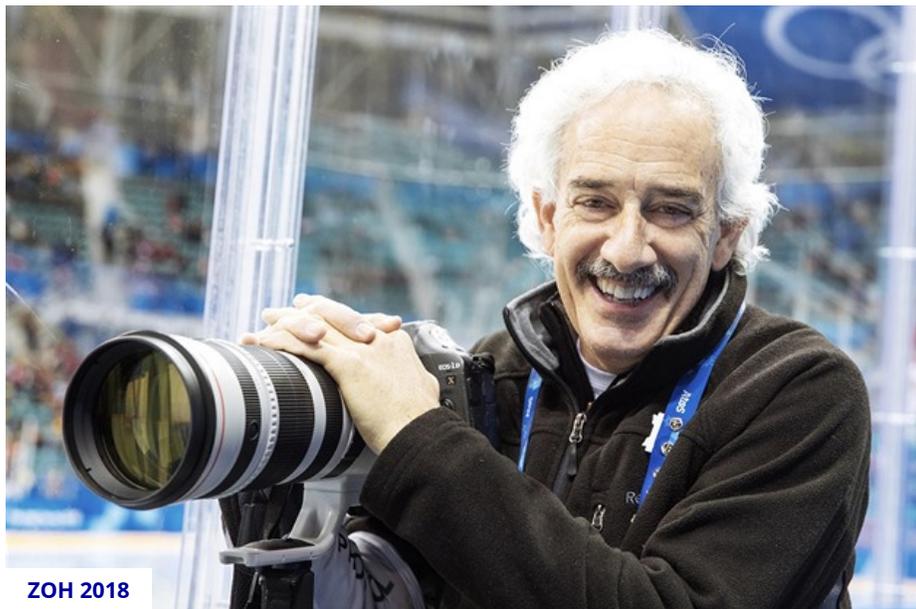


/ ZOH 2018

CZECHS PROGRAM RESULTS HOCKEY BIATHLON OTHER SPORTS VIDEOS MORE

Gretzky among photographers. As the pucks hit him and infected Jágr's laughter



ZOH 2018

Bruce Bennett | photo by [Michal Ruzicka](#), MAFRA

FEB 25 2018 **Kangnung (From our reporter) - He has initials like Brigitte Bardot. He reminds us of Albert Einstein. And they say Wayne Gretzky among the photographers. New Yorker Bruce Bennett has been trying for 43 years to capture unique moments in the rattling battles between the canals. And he's damn well done. No one is in the business.**

1 POST

The glitter of Gretz's genius, Jagger's fluttering hair, or a gusher of joy dripping from Ovechkin, grew stunned.

In the NHL, he fired almost five thousand males. He made his 209th Olympic Games on Friday in his fifth winter games in Korea.

In almost thirty-six, he often feels hurt in his loins and complains in good spirits that at the Kangnung Press Center, he's still taking his place next to the [locker room](#). Yet his profession still enjoys it.

You look pretty fragile. How did your career sign on your body?

The older I am, the more it gives me the ability to pull all the equipment on my back, pulling him up the stairs. More and more often I say: This work is not for the [old](#). For the past thirteen years I've been with Getty Images to help me with the transport or assembly of remote control devices, for which I am grateful.

Are you still dreaming about a picture you have not managed to catch yet?

No. My career is full. But I want to stay with her. I am dependent on her in some ways. Golfers say: One good shot lures you to come the other day. I have it like a hockey photo.

Which pictures are you most proud of?

From my early years, I recall a black and white photo of two superstars. Dennis Potvin beats the classic body of Guy Lafleur. She has been published many times. When I got it, I had a piece of beginner's [luck](#). It is also rare because this treatment is more rare in hockey.

And further?

TIME magazine sent me to a match in 1981 where Gretzky overcame the shooting record Phila Esposito. The image of goal number 77

was used more than thirty times.

I see your name under magic snapshots shot from the goal. How do you make them?

The device with a wide-angle lens called a fish eye wrapped in a protective box is attached to the center of the gate structure. I control him remotely from anywhere in the hall. Whenever something goes around the goalpost, I push the button and the result is fourteen shots per second.

Often, very attractive pictures are born , are not they?

Yes. Fans love them, they are wanted in different books. They are a little cliché for me - the goalkeeper is lying, the puck slides behind the line, the players are celebrating ... But in people they are very popular.



Did you shoot Gretzky when, after his last match in the spring of 1999 at Madison Square Garden, he had routed a skate on a nail?

That was interesting! Then I worked with my colleagues for the New York Rangers, so we were about six in the hall. They told us that anyone who wants to have this picture must come into the cabin ten minutes before the end of the third period.

What you? Have you stayed in the rehearsal arena decided by Jaromir Jagr from Pittsburgh, or were you waiting behind the scenes?

I sent two people to the cloakroom and tried to capture everything that went on ice, including Wayne's farewell ride with other players. Unfortunately, I could not be in both places.

Gretzky has a warm relationship with you. He wrote a preface to your book. When did you meet him for the first time?

I'm not sure. But I was filming an interview he gave at the Montreal Forum sometime in 1978. I got a lot of his portraits. He was terribly skinny. Still admiring boys who have a character similar to me, they do not look like NHL gladiators, but they keep rolling.

How is Gretz's good friendship with you?

Extremely. I'm still close to former goalkeeper Martin Brodeur, whom I met through his father, Denise, another ice hockey photographer. Otherwise, you are enemies for professional reasons. Wayne's agent, Mike Barnett, helped me work, I was trying to repay them. Now I regularly photograph his charity Gretzky Fantasy Camp. We sit and tell stories.

Do you share some?

I do not know who I can publish.

Do not be afraid, Gretzky will not read it in Czech.

(laughs) Maybe I'll just tell you that a special aura is accompanying him. When the White House joins the US President during a meeting

with the Stanley Cup winner, the [atmosphere](#) changes. Wayne has the same spell. It has a huge influence on people because of its exceptional commonness and authenticity. Especially to his loved ones he is very warm.

What do you think when you hear that you are Wayne Gretzky among the photographers?

It flatters me very much. Our careers began at about the same time, but I was lucky I could stay longer. Now, I understand better why he went into retirement because of physical pain.

When it comes to pain ... What was your most serious work injury?

The space for the photographers was a bit tight in Madison Square Garden, the pucks swinging at us from all sides. Once, Bryan Maxwell of Minnesota golfman broke two ribs. Another time I got into my stomach, my breath was lying on my back, staring at the beautiful ceiling in the MSG. Over the mantinel, the line of referees leaned over me and one said: Try to fuck. If you can do that, you're [fine](#).



Bruce Bennett (Twitter)
@Bruce_Bennett

December 23, 2015 at 05:02, post archived: February 23, 2018 at 22:40



#NYRvsANA - Moore flying home for the holidays <https://t.co/jIL95ck66S>

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Any similar incident?

At Nassau Coliseum, someone fired over the plexiglass and the disk fell to my head. He tore my skin over my forehead, and my blood fell on my cheek. My hair dyed and the audience began to scream. The accident looked more terrible than what it really was. I ran into the corridor where my doctors took me and snatched me straight into the Islanders' cabin. Goalkeeper Rick DiPietro, who was as usual injured, only shook his head. I looked like a horror figure. Face dirty from blood, hair too. People stared at me ... When I then came to my colleagues, they all started to take my picture right away.

You say you have to be impartial at work. How is it difficult for you to not?

I've long ago realized that this job is not for fans. When I get to the game, I concentrate, get out of emotion, calm down and recall the habits of the players I've come to. I know their thoughts and loops, which make them easier to follow.

Why did you take a look at Gretzky during the shoot?

It was extremely difficult with him because he could not get into his mind. He behaved so erstwhilely on the ice that I could only pursue his fury with his lens.

U Lemieux?

Mari's maneuvers were easier to estimate, because he had much more power. As he galloped, he took a tremendous speed, like Connor McDavid now. I had to concentrate my hell to keep up with him.

U Oččkina?

We know Alex is burning from the left wing, right? That's why I take a position in the opposite corner to shoot in my direction. Or I'm

standing just behind the left-hand mantinel because he usually turns around and celebrates the goal.

U Jágra?

I was fascinated by the fluttering hair when he ran down the ice rink. And then his infectious laugh. I watched him talk to other players or the judges, and suddenly laughed so I could not help and laugh too.



Bruce Bennett (Twitter)
@Bruce_Bennett

March 15, 2016 at 01:50, post archived: February 23, 2018 at 22:39



Hockey Hot Shot [#NYIvsFLA](#) - Jagr vs Greiss <https://t.co/o9744otGye>

favorite retweet reply

What about goalkeeper Dominik Hašek?

He always paid attention to focus. He always showed something unusual.

Who is your favorite here at the Olympics?

I'm best known for Kovalchuk and Dacjuk, who still remains the magician most familiar to Detroit fans. At Kovalčuk I like a graceful sliding, stylish missile and a similarly enthusiastic celebration as in Ovečkin. When he scores, I'm sure I will have a good shot.

Was anyone complaining about your picture? Perhaps the grimace or pose you captured?

Just recently, I met Bryan Trottier and said, "Hey, do you know we're the two of us famous?" I tell him, "What are you talking about?" Bryan reminded me how he once showed me in the lens of fun, preparing a team photograph of the New York Islanders. For a moment, I put it in the archive that took over Getty Images. And now someone discovered it and hung up on the internet. Bryan reminded me that, for his gesture, he had a good brush from the Islanders boss. And now he's hearing it again.

Author: Karel Knap

World Ice Hockey Championship 2018

From 4 to 20 May in Denmark

Group A (Copenhagen): Russia, Sweden, **Czech Republic**, Switzerland, Belarus, Slovakia, France, Austria.

Group B (Herning): Canada, Finland, USA, Germany, Norway, Latvia, Denmark, South Korea.

[Complete hockey tournament program HERE](#)

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