



**Wally Shaver**  
**Marketing and Promotions**  
15764 Highview Drive  
Apple Valley, Minnesota 55124  
Phone: 952-432-8939  
Fax: 952-953-9026  
E-Mail: wshaver14@aol.com



## PRESS RELEASE

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### **Peter Sejna is 2003 Hobey Baker Award Winner**

For the first time ever, a member of the Colorado College Tigers has been named the recipient of the Hobey Baker Award. College hockey's top individual prize was awarded in Buffalo, NY today, to junior forward Peter Sejna (SAY-nuh). Peter becomes the first European born player to win the award after becoming only the second European born player to have made the coveted top ten candidate list.

The native of Liptovsky Mikulas, Slovakia was one of the most feared forwards in college hockey. Sejna's scoring exploits vaulted him to the top of most offensive scoring categories. Peter finished the 2002-03 season as the nation's leading scorer in points (82) and goals (36), while finishing second in assists (46), second in game winning goals (8) and third in power play goals with 15.

Consistency is Peter's defining trait. A threat to produce points every time he's on the ice, Sejna recorded points in all but one of his 42 games this season. At one point, he had a school record 31 consecutive game, scoring streak. Amazingly, he had multiple point efforts in 27 games – representing two-thirds of the contests the Tigers played.

Colorado College is coming off a brilliant season in which they won the Western Collegiate Hockey Association regular season title for the first time in seven years. They then advanced to the WCHA Final Five championship game losing to Minnesota 4-2. As one of the top ranked teams in the nation all season long, the Tigers gained the number one seed in the NCAA Midwest Regional in Ann Arbor, MI suffering a disappointing loss in the championship game to Michigan 5-3.

Post-season accolades followed Peter. A WCHA First Team All Star, Sejna was also named the WCHA Player of the Year. His dream book season had one final chapter. Peter signed as a free agent with the St. Louis Blues last weekend and scored his first NHL goal in his first game while on the power play at 19:47 of the second period against the Colorado Avalanche, Sunday in Denver. He then returned to Colorado Springs for class on Monday. Talk about a cool show and tell!

The Hobey Baker Memorial Award annually honors the top player in Division I college hockey in the U.S. An initial round of balloting by all 60 Division I college coaches determined the ten finalists. These 10 names are advanced to the Selection Committee, a geographically balanced group of 25 members composed of media, NHL scouts, college hockey coaches and supervisors of officials. Additionally, a fan vote conducted on-line allows college hockey fans a 1% vote in each round of balloting. On April 2, the Hobey Hat Trick of three finalists was announced including Sejna, Ferris State senior forward Chris Kunitz (KOO-nitts) and Cornell University sophomore goalie Dave LeNeveu (le-NEV-u).

Peter Sejna will be honored at the annual Hobey Baker Award Banquet on Friday, April 25 at the Xcel Energy Center in St. Paul, MN along with Legend of Hockey recipient Charles "Lefty" Smith.

Photo of Sejna with the Hobey is available at: [www.newscom.com/cgi-bin/prnh/20030411/HOBEY](http://www.newscom.com/cgi-bin/prnh/20030411/HOBEY)