

## Robert "Cap" Raeder

*Professional Hockey Player*

*Professional Hockey Scout*

*Professional Hockey Coach*

*Class of 1972*



Robert Cap Raeder grew up in Needham, a town that he values. When he had the opportunity to move his family here, he was excited. He was especially happy that his children would have the opportunity to experience the same atmosphere that he did growing up.

Robert describes Needham High School in the 70s as "spirited and a great place to be." He credits his teachers and coaches, even as early as Pollard Junior High School, as important influences in his life. During his formative years, Robert says, his teachers were supportive, available, always ready to help him. His coaches taught him the value of sacrifice and discipline.

In high school, Robert distinguished himself as an athlete. A member of teams that won state championships, Robert was also recognized for his outstanding individual contributions as an athlete. In 1970-71, he was a Bay State League All-Star; in 1971-72, he was an All-Star again, voted the League's MVP, recognized as outstanding goalie, and honored as a Globe All-Scholastic. In 1972, he was given the Charles Locks Memorial Award, naming him outstanding athletic captain of that year. His success as an athlete continued in his college years. At the University of New Hampshire he was the 1974 All-American goalie. In 1976, he was a member of Team USA Canada Cup. Recognizing his outstanding contributions as a hockey player, the University of New Hampshire elected him to its Hall of Fame in 1989.

Robert's early years as a committed and disciplined athlete prepared him for a successful career in athletics. As an adult, his experiences have been wide and varied. He enjoyed a distinguished career as a professional hockey player, serving with the New England Whalers, the USA Canada Cup Team of 1976, the Providence Reds of the American League, Cape Cod/Binghamton of the North American League, and the Richmond Rifles/Cape Cod Freedoms of the Eastern League. He has

directed goalie clinics; served as a goal tending consultant to many college programs, including Bowling Green, University of Michigan, Yale, Princeton, Clarkson, St. Lawrence, Colby, Bowdoin, New England College; and scouted for the San Jose Sharks of the NHL.

Robert has also served as head hockey coach and assistant hockey coach for college and professional teams. At Clarkson University he enjoyed success both as an assistant coach and as a head hockey coach, his teams winning such honors as NCAA quarter finalists in 1984 and ECAC finalists in 1986 and 1988. His success continued on the professional level with the Los Angeles Kings: as assistant coach from 1988-1994, his teams were Smythe Division champions in 1991 and Stanley Cup finalists in 1993. In 1994, Robert was elected assistant coach to the Western NHL All Star Team. From 1995-1997, he was assistant coach to the Boston Bruins.

At present, Robert is providing color analysis for Fox Sports New England. In 1998, he was given the Boston Emmy Award for outstanding play-by-play coverage. In recognition of his fine work as a scout, the San Jose Sharks have offered him the position of assistant coach, a position which he has accepted.

Robert Raeder's career has been marked by success and that success is not accidental. It can be attributed to a philosophy that has underlined every choice and commitment that he has made. In his own words, "success is not so much measured in salary"; it is an "ongoing process of goal-setting" and of working hard to attain those goals. Whenever an obstacle presented itself, he learned from the experience. For Robert, "the true measure of a man is how he meets the challenges of life," values that he instills in his own children and the many youngsters that he has worked with in the Needham Community.