



**Rick Bennett**  
Associate Head Coach  
Union College  
"Defensive Situations  
& Reminders"



**George Roll**  
Head Coach  
Clarkson University  
"Special Teams"



**Bob Emery**  
Head Coach  
Plattsburgh State  
"Leadership: Coaching  
& Communication"



**Rob Haberbusch**  
Associate Head Coach  
West Point  
"Practice Planning  
& Execution"



**Greg Drechsel**  
Associate Coach  
Clarkson University  
"Small Area Games"



**Joe Baldarotta**  
Head Coach  
Cortland State University  
"Goaltending: Myths &  
Misconceptions in the Game"



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## 2009 Pro Hockey Development Coaches Seminar

**August 22, 2009**  
**The Westin Governor Morris Hotel**  
**Morristown NJ**

Lectures by  
NHL/College  
Coaches & Players



Featuring  
New York Rangers Great  
Nick Fotiu!



"Face Offs & Breakouts"

- A Day Full of Informative Instruction
- Designed to benefit coaches at all levels
- Detailed lecture material booklet for all participants including practice drills and speaker's notes
- Q & A Forum: "State of the Game" – interactive panel discussion with some of the game's sharpest minds
- Breakfast and Lunch provided for all participants

See attached PDF for further information,  
including a list of **GUEST SPEAKERS**,  
and registration info.

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**2009**

**Pro Hockey  
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**Coaches Seminar**

**August 22, 2009**

**GUEST SPEAKERS**

**Nick Fotiu**

**New York Rangers Great**

**"Face Offs & Breakouts"**

**Mike LaZazzera**

Assistant Coach

New York Islanders

"Video: A Tool for Player  
& Team Development"

~

**Greg Drechsel**

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Clarkson University

"Small Area Games"

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Cortland State University

"Goaltending: Myths &  
Misconceptions in the Game"

~

**Q & A Open Forum**

Panel of Guest Speakers

"State of the Game"

# Guest Speaker Biographies

## Nick Fotiu New York Rangers Great



Nick Fotiu's eight seasons with the New York Rangers were a testament to a remarkable hockey player who defied all the odds to reach the NHL. Growing up a short distance from Madison Square Garden in Staten Island, N.Y., Fotiu had limited access to ice rinks. But Fotiu, a huge Rangers fan, was determined not to let that stand in the way of his dream.

Playing hockey for the first time at age 15, he quickly came up through the old New York Metropolitan junior league and at age 22 had managed to catch on with the Hartford Whalers of the former World Hockey Association.

Just one step away from the NHL, Fotiu didn't have to wait long for his hometown Rangers to give him a shot. He signed with the Blueshirts on July 23, 1976, becoming the first player born and raised within the five boroughs ever to reach the Rangers.

New York fans recognized Fotiu's achievement in making it to the Rangers. They embraced his work ethic and fearlessness on the ice. Over the next decade, Fotiu developed a special relationship with his fans, and he faithfully honored them by throwing and shooting practice pucks into the stands before every game.

Fotiu was so popular with the Garden Faithful that even after being lost to Hartford in the 1979 NHL Expansion Draft, he was still a star whenever he returned to face the Rangers. Midway through the 1980-81 season, the Rangers brought Fotiu back to New York, where he would continue to play through the 1984-85 season.

Following his retirement, Fotiu turned to coaching where he became the head coach of the Nashville Nights of the ECHL from 1992-1994. Fotiu went on to become the head coach of the Johnstown Chiefs from 1995-1998. Fotiu left the ECHL to become an assistant coach in the AHL with the Kentucky Thoroughblades from 1998-2001, the Cleveland Barons during the 2001-2002 season and eventually came back to the Rangers organization as an assistant coach with the Hartford Wolf Pack from 2002-2005. By 2005, he had shifted to the role of pro scout — keeping close ties to the NHL team with which his name will forever be associated.

# Rick Bennett

## Associate Head Coach - Union College



**R**ick Bennett begins his third season as associate head coach and fifth as a member of the Dutchmen staff. Bennett previously spent five years as an assistant coach at Providence College. His first two years with the Friars he worked with the defense and then worked with the forwards his final three seasons. During his tenure Bennett also coached the team's power play, handled team travel, recruiting, and academics.

In 2007, Bennett guided the United States' Team Blue to the championship of the U-17 Three Nations Tournament in Rochester, N.Y. His team compiled a 3-1-0 record throughout the tournament, while outscoring opponents, 24-8. Bennett also served as a coach at the U.S. Select 16 National Festival in Rochester, NY in 2005.

A 1990 graduate of Providence, Bennett was a four-year standout for the Friars at left wing and ranks 21st all-time in scoring with 134 points (50 goals, 84 assists). He earned Second-Team All-American honors as a junior, and as a senior captain for the Friars earned Second-Team All-Hockey East accolades and was a Hobey Baker Finalist. Bennett was also named to the Hockey East All-Freshman Team in 1987. He graduated with a Bachelor of Arts degree in general studies.

Bennett was a third round draft pick of the Minnesota North Stars in the 1986 NHL Entry Draft and was traded to the New York Rangers his junior year at Providence. From 1990-93, he played for the Binghamton Rangers of the AHL and saw action in 15 games for the New York Rangers. After leaving Binghamton, he spent two seasons with the Springfield Indians of the AHL and played his final four seasons of professional hockey (1995-99) for the Jacksonville Lizard Kings (ECHL) and the Pee Dee Pride (ECHL). In addition to playing for the Lizard Kings and the Pride, Bennett also served as an assistant coach for each team for four years. Bennett works with the defensemen and special teams, manages team video and is an active member of the Dutchmen recruiting staff.

# George Roll

## Head Coach - Clarkson University



Under the guidance of head coach George Roll and his staff, Clarkson University Hockey has regained its stature as one of the elite programs in the nation. With back-to-back appearances in the NCAA Tournament, a pair of ECAC Hockey titles, and consecutive 20-win campaigns over the past two seasons, the Golden Knights, with Roll directing the turnaround, have restored the excitement and prosperity to the tradition-laden program. Roll has guided the Green and Gold back to their accustomed perch near the top of the Division I rankings by recruiting some of the best student-athletes available to the Clarkson program. The coaching triumvirate has brought to the Potsdam, NY campus 15 National Hockey League Draft choices since taking the reigns of the program in the spring of 2003, including eight on this year's roster.

The past two seasons, Clarkson has enjoyed some of the finest success in the program's 86-year history. Last year, the Knights posted 22 victories, won the ECAC Regular Season title and claimed Clarkson's first NCAA Tournament victory since 1996. In 2006-07, the Green and Gold posted 25 wins, won the ECAC Tr. championship, and earned the number one seed in the NCAA East Regional.

Through five seasons behind the Clarkson bench, Roll is rapidly closing in on the coveted 100-win mark with a 96-80-20 record. Roll's overall 12-year collegiate coaching record, which includes seven years at Oswego State, stands at 215-154-36.

A former assistant coach at Clarkson when the Golden Knights enjoyed some of their greatest success in the early 1990s, Roll was announced as Clarkson's new coach on March 24, 2003. He came back to the University after a very successful tenure as the head coach at Oswego State. Roll completed his seven-year stint at Oswego when he guided the Great Lakers into the title game of the 2003 Division III National Championships, capping off a 25-7-1 season. In seven years at Oswego State, beginning in 1996, Roll amassed a 119-74-16 overall record and guided the Lakers to two NCAA Tournament appearances, two State University of New York Athletic Conference (SUNYAC) championships, and one SUNYAC Tournament championship.

During his eight-year stretch as the Knights' number one assistant under former Clarkson head coach Mark Morris, Roll was instrumental in helping to guide the Green and Gold to some of their most outstanding seasons ever in the early 1990s. He played an important role in bringing to the Northern New York campus some of the most talented players to ever lace up skates for the Knights.

*George Roll - Continued*

Several of the players that Roll played a large part in bringing to Clarkson included numerous ECAC and All-America All-Stars, and over 20 NHL draft choices. Among the players Roll helped to recruit to Clarkson included NHL players Erik Cole, Craig Conroy, Todd Marchant and Steve Dubinsky.

A native of the Chicago suburb of Blue Island, Illinois, Roll played four years at Bowling Green State University, under former Clarkson head coach Jerry York. Through 161 games with the Falcons, he totaled 62 goals and 90 assists for 152 points. As a junior, Roll made significant contributions to the 1983-84 Falcon squad, which won the national championship and finished with a 34-8-2 record. He served as Bowling Green's captain in his senior campaign in 1984-85 and finished with a career-high 51 points on 20 goals and 31 assists. Roll received his Bachelor of Arts degree from Bowling Green in 1986 and his master's degree in education in athletic administration in 1988.

Roll began his coaching career at his alma mater as a graduate assistant under York during the 1987-88 season prior to coming to Clarkson. He is also involved with the USA Hockey Program having served as a coach at the Select 17 Festival in St. Cloud, MN (2002-05) and as a coach at the Select 16 Festival in Rochester, NY. He also has coached in the Nike/Bauer Camp and the East Coast Select Camp, and served as the director of the Huron Hockey schools in the past.

# Rob Haberbusch

## Associate Head Coach - West Point



**R**ob Haberbusch begins his seventh season with the Army hockey team and his second as Associate Head Coach. Haberbusch was promoted following four seasons as head coach Brian Riley's top assistant.

A 1993 graduate of Fairfield University, Haberbusch was a key cog in Army's march to the Atlantic Hockey Association regular season championship in 2007-08. He has been instrumental in constructing the stingy Army defense which has yielded the fewest goals against in Atlantic Hockey over each of the last two seasons. His familiarity with the North American recruiting landscape has allowed Army to attract some of the Atlantic Hockey's top recruits, including 2008 AHA Defenseman of the Year Zach McKelvie and All-America goalie Josh Kassel.

Haberbusch's tenure at West Point began under Brian's brother, Rob Riley. Haberbusch spent a year with the older Riley and was retained when Brian Riley was named head coach.

Haberbusch is responsible for the Army defensemen, goalies and power play. In addition, he is heavily involved in recruiting, video analysis and player development.

Prior to his arrival at Army, Haberbusch spent six seasons as the top assistant at fellow NCAA Division I programs Iona and Findlay. Haberbusch has been a head coach for the past 11 years at the USA Hockey Select Festivals.

A four-year hockey letter winner at Fairfield, Haberbusch earned his degree in Political Science. He later completed his master's degree in Education at Findlay.

# Bob Emery

## Head Coach - Plattsburgh State



Entering his 20th season behind the Plattsburgh State bench, Bob Emery has established himself as one of the nation's top head coaches in all of NCAA college men's ice hockey. His resume speaks for itself: two national championships, 12 NCAA tournament appearances including eight trips to the Division III semifinals, 11 State University of New York Athletic Conference championships and 13 All-Americans. Emery's 422-138-42 career record makes him the winningest coach in the program's storied history, and his .736 winning percentage ranks in the Top 5 all-time in the NCAA. He ranks sixth among Division III active coaches with 422 victories.

Emery's teams have won 20 games in a season 15 times, including a 32-2-2 campaign in 1992 when Plattsburgh captured its first NCAA title with him at the helm. The Cardinals recorded a trifecta of championships that season, adding crowns in the ECAC West Division and SUNYAC.

Arguably the most decorated coach in the SUNYAC with 12 league championships in 19 tournament appearances, Emery has mentored five SUNYAC Players of the Year, seven SUNYAC Rookies of the Year, 11 SUNYAC Tournament MVPs and over 100 All-SUNYAC and conference all-tournament selections. The Cards have won eight of the last 12 SUNYAC championships, including a six-year string from 1997 to 2002.

He is a past chair of the NCAA Division III Men's Ice Hockey Championship Committee that is responsible for selecting teams and administering the NCAA Tournament.

Emery was a 10th-round pick and No. 208 overall by the Montreal Canadiens in the 1982 National Hockey League Entry Draft. Instead of signing professionally after high school, he became a Hockey East All-Star and alternate captain by his senior year at Boston College. During his four years there, the Eagles made three NCAA Division I tournament appearances and won the prestigious Beanpot Championship in 1983.

After his college playing career, Emery was invited to the Montreal Canadiens training camp. Then he joined the Quebec Nordiques organization and played for their American Hockey League affiliate Fredericton Express for one season, and ended his professional career with the Boston Bruins' minor league affiliate Maine Mariners.

A 1986 graduate of Boston College as a marketing major, Emery earned a master's degree in leadership administration from Plattsburgh State in 1990.

# **Mike LaZazzera**

## **Assistant Coach – New York Islanders**



**D**uring Mike LaZazzera's 13 year coaching career, he has spent time coaching in the NHL, AHL, IHL, ECHL, SPHL as well as the USHL and at the NCAA level.

LaZazzera most recent recently served on the New York Islanders' coaching staff as the Video Coach for 2 seasons where he was responsible for breaking down and analyzing game footage for player and team development.

Prior to joining the NY Islanders coaching staff, LaZazzera served as an assistant coach for the Portland Pirates of the American Hockey League. LaZazzera also served as an assistant coach with the Phoenix RoadRunners of the IHL as well as the head coach of the Jacksonville Lizard Kings of the ECHL. LaZazzera spent 5 years as an assistant coach in the ECHL with stops in Greensboro, Tallahassee, Jacksonville and Reading. LaZazzera's first pro head coaching job came with the Winston-Salem TBirds of the Southern Professional Hockey League.

LaZazzera also served as head coach of the Dubuque Fighting Saints of the USHL and as assistant coach at the University of Maine.

# Greg Drechsel

## Associate Coach - Clarkson University



Greg Drechsel has brought a wealth of hockey knowledge back to Clarkson since returning to the Golden Knights' program in 2003. Drechsel has been very instrumental in helping to bring to Potsdam some of the most promising college players in the nation the past five seasons. Clarkson's past six recruiting classes, which form the foundation for the Knights' resurgence, have generated 15 NHL Draft picks, including eight on this year's roster.

Drechsel's efforts have helped to reestablish Clarkson's prominence in Division I hockey. Last year, the Golden Knights' enjoyed one of the best seasons in the storied tradition of Clarkson Hockey. In 2007-08, the Green and Gold posted 22 wins, won the ECAC regular season championship, and skated to Clarkson's first NCAA Tournament victory since 1996.

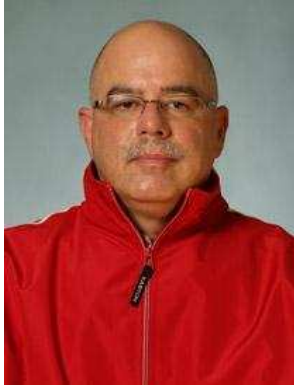
Prior to returning to Clarkson for his second stint on the Green and Gold's coaching staff, the North York, Ontario native served in the scouting department with the Los Angeles Kings of the National Hockey League since 1996, working under Clarkson alumni Dave Taylor, LA's Vice President and General Manager, and Bill O'Flaherty, the Kings' Director of Player Personnel. For three years Drechsel acted as the Assistant Director of Amateur Scouting for the Kings, evaluating draft eligible prospects in North America, Europe and Russia for the annual NHL entry draft.

A four-year assistant coach for the Golden Knights from 1989-1993, Drechsel has also served as an assistant coach at Miami University (1993-94) and at the University of Denver (1994-96). During his coaching stint at Clarkson, the Knights posted four consecutive 20-win seasons, an overall record of 92-40-11, won two Eastern College Athletic Conference (ECAC) Tournament championships and advanced to the NCAA Tournament all four years. He played a large role in bringing numerous all-star caliber players to Clarkson, including current NHL standout Todd White of the Atlanta Thrashers, who was a Hobey Baker Award finalist in 1997.

A 1988 graduate of Colgate University, Drechsel was a high-scoring left wing for the Raiders from 1984-88. Through 128 college games, he scored 55 goals and 83 assists.

# Joe Baldarotta

## Head Coach – Cortland State



Joe Baldarotta enters his third season at the Cortland helm in the 2009-10 season. Last winter, he guided the Red Dragons to an 11-12-3 record, including an 8-4-2 mark over their final 14 games, and their first State University of New York Athletic Conference (SUNYAC) tournament appearance in four years.

Prior to his arrival at Cortland in 2007, Baldarotta served as the head coach for 16 seasons at the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point. His record of 265-171-38 at the school included 10 consecutive campaigns with a .500 or better record and 14 in total. He led the Pointers to the 1993 NCAA Division III national title, earning American Hockey Coaches Association (AHCA) national coach of the year honors. The program also finished as national runner-up in both 1992 and 1998 and captured three Northern Collegiate Hockey Association (NCHA) regular-season titles and two playoff crowns. A four-time NCHA coach of the year, Baldarotta ranks 22nd all-time among Division III coaches with 276 overall wins.

Baldarotta was also an assistant for the Pointers for five seasons, helping the team to three straight Division III national championship titles. Before Wisconsin-Stevens Point, he served as an assistant coach and head coach at Madison West High School. As the team's head coach for four seasons, Baldarotta compiled a 62-22-1 record and won the 1983 Wisconsin Interscholastic Athletic Association State Championship, earning Wisconsin State High School Coach of the Year honors.

A highly regarded camp instructor, Baldarotta has been involved in numerous off-season camps and clinics and twice has been a member of the coaching staff for the U.S. Olympic Festival.

A native of Madison, Wis., Baldarotta competed in ice hockey at Wisconsin-Stevens Point and received his bachelor's degree from the University in 1989.

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Questions? Contact Chris Firriolo  
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