A first round draft choice of the Rangers in 2018 and ninth selection overall, Vitali Kravtsov skated in 39 games for the Hartford Wolf Pack in 2019-20, registering six goals and nine assists for 15 points. He also appeared in 11 games for Traktor Chelyabinsk in the KHL. Kravtsov finished his second full season with Traktor Chelyabinsk in 2018-19, as he appeared in 50 games and recorded 8 goals and 13 assists for 21 points. In 2017-18, Kravtsov received the Alex Cherepanov Award as the KHL’s rookie of the year. During the 2018 Gagarin Cup Playoffs, Kravtsov’s 11 points were the most a KHL junior player (younger than 20 years old) registered in one playoff year in the league’s history, eclipsing the previous record of nine held by Evgeny Kuznetsov and Valeri Nichushkin.

Ideal Dinner Guests: Michael Jackson, Jaromir Jagr, Valery Ponomarev
Favorite movie: Legend No. 17
Most listened to artist: Eminem
Meal: Steak and potatoes

KRISTA WHITFORD

LOOSE PUCKS

• Came to the United States for a hockey tournament as a kid and bought a Jaromir Jagr Rangers jersey. “I always wore it,” said Kravtsov. “Even for my club practices I would wear it underneath my practice jersey.”
• Enjoys watching Roger Federer and Lionel Messi

QUOTABLE

“I really like his progression. The thing I love about him is he’s very coachable. He wants to learn. You say something to him, he absorbs it and gets better at it.”

-Rangers head coach David Quinn

VITAL SIGNS

Kravtsov led all KHL players younger than 20 years old in goals (8), assists (13), and points (21) in 2018-19. His 21 points were tied for the ninth-most in KHL history by a player younger than 20 years old, and his 13 assists were tied for the eighth-most in league history.