

Russia Reaches Ice Hockey Semifinals

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Russia blanked France 3-0 in the quarterfinals of the ice hockey world championship on Thursday. They will face defending champion Sweden or Belarus in the semifinals on Saturday.

Russia star forward Evgeni Malkin made his presence felt in his second game at the worlds as he scored a power-play goal, and Artyom Anisimov and Alexander Kutuzov also scored at France's expense.

Goaltender Sergei Bobrovski stopped 16 shots for the shutout.

Also, the Czech Republic scored three second-period, power-play goals in beating the United States 4-3. The Czechs will play Canada or Finland in the semis.

Captain Tomas Rolinek answered Brock Nelson's power-play goal in the opening period, and Tomas Hertl, Roman Cervenka and Ondrej Nemecek all beat veteran goaltender Tim Thomas on power plays in less than 10 minutes in the middle period.

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