

# **WCHA**

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## **Home of 31 NCAA Championship Teams Since 1951**

1952, 1953, 1955, 1956,  
1957, 1958, 1959, 1960,  
1961, 1962, 1963, 1964,  
1965, 1966, 1968, 1969,  
1973, 1974, 1975, 1976,  
1977, 1979, 1980, 1981,  
1982, 1983, 1987, 1990,  
1991, 1997, 2000

## **WCHA Members**

Alaska Anchorage Seawolves

Colorado College Tigers

Denver Pioneers

Michigan Tech Huskies

Minnesota Golden Gophers

Minnesota-Duluth Bulldogs

MSU, Mankato Mavericks

North Dakota Fighting Sioux

St. Cloud State Huskies

Wisconsin Badgers

## **2001 Xcel Energy WCHA Final Five**

March 15, 16, 17

Xcel Energy Center • St. Paul

Ticket Info: 651 989-5151

**[www.wcha.com](http://www.wcha.com)**

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December 6, 2000/MADISON, Wisc./For Immediate Release

## **Four WCHA Players Named to 2001 U.S. National Junior Team Roster**

MADISON, Wisc. – Four players currently competing in the Western Collegiate Hockey Association have been named by USA Hockey to the 22-player roster for the 2001 U.S. National Junior Team, which will compete in the 2001 International Ice Hockey Federation (IIHF) World Junior Championship. They are forwards **Troy Riddle** and **Jeff Taffe** of the University of Minnesota, and defensemen **David Hale** of the University of North Dakota and **Paul Martin** of the University of Minnesota. Serving as an assistant coach will be former University of Minnesota-Duluth and NHL defenseman **Jim Johnson**.

The 2001 IIHF World Junior Championship, which features the world's top players under 20 years old, will be held Dec. 26, 2000 - Jan. 5, 2001 in Moscow and surrounding cities of Russia. The roster announcement was made by U.S. National Junior Team Head Coach Keith Allain, USA Hockey International Council Chairman Ron DeGregorio and USA Hockey Executive Director Doug Palazzari.

"I'm very excited with the speed and skill level of this team," said Allain. "We will be able to play an up-tempo game. I'm also thrilled about the character and mental toughness of our players. Those are essential traits in a tournament of this nature."

This year's roster includes 14 National Hockey League draftees and seven returning players from the 2000 team. Of the 14 NHL draftees, four were selected in the first round, including current Fighting Sioux defenseman David Hale – the 22nd selection of the New Jersey Devils – and current Golden Gopher Jeff Taffe – the 30th overall pick via the St. Louis Blues. Taffe led the U.S. team in scoring at the 2000 IIHF World Junior Championship in Sweden with one goal, four assists and five points, helping them to fourth place with a 2-3-2 record.

The 2001 U.S. National Junior Team will assemble in West Point, N.Y., on Dec. 15 in preparation for the world championship. The squad then travels to Finland for exhibition games on Dec. 19 vs Finland and Dec. 22 against Switzerland before beginning competition at the IIHF World Junior Championship on Dec. 26 against Kazakhstan.

*(complete roster on following page)*

# **2001 U.S. National Junior Team Roster**

## **World Junior Championship, Moscow, Russia**

No.	Name	Pos	Bdate	Ht	Wt	Shoots	Hometown	2000-01 Team	NHL Rights
<b>GOALTENDERS</b>									
29	DiPietro, Rick	G	9/19/81	6-0	185	R	Winthrop, MA	Chicago Wolves (IHL)	NYI
1	Kowalski, Craig	G	1/15/81	5-8	185	L	Warren, MI	N. Michigan Univ. (CCHA)	CAR
<b>DEFENSEMEN (7)</b>									
5	Forrest, Justin	D	4/15/81	5-9	175	L	Auburn, NY	Boston College (HEA)	CAR
4	Gleason, Tim	D	1/29/83	6-1	205	L	Clawson, MI	Windsor Spitfires (OHL)	
2	Hainsey, Ron	D	3/24/81	6-2	200	L	Bolton, CT	UMass-Lowell (HEA)	MTL
7	<b>Hale, David</b>	D	6/18/81	6-1	212	L	Colorado Springs, CO	Univ. of North Dakota (WCHA)	NJ
6	Komisarek, Mike	D	1/19/82	6-4	220	R	Islip Terrace, NY	Univ. of Michigan (CCHA)	
27	<b>Martin, Paul</b>	D	3/5/81	6-1	170	L	Elk River, MN	Univ. of Minnesota (WCHA)	NJ
28	Meyer, Fred	D	1/4/81	5-10	185	L	Sanbornville, NH	Boston Univ. (HEA)	
<b>FORWARDS (13)</b>									
10	Cavosie, Marc	F	9/6/81	6-0	170	L	Cohoes, NY	RPI (ECAC)	MIN
24	DiSalvatore, Jon	F	3/30/81	6-1	185	R	Windsor, CT	Providence College (HEA)	SJ
9	Dunlop, Connor	F	1/5/81	5-10	180	L	St. Louis, MO	Univ. of Notre Dame (CCHA)	
18	Globke, Rob	F	10/24/82	6-3	200	R	W. Bloomfield, MI	Univ. of Notre Dame (CCHA)	
19	Hilbert, Andy	F	2/6/81	5-11	190	L	Howell, MI	Univ. of Michigan (CCHA)	BOS
26	Nowak, Brett	F	5/20/81	6-3	195	L	New Haven, CT	Harvard Univ. (ECAC)	BOS
21	<b>Riddle, Troy</b>	F	8/24/81	5-11	170	L	Minneapolis, MN	Univ. of Minnesota (WCHA)	STL
11	Sabo, John	F	9/4/81	5-8	173	R	Harding, NJ	Boston Univ. (HEA)	
14	Steckel, David	F	3/15/82	6-4	195	L	West Bend, WI	Ohio State Univ. (CCHA)	
15	Surma, Damian	F	1/22/81	5-9	200	L	Lincoln Park, MI	Plymouth Whalers (OHL)	CAR
23	<b>Taffe, Jeff</b>	F	2/19/81	6-3	183	L	Hastings, MN	Univ. of Minnesota (WCHA)	STL
20	Umberger, R.J.	F	5/3/82	6-2	195	L	Pittsburgh, PA	Ohio State Univ. (CCHA)	
12	Vernarsky, Kris	F	4/5/82	6-3	200	L	Warren, MI	Plymouth Whalers (OHL)	TOR

Head Coach: Keith Allain  
 Team Physician: Dr. Jed Kuhn  
 Assistant Coach: **Jim Johnson**  
 Athletic Trainer: David Cotne  
 Assistant Coach: Tim Taylor  
 Equipment Manager: Jim Dunn  
 Assistant Coach: Red Gendron  
 Media Relations: Jenny Wiedeke  
 Team Manager: Scott Monaghan