



BADGER STATEMENT

WITH LOADS OF WISCONSIN TALENT, U.S. OLYMPIC HOCKEY TEAMS THRIVE IN SOCHI

By Scott Williams | Gannett Central Wisconsin Media

SOCHI, Russia — The U.S. Olympic women's hockey team scored 22 total goals on its way to a silver medal at the Winter Games in Sochi.

Women who played for the University of Wisconsin or grew up in the Badger State scored nine of them, including one by captain Meghan Duggan in Thursday's 3-2 loss to Canada in the championship.

The U.S. men's hockey team features four ex-Badgers, including Plover native Joe Pavelski, a graduate of Stevens Point Area Senior High who plays for the San Jose Sharks in the NHL.

Pavelski has helped his team to a semi-final game today against Canada, with one goal and four assists. Together, the Badgers have accounted for 10 points.

Yes, you might say Wisconsin has had an influence on Team USA's success in these Winter Games.

In this commemorative edition, we bring you a special presentation to celebrate both teams' Olympic achievements and their uniquely strong connections to our home state.

WISCONSIN STAT LINE AT 2014 SOCHI OLYMPICS

Jessie Vetter — 2-2 record, 1.69 goals against average, 0.909 save percentage in four games

Brianna Decker — 2 goals, 4 assists for 6 points in four games

Meghan Duggan — 1 goal, 1 assist for 2 points in four games

Amanda Kessel — 3 goals, 3 assists for 6 points in four games

Hilary Knight — 3 goals, 2 assists for 5 points in four games

WISCONSIN STAT LINE AT 2014 SOCHI OLYMPICS

Joe Pavelski — 1 goal, 4 assists for 5 points in four games

Ryan McDonagh — 1 goal, 1 assist for 2 points in four games

Ryan Suter — 0 goals, 3 assists for 3 points in four games

Phil Kessel — 5 goals, 3 assists for 8 points in four games

Derek Stepan — 0 points in one game

USA WOMEN'S HOCKEY RESULTS AT 2014 SOCHI WINTER OLYMPICS

Feb. 8 — USA 3, Finland 1

Feb. 10 — USA 9, Switzerland 0

Feb. 12 — Canada 3, USA 2

Monday — USA 6, Sweden 1 (semi-finals)

Thursday — Canada 3, USA 2, overtime (Gold medal game)

USA MEN'S HOCKEY RESULTS AT 2014 SOCHI WINTER OLYMPICS

Feb. 13 — USA 7, Slovakia 1

Feb. 15 — USA 3, Russia 2, shootout

Feb. 16 — USA 5, Slovenia 1

Tuesday — USA 5, Czechoslovakia 2 (quarterfinals)

Today — USA vs. Canada (semifinals)

WOMEN OF WISCONSIN

Jessie Vetter, 28, goalie, 5-8, 155, Cottage Grove, played at the University of Wisconsin (2005-09)

» Finished her four-year career at the University of Wisconsin, part of the Western Collegiate Hockey Association, with an NCAA Division I record 39 shutouts, a 0.941 save percentage and 91 total wins.

» Played in four consecutive national title games and led the Badgers to three NCAA Division I national championships (2006-07, 2008).

» Was part of the silver medal-winning U.S. team in the 2010 Vancouver Winter Games.

Brianna Decker, 22, forward, 5-4, 148, Dousman, played at UW (2009-13).

» Led the Badgers as a senior with 29 goals and 26 assists for 55 points, ending her career as the second-leading scorer in school history.

» Ranked first nationally with 37 goals as a junior.

» Ranked third on the team and fourth in the nation with 80 points (34 goals, 46 assists) in 41 games, while helping lead Wisconsin to the national title as a sophomore.

Meghan Duggan, 26, forward, 5-10, 160, Danvers, Mass., played at UW (2006-09, 2010-11)

» Finished her career at Wisconsin with 238 points (108 goals, 130 assists) in 159 games.

» Captured three NCAA Division I national championships and was a runner-up another season.

» Captain of Team USA for the Sochi Games.

Amanda Kessel, 22, forward, 5-5, 140, Madison native, plays at University of Minnesota (2010-present)

» Captured the NCAA Division I national championship with the Gophers.

» WCHA Player of the Year and WCHA Scoring Champion with 75 points.

» Led the nation in scoring with a career-high 101 points (46-55).

Hilary Knight, 24, forward, 5-11, 172, Sun Valley, Idaho, played at UW (2007-09, 2010-12)

» Led the nation with 10 game-winning goals as a senior at Wisconsin.

» Led the nation with 47 goals and ranked third with 81 points in 41 games as a junior while helping Wisconsin to the national title.

» Led the NCAA with 45 goals, 38 assists, 83 points in 39 games as a sophomore while helping the Badgers capture the NCAA championship.

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MEN OF WISCONSIN

Joe Pavelski, 29, center, 5-11, 190, Plover, played at the University of Wisconsin (2004-06)

» Helped the Badgers to the NCAA Frozen Four championship as a sophomore.

» Earned a silver medal in the 2010 Vancouver Winter Olympics.

» Selected by the San Jose Sharks in the seventh round (205th overall) of the 2003 NHL Entry Draft.

» Helped SPASH win lone WIAA state championship in 2003.

Phil Kessel, 26, forward, 6-0, 183, Madison, played at the University of Minnesota (2005-06)

» Scored 18 goals and added 33 assists to lead the nation in points by a freshman with 51 in his only season with the Gophers and was named the WCHA Rookie of the Year.

» Selected by the Boston Bruins in the first round (5th overall) of the 2006 NHL Entry Draft

» Earned a silver medal in the 2010 Winter Olympics.

Ryan McDonagh, 24, defenseman, 6-1, 213, St. Paul, Minn., played at UW (2007-10)

» Played in 43 games for the Badgers his junior season and recorded career-highs in assists (14) and points (18).

» Helped Wisconsin reach the NCAA Frozen Four national championship game as a junior.

» Selected by the Montreal Canadiens in the first round (12th overall) of the 2007 NHL Entry Draft.

Ryan Suter, 28, defenseman, 6-1, 198, Madison, played at UW (2003-04)

» Tallied 19 points on three goals and 16 assists in 39 games for the Badgers as a freshman.

» Named to both the All-WCHA Third Team and WCHA All-Rookie Team.

» Selected by the Nashville Predators in the first round (seventh overall) of the 2003 NHL Entry Draft.

Derek Stepan, 23, defenseman, 6-0, 196, Hastings, Minn., played at UW (2006-10)

» Led Badgers with 42 assists and 54 points in 41 games as sophomore and helped the Badgers to the NCAA Frozen Four championship game.

» Played in 40 games and finished second on Wisconsin in assists (24) and points (32) as a freshman.

» Selected by the New York Rangers in the second round (51st overall) of the 2008 NHL Entry Draft.

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Weather/7B

Today: Morning snow, windy, colder
High: 20 Low: -1

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