

NHL NOTEBOOK

# Hitchcock and rival team up for Canada

By Aaron Portzline  
THE COLUMBUS DISPATCH

MONTREAL — Blue Jackets coach Ken Hitchcock is willing to share "enemy secrets" with Red Wings coach Mike Babcock, he said, but only to help Canada in the 2010 Olympics.

Hitchcock was formally introduced yesterday as an associate coach for Team Canada, the right-hand man to Babcock, the coach. Lindy Ruff and Jacques Lemaire are the other two assistants.

It has the potential to be awkward, Hitchcock acknowledged. He and Babcock go toe-to-toe throughout the season as Central Division rivals, and it was the Red Wings who swept Hitchcock and the Blue Jackets out of their first berth in the Stanley Cup playoffs.

"It's going to be ... different," Hitchcock said. "But one of the first things we discussed when we all got together is that there will be no holding back."

"During the regular season, competition is competition. But, in this case, we'll all be trying to help our country reach a very important goal."

Hitchcock then fought back a chuckle. "Are there going to be things he reveals to me that might help our team?" Hitchcock said. "Absolutely. But he gets the same opportunity with me."

Hitchcock, as associate coach, will not be on the bench during games, he said. Instead, he'll serve as Team Canada's "eye in the sky," watching from the press box high above the rink to help with in-game adjustments.

Beyond that, he'll work closely with Babcock on pregame scouting reports for play-

ers and postgame reviews.

It will be Hitchcock's third Olympics. He also was an assistant in the 2004 World Cup. "I feel really lucky," he said. "To coach in three Olympic Games is special for me. It's such an opportunity for me to learn."

"The preparation and the exchange of systems, it really helps you as a coach, to go through it with other elite coaches. And I think my experience of what went wrong and needs to get better can help the cause."

### Weber to miss camp

Blue Jackets prospect Will Weber will not attend the club's development camp next week, general manager Scott Howson said.

But the defenseman's absence is not related to his arrest on theft and underage drinking charges Sunday in Oxford, Ohio.

"He's taking a summer college course (at Miami University) that conflicts with our camp," Howson said.

Weber, a second-round pick in 2007, was arrested by Oxford police after taking a woman's purse at a bar on the Miami campus. The 20-year-old told police that he'd had six or eight beers at a residence before entering the bar.

According to Howson, Weber told Blue Jackets development coach Tyler Wright the same story he told police, that he mistakenly took the woman's purse, believing it to be that of a friend.

### Party set for tonight

The Jackets will hold a draft party from 5 to 9 p.m. tonight in Nationwide Arena. Steve Mason, R.J. Umberger and Jared Boll will sign autographs. Admission is free.

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## WORLD

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play at Ohio State — it could be two more years before I play football again," said Mewhort, who is likely to redshirt this fall. "So being here, playing against these guys, playing in an international tournament, is great."

Klein, who played at Licking Valley, and Mewhort, from Toledo St. John's, have been roommates since enrolling early at OSU in January, and they haven't strayed far from football since.

"We were working on a lot of stuff," Klein said. "But taking it here, I'm one step ahead. I think that's a big advantage. ... At Ohio State, the guys are bigger and stronger. You have to work and you have to prove yourself, and it's the same way here."

Although the NFL backed global junior tournaments between 1997 and 2007, this is the first one coordinated by the International Federation of American Football, an organization promoting football in 52 countries.

The U.S., which was awarded the No. 2 seed behind Canada, has lost the previous three international tournaments to its neighbor to the north. It's made Klein and Mewhort more than ready to show the world what the U.S. can do.

"I've played in a lot of big games," Mewhort said. "The spring game was obviously what I thought was the biggest game of my life. But if we make the championship (July 5),



Storm Klein's goal is to end a string of U.S. losses.

Jack Mewhort likely will redshirt this season at OSU.

then that will definitely be the biggest game of my life."

The U.S. team is coached by Chuck Kyle, whose teams have won nine state championships in his 26 years at Cleveland St. Ignatius.

Kyle was charged with handpicking the players for the U.S. team. Not knowing where to begin, he was at the American Football Coaches Association convention in January when he ran into Jim Tressel, who offered to send some names his way.

Those names, it turned out, were Klein and Mewhort, and those two have soaked up the experience so far.

On Tuesday, Team USA was addressed by former Buckeyes linebacker Chris Spielman, who afterward took the time to meet with Klein and Mewhort.

"When a guy like that walks into a room, you listen," Klein said.

Although both players have been in contact with OSU teammates and the coaching staff, for the next week they are in the hands of Team USA. It's a program Tressel described to Kyle as a "plus-plus" be-

## Tournament schedule

ALL GAMES AT CANTON'S FAWCETT STADIUM

### SATURDAY'S GAMES

- ▶ No. 1 Canada vs. No. 8 New Zealand, 10 a.m.
- ▶ No. 4 Japan vs. No. 5 Germany, 1 p.m.
- ▶ No. 3 Mexico vs. No. 6 Sweden, 4 p.m.
- ▶ No. 2 United States vs. No. 7 France, 8 p.m.

### WEDNESDAY, JULY 1

- ▶ Canada-New Zealand loser vs. Japan-Germany loser, 10 a.m.
- ▶ Mexico-Sweden loser vs. United States-France loser, 1 p.m.
- ▶ Canada-New Zealand winner vs. Japan-Germany winner, 4 p.m.
- ▶ Mexico-Sweden winner vs. United States-France winner, 8 p.m.

### SATURDAY, JULY 4

- ▶ Seventh-place game, 1 p.m.
- ▶ Fifth-place game, 4 p.m.
- ▶ Third-place game, 7 p.m.

### SUNDAY, JULY 5

- ▶ Championship, 1 p.m.

cause it gives Klein and Mewhort some reps on the playing field while handing Team USA some above-average talent.

So what do they expect? "I want to win it," Klein said with a smile. "That's what I came here to do." zswartz@dispatch.com

## DRAFT

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when Howson buzzed from table to table on the draft floor, managing the many trade offers he was considering. He ended up trading the No. 19 pick to Philadelphia for forward R.J. Umberger.

As of late last night, Howson said he had not had any trade talks involving players. "The history of the draft, though, tells us that can change in a hurry," he said.

The rest of the NHL was a chaotic swirl long into the night.

The New York Islanders, who own the No. 1 pick, have not revealed who they'll select: center John Tavares, defenseman Victor Hedman or center Matt Duchene.

If the Islanders select Hedman, the Tampa Bay Lightning is expected to trade the No. 2 pick, possibly to the Toronto Maple Leafs, who covet Tavares.

Maple Leafs GM Brian Burke has all sorts of deals working, including a "major offer" for Leafs defenseman Kaberle that Burke was pondering late last night, believed to be from the Atlanta Thrashers, who own the No. 4 pick.

Burke is said to be hot after winger Brayden Schenn, the younger brother of Leafs defenseman Luke Schenn. But Schenn won't be available with the No. 7 pick.

It's possible that Burke could use the No. 4 and 7 picks to move up to No. 2 if the Islanders pass on Tavares.

Meanwhile, some players already in the NHL were making the rumor mills churn.

The Florida Panthers, who don't have a general manager, are trying to trade the negotiating rights to defenseman Bouwmeester, who can become an unrestricted free agent July 1. The trade would be for a conditional draft pick.

As the host city, and expecting a sold-out crowd of more than 20,000 tonight, the Canadiens would love to make a splash.

Once again, rumors are popping up that Tampa Bay might trade center Vincent Lecavalier to Montreal, but this time they appear to have more validity than in the past.

The Lightning is a mess, with two of its owners, Oren Koules and Len Barrie, meet-



AT THE BELL CENTRE

First round: 7 tonight (TV: Versus)

Rounds 2-7: 10 a.m. Saturday

### FIRST-ROUND ORDER

- |                         |                           |
|-------------------------|---------------------------|
| 1. New York Islanders   | 16. COLUMBUS BLUE JACKETS |
| 2. Tampa Bay Lightning  | 17. St. Louis Blues       |
| 3. Colorado Avalanche   | 18. Montreal Canadiens    |
| 4. Atlanta Thrashers    | 19. New York Rangers      |
| 5. Los Angeles Kings    | 20. Calgary Flames        |
| 6. Phoenix Coyotes      | 21. Philadelphia Flyers   |
| 7. Toronto Maple Leafs  | 22. Vancouver Canucks     |
| 8. Dallas Stars         | 23. New Jersey Devils     |
| 9. Ottawa Senators      | 24. Washington Capitals   |
| 10. Edmonton Oilers     | 25. Boston Bruins         |
| 11. Nashville Predators | 26. New York Islanders    |
| 12. Minnesota Wild      | 27. Carolina Hurricanes   |
| 13. Buffalo Sabres      | 28. Chicago Blackhawks    |
| 14. Florida Panthers    | 29. Detroit Red Wings     |
| 15. Anaheim Ducks       | 30. Pittsburgh Penguins   |

### OTHER BLUE JACKETS PICKS

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| <b>THIRD ROUND</b><br>Pick: 16   Overall: 77  | <b>SIXTH ROUND</b><br>Pick: 16   Overall: 166  |
| <b>FOURTH ROUND</b><br>Pick: 3   Overall: 94  | <b>SEVENTH ROUND</b><br>Pick: 16   Overall: 196  |
| <b>FIFTH ROUND</b><br>Pick: 16   Overall: 136 | <b>Note:</b> Traded second-round pick to Ottawa Senators for forward Antoine Vermette on March 4 |

Blue Jackets online: [BlueJacketsXtra.com](http://BlueJacketsXtra.com)

ing with NHL commissioner Gary Bettman this week to settle a fight between the two. All of the club's transactions will be handled by Lightning GM Brian Lawton, but Koules has the final say, and he's said to be willing to part with Lecavalier.

Ottawa is trying to honor Heatley's trade request before his \$4 million bonus kicks in July 1, and San Jose is said to be offering winger Ryan Clowe.

Not that it matters — directly — to the Blue Jackets. [aportzline@dispatch.com](mailto:aportzline@dispatch.com)

## Erectile Dysfunction Clinic Opens Local Doctors Restore Men's Sex Life

BY JEFF GOESTLER  
Men's Health Consultant

**Columbus** • A team of local physicians are part of a new medical clinic that opened recently in Columbus, specializing in only one unique, niche area — men's sexual performance.

Erectile dysfunction and premature ejaculation have long been a problem for millions of men nationwide. In spite of recent medications such as Viagra, Levitra and Cialis, many men either are not helped by these medications or cannot take them due to medical conditions and adverse side effects.

The Ohio Male Performance Clinic employs several local physicians including Dr. Michael Kirwin, MD, and Dr. David Rath, MD. "We successfully help almost every patient we see here," according to Steven Zak, Clinic Director, "and we've treated men from as young as twenty-one to as old as eighty-nine. Men with diabetes, heart conditions, bypass surgery, high blood

pressure, prostate problems and surgery, you name it and we've treated them. Regardless of age or medical condition, our results everyday are amazing."

All medications are FDA approved and no surgery is involved. "Our doctors can adjust the dosage for a man's performance to 45-minutes, an hour, 90-minutes or longer," according to Zak, "and we offer a simple guarantee: 'If you don't respond to our medication on the first visit, it's free.'"

With that guarantee, local patients have nothing to lose. Patients are assured of utmost privacy and professionalism with private waiting rooms and an all-male staff. Further information is available by calling (614) 538-2200. Out-of-towners can call Toll Free (800) 241-8440. Ohio Male Performance Clinic, 3802 Olentangy River Road, Columbus Ohio 43214. [www.ohiomaleclinic.com](http://www.ohiomaleclinic.com)

## SOCCER | CONFEDERATIONS CUP

# United States will face Brazil in final

JOHANNESBURG (AP) — Daniel Alves scored the only goal on a free kick with just two minutes left in a Confederations Cup semifinal yesterday, giving Brazil a 1-0 win over host South Africa and sending the five-time World Cup champion into the final against the United States. The final Sunday will be a rematch of

last week's game in group play when the Brazilians crushed the Americans 3-0.

Brazil is 13-1 in head-to-head meetings with the United States.

South Africa displayed far more purpose and skill yesterday than in its first-round group, equaling Brazil in shots on goal with 12.

**MEET**

**STEVE MASON**   **R.J. UMBERGER**   **JARED BOLL**

**2009 OPEN HOUSE**

**DRAFT PARTY**

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- Tour the Locker Room
- Enjoy food and drink specials
- Free Parking - Nationwide Arena Garage
- Check out seat locations for partial or full season ticket plans starting at just \$18 per game
- Street hockey on the arena floor for kids

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Bob Hunter is off. Rumbblings will return next week.