



TEAM USA GAME NOTES

2011 IIHF World Under-18 Championship • Crimmitschau & Dresden, Germany

Canada (4-0-0-1) vs. Team USA (4-0-0-0)

April 23, 2011 • 6:30 p.m. • Semifinal

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TONIGHT'S CONTEST -- The U.S. Men's National Under-18 Team takes on Canada in the semifinals of the 2011 International Ice Hockey Federation World Men's Under-18 Championship. Canada had to first beat the host country, Germany, in the quarterfinals Thursday (April 21). Despite inspired play by Deutschland, Canada came from behind to earn the 4-3 win and the right to face the U.S. Team USA has been off since Tuesday (April 19), as its win against Germany secured a bye to the semifinals.

MATCH-UP HISTORY -- Team USA will meet Canada for the ninth time in tournament history tonight and it will be the third semifinal meeting between the two. The U.S. owns winning record against its northerly neighbors, posting six wins to just two losses. The U.S. last defeated Canada on April 16, 2010 in the third preliminary game. **Jack Campbell** (Port Huron, Mich./2008-10) recorded the 5-0 shutout in Bobruisk, Belarus. Most recently, these two hockey powers faced off in an exhibition tilt prior to the U18 Championship, in which Canada prevailed, 2-1. **Rocco Grimaldi** (Rossmore, Calif.) scored the lone goal for Team USA and **John Gibson** (Pittsburgh, Pa.) made 31 saves in the effort. The U.S. has outscored Canada by a 31-14 margin in the all-time series.

2010	5-0	W	Preliminary Round
2009	6-2	W	Semifinal
2007	2-3 (SO)	L	Preliminary Round
	4-3 (SO)	W	Semifinal
2005	5-1	W	Gold Medal Game
2004	2-1	W	Preliminary Round
2003	1-2	L	Semifinal
2002	10-3	W	Quarterfinal

LAST TIME OUT: GER vs. USA (April 19) -- **Reid Boucher** (Grand Ledge, Mich.), **Rocco Grimaldi** and **J.T. Miller** (East Palestine, Ohio) each recorded three points, as the U.S. Men's National Under-18 Team topped Germany, 7-3, in its final preliminary-round game of the 2011 International Ice Hockey Federation World Men's U18 Championship. With the win, Team USA remained undefeated with a 4-0-0-0 (W-OTW-OTL-L) record and earned a bye to the semifinal round. Boucher was named the best player for the U.S.

HOT STREAK CONTINUES -- **Reid Boucher** continues to have the scoring touch as his two-goal effort against Germany extended his streak to four games. Boucher has five goals total and two assists in tournament trip. Three of Boucher's five goals have been game-winners ... **J.T. Miller** also kept his point streak intact as he tallied one goal and assisted on two others. Miller's streak is at four games. Three of the four games that Miller has skated in have been multi-point efforts ... **Robbie Russo's** (Westmont, Ill.) strong play thus far in the tournament has earned the blueliner seven points (1-6). The defenseman had at least one point in all of the preliminary round games ... After being held pointless in the opener against Switzerland, **Rocco Grimaldi** has put up some solid numbers. Grimaldi posted seven points (2-5) in the next three games, a streak that is still intact ... **Travis Boyd** (Hopkins, Minn.) collected an assist against Germany to add to extend his point streak, now at three games.

TOP TRAINING -- The U.S. Men's National Under-18 Team trains with The Hockey IntelliGym, a revolutionary new software program released on October 1, 2010 that helps players develop hockey sense. To learn more, visit USAHockeyIntelliGym.com.

Team USA Schedule

<u>Saturday, April 9 -- Dresden, Germany</u>	
USA vs. Canada (exhibition)	L, 1-2
<u>Monday, April 10 -- Dresden, Germany</u>	
Finland vs. USA (exhibition)	W, 4-2
<u>Thursday, April 14 -- Crimmitschau, Germany</u>	
Switzerland vs. USA	W, 2-1
<u>Friday, April 15 -- Crimmitschau, Germany</u>	
Slovakia vs. USA	W, 8-1
<u>Sunday, April 17 -- Crimmitschau, Germany</u>	
USA vs. Russia	W, 4-3
<u>Tuesday, April 19 -- Crimmitschau, Germany</u>	
USA vs. Germany	W, 7-3
<u>Saturday, April 23 -- Crimmitschau, Germany</u>	
USA vs. Canada (Semifinal Round)	6:30 p.m.
<u>Sunday, April 24 -- Crimmitschau</u>	
Bronze-Medal Game	2:30 p.m.
Gold-Medal Game	6:30 p.m.

2011 IIHF World Under-18 Championship Team USA Statistics

#	Player	GP	G	A	PTS	PIM	+/-
11	J.T. Miller	4	3	5	8	6	3
14	Reid Boucher	4	5	2	7	6	5
23	Rocco Grimaldi	4	2	5	7	4	3
8	Robbie Russo	4	1	6	7	0	4
26	Travis Boyd	4	2	2	4	2	3
16	Zac Larraza	4	0	4	4	4	3
28	Seth Jones	4	0	3	3	0	4
21	Ryan Haggerty	4	2	0	2	0	3
9	Adam Reid	4	2	0	2	4	0
22	Tyler Biggs	4	1	1	2	43	2
25	Dan Carlson	4	1	1	2	0	3
7	Barrett Kaib	4	0	2	2	0	4
12	Nicolas Kerdiles	4	0	2	2	2	2
5	Connor Murphy	4	1	0	1	2	3
10	Blake Pietila	4	1	0	1	0	-2
19	Jake McCabe	4	0	1	1	0	0
4	Michael Paliotta	4	0	1	1	2	-1
15	Henrik Samuelsson	4	0	1	1	4	-1
18	Cole Bardreau	4	0	0	0	2	-1
24	Jacob Trouba	4	0	0	0	0	2
1	John Gibson	4	0	0	0	4	--
30	Matt McNeely	4	0	0	0	0	--

#	Goaltender	GA	GAA	SV	SV%	W-OTW-OTL-L
1	John Gibson	7	1.84	109	.939	4-0-0-0
30	Matt McNeely	1	5.17	4	.800	0-0-0-0

RELEGATION RESULTS (THURS.) --

Slovakia 3 - Czech Republic 4
Norway 1 - Switzerland 4

QUARTERFINAL RESULTS (THURS.) --

Finland 2 - Russia 5
Germany 3 - Canada 4

TODAY'S MATCH-UPS (all times local) --

Finland vs. Germany @ 10:30 a.m.
Sweden vs. Russia (semis) @ 2:30 p.m.
Slovakia vs. Norway @ 3:30 p.m.
USA vs. Canada (semis) @ 6:30 p.m.
Switzerland vs. Czech Republic @ 7:30

STAT LEADERS -- J.T. Miller is the leading point producer for Team USA. His eight points (3-5) puts him in the tournament's top five ... Canada's top player, in terms of points, is **Ryan Murphy**. The blueliner has tallied three goals and added five assists, placing him tied-for-fifth overall. The eight points Murphy has posted ties him with **Albert Yarullin** of Russia for most amongst d-men ... **Robbie Russo** is third amongst defenseman in points (1-6) and ranks tied-for-eighth overall ... **Reid Boucher**, the U.S. sharpshooter, and **Mark Scheifele**, Canada's hot hand, are tied-for-second in goals scored with five each ... **Rocco Grimaldi** and **Blake Pietila** rank in the top ten in taking the draw, winning 65.1% (sixth) and 61.3% (ninth) of their faceoffs, respectively ... Canada's top faceoff guy is **Alan Quine**, who has won 80.0% (15/20) of his draws, tops in the tournament ... **John Gibson** is the top goaltender thus far in the tournament, leading all other netminders in save percentage (.939) and goals-against-average (1.84).



A standing room only crowd cheers on Germany at Crimmitschau Arena. Team USA defeated the host country, 7-3. (Photo by: Matthew Murnaghan/HOF-IIHF Images)

TEAM STASTICS -- The U.S. penalty kill unit currently leads all teams in the tournament having only allowed three power play goals thus far (86.4%). Canada ranks third in killing the opposition's power play (81.5%) ... Team USA is fourth overall with the extra man,

clicking at a 32.0% clip. Canada strikes on 34.6% of tries, placing Team USA's neighbor to the north in second ... With 85 total penalty minutes, the U.S. is the fifth most penalized team. Canada has been whistled for 96 penalty minutes, second most in the tournament ... On average, the Americans have drawn 1,778 fans per game (fourth). Canada is just ahead at third, with an average of 1,907 locals paying to see the hockey power.

GRIMALDI MILESTONE WATCH -- Rocco

Grimaldi took another step towards the top of the all-time U.S. leader board for the IIHF World Men's Under-18 Championship. With a three-point (1-2) night, Grimaldi claimed sole possession of third place on the list of top U.S. point producers. Grimaldi has recorded 14 points (4-13) in 11 career games, having played for the gold medal-winning 2010 U.S. Men's National Under-18 Team at last year's tournament in Belarus. Just two players are now ahead of Grimaldi: **Jeremy Morin** (Auburn, N.Y./2007-09), who had 18 points (12-6) in 12 games and **Phil Kessel** (Madison, Wis./2003-05), who will be tough to catch at 26 points (16-10).

TWO UP, TWO DOWN -- Denmark won the 2011 IIHF World U18 Championship Division I Group B last Saturday (April 16) and the right to move back to the top division, where it last played in 2008 ... Latvia will stage its second straight comeback in the top division of the U18 category next year in Switzerland. The Baltic nation won the 2011 IIHF World U18 Championship Division I Group A on home ice in Riga ... Switzerland and the Czech Republic both won on Thursday (April 19) ensuring that both squads will stay in the top division of the IIHF World U18 Championship, while Norway and Slovakia will be relegated to Division IA next year.

U18's EXTER TABBED: It was recently announced by USA Hockey that **Joe Exter** will serve as one of three assistant coaches for the 2012 U.S. National Junior Team. The 2012 International Ice Hockey Federation World Junior Championship will take place from Dec. 26, 2011 - Jan. 5, 2012, in Calgary and Edmonton, Alta. Exter is currently serving on the coaching staff of his third U.S. Men's National Under-18 Team at the 2011 IIHF World Men's Under-18 Championship, in Fargo, N.D. and Moorhead, Minn., and the 2010 IIHF World Men's U18 Championship, in Minsk and Bobruisk, Belarus.

Home State of Team USA Players

California	3
Michigan	3
Minnesota	3
Ohio	3
Arizona	2
Connecticut	2
Pennsylvania	2
Illinois	1
New York	1
Texas	1
Wisconsin	1

Team USA College Commitments

Miami Univ. (CCHA)	2
Univ. of North Dakota (WCHA)	2
Univ. of Wisconsin (WCHA)	2
Cornell Univ. (ECACH)	1
Michigan State Univ. (CCHA)	1
Michigan Tech Univ. (WCHA)	1
Minnesota State Mankato (WCHA)	1
Northeastern Univ. (HEA)	1
Univ. of Minnesota Duluth (WCHA)	1
Rensselaer (ECACH)	1
Univ. of Denver (WCHA)	1
Univ. of Michigan (CCHA)	1
Univ. of Minnesota (WCHA)	1
Univ. of Minnesota Duluth (WCHA)	1
Univ. of Notre Dame (CCHA)	1
Univ. of Vermont (HEA)	1

College Connection By League

WCHA	10
CCHA	5
ECACH	2
HEA	2

Team USA Overall

Average Height	6'0" (184)
Average Weight	189 (86)
Shoots/Catches Left	11
Shoots/Catches Right	11

TOURNAMENT TIDBITS -- Coverage of Team USA throughout the 2011 IIHF World Men's Under-18 Championship can be found on USAHockey.com and [Facebook](https://www.facebook.com/USAHockey). There you will find game notes, recaps, photos from the tournament, fan polls, scoring updates and pre and post game video interviews ... For live U.S. scoring updates during each game of the tournament, follow [@USAHockeyScores](https://twitter.com/USAHockeyScores) and [#U18WMC](https://twitter.com/U18WMC) on Twitter ... All U.S. games will be streamed live on USAHockey.FASTHockey.com.

