A tough and fiery veteran, versatile Brendan Smith played both forward and defenseman for the Rangers in 2019-20. A first round draft choice of Detroit in 2007, Smith was originally acquired in a trade with the Red Wings in February of 2017 and re-signed with the Blueshirts that offseason. Smith appeared in 291 games over parts of six seasons with the Detroit prior to his arrival in New York. The Mimico, Ontario, native played three seasons at the University of Wisconsin before turning pro. As a senior, he was selected as a finalist for the Hobey Baker Award and was also named the WCHA Defensive Player of the Year.

**Nickname:** Smitty  
**Greatest passion besides hockey:** Fishing - once caught a 14-pound Atlantic salmon  
**On his bucket list:** Catch a blue marlin  
**What he'd be doing if not playing hockey:** Gym teacher  
**Hidden talent:** “I’m good at chess.”  
**Person he’d trade places with for a day:** Will Ferrell  
**Actor that would play him in a movie:** Matthew McConaughey  
**Favorite superhero:** The Hulk  
**Teams growing up:** Toronto Maple Leafs, Toronto Rock, Detroit Red Wings  
**First jersey ever bought:** Doug Gilmour Maple Leafs jersey  
**Most listened to artist:** Dierks Bentley  
**Meal:** Steak  
**Movie:** Step Brothers  
**TV show:** Game of Thrones  
**Animal his teammates would compare him to:** Wolf

- Named the Rangers nominee for the 2018-19 Bill Masterton Memorial Trophy, an annual award given to the NHL player who best exemplifies the qualities of perseverance, sportsmanship and dedication to hockey  
- He and his wife, Samantha, have a son, Nolan. The family owns a Bernese Mountain dog named Brodie  
- Has two brothers, Rory and Reilly. Reilly is a veteran NHL forward and currently plays for the Vegas Golden Knights, while Rory is a professional lacrosse player for the Vancouver Stealth of the National Lacrosse League. All three brothers played hockey growing up for the St. Michael's Buzzers minor junior team  
- Parents are Lester and Dierdre. Lester works in sales and Dierdre is the head of Ontario College of Teachers  
- Played lacrosse and basketball in high school, in addition to hockey  
- His favorite hockey players of all time are Bobby Orr and Brendan Shanahan  
- His first job was as a powerskating instructor at a summer camp at age 11  
- Majored in sociology