

Player Profile

Guy Paradis
Position: Defence
Height: 6'0"
Weight: 190
Year of eligibility: 4
by Ajay Bhardwaj

Big brother is watching you. That's Guy Paradis' role on the Golden Bear hockey team. The brawny defenceman/left winger, whose stall is located in the far corner of the dressing room, is considered the big brother of the team.

"I look up to him as a big brother," fellow defenceman Serge Lajoie said. "I go to him for advice. He's given me a home away from home and made me feel at ease. I'm grateful."

At 25, Paradis is an elder statesman on the team and he is a team leader. "He's always gung-ho," said winger Doug McCarthy, who lived in the apartment building where Paradis was a caretaker. "He let me

go easy on the rent a few times," McCarthy said.

That's definitely big brother material. "He makes everyone feel good. He'd give you the shirt off his back," Lajoie said. "He gets bulk shampoo for the team."

However, Paradis is also king of the one-liners, something a big brother may not usually be. "You can't get into a war of words with him," Lajoie said. "He's a jap—he's always cutting you down. He cuts down most of the girls I go out with. He doesn't beat around the bush."

"Serge and I hit it off well," Paradis said of his 'little brother.' "He came in as a rookie and in junior, all the veterans treated the rookies like shit. That's not right. A team is more like a family and you should treat everybody like a family member."

While Paradis does treat everyone

like part of the family, he does concede that he loves one-liners. "It's impossible to play when there's a lot of tension," Paradis said. "You've got to relieve the tension with a wisecrack. When things are tough, you've got to have fun."

Although Paradis like to have fun, he's found himself doing spot duty for the Bears in his three years here, and also this season. "He always seems to be the sixth defenceman," McCarthy said. "He's been here three years, it must be tough on him."

"But he never complains," Lajoie said.

Paradis is working on a degree in recreation administration and athletic therapy. He would be happy in either field. "Jobs are tough these days so if I have two routes, I'll have a better chance to get a job."

Paradis recently married his long-time girlfriend, with whom he'd been living for about four years. "I figured it was time to settle down

and start a career, hopefully in Edmonton."

Just how difficult is it juggling hockey, school, and a family life?

"Sometimes it gets to (Karen) but she knows that I'm busy from September to March."

Busy being big brother.



Kevin Law

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