



## **Dominic Roussel**

Dominic was drafted by the Philadelphia Flyers and he laid his plans to crack the Flyers' lineup as a backup to Ron Hextall and perhaps, someday, become the number-one man.

As part of the process, he hired his father, Andre, to serve as his agent and financial advisor. The elder Roussel had ambitious plans for his son. After the young netminder made the Flyers lineup and began to see more action, Andre demanded an excessive sum for his son's services. The Flyers balked at the demands, noting that they were higher than starter Ron Hextall's salary. Upon his father's advice, young Dominic sat out training camp--a move that prompted the Flyers to acquire backup Garth Snow. As a result, Roussel eventually signed for considerably less money and was then banished, for the most part, to the press box and to the AHL.

In the process, Dominic's credibility had suffered a major setback. In 1996, he was picked up by the Winnipeg Jets where, with sagging confidence and off-ice distractions, he appeared in only seven games. Away from the rink a legal squabble emerged between Roussel and his father over the management of funds. The younger Roussel fired his father as his agent and launched a lawsuit to recover assets controlled by his father who had secured power of attorney over his son's affairs. While the legal skirmish unfolded, Dominic's hockey career fell apart for a time.

While reassembling the pieces, he played for a season with the Philadelphia Flyers. Dominic joined the Canadian National Team with the hope of catching some attention from the NHL.

The move worked. After a very successful season with the Nationals, he got himself traded to the Nashville Predators who flipped him to the Anaheim Mighty Ducks in time for the start of the 1998-99 campaign. Dominic served as the Ducks' backup behind starter Guy Hebert and recovered his credibility and his financial wellbeing but was soon traded to the Edmonton Oilers where he ended his career.