



Thursday, April 7

5:00 pm ET: Michigan vs. Denver (ESPN2/TSN.ca)

8:30 pm ET: Minnesota vs. Minnesota State (ESPNU/TSN.ca)

Saturday, April 9

8:00 pm ET: Championship Game (ESPN2/TSN.ca)

The 2022 Frozen Four features three No. 1 seeds (Denver, Michigan, Minnesota State), a No. 2 seed (Minnesota) and a combined 22 national championships, the most ever in a single Frozen Four field.

Three of those teams – Michigan (9), Denver (8), Minnesota (5) – are responsible for all 22 NCAA titles, while top-ranked Minnesota State is seeking the program's first national championship. Michigan's nine national titles are the most of any program in the country, while Denver's eight are tied for second (with North Dakota).

The four teams have also combined for 67 Frozen Four appearances, tied for the most of any field in history (2014).

The Roads Traveled – How each of the four semifinalists made their way to Boston:

- **Denver:** The high-flying Pioneers are the nation's most prolific offensive team, averaging a nation's-best 4.3 goals per game ... junior **Bobby Brink** (14-42—56) leads the individual national scoring race and is one of eight Pioneers with 30-plus points on the season ... boasting a well-balanced roster, Denver owns both the highest-scoring senior class (147 points) and freshman class (135) in the Frozen Four.
- **Michigan:** The Wolverines, featuring seven first-round draft picks, scored a tournament-high 12 goals during the NCAA Regionals, advancing with wins over American International and Quinnipiac ... no class in the Frozen Four has produced more than Michigan's group of sophomores, who have combined for 220 points (68 goals, 152 assists) ... Michigan's



About College Hockey, Inc.

Formed in 2009 in partnership with USA Hockey, College Hockey Inc. is a nonprofit organization dedicated to promoting Division I men's college hockey to prospective players and fans through extensive marketing and informational efforts. The entity is operated under the auspices of a 12-member Board of Directors and works closely with the commissioners, coaching staffs and administrators of the 63 schools and six conferences that sponsor Division I hockey.

Staff

Mike Snee, Executive Director
 Sean Hogan, Director of Athlete Relations
 Jayson Hajdu, Director of Communications

Media Contact

Jayson Hajdu,
jhajdu@collegehockeyinc.com
 701.740.7659, @collegehockey,
 @jaysonhajdu

nine national championships are the most of any program in Division I men's hockey, but the Wolverines are searching for their first crown since 1997-98, which also happened to come at Boston's TD Garden (then known as the FleetCenter).

- **Minnesota:** The Golden Gophers erased a pair of two-goal deficits in the first round of the regionals to defeat defending national champion UMass in overtime, then secured its Frozen Four berth with a 3-0 shutout over No. 1 seed Western Michigan ... junior goalie **Justen Close** authored the shutout against WMU, his third goose egg in the last six games. Close had appeared in just four collegiate games over his first two seasons but took over the No. 1 goaltending duties for Minnesota in January after fifth-year senior Jack LaFontaine signed with the NHL's Carolina Hurricanes.
- **Minnesota State:** The Mavericks enter their second straight Frozen Four as the hottest team in the country, riding a 17-game unbeaten streak and having lost just once in 22 games since Christmas ... MSU features a balanced scoring attack at one end – 11 players have amassed 20-plus points, tops among Frozen four teams – and Mike Richter Award finalist **Dryden McKay** at the other. McKay, the most experienced postseason goalie in the field with six NCAA tourney starts, has set new NCAA records for career shutouts (34) and single-season wins (37).

Star-Studded – This year's Frozen Four field features a whopping 41 NHL draft picks, up from 18 a season ago:

NHL Draft Picks by Team

- 14 – Minnesota
- 13 – Michigan
- 12 – Denver
- 2 – Minnesota State

NHL Draft Picks, Last Five Frozen Fours

- 2016-17 – 27
- 2017-18 – 25
- 2018-19 – 25
- 2019-20 – *Tournament canceled due to COVID-19*
- 2020-21 – 18
- 2021-22 – 41

Nine of those 41 picks, including seven from Michigan, were selected in the first round. More than 75 percent of the NHL will be represented in this year's Frozen Four, with 25 of 32 teams boasting at least one prospect in the field, and 10 teams have multiple prospects competing:

Prospects in the Frozen Four by NHL Team:

- 4 – Buffalo, Tampa Bay
- 3 – Anaheim, Detroit
- 2 – Florida, Montreal, New Jersey, Philadelphia, San Jose, Toronto
- 1 – Arizona, Boston, Carolina, Colorado, Columbus, Dallas, Edmonton, Los Angeles, NY Rangers, Pittsburgh, Seattle, Vancouver, Vegas, Washington, Winnipeg

On the Offensive – This year's Frozen Four field has the makings of an explosive one, with each of the nation's top four teams in scoring offense having qualified. Denver enters the semifinals averaging a nation's-best 4.3 goals per game. Minnesota State (4.1) and Michigan (4.0) are right behind, while Minnesota is tied for fourth nationally at 3.6.

Individually, five of the nation's top 10 scorers are still playing, led by national scoring leader **Bobby Brink** (39 GP, 14-42—56) of Denver. He holds a six-point lead on Minnesota State junior forward **Nathan Smith** (36 GP, 19-31—50) and is bidding to join Ed Beers (84 points in 1981-82) as the only Pioneers ever to lead Division I men's hockey in scoring.

Beantown Background – Boston will serve as host of the NCAA Frozen Four for the ninth time in tournament history. Three of this year’s Frozen Four participants have previously captured national championships in Boston: Denver (2004, 1960), Michigan (1998) and Minnesota (1974).

Frozen Four Champions in Boston (*runner-up in parentheses*)

1960 – Denver (Michigan Tech)
1963 – North Dakota (Denver)
1972 – Boston University (Cornell)
1973 – Wisconsin (Denver)
1974 – Minnesota (Michigan Tech)
1998 – Michigan (Boston College)
2004 – Denver (Maine)
2015 – Providence (Boston University)

Second-Half Surge – The four Frozen Four squads have rolled up a collective .849 winning percentage since Christmas, having lost just 12 times in a combined 86 games from Dec. 26 on.

Records since Christmas

21-1-0 – Minnesota State (.955)
17-3-1 – Michigan (.833)
18-4-1 – Denver (.804)
16-4-0 – Minnesota (.800)

Welcome to the Show – When former Boston College captain **Marc McLaughlin** made his NHL debut with Boston on March 31, he became the 328th college hockey product to play the NHL in 2021-22, a new record. That number has continued to grow over the past week:

Most NCAA Alumni in the NHL, by Season

333 – 2021-22
327 – 2018-19
314 – 2016-17
310 – 2017-18
305 – 2013-14

48 schools have had an alum in the NHL this season

Colleges producing the most NHLers, 2021-22:

Minnesota, North Dakota – 24
Boston College 22
Boston University, Michigan – 21

Frozen Four schools:

Minnesota – 24
Michigan – 21
Denver – 12
Minnesota State – 4

IMPORTANT LINKS

- Frozen Four History:** <http://collegehockeyinc.com/frozen-four.php>
NCAA Record Book: <https://www.ncaa.org/sports/2022/2/9/2022-mens-frozen-four-records.aspx>
TV Schedule: <http://collegehockeyinc.com/tv-schedule.php>
National Scoring Leaders: <https://collegehockeyinc.com/conferences/national/natplayer22.php>
National Goaltending Leaders: <https://collegehockeyinc.com/conferences/national/natgoalie22.php>
Team Rosters, Statistics & Results: <http://collegehockeyinc.com/teams-and-conferences.php>

CAREER LEADERS AMONG FROZEN FOUR PARTICIPANTS

Points:

- Cameron Wright, Denver – 132
- Julian Napravnik, Minnesota State – 123
- Cole Guttman, Denver – 121
- Reggie Lutz, Minnesota State – 115
- Sammy Walker, Minnesota – 112
- Blake McLaughlin, Minnesota – 105
- Nathan Smith, Minnesota State – 102
- Brett Stapley, Denver – 97
- Ben Meyers, Minnesota – 95
- Bobby Brink, Denver – 91

Goals:

- Cameron Wright, Denver – 72
- Cole Guttman, Denver – 55
- Sammy Walker, Minnesota – 48
- Julian Napravnik, Minnesota State – 45
- Ben Meyers, Minnesota – 39
- Blake McLaughlin, Minnesota – 38
- Grant Cruikshank, Minnesota – 37
- Nathan Smith, Minnesota State – 37
- Michael Pastujov, Michigan – 35
- Carter Savoie, Denver – 35

Assists:

- Julian Napravnik, Minnesota State – 78
- Blake McLaughlin, Minnesota – 67
- Brett Stapley, Denver – 67
- Cole Guttman, Denver – 66
- Nathan Smith, Minnesota State – 65
- Cameron Wright, Denver – 60

Power-Play Goals:

- Cameron Wright, Denver – 29
- Julian Napravnik, Minnesota State – 20
- Cole Guttman, Denver – 18
- Reggie Lutz, Minnesota State – 18
- Carter Savoie, Denver – 18

Shorthanded Goals:

- Garrett Van Wyhe, Michigan – 4

Game-Winning Goals:

- Julian Napravnik, Minnesota State – 15
- Reggie Lutz, Minnesota State – 13
- Cole Guttman, Denver – 12
- Cameron Wright, Denver – 12

Overtime Goals:

- Sammy Walker, Minnesota – 3
- Ben Meyers, Minnesota State – 2
- Julian Napravnik, Minnesota State – 2
- Nathan Smith, Minnesota State – 2

Games Played:

- Cameron Wright, Denver – 183
- Reggie Lutz, Minnesota State – 173
- Luke Morgan, Michigan – 172
- Ryan Barrow, Denver – 166
- Benton Maass, Minnesota State – 160

Goaltending	GP	W-L-T	Saves	SV%	GAA	SO
Dryden McKay, Minnesota State	138	112-19-4	2,718	.932	1.45	34
Magnus Chrona, Denver	80	49-25-5	1,819	.913	2.23	9
Erik Portillo, Michigan	48	35-10-1	1,225	.927	2.07	3
Justen Close, Minnesota	24	14-4-0	461	.922	2.02	3

CAREER LEADERS IN NCAA TOURNAMENT GAMES
Scoring:

Ben Meyers, Minnesota	4 GP	2-4—6
Brock Faber, Minnesota	4 GP	0-6—6
Nathan Smith, Minnesota State	5 GP	5-0—5
Cole Guttman, Denver	5 GP	3-2—5
Brendan Brisson, Michigan	2 GP	2-3—5
Akito Hirose, Minnesota State	5 GP	0-5—5
Owen Power, Michigan	2 GP	0-5—5
Brendan Furry, Minnesota State	5 GP	1-3—4
Reggie Lutz, Minnesota State	7 GP	1-3—4
Michael Pastujov, Michigan	5 GP	3-0—3
Ryan Johnson, Minnesota	4 GP	2-1—3
Matthew Knies, Minnesota	2 GP	2-1—3
Nolan Moyle, Michigan	2 GP	2-1—3
Ryan Sandelin, Minnesota State	5 GP	2-1—3
Thomas Bordeleau, Michigan	2 GP	1-2—3

Goaltending:

	GP	W-L	Minutes	Saves	GA	GAA	SV%	SHO
Dryden McKay, Minnesota St.	6 GP	4-2	357:45	131	16	2.68	.891	2
Justen Close, Minnesota	2 GP	2-0	128:31	44	3	1.40	.936	1
Magnus Chrona, Denver	2 GP	2-0	119:56	40	3	1.50	.930	0
Erik Portillo, Michigan	2 GP	2-0	120:00	59	7	3.50	.894	0

TEAMS BY THE NUMBERS (*bold indicates NCAA leader; average age as of 4/7/22*)

Team	Record	Win %	GF/GP	GA/GP	PIM/GP	PP%	PK%	FO%
Denver	29-9-1	.756	4.28	2.31	13.0	24.3%	79.6%	55.2
Michigan	31-9-1	.768	4.02	2.22	14.1	26.8%	82.9%	50.0
Minnesota	26-12-0	.684	3.61	2.26	8.6	21.1%	84.8%	52.3
Minn. St.	37-5-0	.881	4.10	1.29	9.4	26.8%	86.8%	57.9

Team	Avg. Ht.	Avg. Wt.	Avg. Age	Freshmen	Sophomores	Juniors	Seniors/Grad.
Denver	5' 11 ¼"	184.2	21.7	9	7	5	5
Michigan	6' 0 ¾"	188.1	21.9	5	10	5	9
Minnesota	6' 0 ¾"	191.7	21.6	7	4	10	6
Minn. St.	6' 0 ½"	182.9	22.9	8	7	6	7

Distance to Boston

749 miles – Michigan
 1,390 miles – Minnesota
 1,412 miles – Minnesota State
 1,972 miles – Denver

Enrollment

Denver – 11,614
 Minnesota State – 14,546
 Michigan – 43,810
 Minnesota – 50,943

TEAMS BY THE NUMBERS**2021-22 Records vs. Other NCAA Tournament Teams**

Denver – 0-0-0

Michigan – 4-2-0

Minnesota – 2-3-0

Minnesota State – 0-1-0

Last 10 Games

10-0-0 – Minnesota State (1.000)

9-1-0 – Minnesota (.900)

8-2-0 – Michigan (.800)

7-3-0 – Denver (.700)

Since Christmas

21-1-0 – Minnesota State (.955)

17-3-1 – Michigan (.833)

18-4-1 – Denver (.804)

16-4-0 – Minnesota (.800)

Offense from senior classes*(incl. graduate students):*

147 points – Denver (65 goals, 82 assists)

134 points – Minnesota State (45 goals, 89 assists)

105 points – Michigan (47 goals, 58 assists)

84 points – Minnesota (35 goals, 49 assists)

Offense from junior classes:

209 points – Minnesota State (82 goals, 127 assists)

147 points – Minnesota (50 goals, 97 assists)

71 points – Denver (17 goals, 54 assists)

24 points – Michigan (8 goals, 16 assists)

Offense from defensemen:

140 points – Michigan (40 goals, 100 assists)

121 points – Minnesota State (26 goals, 95 assists)

116 points – Denver (26 goals, 90 assists)

96 points – Minnesota (12 goals, 84 assists)

Teams with the most:

Players With a Point: 25 – Michigan, Minnesota State

Players With a Goal: 22 – Minnesota State

Players With a PPG: 13 – Minnesota State

10+ Goal Scorers: 8 – Denver, Michigan

10+ Point Players: 18 – Michigan, Minnesota State

20+ Point Players: 11 – Minnesota State

30+ Point Players: 8 – Denver

40+ Point Players: 4 – Denver, Minnesota State

Offense from sophomore classes:

220 points – Michigan (68 goals, 152 assists)

119 points – Denver (51 goals, 68 assists)

113 points – Minnesota State (39 goals, 74 assists)

47 points – Minnesota (11 goals, 36 assists)

Offense from freshman classes:

135 points – Denver (34 goals, 101 assists)

108 points – Michigan (42 goals, 66 assists)

96 points – Minnesota (41 goals, 55 assists)

19 points – Minnesota State (6 goals, 13 assists)



Record When:

	DU	MICH	MINN	MSU
Scoring first	20-1-1	24-4-0	17-5-0	26-1-0
Allowing first	9-8-0	7-5-0	10-7-0	11-4-0
Leading after 1	15-0-1	19-1-0	17-1-0	19-1-0
Trailing after 1	6-6-0	3-6-0	7-9-0	7-2-0
Tied after 1	8-3-0	9-2-1	2-2-0	11-2-0
Leading after 2	22-1-1	25-2-0	17-2-0	30-1-0
Trailing after 2	2-7-0	3-7-0	4-9-0	2-5-0
Tied after 2	5-1-0	3-0-1	5-1-0	4-0-0
One-goal games	3-2	7-4-0	6-8-0	9-3
Overtime	1-0-1	0-2-1	3-1-0	4-0-0

2022 TOURNAMENT FACTS

2022 Tournament Records, All Games

- Team Scoring First: 8-4
- Team Leading After First: 8-2
- Team Leading After Second: 7-1
- Team With More Shots: 8-4

2022 Tournament Goals per Game

- First Round: 5.625
- Regional Finals: 4.5
- All games: 5.25

2022 Tournament Scoring by Period

- First: 21 goals
- Second: 16 goals
- Third: 23 goals
- OT: 3 goals

GEOGRAPHIC BREAKDOWN

Six countries, including 18 states and seven Canadian provinces and territories, are represented on this year's NCAA Frozen Four rosters.

Players By State

33 – Minnesota (30% of all players)

15 – Michigan

6 – California

3 – Florida, Illinois

2 – Colorado, Missouri, New York, Ohio, Wisconsin

1 – Alaska, Arizona, Connecticut, Indiana, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Tennessee, Washington

Players By Canadian Province/Territory

8 – Alberta

6 – British Columbia, Ontario

3 – Saskatchewan

1 – Manitoba, Northwest Territories, Quebec

By Country

78 – United States (72%)

26 – Canada (24%)

2 – Sweden

1 – Czech Republic, Finland, Germany

Represented on Every Roster: California, Minnesota

Most Americans: 26, Minnesota

Most Minnesotans: 21, Minnesota

Most Canadians: 13, Denver

Most non-North Americans: 2, Denver, Minnesota State

Most States on Roster: 11, Michigan

Most Provinces on Roster: 5, Denver

FROZEN FOUR HISTORY

<http://collegehockeyinc.com/frozen-four.php>

Most NCAA Tournament Appearances:

Michigan, Minnesota – 39

Boston University – 37

Boston College – 36

North Dakota – 34

Denver – 30

Michigan State – 27

Harvard, Wisconsin – 26

Clarkson, Cornell, New Hampshire – 22

2022 Frozen Four teams:

Michigan, Minnesota – 39

Denver – 30

Minnesota State – 8

Most Frozen Fours:

Michigan – 26
Boston College – 25
Boston University, Minnesota, North Dakota – 22
Denver – 17

2022 Frozen Four Teams:

Michigan – 26
Minnesota – 22
Denver – 17
Minnesota State – 2

Most Championships:

Michigan – 9
Denver, North Dakota – 8
Wisconsin – 6
Boston College, Boston University, Minnesota – 5
Lake Superior State, Michigan State, Michigan Tech, Minnesota Duluth – 3
Colorado College, Cornell, Maine, Rensselaer – 2
Bowling Green, Harvard, Massachusetts, Northern Michigan, Providence, Union, Yale – 1

Longest Active NCAA Appearance Streaks:

Minnesota Duluth – 7
Notre Dame – 6
Minnesota State, St. Cloud State – 4
American International, Massachusetts, Quinnipiac – 3

NCAA Appearances by Frozen Four Coaches

10 – Bob Motzko*, Minnesota (2 Frozen Fours)
7 – Mike Hastings, Minnesota State (2 Frozen Fours)
6 – Mel Pearson**, Michigan (2 Frozen Fours)
3 – David Carle, Denver (2 Frozen Fours)

* - *eight of his 10 NCAA appearances and one of his two Frozen Four berths came with St. Cloud State*

** - *two of his six NCAA appearances came with Michigan Tech*

Tournament Most Outstanding Players

37 former winners have gone on to play in the NHL, including 2021-22 NHLers Shayne Gostisbehere (Union, 2014); Jon Gillies (Providence, 2015), Drake Caggiula (North Dakota, 2016); and Karson Kuhlman (Minnesota Duluth, 2018).



IN THE NHL

A record 333 former NCAA players have appeared in an NHL game this season (*through games of April 4*)

Full list: <https://collegehockeyinc.com/2021-22-alums-nhl.php>

Most NCAA Alumni in the NHL, by Season

333 – 2021-22

327 – 2018-19

314 – 2016-17

310 – 2017-18

305 – 2013-14

48 schools have had an alum in the NHL this season

Colleges producing the most NHLers, 2021-22:

Minnesota, North Dakota – 24

Boston College 22

Boston University, Michigan – 21

Frozen Four schools:

Minnesota – 24

Michigan – 21

Denver – 12

Minnesota State – 4

NHL Teammates Whose Alma Maters Meet in the Semifinals:

Colorado: Jack Johnson, Andrew Cogliano, J.T. Compher (Michigan) and Logan O'Connor (Denver)

Montreal: Tyler Pitlick (Minnesota State) and Rem Pitlick (Minnesota) – *cousins*

Ottawa: Dylan Gambrell (Denver) and Josh Norris (Michigan)

Winnipeg: Paul Stastny (Denver) and Kyle Connor (Michigan)

FORMER NCAA PLAYERS IN THE NHL THIS YEAR

By years in school (68% played at least three years)

Four years – 97

Three years – 129

Two years – 73

One year – 34

By position:

194 forwards

113 defensemen

26 goaltenders

By NHL Draft status:

114 were first- or second-round picks

134 were third- through ninth-round picks

85 were undrafted free agents

By nationality:

236 Americans

85 Canadians

12 Europeans

FUTURE NHLers

More than 200 NHL Draft Picks played college hockey this season, 41 of whom are in the Frozen Four:

Minnesota – 14

Michigan – 13

Denver – 12

Minnesota State – 2

By NHL team:

4 – Buffalo, Tampa Bay

3 – Anaheim, Detroit

2 – Florida, Montreal, New Jersey, Philadelphia, San Jose, Toronto

1 – Arizona, Boston, Carolina, Colorado, Columbus, Dallas, Edmonton, Los Angeles, NY Rangers, Pittsburgh, Seattle, Vancouver, Vegas, Washington, Winnipeg

One draft-eligible player is in the Frozen Four:

Denver: Jack Devine

Sons of NHLers in the Frozen Four:

Mike Benning, Denver (son of Brian)

Thomas Bordeleau, Michigan (son of Sebastien)

Ryan Johnson, Minnesota (son of Craig)

Philippe Lapointe, Michigan (son of Martin)

Dryden McKay, Minnesota State (son of Ross)

Rhett Pitlick, Minnesota (Son of Lance)

Ryan Sandelin, Minnesota State (son of Scott)

Bennett Zmolek, Minnesota State (son of Doug)

Players in the Frozen Four with brothers who have played in the NHL:

Mike Benning, Denver (Matt)

Bryce Brodzinski, Minnesota

Akito Hirose, Minnesota State (Taro)

Rhett Pitlick, Minnesota (Rem)

OTHER RESOURCES

Differences between NHL and NCAA rules: <http://collegehockeyinc.com/key-differences-ncaa-and-nhl-rules.php>

College Hockey, Inc. Media Center: <http://collegehockeyinc.com/media-center.php>

NHL Matchup Tool: <http://collegehockeyinc.com/nhlteams.php>

2021-22 Pro Signings: <https://collegehockeyinc.com/pro-signings-2021-22-nhl-college-ncaa-free-agent.php>