

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE



Men's Ice Hockey Candidates Announced for the 2017-18 Senior CLASS Award

OVERLAND PARK, Kan. (November 1, 2017) – Twenty of the top NCAA® men's ice hockey student-athletes who excel both on and off the ice were selected as candidates today for the 2017-18 Senior CLASS Award® in collegiate hockey.

To be eligible for the award, a student-athlete must be classified as an NCAA Division I senior and have notable achievements in four areas of excellence: community, classroom, character and competition. The complete list of candidates follows this release.

An acronym for *Celebrating Loyalty and Achievement for Staying in School*®, the Senior CLASS Award focuses on the total student-athlete and encourages students to use their platform in athletics to make a positive impact as leaders in their communities.

The 20 candidates will be narrowed to 10 finalists in February, and those 10 names will be placed on the official ballot. Ballots will be distributed through a nationwide voting system to media, coaches and fans, who will select one candidate who best exemplifies excellence in the four Cs of community, classroom, character and competition.

The Senior CLASS Award winner will be announced during the 2018 NCAA Men's Frozen Final Four® in April.

Hockey Candidates

Dylan Abood, Air Force	Alfred Larsson, Merrimack
Louie Belpedio, Miami (OH)	Merrick Madsen, Harvard
Michael Bitzer, Bemidji State	Mitch McLain, Bowling Green
Tim Davison, Wisconsin	Brady Norrish, RIT
Andrew Dorantes, Ferris State	Judd Peterson, St. Cloud State
Jake Evans, Notre Dame	Tyler Pham, Army
Brady Ferguson, Robert Morris	Sam Piazza, Michigan
Carson Gatt, Michigan State	Austin Poganski, North Dakota
Karson Kuhlman, Minnesota Duluth	Ryan Schmelzer, Canisius
Sam Lafferty, Brown	Jared Wilson, RPI

For more information on all the candidates, visit seniorCLASSaward.com.

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ABOUT THE AWARD

An acronym for *Celebrating Loyalty and Achievement for Staying in School*, the Senior CLASS Award honors the attributes of senior student-athletes in four areas: community, classroom, 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 a senior season can bring. Premier Sports Management manages the award.

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