

FROM THE CANADIAN WORLD JUNIOR TEAM LOCKER ROOM

Going for gold again in Ottawa

Most people would be lucky to win gold once in their careers, but Bryan Boyes is about to go for a championship hat trick at the 2009 World Junior Championship, Dec. 26 to Jan. 5 in Ottawa. This will be his fifth time working the tournament, having already won in 2005 in Grand Forks, ND and 2006 in Vancouver. We spoke to Boyes, who does double duty as head equipment manager and athletic trainer for the Oshawa General of the Ontario Hockey League, on the eve of his departure for the nation's capital.

THN: You've been in Oshawa for more than 30 years, but it's unusual this day and age for someone to wear both hats – equipment manager and athletic trainer – at this level. How do you do it?

Boyes: I'm very lucky to have a good staff to help me out. I have a newly-graduated athletic trainer, Colin Emo, to help with the medical side. And another 30-year guy, Derrick Clark, who looks after things while I'm gone. He's exceptional.

THN: How does working this tournament differ from your day job in Oshawa?

Boyes: The intensity level is raised because it's the national team, but it's a tremendous amount of fun.

THN: Do you have to learn about a lot of new players in a

short period of time?

Boyes: We do research beforehand to learn their preferences. I know their needs before they even arrive.

THN: You've also seen Oshawa open a new arena in the



**BRYAN
BOYES**

**HEAD
ATHLETIC
TRAINER/
EQUIPMENT
MANAGER**

last couple years, and John Tavares playing there. What's that like?

Boyes: We were at the old Civic Auditorium for a number of years, so moving to a new rink was a long time coming.

It's given us more space and we've been able to add some new sewing machines and our Blademaster skate sharpener, which has all helped make my job easier.

Working with John is great – he's such a good person and a professional. I was here when Eric Lindros was here, and you can somewhat compare it. But John is no different than any of the other guys.

THN: Besides winning gold, what's your longer term goal? Are you hoping to work in the NHL?

Boyes: I wouldn't say no if the right opportunity came along, but I'm happy here in Oshawa. The ownership is fantastic, we have a great facility and great people. My support and training staff are fantastic.

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