

1992-93 Panini Set of 330

1992-93 Panini Set of 330 (loose stickers)

4 Key Rookie (RC) Stickers

Nicklas Lidstrom, Dominik Hasek, Eric Lindros & Pavel Bure.

Sticker History

This was the 1st year in Panini's history with NHL stickers that they put out a set of stickers that were the same size as your standard O-Pee-Chee or Upper Deck cards at this time. Sporadically, these boxes would turn up but were somewhat scarce. In the early 2000's many boxes and cases of this product turned up in dollar stores across Canada for a short stint and quickly sold out. The one thing to note here is that there were lots of 50 sticker packs but only found in generic white boxes. The original packs of cards found in the original boxes were very hard to come by. The original artwork boxes do carry a premium from this year. These stickers are just now starting to dry up but there is still enough unopened product out there and it is somewhat available. Panini decided to go to having only 50 packs per box this season after having 100 packs per box for the past 5 seasons. Albums for this year were not easily found and for whatever reason were not always available with the purchase of these packs. This is the only year that Panini attempted to make a French language only version for their hockey line. The French Panini version of these 1992 Panini are extremely and I mean extremely rare and can also be found on my site. Panini Canada out of St. Laurent, Quebec was the Canadian distributor. No US distributor was named. There are 308 base stickers plus an "Ice-Breakers" subset of 22 Foil

stickers, made up mainly of rookies. There are 3 variations for this album. There were 2 Canadian versions. One had no price in the top right corner, the CAHA (Canadian Amateur Hockey Association) logo below it, and no barcode on the back. The other had a price tag of \$0.89 on the top right corner with the CAHA (Canadian Amateur Hockey Association) just underneath it, and a barcode on the back. The American version had a \$0.99 price tag on the top right corner.

Sticker Facts

The size of each full sticker is 6.1 cm X 8.6 cm (2.4 in X 3.39 in). There were 50 packages in each wax box which originally retailed for \$0.39 per pack. Each package contained 6 stickers. The minimum number of packages needed to make a full set (assuming absolutely no doubles) is 55. The original album (\$0.99 USD/\$0.89 CAD) cover featured Tony Amonte, Ray Bourque, Pavel Bure, Chris Chelios, Gilbert Dionne, Nelson Emerson, Pat Falloon, Doug Gilmour, Dimitri Khristich, Nicklas Lidstrom, Mike Modano, Kirk Muller, Joe Nieuwendyk, Mark Recchi, Luc Robitaille, Joe Sakic, Scott Stevens, Esa Tikkanen Esa and Pierre Turgeon. The 1992 Stanley Cup winners were the Pittsburgh Penguins with Mario Lemieux the Conn Smythe Trophy winner as playoffs MVP.

Season Facts

This was the NHL's 75th Anniversary season. The NHLPA went on strike on April 1st 1992 for 10 days. The Rangers were the front-runners to bring Lord Stanley's Cup home,

but the momentum shifted and the Penguins reigned supreme. Video replay for goals/non goals was adopted this year as well. The St. Louis Blues sign restricted free agent Brendan Shanahan to a \$5 million contract away from the Devils. NHL boss John Ziegler then awards standout defenseman Scott Stevens to New Jersey as compensation. This was such a unique “awarding” situation that has not repeated itself to this day. Scott Stevens and Brendan Shanahan would both become integral parts of future NHL squads in winning multiple Stanley Cups for their respective teams. Oilers goalie Bill Ranford is named Canada Cup MVP as Canada wins its third straight Canada Cup. Pavel Bure leaves Russia for the NHL. The Edmonton Oilers Dynasty officially ends as they did a little house cleaning. Future Hall of Famers Glenn Anderson and Grant Fuhr were packaged and sent to Toronto for Vincent Damphousse and Luke Richardson. Second leading scorer of all time Mark Messier was shipped off to the New York Rangers in exchange for Bernie Nicholls. Jari Kurri and Steve Smith were also given their walking papers from the Oilers before the season started. Kirk McLean finished runner-up for the Vezina Trophy as he finished first in wins with 38 and first in shutouts with 5. Brian Leetch would win his 1st career Norris Trophy and would finish with a whopping 102 points. A Legend passes away as Badger Bob Johnson dies at the age of 60 on November 26th 1991. Doug Gilmour was the central figure in the biggest trade in NHL history on January 2nd 1992. The trade was Gilmour, Macoun, Nattress, Manderville and Wamsley for Leeman, Godynyuk, Reese, Petit and Berube. Mike Peluso was the first NHL player in 10 years to finish with over 400 penalty minutes. He had 408 minutes in just 63 games. John Ziegler faced mounting criticism after the 10 day player strike and for being considered a “mouthpiece” for the owners. John would retire at the end of the 1991-92 season.

Expansion Notes

The NHL expanded to 22 teams for the 1991-92 Season as the San Jose Sharks and former North Stars owners George and Gordon Gund swam in the unchartered territories of the Bay Area. The Sharks would only win a meagre 17 games in their inaugural season.

Wayne Gretzky Notes

Gretzky still led the league in assists with 90 but finished 3rd in points with 121. It was the first time in his 13 year career that Wayne did not finish 1st or 2nd in league scoring.

Wayne did however win his 2nd straight Lady Byng Trophy.

This series featured 2 Gretzky stickers. Wayne scored a season total of 31 goals, 90 assists for a total of 121 points.

His points per game ratio for this 74 games played season was 1.64.