NEWS RELEASE

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STAMKOS, SMITH AND TARASENKO NAMED NHL 'THREE STARS' FOR APRIL

NEW YORK (April 30, 2022) – Tampa Bay Lightning center **Steven Stamkos**, Edmonton Oilers goaltender **Mike Smith** and St. Louis Blues right wing **Vladimir Tarasenko** have been named the NHL's "Three Stars" for the month of April.

FIRST STAR – STEVEN STAMKOS, C, TAMPA BAY LIGHTNING

Stamkos led the NHL with 12-21—33 in 16 games – a franchise record for points in a calendar month and the most by any player since **Mario Lemieux** in December 1995 (12-22—34 in 14 GP w/ PIT) – to power the two-time defending Stanley Cup champion Lightning (51-23-8, 110 points) to a 9-5-2 April and their fifth straight postseason berth. Stamkos found the scoresheet in 14 of his 16 appearances, highlighted by a streak of nine consecutive multi-point performances to finish the season (10-16—26) – another Tampa Bay record and the longest such run by any player since **Jaromir Jagr** in 1995-96 (10 GP w/ PIT). Stamkos' stretch included five straight games with at least three points (April 19-26: 6-11—17), a first by any NHLer since **Jari Kurri** in 1992-93 (6 GP w/ LAK). It also saw the Lightning captain overtake **Martin St. Louis** for the most points in franchise history, hit the 100-point milestone for the first time and cap the regular season with a hat trick (April 29 at NYI) as he reached the 40-goal milestone for a sixth time (and first since 2018-19). The 14-season veteran – who scored three game-winning goals during the month (April 16 vs. WPG, April 26 vs. CBJ and April 29 at NYI) – played in 81 total contests in 2021-22, ranking among the League leaders in game-winning goals (t-1st; 11), power-play goals (t-3rd; 16), points (7th; 106), power-play points (8th; 36), assists (9th; 64) and goals (t-9th; 42).

SECOND STAR – MIKE SMITH, G, EDMONTON OILERS

Smith earned a League-best nine wins in nine starts, compiling a 1.66 goals-against average, .951 save percentage and two shutouts – as well as the primary assist on an overtime goal (April 5 at SJS) – to propel the Oilers (49-27-6, 104 points) to an 11-2-1 month and their third consecutive playoff berth. The 16-season veteran – who turned 40 in March – became the second goaltender in League history to post a nine-game winning streak at age 40 or older, following **Jacques Plante** in 1970-71 (9-0-0 w/ TOR). He did so by making at least 30 saves in every contest and yielding two or fewer goals seven times, including back-to-back shutouts April 14 at NSH (30 SV) and April 16 vs. VGK (39 SV). Smith, who was 7-9-2 in 19 games entering April (3.41 GAA, .896 SV%, 0 SO), finished the season with a 16-9-2 record, 2.81 goals-against average, .915 save percentage and two shutouts in 28 total outings.

THIRD STAR – VLADIMIR TARASENKO, RW, ST. LOUIS BLUES

Tarasenko topped the NHL with four game-winning goals, totaling 11-13—24 across 16 contests to lift the Blues (49-22-11, 109 points) to a 12-2-2 April and their 45th playoff berth – the most among non-Original Six franchises and second-most among all teams since they entered the League in 1967-68. Tarasenko collected points in 12 of his 16 appearances, highlighted by a 10-game streak from April 8-24 (9-12—21) during which he produced six multi-point outings, three straight decisive goals (April 9-14) and a single-game high of 3-2—5 (including his fifth career hat trick and 30th goal of the season) April 14 at BUF. The 10-season veteran led St. Louis with a career-best 82 points in 2021-22 (34-48—82 in 75 GP), also setting personal highs with 48 assists and nine game-winning goals – the latter tied for sixth place in the NHL.

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