

# McCain hopes Coyotes stay in Valley

by **Jim Gintonio** - Nov. 15, 2009 03:04 PM  
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Sen. John McCain, the grand marshal at the NASCAR race Sunday, took a few minutes to express the hope that the Coyotes remain in the Valley.

"I'm glad to see the Coyotes won (Saturday), and I hope they can stay," he said. "I hope that the fans will come out. We're going to have to increase the fan base, that's all there is to it. I think winning takes us a long way."

McCain smiled as he recalled the earlier days of the Coyotes in the Valley when they regularly went to the playoffs.

"I remember when they first came, Keith Tkachuk, Jeremy Roenick, WhiteOut in the desert, playoffs, Roenick with the broken jaw, those were exciting times," McCain said.

McCain praised coach Dave Tippett's team for its good start.

"I admire and love (former coach) Wayne Gretzky, don't get me wrong, we all do," he said. "But I think if there's been a shocking development in the league, it's been the turnaround of the Coyotes in a very short period of time.

"So if I would ask our citizenry to do anything, I would ask them to consider coming out to a hockey game and watch this team play," he said.