

## JOSEPH MULLEN



Joe Mullen hails from the Hell's Kitchen section of Manhattan. It was there as kids that he and his brother Brian (who also enjoyed a lengthy NHL career) perfected their hockey skills on rollerblades, all the way through their high school days. Joe attended Boston College where he recorded 212 points in 111 games for the Eagles and led the team to a league title.

Mullen was never drafted by the NHL, but the St. Louis Blues signed him to a free agent contract in 1979. He then played three years with Salt Lake of the CHL, where he was named the league's top rookie during the 1979-80 season. The following year, he led the CHL in scoring with 117 points and was named the league MVP.

Mullen made it to the big leagues by 1981-82, and in total played parts of five seasons with St. Louis. In that time he scored 151 goals over five seasons, including back-to-back 40-goal seasons in 1984 and 1985. Somewhat surprisingly, Mullen was part of a 6 player trade that landed him in Calgary during the 1985-86 campaign. It is with Calgary that Mullen enjoyed his best years. In 1986-87, Mullen scored 47 goals and he won the Lady Byng Trophy, becoming the first American-born player to win the Trophy since 1936. He went on to post 5 consecutive seasons reaching the 40-goal plateau. His best year was 1988-89, when he scored 51 goals and 110 points en route to leading the Calgary Flames to their first Stanley Cup. Mullen led all post season sharpshooters that year in goals with 16. He was selected to the NHL First All-Star team and won his second Lady Byng Trophy. That year, he also became the all-time leading American-born scorer.

Mullen was traded to Pittsburgh prior to the 1990-91 season and his experience and timely offense helped lead the Penguins to back-to-back Stanley Cup championships. In 1991-92, he recorded his seventh season with 40-or-more goals and in 1993-94, he notched his tenth season with 30-or-more goals. Although never flashy, he was a consistent goal scoring threat and a great team player. A gentleman on the ice, he will always be remembered as the first U.S.-born player to score 500 career goals and the first American to record 1,000 career points.

Joe Mullen is the arguably the greatest American born player to date. He helped generate hockey interest in the U.S. and paved the road to success for many of today's American superstars. For his efforts Joe Mullen was named to the United States Hockey Hall of Fame in 1998 and Hockey's Hall of Fame in 1999.

Tonight, Joe completes the hat trick, with his induction into the Power Memorial Academy Hall of Fame.