



Media Release

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Firebirds Hire Former Detroit Red Wing & Stanley Cup Champion Greg Stefan as Goaltending Coach

Flint, Mich. – The Flint Firebirds Hockey Club announced today the hiring of former Detroit Red Wings' goaltender and Stanley Cup Champion Greg Stefan as the organization's goaltending coach.

Greg played in the Ontario Hockey League for three seasons with the Oshawa Generals from 1978-81 before being selected by the Detroit Red Wings in the 1981 NHL Draft. He played nine seasons in the NHL as a goaltender with the Red Wings, winning 115 games, prior to suffering a career-ending knee injury on Nov. 25, 1989 against the Edmonton Oilers.

"I'm excited, it feels like I've been involved in this organization for a long time now, since it has come over from the Plymouth Whalers," said Stefan. "The facilities are second-to-none, it's treated like a miniature NHL here internally, it's outstanding. The staff is phenomenal and it's obvious the Firebirds are in really good hands and have a positive future moving forward."

Stefan then began his coaching career in 1993 with the OHL's Detroit Jr. Red Wings, contributing to the team's first OHL championship in 1995. He remained with the club, which had relocated from Detroit to Plymouth, Mich., as the Plymouth Whalers, until 1998 before taking a job with the NHL's Carolina Hurricanes. Stefan was a scout in the Hurricanes' organization for four seasons before being named the Head Goaltending Coach in 2005. In 2006, Stefan won the Stanley Cup as the club's goaltending coach and scout.

"We are thrilled to have the opportunity to add Greg to the coaching staff," said Flint Firebirds General Manager Barclay Branch. "He brings years of playing and coaching experience to our organization and will be a positive addition to our club moving forward."

Stefan returned to Plymouth in December 2007 to become the head coach of the Whalers, taking over for Mike Vellucci, who would solely focus on general manager duties at the time. Since then, Stefan has been a scout or goaltending coach for the Hurricanes. Additionally this season, Stefan will be the head coach of the 2002 birth-year Midget Minor Compuware AAA Hockey Club, the age group eligible for the upcoming 2018 OHL Draft.

Originally from Brantford, Ont., Stefan currently resides in Farmington Hills, Mich. with his wife Diana and has two sons, Joseph and William. Greg Stefan is the brother of Firebirds' Assistant General Manager Joe Stefan.

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