

2004-05 WESTERN COLLEGIATE HOCKEY ASSOCIATION

# SEASON REVIEW





ABOVE: 2004-05 WCHA AND NCAA DIVISION 1 SCORING CHAMPION MARTY SERTICH OF COLORADO COLLEGE

## 2004-05 WCHA PLAYER STATS - CONFERENCE

Point Scoring:	GP	PPG	G	A	P
1 Marty Sertich	Colorado College	JR C	28	1.50	17-25-42
2 Brett Sterling	Colorado College	JR LW	28	1.36	18-20-38
3 Colin Murphy	Michigan Tech	SR LW	28	1.25	10-25-35
4 Evan Schwabe	Minnesota-Duluth	SR C	28	1.21	14-20-34
5 Marco Peluso	Minnesota-Duluth	SR W	27	1.22	18-15-33
6 Danny Irmen	Minnesota	SO F	28	1.14	17-15-32
8 Gabe Gauthier	Denver	JR F	28	1.14	13-19-32
8 Luke Fulghum	Denver	SR F	28	1.11	20-11-31
Robbie Earl	Wisconsin	SO F	28	1.11	14-17-31
Paul Stastny	Denver	FR F	28	1.11	10-21-31
Tyler Hirsch	Minnesota	JR F	28	1.11	8-23-31
12 Matt Carle	Denver	SO D	28	1.07	8-22-30
13 Tim Stapleton	Minnesota-Duluth	JR C	28	1.04	14-15-29
Joe Pavelski	Wisconsin	FR F	28	1.04	10-19-29
15 David Backes	Minnesota State	SO F	28	1.00	13-15-28
16 Jeff Drummond	Denver	SR F	27	1.00	13-14-27
17 Ryan Potulny	Minnesota	SO F	28	0.93	15-11-26
Brett Skinner	Denver	JR D	28	0.93	3-23-26
19 Colby Genoway	North Dakota	SR F	27	0.93	6-19-25
Kevin Ulanski	Denver	SR F	28	0.89	8-17-25
21 Lars Helminen	Michigan Tech	SO D	28	0.86	6-18-24
22 Dave Iannazzo	St. Cloud State	SR RW/LW	25	0.92	11-12-23
Ross Carlson	Wisconsin	SO F	26	0.88	10-13-23
Drew Stafford	North Dakota	SO F	27	0.85	8-15-23
Gino Guyer	Minnesota	JR F	28	0.82	9-14-23
Ryan MacMurchy	Wisconsin	JR F	28	0.82	9-14-23
27 Brian Salcido	Colorado College	SO D	24	0.92	4-18-22
Joey Crabb	Colorado College	JR W	28	0.79	12-10-22
Martin Stuchlik	Alaska Anchorage	SR F	28	0.79	9-13-22
30 Jake Dowell	Wisconsin	SO F	28	0.75	8-13-21
Andrew Joudrey	Wisconsin	SO F	28	0.75	6-15-21
32 Kyle Peto	Minnesota State	SO D	27	0.74	3-17-20
Ryan Carter	Minnesota State	FR F	28	0.71	13- 7-20
Rastislav Spirko	North Dakota	FR F	28	0.71	10-10-20
Brandon Schwartz	Michigan Tech	JR LW	28	0.71	9-11-20
Charlie Kronschnabel	Alaska Anchorage	SO F	28	0.71	8-12-20
37 Travis Morin	Minnesota State	SO F	26	0.73	9-10-19
Jon Foster	Denver	SR F	28	0.68	13- 6-19
39 Travis Zajac	North Dakota	SR F	28	0.64	8-10-18
Brett Hammond	Minnesota-Duluth	SR W	28	0.64	6-12-18
Peter Szabo	St. Cloud State	SR C/LW	28	0.64	5-13-18
42 Jimmy Kilpatrick	Colorado College	FR F	26	0.65	3-14-17
Justin Bourne	Alaska Anchorage	SO F	28	0.61	11- 6-17
Chris Conner	Michigan Tech	JR F	28	0.61	9- 8-17
Trevor Frischmon	Colorado College	JR C	28	0.61	8- 9-17
Nick Fuher	North Dakota	SR D	28	0.61	4-13-17
Kyle Klubertanz	Wisconsin	FR D	28	0.61	3-14-17
Chris Harrington	Minnesota	JR D	28	0.61	0-17-17
49 Lee Sweatt	Colorado College	SO D	28	0.57	1-15-16
50 Brad Thompson	Minnesota State	SR F	28	0.54	10- 5-15
Geoff Paukovich	Denver	FR F	28	0.54	8- 7-15

Goal Scoring:	GP	GPG	G		
1 Luke Fulghum	Denver	SR F	28	0.71	20
2 Marco Peluso	Minnesota-Duluth	SR W	27	0.67	18
Brett Sterling	Colorado College	JR LW	28	0.64	18

4 Marty Sertich	Colorado College	JR C	28	0.61	17
Danny Irmen	Minnesota	SO F	28	0.61	17

Assist Scoring:	GP	APG	A		
1 Marty Sertich	Colorado College	JR C	28	0.89	25
Colin Murphy	Michigan Tech	SR LW	28	0.89	25
3 Brett Skinner	Denver	JR D	28	0.82	23
Tyler Hirsch	Minnesota	JR F	28	0.82	23
5 Matt Carle	Denver	SO D	28	0.79	22

Power Play Points:	GP	PPG	G	A	P
1 Brett Sterling	Colorado College	JR LW	28	0.82	11-12-23
Marty Sertich	Colorado College	JR C	28	0.82	5-18-23
3 Evan Schwabe	Minnesota-Duluth	SR C	28	0.71	8-12-20
4 Marco Peluso	Minnesota-Duluth	SR W	27	0.70	8-11-19
Danny Irmen	Minnesota	SO F	28	0.68	9-10-19
Tyler Hirsch	Minnesota	JR F	28	0.68	2-17-19

Power Play Goals:	GP	GPG	G		
1 Brett Sterling	Colorado College	JR LW	28	0.39	11
2 Ryan Potulny	Minnesota	SO F	28	0.36	10
3 Joey Crabb	Colorado College	JR W	28	0.32	9
Danny Irmen	Minnesota	SO F	28	0.32	9
5 Marco Peluso	Minnesota-Duluth	SR W	27	0.30	8
Luke Fulghum	Denver	SR F	28	0.29	8
Evan Schwabe	Minnesota-Duluth	SR C	28	0.29	8

Short-Handed Points:	GP	PPG	G	A	P
1 Adam Burish	Wisconsin	JR C	28	0.11	3- 0- 3
Tim Stapleton	Minnesota-Duluth	JR C	28	0.11	2- 1- 3
Jussi Halme	Denver	SR D	28	0.11	0- 3- 3
4 eight players tied with two each					

Game-Winning Goals:	GP	G		
1 Ryan Helgason	Denver	SO F	18	3
Barry Tallackson	Minnesota	SR F	22	3
Aaron Slattengren	Colorado College	JR C	27	3
Jeff Drummond	Denver	SR F	27	3
Luke Fulghum	Denver	SR F	28	3
Evan Schwabe	Minnesota-Duluth	SR C	28	3
Kris Chuko	Minnesota	FR F	28	3
Ryan MacMurchy	Wisconsin	JR F	28	3
Joe Pavelski	Wisconsin	FR F	28	3

Defensesman Scoring:	GP	PPG	G	A	P
1 Matt Carle	Denver	SO D	28	1.07	8-22-30
2 Brett Skinner	Denver	JR D	28	0.93	3-23-26
3 Lars Helminen	Michigan Tech	SO D	28	0.86	6-18-24
4 Brian Salcido	Colorado College	SO D	24	0.92	4-18-22
5 Kyle Peto	Minnesota State	SO D	27	0.74	3-17-20

Freshman Scoring:	GP	PPG	G	A	P
1 Paul Stastny	Denver	F	28	1.11	10-21-31
2 Joe Pavelski	Wisconsin	F	28	1.04	10-19-29
3 Ryan Carter	Minnesota State	F	28	0.71	13- 7-20
Rastislav Spirko	North Dakota	F	28	0.71	10-10-20
5 Travis Zajac	North Dakota	F	28	0.64	8-10-18

Goals Against Average:	Minutes	GA	GAA		
1 Curtis McElhinney	Colorado College	SR	891:19	31	2.09
2 Philippe Lamoureux	North Dakota	FR	792:44	29	2.19
3 Jordan Parise	North Dakota	SO	854:40	32	2.25
4 Bernd Brückler	Wisconsin	SR	1505:37	59	2.35
5 Matt Zaba	Colorado College	SO	805:09	35	2.61
6 Peter Mannino	Denver	FR	864:48	38	2.64
7 Kellen Briggs	Minnesota	SO	1230:20	61	2.97
8 Josh Johnson	Minnesota-Duluth	SO	660:40	33	3.00
9 Glenn Fisher	Denver	SO	823:26	43	3.13
10 Isaac Reichmuth	Minnesota-Duluth	JR	1032:20	54	3.14
11 Cam Ellsworth	Michigan Tech	SR	1301:16	69	3.18
12 Jon Volp	Minnesota State	SR	861:09	50	3.48
13 John DeCaro	Alaska Anchorage	JR	613:15	36	3.52
14 Nathan Lawson	Alaska Anchorage	FR	1082:48	64	3.55
15 Tim Boron	St. Cloud State	SO	1276:46	76	3.57
16 Chris Clark	Minnesota State	SO	661:04	40	3.63

Save Percentage:	Saves	GA	Pct		
1 Curtis McElhinney	Colorado College	SR	416	31	.931
2 Cam Ellsworth	Michigan Tech	SR	772	69	.918
3 Bernd Brückler	Wisconsin	SR	646	59	.916
4 Philippe Lamoureux	North Dakota	FR	314	29	.915
5 Matt Zaba	Colorado College	SO	378	35	.915
6 John DeCaro	Alaska Anchorage	JR	381	36	.914
7 Jordan Parise	North Dakota	SO	334	32	.913
8 Peter Mannino	Denver	FR	388	38	.911
9 Josh Johnson	Minnesota-Duluth	SO	315	33	.905
10 Nathan Lawson	Alaska Anchorage	FR	610	64	.905
11 Kellen Briggs	Minnesota	SO	547	61	.900
12 Isaac Reichmuth	Minnesota-Duluth	JR	446	54	.892
13 Tim Boron	St. Cloud State	SO	624	76	.891
14 Jon Volp	Minnesota State	SR	399	50	.889
15 Chris Clark	Minnesota State	SO	315	40	.887
16 Glenn Fisher	Denver	SO	305	43	.876

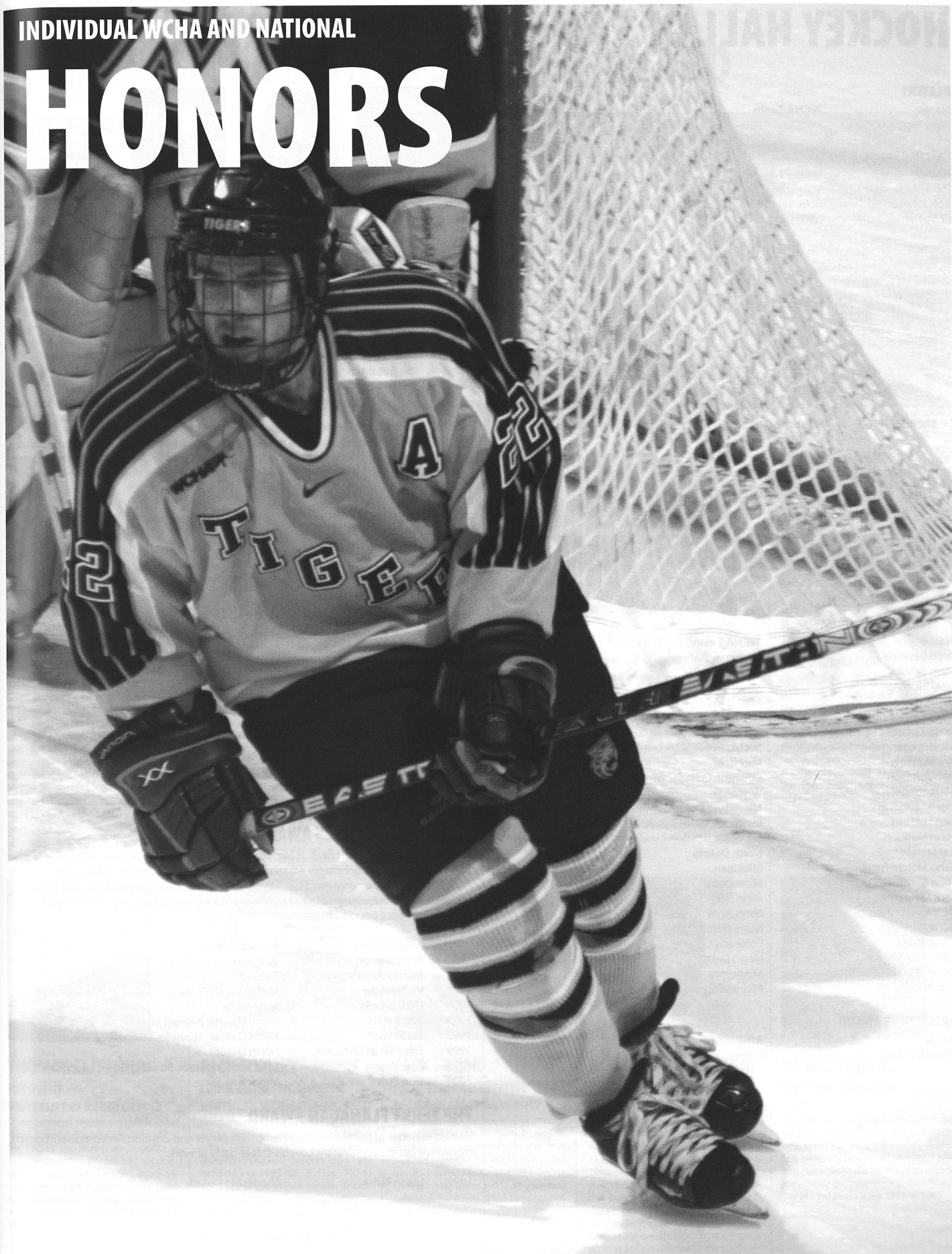
Winning Percentage:	W	L	T	Pct
1 Curtis McElhinney	Colorado College	SR	12- 2- 1	.833
2 Peter Mannino	Denver	FR	11- 3- 1	.767
3 Glenn Fisher	Denver	SO	8- 4- 1	.654
4 John DeCaro	Alaska Anchorage	JR	5- 3- 2	.600
5 Bernd Brückler	Wisconsin	SR	13- 9- 3	.580
6 Matt Zaba	Colorado College	SO	7- 5- 1	.577
7 Kellen Briggs	Minnesota	SO	12- 9- 0	.571
8 Jordan Parise	North Dakota	SO	7- 5- 3	.567
9 Josh Johnson	Minnesota-Duluth	SO	5- 5- 1	.500
10 Philippe Lamoureux	North Dakota	FR	6- 7- 0	.462
11 Chris Clark	Minnesota State	SO	4- 5- 2	.455
12 Isaac Reichmuth	Minnesota-Duluth	JR	6- 8- 3	.441
13 Cam Ellsworth	Michigan Tech	SR	6-13- 2	.333
14 Jon Volp	Minnesota State	SR	4- 9- 1	.321
15 Tim Boron	St. Cloud State	SO	6-15- 1	.295
16 Nathan Lawson	Alaska Anchorage	FR	4-12- 2	.278

Minimum 33% of Team Minutes Played



INDIVIDUAL WCHA AND NATIONAL

# HONORS



# WCHA PLAYER OF THE YEAR

## HISTORY OF THE AWARD

Since 1960, the Western Collegiate Hockey Association has annually honored a conference member team player deemed either as the league's Most Valuable Player or as the league's Player of the Year.

From 1960 to 1981, the league's Most Valuable Player Award was administered by The Denver Post. The first winner of the MVP honor was forward Jerry Walker of Denver.

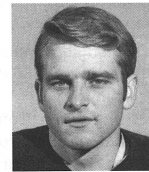
Since 1981, the WCHA's top individual on-ice award has been voted on by different combinations of conference-member coaches, student-athletes, sports information directors, and media.

In 1992, a vote of conference head coaches changed the official designation of the award from 'WCHA Most Valuable Player' to 'WCHA Player of the Year' in order to better describe the honor.

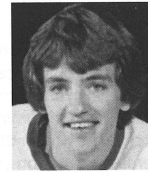
A total of three players in 52 seasons have won the league's top on-ice honor more than once. They are goaltender Murray McLachlan of University of Minnesota (1969 and 1970), forward Doug Palazzari of Colorado College (1972 and 1974), and forward Brian Bonin of University of Minnesota (1995 and 1996).



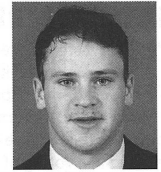
MEL WAKABAYASHI/MICH



MURRAY McLACHLAN/UM



MARK JOHNSON/UW



CURTIS MURPHY/UND

## WCHA MOST VALUABLE PLAYER - 1959-92

Year	Name, Position, Team
1959-60	(None Selected)
1960-61	Jerry Walker, F, Denver
1961-62	Red Berenson, F, Michigan
1962-63	Lou Nanne, D, Minnesota
1963-64	(None Selected)
1964-65	Gerry Kell, F, North Dakota
1965-66	Mel Wakabayashi, F, Michigan
1966-67	Keith 'Huffer' Christiansen, F, Minnesota Duluth
1967-68	Keith Magnuson, D, Denver
1968-69	Murray McLachlan, G, Minnesota
1969-70	Murray McLachlan, G, Minnesota
1970-71	Rob Murray, D, Michigan Tech
1971-72	Doug Palazzari, F, Colorado College
1972-73	Ron Grahame, G, Denver
1973-74	Doug Palazzari, F, Colorado College
1974-75	Mike Polich, F, Minnesota (co) Tom Ross, F, Michigan State (co)
1975-76	Mike Zuke, F, Michigan Tech
1976-77	Brian Walsh, F, Notre Dame
1977-78	Mike Eaves, F, Wisconsin
1978-79	Mark Johnson, F, Wisconsin
1979-80	Tim Harrer, F, Minnesota
1980-81	Steve Ulseth, F, Minnesota
1981-82	Phil Sykes, F, North Dakota
1982-83	Bob Mason, G, Minnesota Duluth
1983-84	Tom Kurvers, D, Minnesota Duluth
1984-85	Bill Watson, F, Minnesota Duluth
1985-86	Dallas Gaume, F, Denver
1986-87	Tony Hrkac, F, North Dakota
1987-88	Robb Stauber, G, Minnesota
1988-89	Curtis Joseph, G, Wisconsin
1989-90	Gary Shuchuk, F, Wisconsin
1990-91	Scott Beattie, F, Northern Michigan
1991-92	Duane Derksen, G, Wisconsin

## WCHA PLAYER OF THE YEAR - 1993-PRESENT

Year	Name, Position, Team
1992-93	Derek Plante, F, Minnesota Duluth
1993-94	Chris Marinucci, F, Minnesota Duluth
1994-95	Brian Bonin, F, Minnesota
1995-96	Brian Bonin, F, Minnesota
1996-97	Mike Crowley, D, Minnesota
1997-98	Curtis Murphy, D, North Dakota
1998-99	Jason Blake, F, North Dakota
1999-00	Steve Reinprecht, F, Wisconsin
2000-01	Jeff Panzer, F, North Dakota
2001-02	Mark Hartigan, F, St. Cloud State
2002-03	Peter Sejna, F, Colorado College
2003-04	Junior Lessard, F, Minnesota Duluth
2004-05	Marty Sertich, F, Colorado College



COLORADO COLLEGE JUNIOR FORWARD MARTY SERTICH WAS HONORED AS THE 2004-05 WCHA PLAYER OF THE YEAR. SERTICH WON BOTH THE WCHA AND NCAA DIV. 1 SCORING TITLES, WAS NAMED RECIPIENT OF THE HOBEY BAKER MEMORIAL AWARD AND THE USA HOCKEY COLLEGIATE PLAYER OF THE YEAR, AND WAS A FIRST TEAM ALL-AMERICAN



# COLORADO COLLEGE TIGERS



## TEAM SCHEDULE

### OCTOBER

7	ICEBREAKER INVITATIONAL Maine vs Air Force (nc)	5:07 pm MT
	Union vs CC (nc)	8:07 pm MT
8	ICEBREAKER INVITATIONAL Union vs Air Force (nc)	5:07 pm MT
	Maine vs CC (nc)	8:07 pm MT
9	LAKEHEAD UNIV. (x)	6:07 pm MT
14	OHIO STATE (nc)	7:37 pm MT
15	OHIO STATE (nc)	7:07 pm MT
21	NOTRE DAME (nc)	7:37 pm MT
22	AIR FORCE (nc)	7:07 pm MT
28	@ Minnesota State	7:37 pm CT
29	@ Minnesota State	7:07 pm CT

### NOVEMBER

4	ST. CLOUD STATE	7:37 pm MT
5	ST. CLOUD STATE	7:07 pm MT
11	@ Wisconsin	7:07 pm CT
12	@ Wisconsin	7:07 pm CT
18	MICHIGAN TECH	7:37 pm MT
19	MICHIGAN TECH	7:07 pm MT
25	@ Massachusetts (nc)	7:00 pm ET
26	@ Boston University (nc)	7:00 pm ET

### DECEMBER

2	DENVER	7:37 pm MT
3	@ Denver	7:07 pm MT
9	MINNESOTA DULUTH	7:37 pm MT
10	MINNESOTA DULUTH	7:07 pm MT
16	@ Alaska Anchorage	7:07 pm AT
17	@ Alaska Anchorage	7:07 pm AT
29	@ Great Lakes Invitational, Detroit, MI	
	CC vs Michigan (nc)	4:30 pm ET
	Michigan St. vs MTU (nc)	8:00 pm ET
30	@ Great Lakes Invitational, Detroit, MI	
	Third Place Game (nc)	4:30 pm ET
	Championship Game (nc)	8:00 pm ET

### JANUARY

13	WISCONSIN	7:37 pm MT
14	WISCONSIN	7:07 pm MT
20	@ Minnesota	7:07 pm CT
21	@ Minnesota	3:07 pm CT

### FEBRUARY

3	NORTH DAKOTA	7:37 pm MT
4	NORTH DAKOTA	7:07 pm MT
10	@ St. Cloud State	7:07 pm CT
11	@ St. Cloud State	7:07 pm CT
17	ALASKA ANCHORAGE	7:37 pm MT
18	ALASKA ANCHORAGE	7:07 pm MT
24	@ Minnesota Duluth	7:07 pm CT
25	@ Minnesota Duluth	7:07 pm CT

### MARCH

2	DENVER	7:37 pm MT
3	@ Denver	7:37 pm MT

(x) exhibition; (nc) non-conference

## 2005-06 SEASON OUTLOOK

Thirty-one victories overall and a trip to the NCAA Frozen Four. Regular-season co-champions in the WCHA. Another Hobey Baker Award winner. Four first-team All-Americans.

That was 2004-05. It's a tough act to follow.

However, in Scott Owens' seven years as head coach at Colorado College, seldom has the outlook appeared brighter than it does heading into the 2005-06 season.

"My biggest concern," says Owens, "is that the guys don't think that they don't have to work hard this season to achieve what they did last year. Sometimes you think you're better than you are, and you have to go in with a fresh new approach and attitude. We need to understand that we value the experience we gained last year but that it's a new season, with different opponents, a new chemistry and dynamics."

No fewer than 21 players return from a team that reached the NCAA semifinals, including five senior forwards who combined for 99 goals and 210 points. First-team All-Americans Marty Sertich (27-37-64) and Brett Sterling (34-29-63) head the pack, Sertich having won the Hobey Baker Memorial Award after claiming a national scoring title and Sterling having led the country with his 34 goals.

Toss in Joey Crabb (16-16-32), Trevor Frischmon (10-16-26) and Aaron Slattengren (12-13-25), and you're talking about a group that was credited with the game-winning goal in 20 of CC's 31 victories. Sterling alone had seven GWG, Sertich and Slattengren four apiece. And it was Frischmon who struck for the game winner, his second tally of the game, in the third period of a dramatic come-from-behind triumph over Michigan in the NCAA quarterfinals.

"If we can get 35 points out of Crabb, I'll be very happy," Owens says. "I think he can pick up on his five-on-five goal scoring, and I think Slattengren is capable of having a bigger year than he had in 2004-05 - he's got 70 career points in three seasons. And I think that Frischmon has played back-to-back excellent years. If he can match what he's done, it'll help us. There's a little bit of wiggle room in there, but those three have had awfully good careers up to this point."

The list of talented veterans - up front, in net and at the blue line - doesn't stop there.

The Tigers also bring back junior defensive partners Brian Salcido (7-23-30) and Lee Sweatt (3-25-28), who enjoyed breakout sophomore seasons in 2004-05, as well as second-year winger Jimmy Kilpatrick (8-17-25). Those three, along with the aforementioned five seniors, provide Owens with his top eight point producers from a year ago - two defensemen and six forwards who totaled just under 300 points (293) to



BRETT STERLING

go along with 117 goals.

All told, this season's returning players scored 146 of the team's 160 goals (91.3%) and earned 368 of its 421 points (87.4%) in 2004-05. Offense should not be a problem in 2005-06, especially since seven other experienced forwards also are eager to pick their game up a notch.

"As outstanding as our program has been," says Owens, "we've never had this much quality depth at the forward position."

The group includes juniors J.P. Brunkhorst, Braydon Cox, Brandon Polich and Scott Thauwald, as well as sophomores James Brannigan, Scott McCulloch, and Derek Patrosso. The four juniors have logged 229 games their first two years. Thauwald scored seven goals in 22 games a year ago before missing the second half of the campaign with a knee injury. McCulloch, meanwhile, had four tallies in just 11 outings before suffering a season-ending shoulder injury. He, Brannigan and Patrosso, along with Kilpatrick, all hope to make a major impact as sophomores.

Rounding out CC's talented crop of for-

wards in '05-06 will be highly-touted freshmen Chad Rau and Andreas Vlassopoulos. Rau, the United States Hockey League's Rookie of the Year last season, finished second in the entire USHL with 71 points (31g,40a) for Des Moines. Vlassopoulos comes to the Tigers from the U.S. National Under-18 Team, for which he contributed 23 points (4g,19a) in 46 games in '04-05.

Between the pipes, junior Matt Zaba returns as the heir apparent to two-time All-American Curtis McElhinney, who graduated last spring after posting an incredible 62-16-8 (.747) record the last four years. But Zaba enters his third season with a career saves percentage (.913) even better than McElhinney's (.912), as well as a stingy 2.35 goals-against average to go with 20 victories to date. Fellow junior Chris Kawano, who has shown vast improvement over the course of his first two seasons, and promising freshman Drew O'Connell also will compete for playing time.

O'Connell was named to the USHL All-Rookie Team after posting six shutouts with Waterloo in '04-05.

con't on p. 30