delicious.
- 10 MOTT'S CAESAR HOUSE**
You can't mess with perfection and here we keep the Caesar classic.
- 11 ICE CAFÉ**
Everyone has a sweet tooth and we want to tempt yours with our freshly baked warm cookies and edible cookie dough.
- 12 HIGH LEVEL NACHOS**
As the name suggests, nacho fans will love this spot! Enjoy this arena favourite with a variety of premium toppings, including smoked brisket and pulled pork.
- 13 DRAUGHT**
Rogers Place has a wide selection of draught beer to choose.
- 14 GUEST SERVICES**
- 15 WHYTE AVE BISTRO**
A high-quality spin on fan favourites where culinary innovation fuels the experience.
- 16 WRAPPED**
Convenient and fresh options including salads, wraps, and fruit for everyone in the family.



ROGERS PLACE. MEZZANINE LEVEL

MEZZANINE CLUBS

Two unique clubs situated at either side of the ice, the North Mezzanine Club and the Coventry Homes Club, provide a lounge-like atmosphere complete with a private full-service bar and variety of culinary options.

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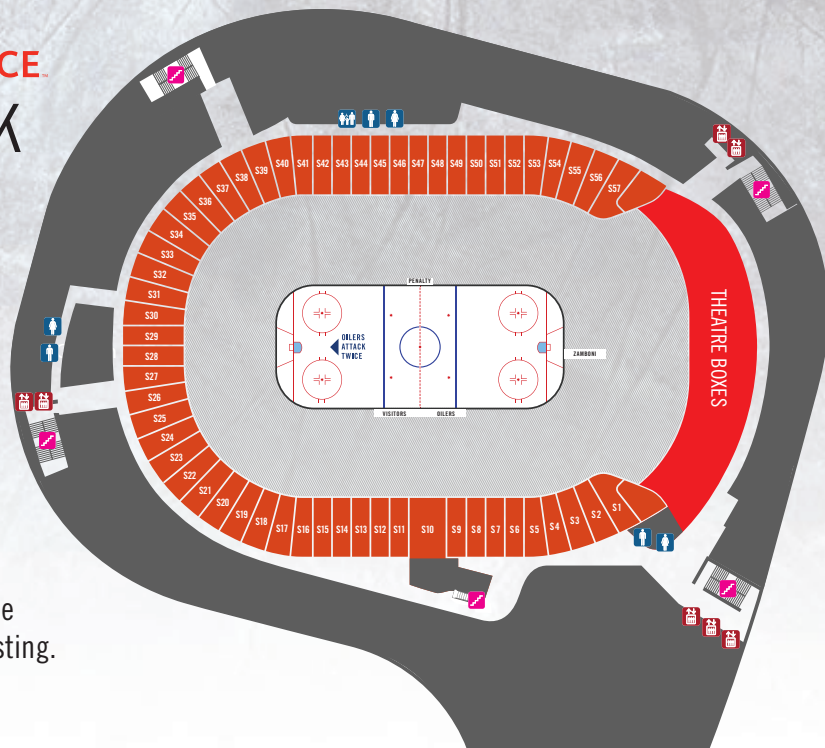
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SCOTIABANK SUITES LEVEL

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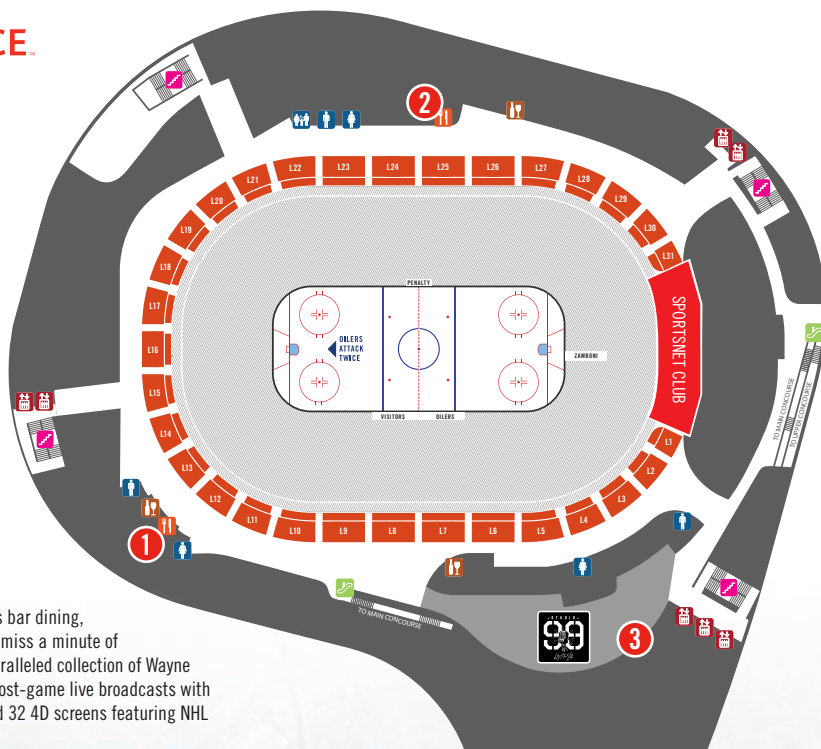


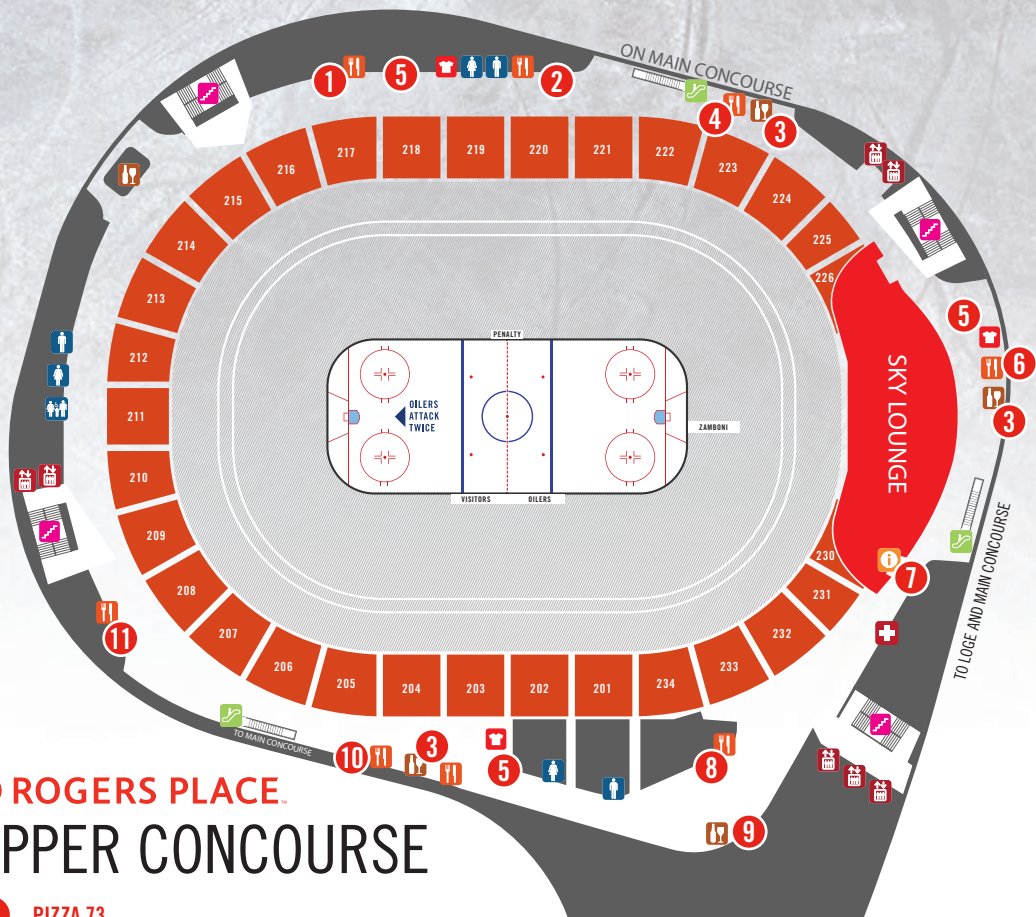
PCL LOGE LEVEL

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2 RIVER VALLEY GRILL
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3 STUDIO 99
Located inside Rogers Place, Studio 99 offers elevated sports bar dining, buffet style to ensure you don't miss a minute of the game. Showcasing an unparalleled collection of Wayne Gretzky memorabilia, pre and post-game live broadcasts with special guest appearances, and 32 4D screens featuring NHL game night action.





ROGERS PLACE UPPER CONOURSE

1 PIZZA 73

Not only does Pizza 73 have the most popular flavours of pizza but it also has a rotating monthly feature pizza that everyone needs to try!

2 WHITEMUD KITCHEN

A high-quality spin on fan favourites where culinary innovation fuels the experience. Don't miss our perogy nachos.

3 DRAUGHT

Rogers Place has a wide selection of draught beer to choose.

4 ALBERTA CUTS

To celebrate Alberta beef, our chefs pick the choicest local cuts, smoke them in house and hand carve them. Enjoy!

5 THE OILERS STORE

6 HERITAGE EATS

From perogy nachos to pulled pork nachos, Heritage Eats features a variety of fan favourites.

7 GUEST SERVICES

8 JASPER AVE EATERY

We know fans like traditional game day food, but this concept is anything but general. It's an elevated approach to classic arena menu items. Hot dogs, hamburgers, ice-cream and everything in between are served fresh and fast.

9 BAR

10 ALBERTA SMOKED

To celebrate Alberta beef, our chefs pick the choicest local cuts, smoke them in house and hand carve them. Enjoy!

11 PIZZA 73

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SKY LOUNGE

In this trendy premium club guests enjoy a full-service bar, in-seat beverage service and all-inclusive food through a variety of culinary choices. Following the game, your experience will be extended as the curtain is drawn and the music is turned up to transform Sky Lounge into Edmonton's most unique nightspot.



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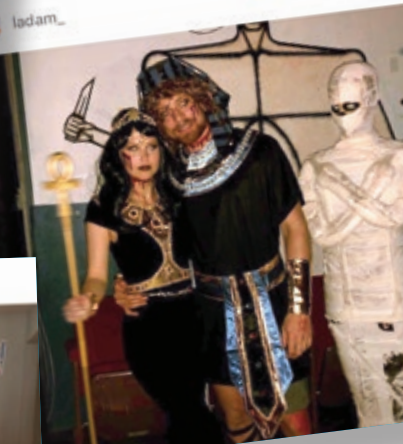
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THE SOCIAL SCENE

In the midst of a demanding October schedule to open the 2018-19 season, the Oilers were still able to crush the costume game at their annual Halloween party and, much to the delight of fans everywhere, some of the best ones were documented on social media. Check out our latest edition of The SocOIL Scene to get a taste of what is becoming an anticipated team tradition as the team gives you a glimpse into their spooky celebrations!





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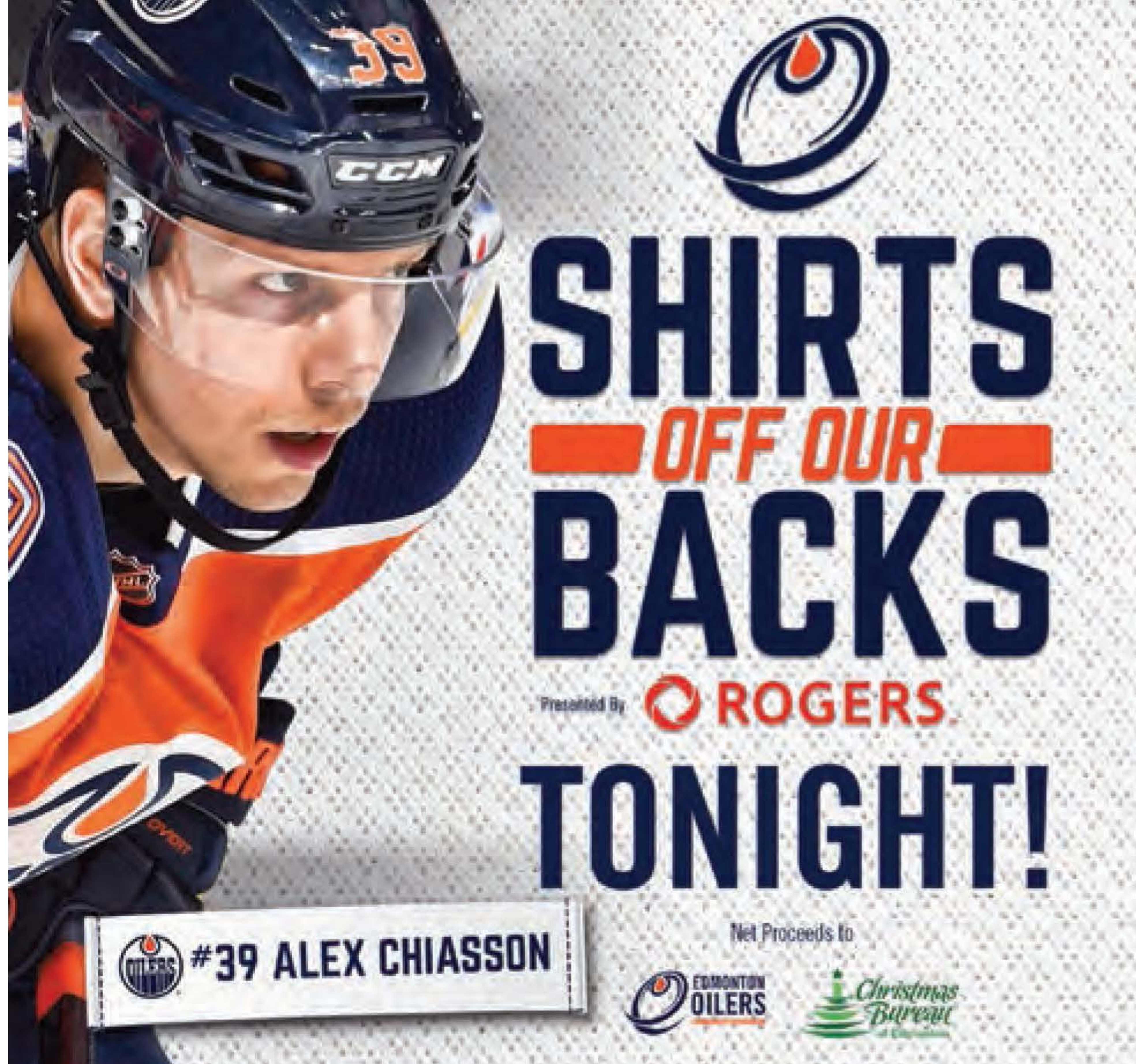


Go Further

[^]Ford is the best-selling line of SUVs in Canada, based on Canadian Vehicle Manufacturers' Association statistical sales report up to year-end 2016-2017. ©2018 Ford Motor Company of Canada, Limited. All rights reserved.



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SHIRTS OFF OUR BACKS TONIGHT

The Edmonton Oilers Community Foundation is once again hosting Shirts Off Our Backs presented by Rogers tonight at Rogers Place as the Oilers take on the Philadelphia Flyers.

Fans will have the unique opportunity to purchase raffle tickets for the chance to win a signed Oilers orange jersey with net proceeds benefiting the EOCF and the Christmas Bureau of Edmonton. The lucky winners will collect their new jerseys from the corresponding Oilers players on-ice at the end of the game.

Oilers Entertainment Group Vice Chair Kevin Lowe and the Oilers Ladies return as Honorary Co-Chairs for the Christmas Bureau of Edmonton this season.

"The work the Christmas Bureau does ensure that many Edmontonians in need have a festive meal to celebrate the holidays," said Lowe. "We are grateful that we have the opportunity to engage with Oilers fans through this initiative and give back to our community."

The Christmas Bureau expects to help more than 60,000 people in 20,000 families over the holidays this year.

"It is through the incredible support of the Edmonton Oilers Community Foundation and Honorary Christmas Bureau Campaign Co-Chairs, Kevin Lowe and the Oilers Ladies, that groups like the Christmas Bureau of Edmonton are able to support families in need," said Christmas Bureau of Edmonton Executive Director Darlene Kowalchuk. "As an ensure, the EOCF are neighbours helping neighbours, families helping families. The gift of support is greater than one meal; it does have a lasting impact on families in our community."

The EOCF and Oilers Ladies are selling raffle tickets on the concourse of Rogers Place for the chance to win a signed Oilers jersey. Raffle tickets will be \$5 each or \$20 for five tickets.

In addition to the entire roster of jerseys up for grabs, fans who purchase five or more tickets will be entered to win a team-signed jersey courtesy of Rogers.

To donate to the Christmas Bureau of Edmonton, visit ChristmasBureau.ca. To learn more about the Edmonton Oilers Community Foundation and its community initiatives, including Shirts Off Our Backs presented by Rogers, visit OilersFoundation.ca.

UPCOMING EVENTS AT ROGERS PLACE™



JIM GAFFIGAN
QUALITY TIME WORLD TOUR
Friday, January 18
@ 7:30PM



DIERKS BENTLEY
BURNING MAN TOUR
Thursday, January 24
@ 7PM
With special guests Jon Pardi, Tenille Townes
& Hot Country Knights



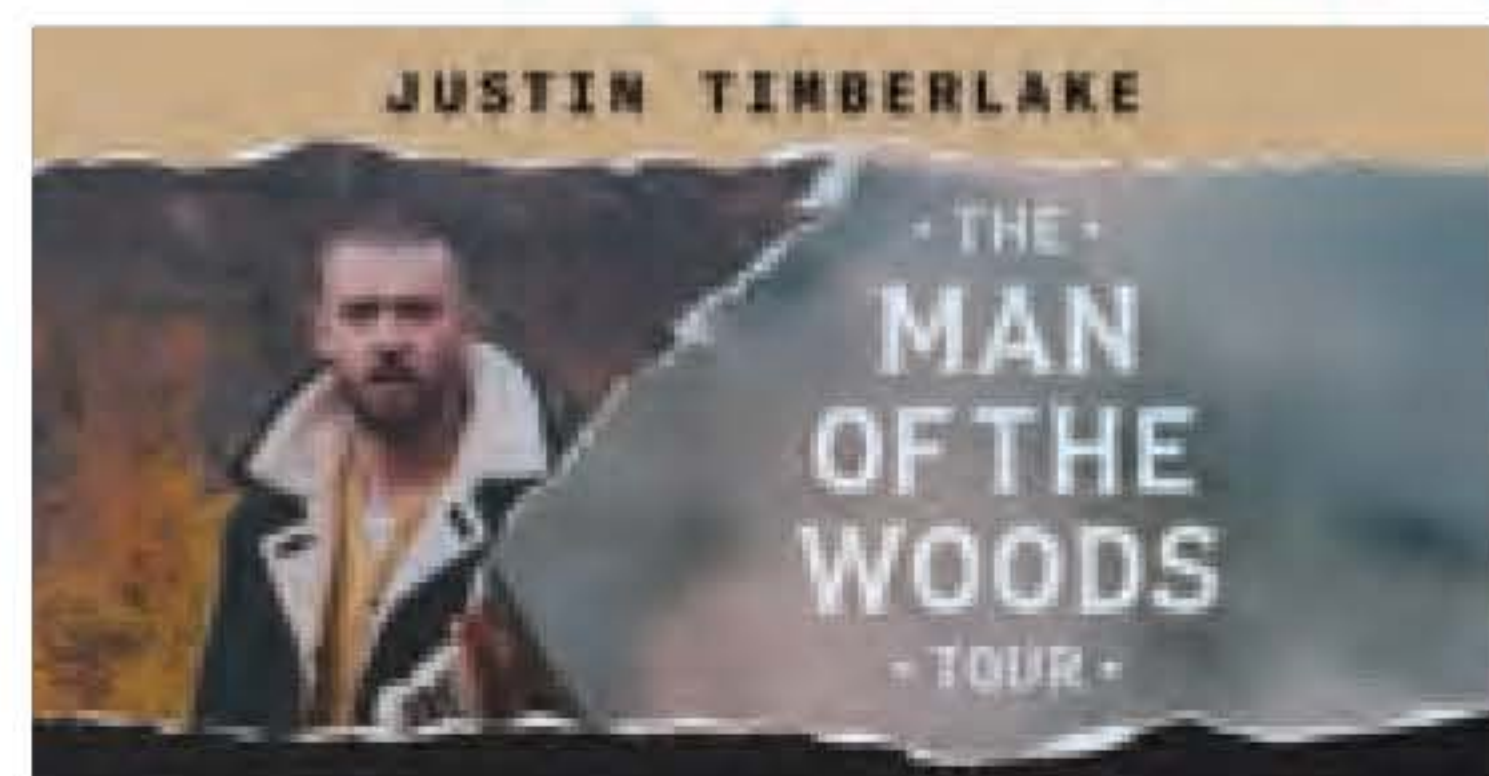
HARLEM GLOBETROTTERS
FAN POWERED WORLD TOUR
Saturday, January 26
@ 2PM



ARKELLS
RALLY CRY TOUR
Thursday, January 31
@ 7:30PM
With special guests Lord Huron



PAUL BRANDT
THE JOURNEY TOUR 2019
Saturday, February 2
@ 7PM
With High Valley, special guest Jess Moskaluke
& featuring Hunter Brothers



JUSTIN TIMBERLAKE
THE MAN OF THE WOODS TOUR
Wednesday, February 6
Thursday, February 7
@ 7:30PM



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February 13-17
EIGHT SHOW TIMES AVAILABLE



LITTLE BIG TOWN
THE BREAKERS TOUR
Sunday, February 24
@ 7:30PM
With special guests Midland & Ashley McBryde



SNOOP DOGG
SNOOP DOGG & FRIENDS TOUR
Wednesday, February 20
@ 8:00PM
Featuring Bone Thugs-N-Harmony,
Warren G, Kurupt & Luniz

All tickets are available via RogersPlace.com,
Ticketmaster and the Rogers Place Box Office.

FREEZE FRAME

BLUE STREAK! The Oilers are undefeated in their retro blue jerseys this season and have won five consecutive games at Rogers Place heading into tonight's matchup against the Philadelphia Flyers. Connor McDavid scored the lone goal and Mikko Koskinen made 24 saves in a 1-0 shutout victory over Calgary in our last home matchup on Sunday.







GET GAME READY

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GAME PREVIEW

EDMONTON OILERS vs PHILADELPHIA FLYERS

FRIDAY | DECEMBER 14 | 2018 | ROGERS PLACE



THE PHILADELPHIA FLYERS MAKE THEIR LONE VISIT TO ROGERS PLACE THIS SEASON AS THE OILERS AIM TO EXTEND THEIR HOME WINNING STREAK TO SIX GAMES.

Canada has not been kind to the Pennsylvania squad this week as they arrive in Edmonton with back-to-back losses – 7-1 to the Winnipeg Jets on Sunday and 6-5 in overtime to the Calgary Flames on Wednesday. The Flyers are 12-13-4 on the season and sat third last in the Eastern Conference standings heading into Thursday's action. Philadelphia swept the season series with the Oilers in 2017-18, winning 4-2 in Edmonton with Michael Raffl tallying the game-winner and 2-1 on home ice with Wayne Simmonds scoring the deciding goal. Simmonds was part of four of the Flyers' six goals in the season series, scoring twice and adding a pair of helpers, while Claude Giroux had a goal and two assists. Ryan Nugent-Hopkins and Leon Draisaitl were able to get pucks past Brian Elliott, who turned aside 47 of the 50 shots he faced in the two games.

PLAYERS TO WATCH

DARNELL NURSE finds himself on a bit of an offensive hot streak from the back end, putting up a pair of two-point efforts recently, scoring once and adding an assist on Dec. 7 vs. Minnesota and matching that total on Dec. 11 in Colorado. The 23-year-old blueliner had five points in four games heading into last night's road matchup in Winnipeg, giving him four goals and 11 assists through 31 games. Nurse also set a season high for time on ice during Tuesday's 6-4 win over the Avalanche, logging 30:44 with both Oscar Klefbom and Kris Russell missing time due to injuries. The Hamilton native is only two goals away from matching his career high of six last season. He also had 26 points in 82 games in 2017-18.

CLAUDE GIROUX has been far and away the most productive Flyers player this season, leading the team in points with 38 (11 goals, 27 assists) with his next closest teammate contributing 24 points. The 30-year-old is picking up right where he left off last season when he racked up 34 goals and 68 assists to surpass the 100-point plateau for the first time in his NHL career. His 102-point showing was also the second time he scored more than a point per game over the course of a season, as he put up 93 points in 77 games in 2011-12. Giroux was selected 22nd overall by the Flyers at the 2006 NHL Draft and has scored 225 goals with 490 assists for 715 points in 767 games over the course of his stellar career.



FORWARDS

#	NAME	POS	SHOOTS	HEIGHT	WEIGHT	DATE OF BIRTH	BIRTH PLACE
8	TY RATTIE	RW	R	6' 0"	183	FEB 5, 1993	CALGARY, AB, CAN
16	JUJHAR KHAIRA	LW	L	6' 4"	212	AUG 13, 1994	SURREY, BC, CAN
22	TOBIAS RIEDER	RW	L	5' 11"	186	JAN 10, 1993	LANDSHUT, DEU
23	RYAN SPOONER	C	L	5' 11"	191	JAN 30, 1992	OTTAWA, ON, CAN
27	MILAN LUCIC (A)	LW	L	6' 3"	231	JUN 7, 1988	VANCOUVER, BC, CAN
28	KYLE BRODZIAK	C	R	6' 2"	205	MAY 25, 1984	ST. PAUL, AB, CAN
29	LEON DRAISAITL	C	L	6' 2"	208	OCT 27, 1995	COLOGNE, DEU
39	ALEX CHIASSON	RW	R	6' 4"	208	OCT 1, 1990	MONTREAL, QC, CAN
44	ZACK KASSIAN	RW	R	6' 3"	211	JAN 24, 1991	WINDSOR, ON, CAN
73	VALENTIN ZYKOV	LW	R	6' 0"	220	MAY 15, 1995	ST. PETERSBURG, RUS
91	DRAKE CAGGIULA	LW	L	5' 10"	176	JUN 20, 1994	PICKERING, ON, CAN
93	RYAN NUGENT-HOPKINS (A)	C	L	6' 0"	184	APR 12, 1993	BURNABY, BC, CAN
97	CONNOR MCDAVID (C)	C	L	6' 1"	193	JAN 13, 1997	RICHMOND HILL, ON, CAN
98	JESSE PULJUJARVI	RW	R	6' 4"	201	MAY 7, 1998	ALVKARLEBY, SWE

DEFENCE

#	NAME	SHOOTS	HEIGHT	WEIGHT	DATE OF BIRTH	BIRTH PLACE
2	ANDREJ SEKERA	L	6' 0"	200	JUN 8, 1986	BOJNICE, SVK
4	KRIS RUSSELL	L	5' 10"	170	MAY 2, 1987	CAROLINE, AB, CAN
5	KEVIN GRAVEL	L	6' 4"	211	MAR 6, 1992	KINGSFORD, MI, USA
6	ADAM LARSSON (A)	R	6' 3"	208	NOV 12, 1992	SKELLEFTEÅ, SWE
10	CHRIS WIDEMAN	R	5' 10"	183	JAN 7, 1990	ST. LOUIS, MO, USA
13	JASON GARRISON	L	6' 1"	218	NOV 13, 1984	WHITE ROCK, BC, CAN
25	DARNELL NURSE	L	6' 4"	221	FEB 4, 1995	HAMILTON, ON, CAN
77	OSCAR KLEFBOM	L	6' 3"	216	JUL 20, 1993	KARLSTAD, SWE
82	CALEB JONES	L	6' 1"	194	6 JUN 1997	ARLINGTON, TX, USA
83	MATT BENNING	R	6' 1"	203	MAY 25, 1994	EDMONTON, AB, CAN

GOALTENDERS

#	NAME	HEIGHT	WEIGHT	DATE OF BIRTH	BIRTH PLACE
19	MIKKO KOSKINEN	6' 7"	202	JUL 18, 1988	VANTAA, FIN
33	CAM TALBOT	6' 4"	196	JUL 5, 1987	CALEDONIA, ON, CAN

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 Assistant Coach..... Glen Gulutzan
 Assistant Coach..... Trent Yawney
 Assistant Coach..... Manny Viveiros
 Goaltending Coach..... Dustin Schwartz
 Goaltending Development Coach..... Sylvain Rodrigue
 Video Coach..... Jeremy Coupal
 Skating Coach..... David Pelletier



FORWARDS

#	NAME	POS	SHOOTS	HEIGHT	WEIGHT	DATE OF BIRTH	BIRTH PLACE
10	CORBAN KNIGHT	C	R	6' 2"	195	SEP 10, 1990	OLIVER, BC, CAN
11	TRAVIS KONECNY	RW	R	5' 10"	175	MAR 11, 1997	LONDON, ON, CAN
12	MICHAEL RAFFL	LW	L	6' 0"	200	DEC 1, 1988	VILLACH, AUT
14	SEAN COUTURIER	C	L	6' 3"	211	DEC 7, 1992	PHOENIX, AZ, USA
15	JORI LEHTERA	C	L	6' 2"	212	DEC 23, 1987	HELSINKI, FIN
17	WAYNE SIMMONDS (A)	RW	R	6' 2"	185	AUG 26, 1988	SCARBOROUGH, ON, CAN
19	NOLAN PATRICK	C	R	6' 2"	198	SEP 19, 1998	WINNIPEG, MB, CAN
21	SCOTT LAUGHTON	C	L	6' 1"	190	MAY 30, 1994	OAKVILLE, ON, CAN
22	DALE WEISE	RW	R	6' 2"	206	AUG 5, 1988	WINNIPEG, MB, CAN
23	OSKAR LINDBLOM	LW	L	6' 1"	191	AUG 15, 1996	GÄVLE, SWE
25	JAMES VAN RIEMSDYK	LW	L	6' 3"	217	MAY 4, 1989	MIDDLETOWN, NJ, USA
28	CLAUDE GIROUX (C)	C	R	5' 11"	185	JAN 12, 1988	HEARST, ON, CAN
40	JORDAN WEAL	C	R	5' 10"	179	APR 15, 1992	NORTH VANCOUVER, BC, CAN
93	JAKUB VORACEK	RW	L	6' 2"	214	AUG 15, 1989	KLADNO, CZE

DEFENCE

#	NAME	SHOOTS	HEIGHT	WEIGHT	DATE OF BIRTH	BIRTH PLACE
3	RADKO GUDAS	R	6' 0"	204	JUN 5, 1990	PRAGUE, CZE
6	TRAVIS SANHEIM	L	6' 3"	181	MAR 29, 1996	ELKHORN, MB, CAN
8	ROBERT HAGG	L	6' 2"	204	FEB 8, 1995	UPPSALA, SWE
9	IVAN PROVOROV	L	6' 1"	201	JAN 13, 1997	YAROSLAVL, RUS
26	CHRISTIAN FOLIN	R	6' 3"	204	FEB 9, 1991	GOTHENBURG, SWE
47	ANDREW MACDONALD (A)	L	6' 1"	204	SEP 7, 1986	JUDIQUE, NS, CAN
53	SHAYNE GOSTISBEHERE	L	5' 11"	180	APR 20, 1993	PEMBROKE PINES, FL, USA

GOALTENDERS

#	NAME	HEIGHT	WEIGHT	DATE OF BIRTH	BIRTH PLACE
30	MICHAL NEUVIRTH	6' 1"	209	MAR 23, 1988	ÚSTÍ NAD LABEM, CZE
37	BRIAN ELLIOTT	6' 2"	209	APR 9, 1985	NEWMARKET, ON, CAN
41	ANTHONY STOLARZ	6' 6"	210	JAN 20, 1994	EDISON, NJ, USA

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 Assistant Coach Kris Knoblauch
 Assistant Coach Ian Laperriere
 Assistant Coach Rick Wilson
 Goaltending Coach Kim Dillabaugh
 Video Coach Adam Patterson



STATISTICS | OILERS

STATS AS OF DEC. 13, 2018

PLAYER	GP	G	A	P	+/-	PIM	PPG	PPP	SHG	SHP	GWG	OTG	S	S%	FO%
CONNOR MCDAVID	30	17	26	43	7	8	6	14	0	0	4	1	110	15.5	45.86
LEON DRAISAITL	31	16	21	37	4	16	3	11	0	0	4	2	82	19.5	50.19
RYAN NUGENT-HOPKINS	31	10	19	29	0	10	3	12	1	1	1	0	95	10.5	42.19
ALEX CHIASSON	25	12	3	15	8	12	3	4	1	1	0	0	39	30.8	36.36
OSCAR KLEFBOM	31	3	12	15	1	8	1	6	0	0	2	1	93	3.2	0
DARNELL NURSE	31	4	7	11	-4	34	1	1	0	0	1	1	77	5.2	0
DRAKE CAGGIULA	23	7	3	10	-6	10	0	0	1	1	2	0	44	15.9	22.22
JUJHAR KHAIRA	29	1	9	10	1	17	0	0	0	1	0	0	23	4.3	46.51
ADAM LARSSON	31	0	9	9	0	20	0	0	0	1	0	0	47	0	0
KRIS RUSSELL	31	1	7	8	4	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	28	3.6	0
MILAN LUCIC	31	1	6	7	-10	37	1	3	0	0	0	0	34	2.9	44.44
MATT BENNING	26	1	6	7	3	17	0	1	0	1	0	0	35	2.9	0
TOBIAS RIEDER	18	0	7	7	0	2	0	2	0	0	0	0	33	0	33.33
KYLE BRODZIAK	29	3	2	5	-8	6	0	0	0	0	1	0	33	9.1	50.32
TY RATTIE	19	2	2	4	2	4	0	1	0	0	0	0	33	6.1	33.33
ZACK KASSIAN	28	2	1	3	-4	60	0	0	0	0	0	0	28	7.1	0
JESSE PULJUJARVI	20	2	0	2	-6	8	0	0	0	0	0	0	25	8	66.67
KEVIN GRAVEL	16	0	2	2	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	17	0	0
JASON GARRISON	12	1	0	1	-1	4	1	1	0	0	0	0	12	8.3	0
RYAN SPOONER	12	1	0	1	-5	2	0	0	0	0	1	0	14	7.1	48.57
CHRIS WIDEMAN	2	0	1	1	-2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0
VALENTIN ZYKOV	3	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

GOALTENDER	GP	GS	W	L	T	OT	SA	GA	GAA	S	SV%	SO	MIN
MIKKO KOSKINEN	15	14	10	3	0	1	439	32	2.20	407	.927	3	875
CAM TALBOT	17	17	7	9	0	1	487	51	3.12	436	.895	0	982

FLYERS | STATISTICS



STATS AS OF DEC. 13, 2018

PLAYER	GP	G	A	P	+/-	PIM	PPG	PPP	SHG	SHP	GWG	OTG	S	S%	FO%
CLAUDE GIROUX	29	11	27	38	4	10	1	9	1	1	2	0	88	12.5	57.99
JAKUB VORACEK	29	8	16	24	-10	8	1	4	0	0	1	0	72	11.1	40
SEAN COUTURIER	27	12	11	23	-1	4	2	3	1	1	1	0	73	16.4	54.81
TRAVIS KONECNY	29	9	10	19	4	21	2	3	0	0	1	0	73	12.3	37.5
WAYNE SIMMONDS	29	10	4	14	-8	43	2	3	0	0	1	0	69	14.5	25
SHAYNE GOSTISBEHERE	29	3	10	13	-13	4	2	7	0	0	1	1	69	4.3	0
SCOTT LAUGHTON	29	6	5	11	4	33	0	0	0	1	0	0	33	18.2	59.28
OSKAR LINDBLOM	29	4	7	11	-1	10	0	0	0	0	1	0	40	10	40
ROBERT HAGG	29	3	8	11	7	33	0	0	0	0	1	0	47	6.4	0
IVAN PROVOROV	29	3	8	11	-2	12	0	0	0	0	0	0	53	5.7	0
NOLAN PATRICK	26	5	5	10	-4	6	0	0	0	0	1	0	51	9.8	53.78
TRAVIS SANHEIM	29	3	7	10	3	6	0	1	0	0	0	0	40	7.5	0
DALE WEISE	26	4	5	9	-5	13	0	0	1	1	1	0	35	11.4	12.5
JORDAN WEAL	21	3	4	7	0	16	0	1	0	0	0	0	25	12	59.61
JAMES VAN RIEMSDYK	13	3	4	7	-1	6	2	3	0	0	0	0	25	12	66.67
RADKO GUDAS	27	1	6	7	8	23	0	0	0	0	0	0	44	2.3	0
MICHAEL RAFFL	15	0	4	4	5	8	0	0	0	0	0	0	11	0	41.67
ANDREW MACDONALD	14	0	4	4	-3	10	0	0	0	1	0	0	20	0	0
JORI LEHTERA	23	1	2	3	-6	16	0	0	0	0	0	0	16	6.3	54.29
CHRISTIAN FOLIN	17	0	1	1	7	14	0	0	0	0	0	0	15	0	0
CORBAN KNIGHT	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	62.5

GOALTENDER	GP	GS	W	L	T	OT	SA	GA	GAA	S	SV%	SO	MIN
BRIAN ELLIOTT	14	13	6	7	0	0	384	34	2.59	350	.911	1	788
ANTHONY STOLARZ	7	5	2	1	0	2	217	24	3.80	193	.889	0	380
MICHAL NEUVIRTH	2	2	0	2	0	0	32	9	6.14	23	.719	0	88

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POINTS

1	M. RANTANEN, COL	52
2	N. MACKINNON, COL	47
3	N. KUCHEROV, TBL	45
4	C. MCDAVID, EDM	43
5	J. GAUDREAU, CGY	42

GOALS

1	A. OVECHKIN, WSH	25
2	B. POINT, TBL	21
3	D. PASTRNAK, BOS	21
4	J. SKINNER, BUF	21
5	P. LAINE, WPG	21

ASSISTS

1	M. RANTANEN, COL	39
2	M. MARNER, TOR	35
3	N. KUCHEROV, TBL	33
4	B. WHEELER, WPG	33
5	J. GAUDREAU, CGY	29

PENALTY MINUTES

1	B. MARCHAND, BOS	74
2	D. ROUSSEL, VAN	67
3	Z. KASSIAN, EDM	60
4	E. KANE, SJS	59
5	I. COLE, COL	52

ROOKIE POINTS

1	E. PETTERSSON, VAN	32
2	C. WHITE, OTT	19
3	M. HEISKANEN, DAL	16
4	B. TKACHUK, OTT	16
5	J. KOTKANIEMI, MTL	15

GOALS AGAINST AVG.

1	P. RINNE, NSH	1.91
2	M. KOSKINEN, EDM	2.20
3	L. BROSSOIT, WPG	2.27
4	A. VASILEVSKIY, TBL	2.29
5	J. HALAK, BOS	2.30

SAVE %

1	L. BROSSOIT, WPG	.932
2	P. RINNE, NSH	.932
3	J. HALAK, BOS	.930
4	F. ANDERSEN, TOR	.928
5	M. KOSKINEN, EDM	.927

GOALTENDER WINS

1	M. FLEURY, VGK	18
2	F. ANDERSEN, TOR	17
3	L. DOMINGUE, TBL	14
4	P. RINNE, NSH	13
5	J. GIBSON, ANA	13

2018-19 WESTERN CONFERENCE

CENTRAL	GP	W	L	OT	PTS	ROW	GF	GA	DIFF	HOME	AWAY	S/O	L10	STRK
1 NASHVILLE	31	20	10	1	41	20	98	78	+20	12-5-0	8-5-1	0-1	5-5-0	W1
2 WINNIPEG	30	19	9	2	40	18	107	83	+24	11-4-2	8-5-0	1-1	7-3-0	W2
3 COLORADO	31	17	9	5	39	17	112	94	+18	6-3-3	11-6-2	0-1	6-3-1	L2
PACIFIC	GP	W	L	OT	PTS	ROW	GF	GA	DIFF	HOME	AWAY	S/O	L10	STRK
1 CALGARY	32	20	10	2	42	20	113	90	+23	11-3-2	9-7-0	0-1	7-2-1	W1
2 ANAHEIM	33	17	11	5	39	14	87	97	-10	10-4-5	7-7-0	3-2	8-2-0	W2
3 SAN JOSE	32	16	11	5	37	16	102	98	+4	10-3-2	6-8-3	0-2	5-4-1	W2
WILD CARD	GP	W	L	OT	PTS	ROW	GF	GA	DIFF	HOME	AWAY	S/O	L10	STRK
1 VEGAS	33	18	14	1	37	17	99	93	+6	10-3-1	8-11-0	1-1	8-2-0	W2
2 EDMONTON	31	17	12	2	36	16	88	91	-3	9-4-1	8-8-1	1-0	7-2-1	W4
3 DALLAS	31	16	12	3	35	16	86	84	+2	10-3-1	6-9-2	0-0	5-4-1	L2
4 MINNESOTA	30	16	12	2	34	16	95	88	+7	9-4-2	7-8-0	0-1	4-6-0	W1
5 VANCOUVER	33	14	16	3	31	13	98	111	-13	6-7-1	8-9-2	1-2	4-5-1	W3
6 ARIZONA	29	13	14	2	28	12	76	80	-4	6-8-1	7-6-1	1-0	4-5-1	L3
7 ST. LOUIS	29	11	14	4	26	11	82	97	-15	7-8-2	4-6-2	0-1	4-5-1	W1
8 CHICAGO	33	10	18	5	25	10	93	124	-31	6-6-3	4-12-2	0-1	2-8-0	W1
9 LOS ANGELES	32	11	19	2	24	10	71	98	-27	7-10-1	4-9-1	1-0	4-5-1	OT1

2018-19 EASTERN CONFERENCE

METROPOLITAN	GP	W	L	OT	PTS	ROW	GF	GA	DIFF	HOME	AWAY	S/O	L10	STRK
1 WASHINGTON	30	18	9	3	39	17	112	92	+20	9-4-2	9-5-1	1-1	8-2-0	W3
2 COLUMBUS	30	16	12	2	34	16	102	102	0	7-7-1	9-5-1	0-1	4-6-0	L2
3 NY ISLANDERS	30	14	12	4	32	13	85	88	-3	7-5-3	7-7-1	1-3	4-4-2	L1
ATLANTIC	GP	W	L	OT	PTS	ROW	GF	GA	DIFF	HOME	AWAY	S/O	L10	STRK
1 TAMPA BAY	32	24	7	1	49	22	130	91	+39	14-4-0	10-3-1	2-0	9-1-0	W7
2 TORONTO	31	21	9	1	43	21	113	85	+28	9-5-1	12-4-0	0-0	6-3-1	W1
3 BUFFALO	31	18	9	4	40	15	95	91	+4	10-3-2	8-6-2	3-0	5-3-2	W1
WILD CARD	GP	W	L	OT	PTS	ROW	GF	GA	DIFF	HOME	AWAY	S/O	L10	STRK
1 BOSTON	31	17	10	4	38	16	85	79	+6	11-3-0	6-7-4	1-0	6-4-0	W3
2 MONTRÉAL	31	15	11	5	35	13	97	101	-4	8-6-2	7-5-3	2-0	4-5-1	L1
3 PITTSBURGH	30	13	11	6	32	12	101	98	+3	7-6-2	6-5-4	1-2	5-3-2	L1
4 DETROIT	32	14	14	4	32	12	93	107	-14	8-7-3	6-7-1	2-3	4-4-2	L1
5 NY RANGERS	30	14	13	3	31	9	88	98	-10	10-4-1	4-9-2	5-1	4-5-1	L1
6 CAROLINA	29	13	12	4	30	12	72	81	-9	7-5-3	6-7-1	1-1	5-4-1	L1
7 OTTAWA	32	13	15	4	30	13	106	125	-19	10-5-3	3-10-1	0-0	4-5-1	L1
8 PHILADELPHIA	29	12	13	4	28	11	91	107	-16	5-7-2	7-6-2	1-0	3-4-3	OT1
9 FLORIDA	29	11	12	6	28	10	96	105	-9	6-5-4	5-7-2	1-3	3-4-3	L1
10 NEW JERSEY	29	10	13	6	26	10	88	105	-17	7-2-4	3-11-2	0-1	2-4-4	L1



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HOCKEY FIGHTS CANCER

BY JESSICA KENT

AS KIDS, MANY OF US COULDN'T WAIT TO GROW UP AND LIVE OUT OUR CHILDHOOD DREAMS.

For youth fighting for their life at the Kids with Cancer Society, they're forced to grow up too fast.

"I don't know too many adults who can take on what these kids take on. It's so beautiful to watch," said Melissa Bandi, mother to Ava DeGannes, a 13-year-old battling cancer. "I think the worst part as a parent is you can't help them, and you have to answer questions like, 'Will I die?'"

"These kids become adults very quickly," explained Val Figliuzzi, Executive Director of the Kids with Cancer Society. "A lot of them endure in a very short period of time what adults won't ever have to face, and they take it in stride."

Taking it in stride with hope on their mind.

"Hope is the one thing that's stronger than fear because it's the happiness and strength in everybody," DeGannes continued. "It gives people the will to keep moving forward."

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Over the last 20 months, DeGannes fought off osteogenic sarcoma – a type of bone cancer – with tumors continuing to appear in her lungs.

On Sunday, Nov. 18, she dropped the ceremonial puck at the Oilers game against the Vegas Golden Knights as part of the team's Hockey Fights Cancer festivities in conjunction with the NHL-wide initiative throughout the month.

"I'm done chemo treatment, that's why these luscious locks have grown back," joked DeGannes while brushing her fingers through her brunette curls. "I've been through an eight-hour surgery, a knee replacement, four lung surgeries, chemo, biopsies... literally name anything and I've probably been through it."

Oilers defenceman Darnell Nurse escorted her to centre ice, where captain Connor McDavid was waiting to take the ceremonial faceoff before embracing her with a hug.

DeGannes was beaming as she received an emotional standing ovation from the capacity crowd at Rogers Place.

"That was literally the best moment of my entire life!" she exclaimed as she walked with her cane to her mom after the puck drop.

"She's been through so much, so to just feel the support of the entire arena was pretty spectacular," Bandi said.

For the better part of the last decade, Hockey Fights Cancer has been providing much-needed funds and awareness for the Kids with Cancer Society and the Edmonton Oilers Community Foundation (EOCF).

This year, Oilers 40th anniversary toques were sold on the concourse for \$20 and fans purchased all 5,000 before the first period had ended.

The amount of support the event gets from Oil Country is always inspiring to Figliuzzi.

"From our perspective, we feel so much gratitude for this event," she said. "The EOCF saw the potential in this program and really allowed us to grow it into what it is today."



"A guy downstairs just showed up and bought 125 toques," said Janelle Benning, wife of Oilers defenceman Matt Benning, who was selling the knitted hats on the concourse. "He knew about this event and was taking orders for colleagues and friends... it's amazing!"

The money raised for the Kids with Cancer Society from the Hockey Fights Cancer program helps integrate kids back into schools to find their new normal through the Brainworks program.

"Let's use the example of a child with a brain tumor," Figliuzzi explained. "Before the diagnosis, they were high-functioning in school and had no problems with social interactions. Now they have this horrible disease and it affects them in many ways. The Brainworks program identifies those children and works with the school to implement learning strategies and provide special equipment. It puts things in place to allow them to reach their full potential."

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Bandi said her daughter didn't need to take advantage of the Brainworks program, but used most of the other programs offered at the Kids with Cancer Society.

"Ava had family buying toques from Ontario and around Canada," she said. "The Kids with Cancer Society is an unbelievable support system for families in pediatric cancer."

For DeGannes, and the many other kids just like her, they may have to push the pause button on their childhood experiences, but they'll never stop dreaming of what life could look like.

"I really want to be a pediatric oncologist so I can help the kids that I once was."

continued on page 47



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In addition to the emotional ceremonial faceoff, Hockey Fights Cancer's signature colour, lavender, was evident throughout Rogers Place at the Nov. 18, with rink boards and in-bowl lighting. Oilers players also used lavender tape during warmup and donned special Hockey Fights Cancer helmet decals during the game.

For the first time, Oilers players took to the ice in lavender warmup jerseys, which will be available for auction via OilersFoundation.ca. Oilers management and coaches showed their support by wearing the official lavender Hockey Fights Cancer ties and pins. The 50/50 beneficiary for the night was the Canadian Cancer Society, and local charities who assist in the fight against cancer were also invited to attend the game.

Oilers and Golden Knights players also honoured their cancer heroes and causes as they held up "I Fight For..." cards during the pre-game ceremony. The crowd joined in to shine a light on the cause and Rogers Place fell silent for a moment of support. ◆





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HUNTER SPOTLIGHT

Our lovable lynx Hunter had quite an exciting first two months of the season! On Saturday, Oct. 20, he got to meet acclaimed film-maker, actor and comedian Kevin Smith. Hunter celebrated Halloween at our Tuesday, Oct. 30 game by dressing up as Elvis. Throughout the month of November, he grew a moustache in support of Movember and donned a special lavender jersey for Hockey Fights Cancer on Sunday, Nov. 18.

Book Hunter for your next event at
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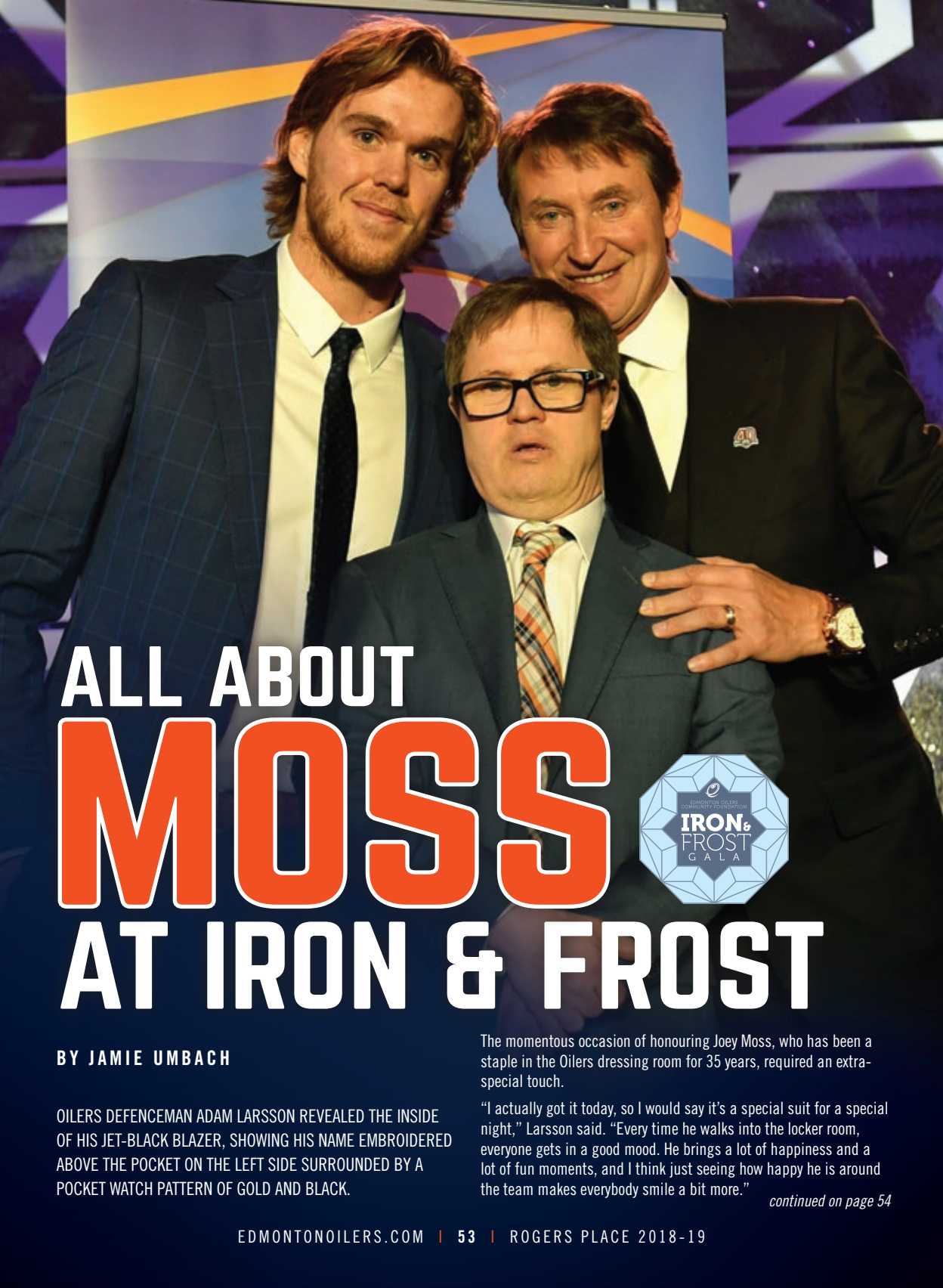


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ALL ABOUT **MOSS** AT IRON & FROST



BY JAMIE UMBACH

OILERS DEFENCEMAN ADAM LARSSON REVEALED THE INSIDE OF HIS JET-BLACK BLAZER, SHOWING HIS NAME EMBROIDERED ABOVE THE POCKET ON THE LEFT SIDE SURROUNDED BY A POCKET WATCH PATTERN OF GOLD AND BLACK.

The momentous occasion of honouring Joey Moss, who has been a staple in the Oilers dressing room for 35 years, required an extra-special touch.

"I actually got it today, so I would say it's a special suit for a special night," Larsson said. "Every time he walks into the locker room, everyone gets in a good mood. He brings a lot of happiness and a lot of fun moments, and I think just seeing how happy he is around the team makes everybody smile a bit more."

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"Each year we work with a different beneficiary and this year each of the beneficiaries had specific programs with Joey and his legacy in mind to be unveiled at the gala."

COREY SMITH, EOCF



The Swedish blueliner was among Oilers alumni, players and special guests at Rogers Place on Thursday, Nov. 15 as members of the best-dressed crowd in the city for the Edmonton Oilers Community Foundation's second annual Iron & Frost Gala, this time in support of the Edmonton Down Syndrome Society (EDSS) and Special Olympics Edmonton (SOE).

In honour of the icon's 35 years with the organization and 55th birthday, Joey's commitment to the team and the community were celebrated at the event. The glamorous, Vegas-style evening included dinner and hot-stove interviews in Ford Hall with players and alumni, a silent auction and a casino on the ice surface with players dealing cards and rolling dice at the blackjack, poker and craps tables.



"This is the second time we've done the Iron & Frost Gala; last year was its inaugural year and it was a wild success," said Corey Smith, board member for the EOCF and Iron & Frost Gala organizing committee member. "Each year we work with a different beneficiary and this year each of the beneficiaries had specific programs with Joey and his legacy in mind to be unveiled at the gala."

The night's fundraising will be used to create the Special Olympics Edmonton Joey Moss Invitational Floor Hockey Tournament and the Edmonton Down Syndrome Society Joey Moss Literacy Centre for Excellence.

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"It's something that touches very closely to my heart and the team's heart having Joey in our room, so it was a really fun night and it's great to see him have such a great night." **CONNOR McDAVID**

Oilers legend and Hockey Hall of Fame member Wayne Gretzky, who was instrumental in welcoming Joey to the Oilers family 35 years ago, spoke to the support Edmontonians and the hockey club have shown throughout the years towards notable causes and members in their community.

"Edmonton has always been a front-runner in regards to doing special events," Gretzky said. "One of the great things about the city and the Oilers organization is that they've always reached out, so this is a wonderful night for Special Olympics [Edmonton] and of course for people like Joey. It's a night we can all get together and raise a lot of money and awareness."

"At the end of the day, it's really tremendous the current team will be a part of this event. For them to take the night out and be a part of this night makes it all worthwhile. For the older players, it's nice for us to come in and have a reunion."

Moving to the casino floor on the ice surface of Rogers Place, players took to their positions at their respective tables with guests flocking to them with chips in hand. Oilers captain Connor McDavid drew a big crowd at the craps table throughout the night.

continued on page 59

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"People don't really get the game, but we're having fun anyway," joked McDavid. "But it was a great event. Obviously it's something that touches very closely to my heart and the team's heart having Joey in our room, so it was a really fun night and it's great to see him have such a great night."

Goaltender Cam Talbot, despite being one of the dealers, was more on the side of the participants.

"I'm dealing blackjack and it's going really well for me, unfortunately for the unlucky people that came here," the Oilers netminder quipped. "I like to see the table win."

"This is a great event and has been a lot of fun these past few years. It's something we look forward to every year getting to interact with people and have a little fun doing it."

Cam's wife Kelly is an EOCF board member and echoed her husband's sentiments on the evening.

"We're so lucky we get to be a part of this," she said on behalf of the Oilers Ladies. "We get to dress up, the guys get to dress up. It's so fun, such a great cause and everyone is having such a great time."

For the Moss family, this year's Iron & Frost Gala was yet another example of the mutual admiration and partnership the Oilers have had with Joey over the past 35 years.

"He's just had so much support and love," his brother Stephen said. "Our family is so blessed to have been brought up in Edmonton. It's such a fabulous community for support." 🍷





N.H.L Goal


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HOCKEY 



FREEZE FRAME

Two of Edmonton's top young prospects scored their first NHL goals during the opening month of the 2018-19 season. Forward and 2017 first-round draft pick Kailer Yamamoto tallied the first of his NHL career during the Oilers home opener victory over the Boston Bruins, while defenceman and 2018 first-round selection Evan Bouchard blasted home goal number one the following week in a win over the Washington Capitals.

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OIL KINGS SHINE ON INTERNATIONAL STAGE

BY ALYSCIA WARNER

The Edmonton Oil Kings are off to their best start in modern franchise history, and that team success has come hand-in-hand with some individual achievements by a number of players.

Two players in particular have shone bright through the opening months of the season, and their play has not only garnered them the opportunity to play on the international stage, they excelled while doing so.

Sixteen-year-old rookie forward Jake Neighbours leveraged his potent offensive start to the season by being named to one of three Canadian squads at the World Under-17 Hockey Challenge in Quispamsis and Saint John, New Brunswick.

A member of Team Canada White, the Airdrie native was dubbed captain of the team prior to the start of the tournament. He registered three goals and six points in five games played, guiding the team to three straight wins out of the gate before they dropped a 4-3 heartbreaker in a shootout to Finland in quarterfinal action.

Although coming up short from his ultimate goal of winning for his country, his time at the tournament certainly wasn't for naught as he gained valuable experience against other nations' top talent, and saw his leadership skills grow larger.



By mid-November, his work ethic and tenaciousness had him near the top of the WHL's rookie scoring race, and earned him occasional ice time on a line alongside his captain here in Edmonton, Trey Fix-Wolansky.

Fix-Wolansky has also seen his fair share of international attention through the opening months of the season as the 19-year-old, hometown Edmonton product was named to Team WHL for the Canada-Russia Series in early November. He earned an assist on the game-winning goal of Game 1, helping the team earn a split against Team Russia.

The tear he's been on as a member of the Oil Kings this season has been nothing short of remarkable to watch, as he led all WHL players in points at the mid-mark of November producing at better than a two-points-per-game pace.

The Columbus Blue Jackets draft pick may be diminutive in stature at 5-foot-7, but what he lacks in height, he more than makes up for in determination, grit and downright blue-collar attitude as the winger has made himself the talk of the town – and the Canadian Hockey League – with his results.

With players like Fix-Wolansky and Neighbours turning heads the way they are, the Oil Kings are a team that hockey fans can't afford to miss this season. ♦



2018-19 SEASON SCHEDULE

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17 CGY 7:00 pm	18 VAN 8:00 pm	19	20 WPG 7:00 pm	21	22
23 WPG 6:00 pm	24	25 VAN 7:30 pm	26	27 ARI 7:00 pm	28	29 CGY 1:00 pm
30						

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
	1	2	3	4	5	6 NJ 11:00 am COTRENDERS
7	8	9	10	11 SNOL 5:00 pm	12	13 SNW NYR 11:00 am
14	15	16 SNOL WPG 6:00 pm	17	18 SNL BOS 7:00 pm	19	20 HNIC NSH 8:00 pm
21	22	23 SNT PIT 7:00 pm	24	25 SNT WSH 7:00 pm	26	27 SNW NSH 1:00 pm
28 SNT CHI 4:00 pm	29	30 SNOL MIN 7:00 pm	31			

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
				1 SNW CHI 7:00 pm		3 DET 5:00 pm
4	5 SNW WSH 5:00 pm	6 SNW TBL 5:30 pm	7	8 SNW FLA 5:00 pm	9	10
11 SNT COL 7:30 pm	12	13 SNW MTL 7:00 pm	14	15	16	17 HNIC CGY 8:00 pm
18 SN VGK 6:00 pm	19	20 SNW SJS 8:30 pm	21	22	23 SNW ANA 2:00 pm	24
25 SNW LAK 8:30 pm	26	27 SNW DAL 7:00 pm	28	29 SNW LAK 7:00 pm	30	

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
						1 HNIC VGK 8:00 pm
2	3 SNW DAL 6:30 pm	4	5 STL 6:00 pm	6	7 SNW MIN 7:00 pm	8
9 SN CGY 7:00 pm	10	11 SNW COL 6:00 pm	12	13 SNW WPG 6:00 pm	14 SNW PHI 7:00 pm	15
16 SNW VAN 8:00 pm	17	18 SNT STL 7:00 pm	19	20	21	22 HNIC TBL 8:00 pm
23	24 SNW WPG 7:00 pm	25	26	27 SNT VAN 7:00 pm	28	29 SNW SJS 2:00 pm
30						

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
		1	2 SNT ARI 7:30 pm	3	4	5 HNIC LAK 8:00 pm
6 ANA 6:00 pm	7	8 SNW SJS 8:30 pm	9	10 SNW FLA 7:00 pm	11	12 HNIC ARI 8:00 pm
13	14 SNW BUF 7:00 pm	15	16 SNW VAN 8:00 pm	17	18	19 HNIC CGY 8:00 pm
20 SNT CAR 7:30 pm	21	22 SNT DET 7:00 pm	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
					1	2 SN PHI 11:00 am
3 SN MTL 12:00 pm	4	5 SNW CHI 7:00 pm	6	7 SNW MIN 6:00 pm	8	9 HNIC SJS 5:00 pm
10	11	12	13 SNT PIT 6:00 pm	14	15 SNW CAR 5:30 pm	16 HNIC NYI 5:00 pm
17	18	19 SNW ARI 7:00 pm	20	21 SNW NYI 7:00 pm	22	23 HNIC ANA 8:00 pm
24	25 SNW NSH 6:00 pm	26	27 SNT TOR 5:00 pm	28 SNW OTT 5:30 pm		

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
					1	2 SNW CBJ 11:00 am
3	4 SNT BUF 5:00 pm	5	6	7 SNW VAN 7:00 pm	8	9 HNIC TOR 5:00 pm
10	11 SNW NYR 7:00 pm	12	13 SNT NJD 7:30 pm	14	15	16 HNIC ARI 8:00 pm
17 SNW VGK 8:00 pm	18	19 SNT STL 6:00 pm	20	21 SNT CBJ 7:00 pm	22	23 SNW OTT 2:00 pm
24	25	26 SNW LAK 7:00 pm	27	28 SNW DAL 7:00 pm	29	30 HNIC ANA 8:00 pm
31						

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
	1 SNT VGK 8:00 pm	2 SNW COL 7:00 pm	3	4 SNW SJS 7:00 pm	5	6 HNIC CGY 8:00 pm
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				

ABBREVIATIONS

- ANA - Anaheim
- ARI - Arizona
- BOS - Boston
- BUF - Buffalo
- CAR - Carolina
- CBJ - Columbus
- CGY - Calgary
- CHI - Chicago
- COL - Colorado
- DAL - Dallas
- DET - Detroit
- FLA - Florida
- LAK - Los Angeles
- MIN - Minnesota
- MTL - Montreal
- NJD - New Jersey
- NSH - Nashville
- NYI - NY Islanders
- NYR - NY Rangers
- OTT - Ottawa
- PHI - Philadelphia
- PIT - Pittsburgh
- SJS - San Jose
- STL - St. Louis
- TBL - Tampa Bay
- TOR - Toronto
- VAN - Vancouver
- VGK - Las Vegas
- WPG - Winnipeg
- WSH - Washington

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