



The Golden Girls are back

Canadian women's squad names 17 members from Olympic winning team for world championships

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WINNIPEG—Danielle Goyette's birth certificate may reveal that she's 41, but the Canadian forward believes there's a lot of good hockey left in her.

Canadian women's hockey head coach and general manager Melody Davidson obviously agrees, as Goyette was named to the squad for this year's IIHF world women's hockey championship.

The 23-player roster, including three alternates, was announced yesterday at a press conference in Winnipeg, which will host the April 3-10 championship along with the town of Selkirk, Man.

"We go to the September camp and she (Goyette) is one of the best players on the ice and she's just maintained that all year," Davidson said. "She's earned her spot, kept it and we're incredibly excited to have her again."

The Canadian team features 17 players from the roster that captured gold at last year's Olympic Games in Turin, Italy, including veterans such as Goyette, captain Hayley Wickenheiser, Winnipeg native Jennifer Botterill and goalie Kim St. Pierre.

Canada has won gold at eight of nine world championships. The only time the team didn't come out on top was in 2005, when it won silver after a shootout loss to the Americans. There was no championship last year because of the Olympics.

Goyette will play in her ninth world championship. The Quebec native didn't try out for the 1990 championship because of a shoulder injury.

"I've been evaluating myself for a long time," Goyette said. "I would never let myself go there (to tryouts) and get cut because I'm not good enough anymore."

The roster includes two goaltenders, six blueliners, a dozen forwards and a pair of alternate defencemen and one goalie.

Meghan Agosta, Katie Weatherston and Tessa Bonhomme will play in their first world championship.

It also marks Bonhomme's first major international event because the 21-year-old defenceman from Sudbury didn't play in the Olympics.

This year's championship includes nine teams. Canada is in Group B with Germany and Switzerland.

The United States, China and Kazakhstan make up Group A and Sweden, Finland and Russia are Group C.

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