

Minnesota Hockey Coaches Association

For Immediate Release

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2007 NHL Draft Results for Minnesota High School Hockey

A look at the 2007 NHL draft results demonstrates once again that Minnesota high school hockey players measure up well with any league or program in the country.

According to the *United States Hockey Report*, the majority of the Americans drafted came from the following three programs/leagues:

United States Under 18 (Ann Arbor) – 13 players
United States Hockey League – 12 players
Minnesota High Schools – 9 players

Minnesota high school players often get misidentified as “USHL products” when in fact most of those players only play a handful of games for the USHL teams *after* the high school season is over!

The high school hockey players drafted were as follows:

Round 1

12 overall – Montreal: Ryan McDonagh/Cretin Derham Hall
23 overall – Vancouver: Patrick White/Grand Rapids High School

Round 2

50 overall – Dallas: Nico Sacchetti (Virginia High School)

Round 3

68 overall – Columbus: Jake Hansen (White Bear Lake High School)

Round 5

131 overall – Florida: John Lee (Moorhead High School)
133 overall – Montreal: Joe Stejskal (Grand Rapids High School)

Round 6

176 overall – Vancouver: Taylor Matson (Holy Angels High School)

Round 7

185 overall – Washington: Nick Larson (Hill Murray High School)
192 overall – Montreal: Scott Kishel (Virginia High School)

Other points of interest:

- Both the USHL and Minnesota State High School League had two players taken in the first round of this year's draft with the MSHSL first pick chosen 10 rounds before the USHL's first pick.
- Two high school programs each produced two NHL draft choices: Grand Rapids and Virginia
- Joe Stejskal and Patrick White were teammates for this year's state runner up from Grand Rapids high school and both players were drafted by Montreal.
- Nine players highlighted here completed their three years of high school hockey. If we were to count all of the Minnesota players on the 2007 draft list who played at least one high school season (and most played at least two), then the number of high school hockey products would be nearly double.
- Two of the top three draft choices came from small community based programs – Grand Rapids and Virginia.

Sources:

NHL.com

<http://www.ushr.com/>

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