

= Ed Jovanovski =

Edward Jovanovski (born June 26 , 1976) is a Canadian former professional ice hockey defenceman . He was born in Windsor , Ontario , and is of Macedonian descent .

Jovanovski played major junior ice hockey for two seasons with the Windsor Spitfires of the Ontario Hockey League (OHL) , earning First All @-@ Star , Second All @-@ Star and All @-@ Rookie Team honours . He was then selected first overall in the 1994 NHL Entry Draft by the Florida Panthers . During his rookie NHL season , he earned All @-@ Rookie Team honours and helped the Panthers advance to the Stanley Cup Finals , where they lost to the Colorado Avalanche . After three @-@ and @-@ a @-@ half seasons in Florida , Jovanovski was traded to the Vancouver Canucks in a seven @-@ player deal involving Pavel Bure . During his tenure with Vancouver , he was awarded the Babe Pratt Trophy as the team 's best defenceman three consecutive years . He also led the club 's defencemen in scoring four consecutive years . In July 2006 , Jovanovski became an unrestricted free agent and signed with the Phoenix Coyotes . He led the team 's defencemen in scoring during his first three years with the club . Known as a two @-@ way defenceman , he has recorded three 40 @-@ point and one 50 @-@ point season in the NHL .

Internationally , Jovanovski plays for the Canadian national team . A one @-@ time Winter Olympian , he won a gold medal at the 2002 Games in Salt Lake City . At the under @-@ 20 level , he won gold at the 1995 World Junior Championship . He went on to play in four Men 's World Championships , winning silver in 2005 and 2008 . He also represented Canada at the 2004 World Cup , playing in one game due to injury in the championship @-@ winning tournament .

= = Playing career = =

= = = Major junior (1993 ? 95) = = =

After playing bantam and Junior B in his hometown of Windsor , Jovanovski joined the Ontario Hockey League (OHL) with the Windsor Spitfires . In his rookie season with the Spitfires , Jovanovski led all team defencemen in scoring , with 50 points in 62 games . In addition to being voted as the Emms Division 's top bodychecker by League coaches , he was named to the OHL 's All @-@ Rookie and Second All @-@ Star Teams . That off @-@ season , Jovanovski was selected first overall by the Florida Panthers in the 1994 NHL Entry Draft . He admitted to being surprised at the top selection , as he had not been ranked first at any point in his draft @-@ eligible season . Czech prospect Radek Bonk was ranked first overall by the NHL Central Scouting Bureau , but Panthers President Bill Torrey preferred to select a defenceman over a forward .

Following the Draft , the 1994 ? 95 NHL season was suspended for three @-@ and @-@ a @-@ half months due to a labour dispute between NHL players and owners . Consequently , Jovanovski remained in junior for the beginning of the 1994 ? 95 OHL season . When NHL was set to resume play in January 1995 , it was speculated that the Panthers might sign Jovanovski and call him up to the NHL . However , then @-@ Panthers General Manager Bryan Murray announced that Jovanovski would remain with Windsor , citing that he would likely not receive much playing time with the club . He averaged approximately 40 minutes per game with Windsor that season , scoring 23 goals and 65 points over 50 contests . He also added nine points in nine playoff games before Windsor was eliminated . Jovanovski was named to the OHL First All @-@ Star Team .

While still with the Spitfires , Jovanovski was charged with sexual assault , along with two of his teammates . The charges were eventually dropped after his lawyer threatened the alleged victim with a lawsuit .

= = = Florida Panthers (1995 ? 1999) = = =

Following his second major junior season , Jovanovski signed a four @-@ year , \$ 5 @. @ 7 million contract with the Panthers in June 1995 . Playing with the club during the subsequent pre @-@

season , he broke his right hand during a fight with Hartford Whalers forward Brendan Shanahan . The injury caused him to miss the first 11 games of the season . After recovering , he scored his first career NHL goal against the Whalers on December 2 , 1995 , a game @-@ winner in a 5 ? 3 victory . He finished his rookie season with 10 goals and 21 points over 70 games . During the regular season , he was encouraged by Panthers management to play more conservatively than he was used to in the OHL , focusing on defensive positioning .

Ranking fourth in the Eastern Conference going into the 1996 playoffs , Jovanovski helped the Panthers advance to the Stanley Cup Finals . He scored his first career Stanley Cup playoff goal in Game 2 of the first round against Boston Bruins goaltender Craig Billington . Facing the Colorado Avalanche in the Finals , the Panthers were defeated in four @-@ straight games . Jovanovski contributed a goal and nine points in 22 post @-@ season games . It would be his only Stanley Cup Finals appearance . In the off @-@ season , he was named to the NHL All @-@ Rookie Team . He was also nominated for the Calder Memorial Trophy as the League 's rookie of the year , alongside Chicago Blackhawks forward Éric Dazé and Ottawa Senators forward Daniel Alfredsson , who ultimately won the award .

On November 23 , 1996 , Jovanovski received a three @-@ game suspension from the NHL without pay . In a game against the Dallas Stars the previous night , he illegally left the penalty box ready to fight any opposing players during a break in play . Later in the season , he suffered a knee injury during a game against the Edmonton Oilers in January 1997 , sidelining him for several weeks . The following month , he was involved in an on @-@ ice altercation with San Jose Sharks forward Bernie Nicholls , resulting in a two @-@ game suspension and the maximum \$ 1 @, @ 000 fine for Nicholls for intent to injure . The accumulated injuries and suspensions caused Jovanovski to miss 21 games in his second NHL season . He scored seven goals and 23 points over 61 contests .

In 1997 ? 98 , Jovanovski appeared in 81 games , recording nine goals and 23 points . With his contract set to expire following the 1998 ? 99 season , Jovanovski was beginning to be seen as a disappointment in Florida , failing to improve on his successful rookie year .

== = Vancouver Canucks (1999 ? 2006) == =

On January 17 , 1999 , after three @-@ and @-@ a @-@ half seasons with the Panthers , Jovanovski was traded in a seven @-@ player deal to the Vancouver Canucks . He was sent with Dave Gagner , Mike Brown , Kevin Weekes and a first @-@ round draft pick in 2000 (Nathan Smith) in exchange for Pavel Bure , Bret Hedican , Brad Ference and a third @-@ round pick in 2000 (Robert Fried) . Joining the Canucks in the midst of a rebuilding period for the franchise , Jovanovski quickly established himself as a top defenceman in Vancouver 's lineup . His ability to join the rush as a defenceman complemented the Canucks ' up @-@ tempo style of play .

A month following his trade , Jovanovski suffered a broken foot while blocking a shot in a game against the New Jersey Devils on February 9 , 1999 . Later in the season , he was involved in an altercation with Montreal Canadiens forward Shayne Corson . After being high @-@ stuck in the face by Corson , the two players were sent off the ice , at which point Corson entered the Canucks ' dressing room to verbally confront Jovanovski . According to Corson , the feud stemmed from comments Jovanovski had said about his family . As a result of entering the Canucks ' dressing room , the Canadiens forward was later suspended five games by the NHL , in addition to one game for the high @-@ sticking infraction . In 31 games with the Canucks that season , Jovanovski recorded two goals and 11 points . Combined with his games played with the Panthers , he totalled 27 points in 72 games .

In his first full season with Vancouver , Jovanovski tallied five goals and 26 points (first among team defencemen) over 75 games . He also ranked second among team defencemen in average ice time per game , behind only Mattias Öhlund . The following season , in 2000 ? 01 , he led all team defencemen with 12 goals and 47 points over 79 games . He was then named to his first of three consecutive NHL All @-@ Star Games in 2001 . At the end of the season , he also earned his first of three consecutive Babe Pratt Trophies , awarded annually to the Canucks ' fan @-@ voted best defenceman . Jovanovski 's offensive emergence helped the Canucks return to the playoffs

after a six @-@ year absence . It also marked Jovanovski 's first playoff season since 1997 .

In 2001 ? 02 , Jovanovski scored a career @-@ high 17 goals , ranking second amongst all NHL defencemen . His 48 points ranked sixth among NHL defencemen and was his highest total as a Canuck . The Canucks finished as the eighth seed in the Western Conference for the second consecutive season , and were eliminated by the Detroit Red Wings in the opening round of the 2002 playoffs . Jovanovski contributed a goal and five points in six post @-@ season games .

Midway through the following season , he was re @-@ signed by the Canucks to a three @-@ year contract extension on January 27 , 2003 . The day after signing , he injured his foot , sidelining him for 14 games . Despite his season being shortened by injury , he recorded a career @-@ high 40 assists to go with six goals in 2002 ? 03 . His 46 points ranked tenth overall in the League amongst defencemen , and it marked the fourth consecutive year he led Canucks defencemen in scoring . Jovanovski added eight points in 14 post @-@ season games before the Canucks were eliminated in the second round by the Minnesota Wild . His seven goals led all League defencemen in playoff scoring .

Midway through the 2003 ? 04 season , Jovanovski suffered a third @-@ degree shoulder separation during a game against the Nashville Predators on January 25 , 2004 . Colliding with opposing forward Martin Erat , he fell to ice and slid into the rink boards . He returned late in the season to help the Canucks secure the Northwest Division title . In 56 games , he scored seven goals and 23 points . Adding four assists in seven 2004 playoff games , the Canucks were defeated in the first round by the Calgary Flames .

Due to the NHL lockout , as well as rib and knee injuries sustained during the 2004 World Cup , Jovanovski was inactive during the 2004 ? 05 season . When the NHL resumed play in 2005 ? 06 , Jovanovski was on pace for a career year , but his season was interrupted by groin , foot and abdominal injuries . He finished with 33 points in 44 games for a career @-@ high 0 @-@ 75 points @-@ per @-@ game average . The Canucks suffered from Jovanovski missing the final 27 games of the season and did not qualify for the 2006 playoffs . Following the 2005 ? 06 season , Jovanovski did not receive a contract offer from the Canucks , subsequently becoming an unrestricted free agent . The decision to let him go was influenced by the re @-@ signings of Daniel and Henrik Sedin , as well as the acquisition of goaltender Roberto Luongo , leaving no room on the team 's salary cap to retain Jovanovski .

= = = Phoenix Coyotes (2006 ? 2011) = = =

On July 1 , 2006 , Jovanovski joined the Phoenix Coyotes , signing a five @-@ year , \$ 32 @-@ 5 million contract . Having received a contract offer from the Panthers , he was speculated to return to Florida , where he spent his summers . He cited being coached by Wayne Gretzky as a strong factor for choosing Phoenix . Jovanovski was named to his fourth NHL All @-@ Star Game in the subsequent season , but continued to be plagued with injuries . He missed the last 22 games of the 2006 ? 07 regular season with an abdominal injury , limiting him to 29 points (first among Coyotes defencemen) in 54 games . The Coyotes finished last in the Western Conference with 31 wins and 67 points .

In 2007 ? 08 , Jovanovski recorded a career @-@ high 51 points (12 goals and 39 assists) , which tied for tenth among League defencemen and led all Coyotes defencemen . It was also the second @-@ highest total for a defenceman in Coyotes history after Oleg Tverdovsky 's 55 @-@ point year in 1996 ? 97 . Jovanovski 's career season included a one @-@ game suspension on December 1 , 2007 , for a hit to the head of Minnesota Wild forward Marián Gáborík . Jovanovski also appeared in his second consecutive All @-@ Star Game in 2008 . The team continued to struggle , however , as they ranked 12th in the West , eight points out of a 2008 playoff spot . The following season , Jovanovski 's offensive production dipped to 36 points in 82 games . Although it was his lowest total since his third season with the Panthers in 1997 ? 98 (not including seasons with major injuries) , he still led all Coyotes defencemen in scoring for the third consecutive year . On a team basis , he missed the playoffs with Phoenix for the third @-@ straight year , as they finished 13th in the West .

Early in the 2009 ? 10 season , Jovanovski missed ten games with a lower @-@ body injury in

November and December 2009 . Shortly after returning to the Coyotes lineup , he was suspended for two games by the NHL for a hit to the head of Minnesota Wild forward Andrew Ebbett with his forearm on December 7 , 2009 . The following month , he received another two @-@ game suspension for elbowing New York Islanders rookie forward John Tavares in the head . Over 66 games during the season , he notched 10 goals and 34 points . He was overtaken as the team 's top @-@ scoring defenceman by Keith Yandle , who had scored 41 points . While the season was marked with an uncertain future for the Coyotes from a business perspective , as the franchise had filed for bankruptcy in May 2009 and was taken over by the NHL , the team performed well and recorded their best season in history . With 50 wins and 107 points (a 28 @-@ point improval from the previous season) , they finished with the third best record in the West and came within five points of a Pacific Division and Conference title , trailing only the San Jose Sharks . Facing the Detroit Red Wings in the opening round , the Coyotes were eliminated in seven games . Jovanovski had one goal and no assists in his first NHL playoffs since 2004 .

In the first month of the 2010 ? 11 season , Jovanovski was chosen to serve in place of the suspended Shane Doan as team captain from October 21 to 25 , 2010 . Over a week later , he recorded his first career NHL hat @-@ trick in a 4 ? 3 win against the Nashville Predators on November 3 . He scored all three goals against goaltender Pekka Rinne , becoming the first Coyotes defenceman to score a hat @-@ trick in team history . On December 26 , he became the 256th player in NHL history to play 1 @,@ 000 career games , reaching the feat against the Dallas Stars . Jovanovski struggled with injuries throughout the season , missing time on six different occasions . His most serious injury was an orbital bone fracture after his face collided with an opposing player 's helmet in a game against the Atlanta Thrashers on February 17 , 2011 . After missing 20 games with the injury , he returned in April for the last three games of the regular season and the playoffs . In Jovanovski 's limited time in the season , he recorded 14 points over 50 games . The Coyotes ranked sixth in the West , drawing the Red Wings in the first round for the second consecutive year . Jovanovski recorded one assist in the post @-@ season as the Coyotes were eliminated in four games .

= = = Return to Florida (2011 ? 2014) = = =

Jovanovski signed a four @-@ year , \$ 16 @.@ 5 million contract to return to the Florida Panthers on July 1 , 2011 . He played a large role in helping reshape the franchise 's rebuilding and drive to make the playoffs . Beginning in his second year after rejoining the Panthers , he served as team captain for the 2012 ? 13 and 2013 ? 14 seasons . On June 29 , 2014 , Jovanovski was placed on unconditional waivers for the purpose of a buyout . Jovanovski remained inactive in the NHL during the 2014 ? 15 season . On December 28 , 2015 Jovanovski announced his retirement from the NHL .

= = International play = =

Jovanovski competed for Canada 's under @-@ 20 team at the 1995 World Junior Championships , held in Alberta . Scoring two goals in seven games , he helped Canada go undefeated to win gold . Following his NHL rookie season , he was named as a reserve to the Canadian men 's team for the 1996 World Cup . The youngest player on the roster , he played in one exhibition game against Russia , a 4 ? 4 tie , but did not appear in any main tournament games as Canada lost in the final to the United States .

Two years later , Jovanovski competed at the 1998 World Championships in Switzerland ; he was the second @-@ youngest named to the Canadian squad . He scored two goals and an assist over six games as Canada failed to qualify past the crossover round . He made his second World Championships appearance at the 2000 tournament in Russia . He scored a goal and an assist over nine games . Canada lost the semifinal , however , 2 ? 1 to the Czech Republic , then lost the bronze medal game 2 ? 1 to Finland .

In December 2001 , Jovanovski was chosen to Canada 's Olympic team for the 2002 Games in Salt

Lake City . Playing the United States in the gold medal game , Jovanovski earned an assist on the game @-@ winning goal , backhanding a saucer pass from the opposition 's blueline to Joe Sakic on a five @-@ on @-@ three power play advantage . Canada went on to win the gold medal , 5 ? 2 . Jovanovski had three points , all assists , in total .

Prior to the 2004 ? 05 NHL lockout , Jovanovski played for Canada at the 2004 World Cup . He suffered a cracked rib and a second degree sprain on his medial collateral ligament (MCL) during the first game against the United States , sidelining him for the rest of the tournament . He was replaced by San Jose Sharks defenceman Scott Hannan in the lineup . Canada went on to win the championship over Finland in the final .

The following year , he competed at the 2005 World Championships in Austria . In the semi @-@ final , Jovanovski scored the game @-@ winning goal against Russia in a 4 ? 3 win . Advancing to the gold medal game , Canada lost 3 ? 0 to the Czech Republic , thus earning silver . He finished the tournament with a goal and two assists over nine games . Later that year , he was named to his second Canadian Olympic team for the 2006 Games in Turin , but was not able to play due to a lower abdominal injury .

Making his fourth World Championships appearance in 2008 , Jovanovski earned a second @-@ straight silver medal . He recorded one assist over nine games as Canada lost in the gold medal game by a 5 ? 4 score in overtime to Russia .

= = Playing style = =

Jovanovski is known as a two @-@ way defenceman . Able to contribute offensively , he is an adept puck @-@ carrier and joins plays deep in the opposing team 's zone . He plays defence physically , bodychecking opponents primarily with his shoulder . In both aspects of his game , he is considered to play with a high level of risk , taking the chance of being out of position in favour of a good scoring chance or a hit .

= = Personal life = =

Jovanovski was born in Windsor , Ontario , to Kostadin and Lilja Jovanovski . His parents immigrated to Canada in 1973 from Macedonia . Coming from an athletic family , Kostadin was a semi @-@ professional soccer player in Yugoslavia . Jovanovski followed after his father and played organized soccer growing up . He did not start playing hockey until age 11 , when his older brother , Denny , joined a team .

During his junior career , Jovanovski and two other Windsor Spitfire teammates were charged with sexually assaulting a 24 @-@ year @-@ old woman in February 1995 . After a pre @-@ trial hearing in June , the Crown attorney dropped the charges in August due to a lack of convincing evidence .

Beginning his NHL career with the Florida Panthers , he owned a condominium in Boca Raton , Florida . He met his wife , Kristin , in Florida and retained a residence in Boca Raton , where he spent his summers . Jovanovski and Kristin had their first child , daughter Kylie Everett , on August 22 , 1998 . Three years later , Kyra was born , while her twin sister died in utero . Kristin was later pregnant with twins a second time and gave birth to son Cole and daughter Coco on May 25 , 2006 , in Florida .

In 2005 , Jovanovski was featured in a documentary aired on multicultural network Omni Television . Entitled The Late Bloomer : Ed Jovanovski , it explored his career , family tragedy and attachments to his Macedonian heritage .

= = Career statistics = =

= = = Regular season and playoffs = = =

== International ==

== Awards ==

== OHL ==

== NHL ==

== Vancouver Canucks ==