

## FROM THE COLUMBUS BLUE JACKETS LOCKER ROOM

# Jackets a good fit for LeRoy

**T**im LeRoy has served as Columbus's equipment manager since Day 1 with the franchise. The 41-year-old played goalie growing up in Michigan, and began his equipment manager career back in 1987 as an assistant with his hometown Kalamazoo Wings of the old IHL. Today he makes him home in Columbus with his wife, Angie, and their nine-month-old son Kolter.

**THN:** What do you like about your job?

**TL:** Dealing with the players, coaches, other trainers – everyone in the business is great. I like that you get the summers off too, for the most part.

**THN:** Are you busy on the bench during games?

**TL:** It depends from game to game. Sometimes a player loses an edge, and that needs fixing right away. Or maybe there's a fight and there's a shoulder pad that needs a repair. That's another thing I like about the job – you never know what's going to happen.

**THN:** What's hockey life like in Columbus?

**TL:** The fans here are great. It was maybe slow in developing in the beginning, but our front office has done a great job in building interest in the game and the team. There's been a huge growth in the number of

youth and high school teams in the area.

**THN:** Columbus is an eastern time zone city, but the team plays in the Western Conference. How does the team deal with the travel?



**Tim  
LeRoy**  
*Equipment  
Manager*



**TL:** We've adapted to it over the years. In our own division, the teams aren't far away by air. If we're playing out west, we usually plan it ahead, maybe travel two days ahead if we can.

**THN:** The Central Division looks like it might be tougher this season, especially with St. Louis and Chicago looking stronger. Is that what you're noticing so far?

**TL:** You have to come to play every night in our division. There aren't any easy games.

**THN:** Do you find there are differences between European players and North American ones when it comes to equipment needs?

**TL:** No, it's more individual to individual. I don't see a difference in European and North American players. It's whatever feels comfortable to them.

**THN:** Do you use the Blademaster Ultimate skate sharpening machine?

**TL:** Yes we do and we love it. With the multiple stations, it's easy for me and an assistant to work on it at the same time when things get busy.

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