



PRESS RELEASE

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BC'S JOHNNY GAUDREAU TABBED ATHLETIC REPUBLIC PLAYER OF THE YEAR ~ UML's Norm Bazin selected as Coach of the Year, PC's Jon Gillies named Rookie of the Year ~

Wakefield, Mass. - The Hockey East Association announced its major award winners on Thursday night at the league's annual Championship Awards night at the Royal Sonesta Hotel in Cambridge, Mass. Boston College sophomore forward Johnny Gaudreau (Carneys Point, N.J.) took home the top prize as Athletic Republic Hockey East Player of the Year.

Gaudreau opened his second season with at least one point in each of his first 12 games, including nine goals and nine assists during a 10-game win streak for the Eagles. He closed the regular season in equally dramatic fashion, scoring twice and setting up four of the five other BC goals in a 7-2 win at Vermont, to finish four points ahead of Merrimack's Mike Collins for the Turfer Athletic scoring title. He leads all Division I players with a 1.48 points-per-game average, spearheading the nation's No. 2 overall offense. Gaudreau is just the fourth underclassman in league history to be selected as Player of the Year, joining NHL legends Brian Leetch and Paul Kariya (both chosen after dominant freshman seasons) and current BC associate head coach Greg Brown (1988-89).

Collins ended up as runner-up to Gaudreau for Player of the Year, alongside freshman goaltender Jon Gillies (South Portland, Maine) of Providence College, who was deservedly selected as Pro Ambitions Hockey East Rookie of the Year. Starting all but one of Providence's 27 Hockey East contests, Gillies boasted a sterling .929 save percentage and 2.17 goals-against-average as a full-time first-year stopper against some of the nation's toughest opponents. Highlighting his five shutouts were 44 saves in an impressive 2-0 win against the University of Massachusetts, 37 in a similar showing a month later against then-5th-ranked New Hampshire, and 31 in a critical 3-0 road win at top seed UMass Lowell on the final weekend of the regular season. He is just the third freshman ever to be named a first-team Hockey East All Star, joining Leetch and Kariya, and the first ever among rookie goaltenders.

One of the league's charter members, UMass Lowell clinched its first-ever Hockey East regular season title in 2012-13, and much of the credit for that is due second-year head coach Norm Bazin, winner of the Bob Kullen Award as Bauer Hockey East Coach of the Year. The River Hawks finished in last place just two seasons ago (4-21-2), but Bazin immediately resurrected them with a second-place finish in 2011-12 to claim his first Bob Kullen Award. Bazin, who previously led the team to the Hockey East title game and an NCAA tournament berth as a player in 1994, is just the second individual to receive the Coach of the Year Award in consecutive seasons, joining Boston University's Jack Parker, who was honored in 2005 and 2006.

2013 ATHLETIC REPUBLIC PLAYER OF THE YEAR

Johnny Gaudreau, Boston College (So., Carneys Point, N.J.)

Runner-Up: Mike Collins, Merrimack College and Jon Gillies, Providence College

2013 PRO AMBITIONS ROOKIE OF THE YEAR

Jon Gillies, Providence College (Goaltender, South Portland, Maine)

Runner-Up: Connor Hellebuyck, UMass-Lowell

2013 BAUER COACH OF THE YEAR (BOB KULLEN AWARD)

Norm Bazin, UMass-Lowell

Runner-Up: Nate Leaman, Providence College

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