



**The Nation's Premier Award for**



**NCAA® Senior Student-Athletes**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**December 30, 2008**

**LOWE'S SENIOR CLASS AWARD ANNOUNCES 20  
NCAA® DIVISION I HOCKEY PLAYERS AS 2008-09 CANDIDATES FOR  
SENIOR STUDENT-ATHLETE OF THE YEAR**

(Kansas City, MO) – Twenty collegiate hockey players who have combined excellence in athletics, academics and community service were announced today as candidates for the men's hockey division of the 2008-09 **Lowe's Senior CLASS Award**.

The award is presented annually to an NCAA® Division I student-athlete in nine sports based on achievements in the "Four C's" of **classroom, character, community and competition**. CLASS is an acronym for *Celebrating Loyalty and Achievement for Staying in School*.

The Lowe's Senior CLASS Award was launched in 2001 to honor the attributes of college basketball seniors who fulfill their entire athletic eligibility and pursue the many rewards of a senior season and complete college education.

Lowe's, an official Corporate Partner of the NCAA, expanded the Senior CLASS Award program in 2007 to include NCAA Division I men's ice hockey in addition to men's lacrosse, baseball, softball and men's and women's soccer. Football (Bowl Subdivision) has been added in 2008, bringing the award program's total of NCAA sports to nine.

The 2008-09 hockey candidates (see the complete roster below) represent 18 different schools and five conferences. The University of Notre Dame and The Ohio State University each have two candidates.

From the list of 20 nominees, a national media committee will select 10 finalists for the Lowe's Senior CLASS Award by early February 2009. Those 10 names will be placed on the official ballot for a nationwide vote that will include coaches, media and fans. The award winner will be announced and recognized at the 2009 NCAA Frozen Four in Washington, D.C.

"Lowe's recognizes that today's student-athletes are tomorrow's leaders," said **Bob Gfeller**, Lowe's Senior Vice President of Marketing and Advertising. "What the 20 award candidates have been able to accomplish despite demanding athletic training and classroom schedules is very impressive. We are honored to recognize these outstanding young people and look forward to announcing the winner at the NCAA Frozen Four."

– more –

This marks the third year for the hockey division of the Lowe's Senior CLASS Award. **David Brown** of Notre Dame was the inaugural winner in 2007 and **Landis Stankieveh** of Princeton was named the award recipient in 2008.

# # # #

#### **ABOUT THE AWARD**

An acronym for *Celebrating Loyalty and Achievement for Staying in School*, the Lowe's Senior CLASS Award honors the attributes of senior student-athletes in four areas: classroom, community, character and competition. The award program is designed exclusively for college seniors who are utilizing their complete athletic eligibility, remaining committed to their university and pursuing the many rewards that a senior season can bring. For more information, visit [www.seniorclassaward.com](http://www.seniorclassaward.com).

#### **ABOUT LOWE'S**

With fiscal year 2007 sales of \$48.3 billion, Lowe's Companies, Inc. is a FORTUNE® 50 company that serves approximately 14 million customers a week at more than 1,625 home improvement stores in the United States and Canada. Founded in 1946 and based in Mooresville, N.C., Lowe's is the second-largest home improvement retailer in the world. For more information, visit [www.lowes.com](http://www.lowes.com).

#### **ABOUT THE NCAA**

The NCAA is a membership-led nonprofit association of colleges and universities committed to supporting academic and athletics opportunities for more than 400,000 student-athletes at more than 1,000 member colleges and universities. Each year, more than 54,000 student-athletes compete in NCAA championships in Divisions I, II and III sports. Visit [www.ncaa.org](http://www.ncaa.org) and [www.ncaa.com](http://www.ncaa.com) for more details about the Association.

#### **MEDIA CONTACT**

Melynda Stein  
Premier Sports Management - Lowe's Senior CLASS Award  
Phone: 913-681-6990 x17  
Email: [mstein@seniorclassaward.com](mailto:mstein@seniorclassaward.com)  
Website: [www.seniorclassaward.com](http://www.seniorclassaward.com)



The Nation's Premier Award for



NCAA® Senior Student-Athletes

## Lowe's Senior CLASS Award 2008-2009 Men's Hockey Nominees

<u>Name</u>	<u>School</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Conference</u>
Brock Bradford	Boston College	F	Hockey East Association
Andrew Carroll	University of Minnesota- Duluth	F	Western Collegiate Hockey Association
Erik Condra	University of Notre Dame	F	Central Collegiate Hockey Association
Shane Connelly	University of Wisconsin	G	Western Collegiate Hockey Association
Matt Cook	Union College (New York)	F	ECAC Hockey League
Corey Elkins	The Ohio State University	F	Central Collegiate Hockey Association
Sean Erickson	University of Connecticut	D	Atlantic Hockey Association
Chris Hahn	University of Maine	F	Hockey East Association
Trevor Hyatt	University of Alaska-Fairbanks	F	Central Collegiate Hockey Association
Mathias Lange	Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute	G	ECAC Hockey League
Jeff Lerg	Michigan State University	G	Central Collegiate Hockey Association
Brian McCafferty	Harvard University	D	ECAC Hockey League
Zach McKelvie	United States Military Academy	D	Atlantic Hockey Association
Zach Miskovic	St. Lawrence University	D	ECAC Hockey League
Patrick Mullen	University of Denver	D	Western Collegiate Hockey Association
Jordan Pearce	University of Notre Dame	G	Central Collegiate Hockey Association
Zach Pelletier	The Ohio State University	F	Central Collegiate Hockey Association
Mike Phillipich	Air Force Academy	F	Atlantic Hockey Association
Dean Strong	University of Vermont	F	Hockey East Association
Dewey Thomson	College of the Holy Cross	F	Atlantic Hockey Association