

Vadim Sharifijanov

Vadim Sharifijanov	
Born	December 23, 1975, Ufa, Soviet Union
Height Weight	5 ft 10 in (1.78 m) 205 lb (93 kg; 14 st 9 lb)
Position	Right Wing
Shot	Right
Played for	New Jersey Devils Vancouver Canucks
Ntl. team	 Russia
NHL Draft	25th overall, 1994 New Jersey Devils
Playing career	1992–2009

Vadim Rimovich Sharifijanov (born December 23, 1975 in Ufa, Soviet Union) is a former professional ice hockey right winger who spent parts of three seasons in the National Hockey League. He last played in the Vysshaya Liga, or Russian 2nd division, with Toros Neftekamsk.

Playing career

Sharifijanov burst onto to the international hockey scene in 1992, when he was named a tournament all-star after scoring 8 goals in 6 games at the European U18 Championships at the age of only 16. After two solid seasons with Salavat Yulaev Ufa of the Russian Super League, he was selected in the first round (25th overall) of the 1994 NHL Entry Draft by the New Jersey Devils. He spent one more year in Russia with HC CSKA Moscow before coming to North America, and also turned in a stellar performance at the 1995 World Junior Championships, recording 10 points in 7 games.

Sharifijanov joined the Albany River Rats, New Jersey's AHL affiliate, after the Russian season ended in 1995, and scored 2 points in his first North American professional game. However, his progress to the NHL would be slow in a deep New Jersey system, and his first three full seasons were spent almost entirely in Albany, appearing in only 2 NHL games during the 1996–97 campaign.

In 1998–99, Sharifijanov was finally promoted to the Devils and turned in a highly successful rookie season, recording 11 goals and 27 points in just 53 games. Stocky and strong on the puck, he displayed a well-rounded all-around game and a solid touch around the net.

However, in 1999–00 his play fell off considerably. After scoring just 3 goals in 20 games for the Devils, and showing a marked drop-off in his defensive play, Sharifijanov was shipped to the Vancouver Canucks for a draft pick. In Vancouver, he made an instant impact, scoring a goal on his first shift as a Canuck, but it was all downhill from there as he quickly became a healthy scratch and earned a reputation for lazy play. He finished the season with just 5 goals and 10 points in 37 games, as well as a +/- rating of a dismal -13.

The 2000–01 season would prove no better, as Sharifijanov failed to crack the Canucks' roster out of training camp and was assigned to the Kansas City Blades of the International Hockey League, where he spent the entire season. Released by the Canucks, Sharifijanov returned to Russia. He would continue to struggle in Russia, however, and would suit up for 6 different Super League teams in the next three seasons without making any significant impact for any of them. After brief stints in France and Sweden, Sharifijanov signed on with Torpedo Nizhny Tagil of the



Russian 2nd division in 2005, and has played there since.

In 92 NHL games, Sharifijanov recorded 16 goals and 21 assists for 37 points, along with 50 penalty minutes. His sudden decline in ability while still a young player remains unexplained - at age 23, he was a key young player on an elite NHL team, and by the time he turned 26 he was already unable to hold down a regular job on low-level RSL teams. In 2005, Sharifijanov admitted to using steroids early in his career when he was with the Russian league, Russian National junior team, and New Jersey Devils. He said he stopped using them in 2001 and shrunk from his 205 lb (93 kg) weight to 170 lb (77 kg) weight. Sharifijanov also stated that it helped rise as a young player in the Russian league when he was a teenager and when began play with the New Jersey Devils.

Career statistics

Season	Team	League	Regular season					Playoffs				
			GP	G	A	Pts	PIM	GP	G	A	Pts	PIM
1992–93	Salavat Yulaev Ufa	IHL	37	6	4	10	16	2	1	0	1	0
1993–94	Salavat Yulaev Ufa	IHL	46	10	6	16	36	5	3	0	3	4
1994–95	HC CSKA Moscow	IHL	34	7	3	10	26	2	0	0	0	0
1994–95	Albany River Rats	AHL	1	1	1	2	0	9	3	3	6	10
1995–96	Albany River Rats	AHL	69	14	28	42	28	—	—	—	—	—
1996–97	Albany River Rats	AHL	70	14	27	41	89	10	3	3	6	6
1996–97	New Jersey Devils	NHL	2	0	0	0	0	—	—	—	—	—
1997–98	Albany River Rats	AHL	72	23	27	50	69	12	4	9	13	6
1998–99	New Jersey Devils	NHL	53	11	16	27	28	4	0	0	0	0
1998–99	Albany River Rats	AHL	2	1	1	2	0	—	—	—	—	—
1999–00	New Jersey Devils	NHL	20	3	4	7	8	—	—	—	—	—
1999–00	Vancouver Canucks	NHL	17	2	1	3	14	—	—	—	—	—
2000–01	Kansas City Blades	IHL	70	20	43	63	48	—	—	—	—	—
2001–02	HC Lada Togliatti	RSL	4	0	0	0	12	—	—	—	—	—
2001–02	HC Severstal Cherepovets	RSL	25	9	3	12	2	2	0	0	0	6
2002–03	HC Spartak Moscow	RSL	23	2	2	4	12	—	—	—	—	—
2002–03	Krylya Sovetov	RSL	16	5	3	8	34	—	—	—	—	—
2003–04	HC Metallurg Novokuznetsk	RSL	7	0	1	1	6	—	—	—	—	—
2003–04	SKA Saint Petersburg	RSL	20	2	2	4	20	—	—	—	—	—
2004–05	Arboga IK	Swe.1	7	0	3	3	12	—	—	—	—	—
2004–05	Gap HC	FRA	15	2	7	9	12	4	2	3	5	12
2005–06	Sputnik Nizhny Tagil	Rus.2	47	8	15	23	78	5	0	1	1	2
2006–07	Sputnik Nizhny Tagil	Rus.2	54	11	24	35	48	4	0	2	2	2
2007–08	Toros Neftekamsk	Rus.2	45	12	23	35	30	4	2	0	2	2
2008–09	Toros Neftekamsk	Rus.2	36	11	12	23	46	—	—	—	—	—
NHL totals			92	16	21	37	50	—	—	—	—	—

International

Year	Team	Event	Place	GP	G	A	Pts	PIM
1994	Russia	WJC		7	2	2	4	10
1995	Russia	WJC		7	4	6	10	6
Junior int'l totals				14	6	8	14	16

External links

- Vadim Sharifijanov's career stats ^[1] at The Internet Hockey Database ^[2]
- Vadim Sharifijanov's biography ^[3] at Legends of Hockey ^[4]
- Vadim Sharifijanov's NHL player profile ^[5]
- Vadim Sharifijanov – player profile and career stats ^[6] at European Hockey.Net ^[7]

References

[1] <http://www.hockeydb.com/ihdb/stats/pdisplay.php?pid=4896>

[2] <http://www.hockeydb.com/>

[3] <http://www.legendsofhockey.net/LegendsOfHockey/jsp/SearchPlayer.jsp?player=15124>

[4] <http://www.legendsofhockey.net/>

[5] <http://www.nhl.com/ice/player.htm?id=8460515>

[6] http://www.eurohockey.net/players/show_player.cgi?serial=10538

[7] <http://www.eurohockey.net/>

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