O ANGELES—Gabe Polsky didn't step poster-i-
ning him, so Viacheslav "Slava" Fetisov automatically
plowed into the American making a documentary about the Soviet Union centered around its
dominant Red Army hockey team.
When the Hall of Fame defenceman finally met Polsky in Beijing, they viewed spend-
ing 10 hours together over three
days, reminiscing and exam-
in a sunny park while a young
child fed her a blackberry.
"I thought it was important to open the gate for the Soviet hockey players, to be an ambas-
sador and to fight the system that didn't allow you to do what you think was right," he said.
"Three years after that, I've decided not to participate in the documentary, Fetisov is in his public face, appearing every-
where from the Red Army to "The Daily Show" to promote the story of his Soviet team and the film's cultural message.
The filmmaker never imag-
ined "Red Army" would make such an impact on so many people who aren't even sports fans, but understand its resistance.
"It’s a good example of how people can be successfully con-
victed," Fetisov said. "When you get the right teammates, you can do lot of stuff. That's why maybe it touched people who never knew about hockey." [From The Associated Press]