



HOBEY BAKER MEMORIAL AWARD



HOBEY BAKER AND HIS PRINCETON TEAM

THE LEGEND AND THE HISTORY OF THE AWARD

The Hobey Baker Memorial Award is presented annually to the college hockey player who best exemplifies the qualities that Princeton University's Hobey Baker himself demonstrated as an athlete and as a servant of his country in the early 1900's.

Hobey Baker (Hobart Amory Hare Baker), born January 15, 1892 to an aristocratic Philadelphia family, played collegiate hockey at Princeton. While at Princeton, he was not only a legend in hockey, but in football as well. He captained the hockey team for two years and the football team for one. As a punt returner, his coordination and footwork allowed him to take chances and do things others wouldn't dare.

After his college years at Princeton, Baker tried his hand in the real world of Wall Street insurance and banking, then the family upholstery business. But he was bored. What sustained him was playing for St. Nick's, an amateur team in Manhattan. His teammates were ex-Harvard, Yale and Princeton players and a few Canadians working in the city. However, the rest of the league made no pretense of being anything but "semi-pros."

The winter of 1916 Hobey's mind was on a very different sort of competition. Believing American involvement in the World War was close at hand, he took up flying. In 1917 Hobey was commissioned a lieutenant in the Army. As a member of the famous Lafayette Escadrille, he was with the first group of American pilots sent to France. He was as adventurous a pilot as he had been an athlete, chosen on occasion to exhibit aerial acrobatics with his friend Eddie Rickenbacker. In combat flying, he found even more danger and excitement than he had in contact sports - and Hobey needed both. He was officially credited with bringing down three enemy planes and was decorated with the Croix de Guerre for "exceptional valor under fire."

Following the armistice, his orders home in hand, Hobey announced to his fellow officers he was going to take "one last flight in the old Spad." His mates were quick to argue with the young captain who was challenging the oldest tradition of the air service— never take a "last" flight lest it be just that. But they were not able to dissuade him and were even more upset when the plane he insisted on flying was a borrowed one, just out of the repair shop.

Tradition was not to be denied the final victory that gray, dismal day over Toul, France. Just a quarter mile out, the engine quit and the plane crashed. Hobey Baker, age 26, died in the ambulance a short time later. In 1919 he received a posthumous Army citation from General Pershing for distinguished service and exceptional gallantry.

With his death in France, the old-fashioned virtues Hobey Baker personified took on legendary qualities. He was one of the first Americans selected to the Hockey Hall of Fame, in 1945. In 1973, the United States Hockey Hall of Fame in Eveleth (MN) included Hobey Baker as a charter member.

No finer example of the true sportsman may have ever been developed in American athletics. Whatever game he played he always played it first of all for the joy of the sport.

The first recipient of the Hobey Baker Memorial Award in 1981 came from a WCHA team – forward Neal Broten of Minnesota. Including that first honor, the WCHA has had more Hobey Baker winners – 16 total – than any other college hockey conference. The league has also produced at least one finalist in each season.

HOBEY BAKER MEMORIAL AWARD WINNERS AND WCHA FINALISTS

1980-81

Winner: Neal Broten, F, UM. **WCHA Finalists:** Neal Broten, F, UM; Steve Ulseth, F, UM.

1981-82

Winner: George McPhee, F, Bowling Green. **WCHA Finalists:** Ed Beers, F, DU; Bryan Erickson, F, UM; John Newberry, F, UW.

1982-83

Winner: Mark Fusco, D, Harvard. **WCHA Finalists:** James Patrick, D, UND; Scott Bjugstad, F, UM; Bryan Erickson, F, UM.

1983-84

Winner: Tom Kurvers, D, UMD. **WCHA Finalists:** Tom Kurvers, D, UMD; Jon Casey, G, UND.

1984-85

Winner: Bill Watson, F, UMD. **WCHA Finalists:** Bill Watson, F, UMD; Pat Micheletti, F, UM.

1985-86

Winner: Scott Fusco, F, Harvard. **WCHA Finalists:** Dallas Gaume, F, DU; Gary Emmons, F, NMU; Brett Hull, F, UMD; Norm Maciver, D, UMD; Scott Sandelin, D, UND.

1986-87

Winner: Tony Hrkac, F, UND. **WCHA Finalists:** Tony Hrkac, F, UND; Gary Emmons, F, NMU; Tony Granato, F, UW.

1987-88

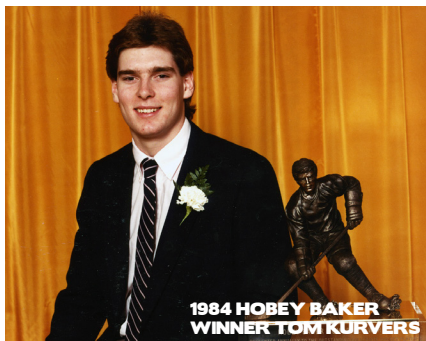
Winner: Robb Stauber, G, UM. **WCHA Finalists:** Robb Stauber, G, UM; Phil Berger, F, NMU; Steve Johnson, F, UND; Paul Ranheim, F, UW.

1988-89

Winner: Lane MacDonald, F, Harvard. **WCHA Finalists:** Robb Stauber, G, UM.

1989-90

Winner: Kip Miller, F, Michigan State. **WCHA Finalists:** Russ Parent, D, UND; Dave Shields, F, DU.



**1990-91**

Winner: David Emma, F, Boston College. WCHA Finalists: Brad Werena, D, NMU; Scott Beattie, F, NMU; Greg Johnson, F, UND.

1991-92

Winner: Scott Pellerin, F, Maine. WCHA Finalists: Scott Beattie, F, NMU; Duane Derksen, G, UW; Greg Johnson, F, UND; Larry Olimb, F, UM.

1992-93

Winner: Paul Kariya, F, Maine. WCHA Finalists: Greg Johnson, F, UND; Derek Plante, F, UMD.

1993-94

Winner: Chris Marinucci, F, UMD. WCHA Finalists: Chris Marinucci, F, UMD; Jamie Ram, G, MTU.

1994-95

Winner: Brian Holzinger, F, Bowling Green. WCHA Finalists: Brian Bonin, F, UM; Jay McNeill, F, CC.

1995-96

Winner: Brian Bonin, F, UM. WCHA Finalists: Brian Bonin, F, UM; Peter Geronazzo, F, CC; Mike Crowley, D, UM.

1996-97

Winner: Brendan Morrison, F, Michigan. WCHA Finalists: Jason Blake, F, UND; Mike Crowley, D, UM; Brian Swanson, F, CC.

1997-98

Winner: Chris Drury, F, Boston University. WCHA Finalists: Curtis Murphy, D, UND.

1998-99

Winner: Jason Krog, F, New Hampshire. WCHA Finalists: Jason Blake, F, UND; Brian Swanson, F, CC.

1999-2000

Winner: Mike Mottau, D, Boston College. WCHA Finalists: Jeff Panzer, F, UND; Steve Reinprecht, F, UW.

2000-01

Winner: Ryan Miller, G, Michigan State. WCHA Finalists: Jeff Panzer, F, North Dakota; Dany Heatley, F, Wisconsin.

2001-02

Winner: Jordan Leopold, D, UM. WCHA Finalists: Mark Hartigan, F, SCSU; Jordan Leopold, D, UM; Wade Dubielewicz, G, DU.

2002-03

Winner: Peter Sejna, F, CC. WCHA Finalists: Zach Parise, F, UND; Tom Preissing, D, CC; Peter Sejna, F, CC.

2003-04

Winner: Junior Lessard, F, UMD. WCHA Finalists: Keith Ballard, D, UM; Brandon Bochenski, F, UND; Junior Lessard, F, UMD; Zach Parise, F, UND.

2004-05

Winner: Marty Sertich, F, CC. WCHA Finalists: Colin Murphy, F, MTU; Marty Sertich, F, CC; Brett Sterling, F, CC.

2005-06

Winner: Matt Carle, D, DU. WCHA Finalists: Matt Carle, D, DU; Brian Elliott, G, UW; Ryan Potulny, F, UM; Marty Sertich, F, CC; Brett Sterling, F, CC.

2006-07

Winner: Ryan Duncan, F, UND. WCHA Finalists: Ryan Duncan, F, UND; Bobby Goepfert, G, SCSU.

2007-08

Winner: Kevin Porter, F, Michigan. WCHA Finalists: Jean-Philippe Lamoureux, G, UND; Ryan Lasch, F, SCSU; T.J. Oshie, F, UND.

2008-09

Winner: Matt Gilroy, D, Boston University. WCHA Finalists: Jamie McBain, D, UW.

2009-10

Winner: Blake Geoffrion, F, UW. WCHA Finalists: Marc Cheverie, G, DU; Blake Geoffrion, F, UW; Rhett Rakhshani, F, DU; Brendan Smith, D, UW.

2010-11

Winner: Andy Miele, F, Miami. WCHA Finalists: Jack Connolly, F, UMD; Matt Frattin, F, UND; Justin Schultz, D, UW.

2011-12

Winner: Jack Connolly, F, UMD. WCHA Finalists: Jack Connolly, F, UMD; Justin Schultz, D, UW.

2012-13

Winner: Drew LeBlanc, F, SCSU. WCHA Finalists: Drew LeBlanc, F, SCSU; Danny Kristo, F, UND; Corban Knight, F, UND; Ryan Walters, F, UNO.

2013-14

Winner: Johnny Gaudreau, F, Boston College. WCHA Finalists: CJ Motte, G, FSU.

2014-15

Winner: Jack Eichel, F, Boston University. WCHA Finalists: Tanner Kero, F, Michigan Tech.

2015-16

Winner: Jimmy Vesey, F, Harvard. WCHA Finalists: Alex Petan, F, Michigan Tech.

2016-17

Winner: Will Butcher, D, Denver. WCHA Finalists: Michael Bitzer, G, Bemidji State.

2017-18

Winner: Adam Gaudette, F, Northeastern. WCHA Finalists: C.J. Suess, F, Minnesota State.

HOBEY BAKER LEGENDS OF COLLEGE HOCKEY

Each year, the Hobey Baker Memorial Award Committee also honors one of the all-time great contributors to the sport of collegiate hockey. Members of this outstanding group of individuals have each left their own trademark on the game, leading the way in all aspects of the game from playing to coaching and even creating the rules. Recipients with ties to the WCHA are listed in bold.

RECIPIENTS

1981 – John ‘Snooks’ Kelley. 1982 – Vic Heyliger. 1983 – John Mariucci. 1984 – **Murray Armstrong**. 1985 – Herb Gallagher. 1986 – **Amo Bessone**. 1987 – Murray Murdoch. 1988 – **Cliff ‘Fido’ Purpur**. 1989 – Jim Fullerton. 1990 – **Al Renfrew**. 1991 – Jack Riley. 1992 – John ‘Connie’ Pleban. 1993 – Bill Cleary. 1994 – Jack Kelley. 1995 – **John Mayasich**. 1996 – Len Ceglarski. 1997 – Lou Lamoriello. 1998 – Ned Harkness. 1999 – **John Macinnes & Glen Sonmor**. 2000 – **Bob Johnson**. 2001 – **Bob Peters**. 2002 – Sid Watson. 2003 – **Charles ‘Lefty’ Smith**. 2004 – Ron Mason. 2005 – **Murray Williamson**. 2006 – Ralph ‘Cooney’ Weiland. 2007 – Ed Saugestad. 2008 – Eddie Jeremiah.

**JEFF SAUER**

2009 – Don Roberts. 2010 – Charlie Holt. 2011 – **Herb Brooks**. 2012 – Fernie Flaman. 2013 – **Jeff Sauer**. 2014 – Jack Parker. 2015 – Tim Taylor. 2016 – Bill Selman. 2017 – Bill Riley, Jr. 2018– Red Berenson.