



PRESS RELEASE

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UMass Lowell Advances to Hockey East Championship *River Hawks Return to the Title Game for Fourth Straight Year*

BOSTON - A goal by **A.J. White** (Dearborn, Mich.) at 12:27 of the third overtime lifted fourth-seeded UMass Lowell to a 2-1 win over second-seeded Providence in the first semifinal of the 2016 Hockey East Championship at TD Garden Friday. The two teams battled 112:27 in the longest semifinal in tournament history and the second longest postseason game since the conference began play in 1986.

A hard cross-ice pass by **Michael Fallon** (Glenview, Ill.) deflected off White's skate to propel the River Hawks (24-8-5) to the title game for the fourth straight season. After video review, conference officials overturned the call on the ice to end the marathon.

The matchup pitted the two top defensive teams in Hockey East and two of the best in the NCAA. Coming into the game the River Hawks ranked second in the country and Providence was fourth. UML goaltender **Kevin Boyle** (Matalapan, N.J.) stopped 58 shots including the final 55 after an early goal while **Nick Ellis** (Millersville, Md.) of the Friars stopped 42.

Just one penalty was whistled over five-plus periods of the hard-fought yet clean played game, and it gave UMass Lowell the only power play at 4:51 in the second.

Providence had the best chance to win it in regulation with 1:39 left when Boyle stopped a back-hand bid from down low by **Trevor Mingoia** (Fairport, N.Y.). Over the first 60 minutes the Friars outshot UMass Lowell, 30-20, with 10-5 advantages in the first and third periods.

Shots in the first OT were even at 8-8 and after an early Friars flurry to start, UMass Lowell had several good chances to win it including a deflection by **C.J. Smith** (Des Moines, Iowa) that grazed the goal post 7:08 into the session. With 1:12 left, PC's **Erik Foley** (Mansfield, Mass.) had his shot from the low slot tipped just wide.

In the second, Providence had the better chances, outshooting UMass Lowell, 13-7. But iron was not kind on the Friars best bid as from the low slot, **Nick Saracino** (St. Louis, Mo.) whistled one off the crossbar at 12:29.

It was Ellis's turn to shine in the third overtime stopping several point blank River Hawks chances. Both teams opened it up midway through the period with both Boyle and Ellis denying opponent two-on-one opportunities

The Friars broke through first as defenseman **Vincent Desharnais** (Laval, Quebec) snapped one through traffic past UML goalie Boyle just 6:38 into the contest. It was the first career goal for Desharnais. Boyle stopped an initial shot by **Brian Pinho** (No. Andover, Mass.) before Saracino fed the rebound to Desharnais at the right point.

Smith tied it for UMass Lowell with some nifty stickhandling with just 1:06 left in the stanza, beating Ellis from the low slot. **Joe Gambardella** (Staten Island, N.Y.) assisted on the goal, feeding Smith from the left corner.

Providence falls to 27-6-4 with the loss. The defending national champions are in line to get an at large bid to defend their title when the NCAA releases the 16-member tournament field on Sunday.

Notes: Providence is now 2-3-4 in overtime this year, UMass Lowell is now 2-1-5 ... C.J. Smith, a sophomore, has scored three times in three tournament games this season after scoring two a year ago including one in the first period of UMass Lowell's 4-1 semifinal win over Vermont ... Boyle, the co-winner of the Warrior Hockey East Player of the Year Award, has allowed only three goals in three playoff games this season ... Equally sturdy at the other end, Ellis, who replaced PC All-American Jon Gillies, allowed only three goals in his first three playoff starts, only one coming in the quarterfinal sweep of Merrimack ... It was the first semifinal to go to overtime since 2009 when UMass Lowell tipped Northeastern, 3-2.

HEA



Hockey Game Box Score (Final)

#8 UMass Lowell vs #3 Providence (03/18/16 at Boston, Mass.)

UMass Lowell (24-8-5) vs. Providence (27-6-4)

Date: 03/18/16 • Location: Boston, Mass. • Arena: TD Garden

Attendance: • Start time: 5:10pm • End time: 9:36pm • Total time: 4:21

Prd	Time	Team	Scored by	Assists	Vis. on ice	Home on ice	Goals by Period									
Team	1	2	3	OT	O2	O3	Tot									
1.	1st 06:38	PC	EV Desharnais, Vincent/1	Saracino, Nick/21 Pinho, Brian/16	29,25,19,5,3	2,18,26,3,22										
2.	1st 18:54	UML	EV Smith, C.J./17	Gambardella, Joe/26	19,5,29,3,25	22,6,16,21,8										
3.	O3 12:27	UML	EV White, A.J./11	Fallon, Michael/9	18,23,15,2,4	9,10,12,27,5										

TEAM SUMMARY

#	UMass Lowell	1	2	3	O	Tot	+/-	BI	#	Providence	1	2	3	O	Tot	+/-	BI
2	Panico, Tommy	0	0	0	1	2	+1	6	2	Desharnais, Vinc	2	0	1	1	4	+1	1
3	Kapla, Michael	0	0	0	1	1	0	1	3	Gilmour, John	0	2	1	0	4	+1	2
4	Forney, Chris	0	0	1	0	1	+1	0	5	McKenzie, Kyle	0	0	0	0	0	-1	0
5	Gambardella, Jo	1	0	0	1	3	0	0	6	Parisi, Tom	3	0	0	0	3	-1	1
7	Mueller, Tyler	0	0	1	2	3	0	0	8	Tait, Ryan	0	1	1	2	4	-1	0
9	Master, Nick	0	1	0	1	4	0	1	9	Mingoia, Trevor	1	0	2	4	9	-1	2
10	McGrath, Ryan	1	1	1	0	3	0	0	10	Jankowski, Mark	0	0	1	3	4	-1	1
12	Hough, Gage	0	2	0	0	3	0	2	12	Foley, Erik	0	0	1	1	3	-1	3
13	Chapie, Adam	0	2	0	0	2	0	0	13	Gamez, Garrett	0	1	1	1	4	0	1
15	Louria, Michael	0	2	2	2	7	+1	0	15	McParland, Stev	0	1	2	0	4	0	0
17	Wilson, Connor	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	16	Florentino, Anth	0	0	0	0	0	-1	6
18	White, A.J.	0	0	0	0	2	+1	2	18	Saracino, Nick	0	0	0	3	4	+1	1
19	Smith, C.J.	1	0	0	3	4	0	0	21	Rooney, Kevin	0	1	0	1	2	-1	2
21	Kamrass, Jake	0	0	0	1	2	0	2	22	Tanev, Brandon	0	0	0	2	3	0	0
23	Fallon, Michael	0	0	0	1	1	+1	1	24	Lemos, Bryan	0	0	0	1	1	0	3
25	Zink, Dylan	1	0	0	1	2	0	3	26	Pinho, Brian	3	1	0	1	5	+1	1
27	Folin, Niklas	0	0	0	1	1	0	4	27	Monk, Josh	0	1	0	1	2	-1	3
29	Edwardh, John	1	1	0	0	2	0	1	29	MacPhee,Conor	1	2	0	0	3	0	0
30	Cleary, Sean	dnp							1	Leahy, Brendan	dnp						
31	Hernberg, Chris	(31	Hawkey, Hayden	(
Totals		5	10	5	15	44	+5	23	Totals		10	10	10	21	59	-5	27

Shots by Period

Team	1	2	3	OT	O2	O3	Tot
UML	5	10	5	8	7	9	44
PC	10	10	10	8	13	8	59

Power Play Goals-Att (Sh)

Prd	UML	PC
1st	0-0 (0)	0-0 (0)
2nd	0-1 (3)	0-0 (0)
3rd	0-0 (0)	0-0 (0)
OT	0-0 (0)	0-0 (0)
O2	0-0 (0)	0-0 (0)
O3	0-0 (0)	0-0 (0)
Total	0-1 (3)	0-0 (0)

Penalties-Minutes by Prd

Prd	UML	PC
1st	0-0	0-0
2nd	0-0	1-2
3rd	0-0	0-0
OT	0-0	0-0
O2	0-0	0-0
O3	0-0	0-0
Total	0-0	1-2

Three stars:

- Boyle, Kevin
- White, A.J.
- Ellis, Nick

Officials:

Referee: Kevin Shea
 Referee: Cameron Voss
 Linesman: Bob Bernard
 Linesman: Marc Sullivan

GOALTENDERS

##	UMass Lowell	Dec	Min	GA	1	2	3	OT	O2	O3	Saves	##	Providence	Dec	Min	GA	1	2	3	OT	O2	O3	Saves
33	Boyle, Kevin	W	112:2	1	9	10	10	8	13	8	58	35	Ellis, Nick	OTL	112:2	2	4	10	5	8	7	8	42

PENALTY SUMMARY

Prd	Player	Team	Min	Offense	Time
2nd	MacPhee,Conor	PC	2	Hooking	04:17 PP

Win-Boyle, Kevin (23-8-5). Loss-Ellis, Nick (25-6-4).
 Hockey East Tournament - Semifinals
 UMass Lowell advances to play BC/NU in Final

 Referee's signature

Hockey Game Box Score (Final)
 #8 UMass Lowell vs #3 Providence (03/18/16 at Boston, Mass.)

FACEOFF SUMMARY

UMass Lowell - Faceoffs

##	Player	W	L
23	Fallon, Michael	19	19
5	Gambardella, Joe	16	17
9	Master, Nick	15	19
17	Wilson, Connor	3	4
Totals.....		53	59

Providence - Faceoffs

##	Player	W	L
10	Jankowski, Mark	20	13
26	Pinho, Brian	18	13
21	Rooney, Kevin	14	20
24	Lemos, Bryan	4	7
18	Saracino, Nick	2	0
12	Foley, Erik	1	0
Totals.....		59	53

POWER PLAY SUMMARY

UMass Lowell - Power Plays

Prd	Start	End	Elapse	Shots (Opp)
2nd	04:17	06:17	02:00	3 0
SUMMARY: 1 opp, 3 shots, 0 goals, time 02:00				

Providence - Power Plays

Prd	Start	End	Elapse	Shots (Opp)
SUMMARY: 0 opps, 0 shots, 0 goals, time 00:00				

Penalty shots - None.



Goal Descriptions

Hockey East Semifinal

No. 2 Providence College vs. No. 4 UMass Lowell | March 18, 2016 | TD Garden

<u>Per.</u>	<u>Team</u>	<u>Time (Strength)</u>	<u>No. Player (Goal #)</u>	<u>Assists (Assist #)</u>
		Score		
1	PC	6:38 (EV)	2 Desharnais (1)	18 Saracino (21) // 26 Pinho (16)
		1-0 PC		

Brian Pinho took a shot from the left circle that was saved by Kevin Boyle. UML's clearing attempt was kept in at the blue line by Vincent Desharnais, who passed the puck in along the right wing boards down to Nick Saracino. Saracino passed back to Desharnais, and Desharnais stepped into a wrist shot that deflected off the stick of River Hawks' defenseman Dylan Zink and past Boyle, inside the left post.

1	UML	18:54 (EV)	19 Smith (17)	5 Gambardella (26)
		1-1		

C.J. Smith had the puck along the left wing boards, and skated up to the high slot near the blue line. Smith shoots wide past the right post, then Gambardella picked up the puck in the corner, and fed the puck back to Smith in the left circle. Smith then deked around Providence defenseman Anthony Florentino, and his forehand shot beat Nick Ellis underneath the right pad.

6	UML	12:27 (EV)	18 White (10)	23 Fallon (9)
		2-1 UML		

Providence defenseman Kyle McKenzie raced behind the net after a dump in and attempted to send the puck up the right wing boards. UML's Michael Fallon intercepted the pass, collected the puck, and sent the puck towards the net, where it deflected off of A.J. White's skate and into the right side of the net.

2-1 FINAL (3OT)

PC Goals: Desharnais

UML Goals: Smith, White (GWG)

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Grade-A Scoring Chances – Hockey East Semifinals

Providence vs. UMass Lowell

March 18, 2016

TD Garden – Boston, Mass.

Total Grade-A Chances:

	1	2	3	OT1	OT2	OT3	F
PC	2	0	2	2	2	3	11
UML	1	5	2	2	2	5	17

Requirements:

1. Clean possession (or potential for)
2. Clear path to opening
3. Shot within grade-A range



PERIOD	TIME (on clock)	TEAM	No.	DESCRIPTION	RESULT
1	13:31	PC	26	Left circle shot	Saved
1	12:32	PC	8	Right circle one-timer	Saved
1	1:06	UML	19	Top left edge crease forehand	UML 1 st goal
2	18:10	UML	15	Low slot one-timer	Saved
2	15:43	UML	2	Left doorstep shot	Hooking
2	13:55	UML	13	Slot snap shot	Saved
2	7:18	UML	12	Top crease backhand deke	Saved
2	3:17	UML	9	Top crease backhand tip	Saved
3	11:35	UML	10	Low left slot forehand	Blocked
3	8:54	PC	8	Slot snap shot	Wide
3	5:45	UML	7	Right edge crease backhand	Saved
3	1:31	PC	9	Low left circle backhand	Saved
4	16:00	PC	9	Left circle wrist shot	Wide
4	11:52	UML	19	Top crease tip	Right Post
4	8:51	UML	19	Low left slot snap shot	Saved
4	2:34	PC	12	Low slot shot	Tipped Wide
5	17:54	PC	10	Left doorstep wraparound	Saved
5	8:18	UML	13	Right slot wrist shot	Wide

5	7:31	PC	18	Left circle snap shot	Crossbar
5	4:04	UML	23	Left circle shot	High
6	18:15	UML	18	Right edge crease backhand	Saved
6	17:20	PC	3	Left circle wrist shot	Wide
6	13:33	PC	13	Low right slot backhand	Wide
6	11:43	UML	19	Slot backhand	Blocked High
6	10:46	UML	21	Low slot one-timer	Saved
6	10:37	UML	9	Slot wrist shot	Saved
6	8:25	PC	6	Slot rebound one-timer	Fan Wide
6	7:33	UML	18	Top edge crease skate	UML 2 nd goal

Providence College head Coach Nate Leaman
UML 2, PC 1 (3OT)
March 18, 2016
TD Garden

Opening statement

That was two pretty good teams going at it. It was a typical Hockey East game. I thought both goalies were the stars of the night. It was tough getting one by either of them. It's a shame the way that it ended but that's hockey.

On the final goal

I don't want to question the referee, but he was pretty adamant about calling it off right from the start. It is just a gray area in our game. I think half the coaches in our league would watch that play and say that it was definitely a kicking motion – and the other half would say 'No way.' I know what Norm (Bazin) is going to say right now. I don't know the difference between a direct and a kick, to be honest with you.

But it was a great game. We had our chances to score in the game. (UMass Lowell goalie Kevin) Boyle played terrific. It is a shame that it ended that way. That's the only thing, it was such a great game that it's a shame it ended that way, especially when xXx called it off. I don't know. Only (A.J. White) knows if he kicked it in. The way I read the rule is that you have to be stopping and have the puck inadvertently. But he kind of moved his foot and directed it into the net. Was it a kick? I don't know. It's too much of a gray area in our game and it puts everyone in bad situations – the referees and the coaches.

On the fatigue factor

We had good energy in between periods, the guys were feeling in. I thought that we really played well in that second overtime. At one point we were down to just two centers because we had guys cramping up in the locker room. (Nick) Saracino took some minutes at center and it was just kind of going on the fly.

Everyone was tired. The last play was a bad turnover: There was a lot of fatigue factor. But they were fatigued also. We had our cramps and they had theirs. After the fifth period we had 108 shot attempts. You just have to tip your hat to Boyle.

On Nick Ellis

The two stars of the game were Boyle and Ellis. Ellis played great, especially in that first overtime. I thought Nick Ellis was definitely our first star tonight and I would say that Boyle was their first star. That's our league though. (Thatcher) Demko, Boyle and Ellis, those are three pretty good goaltenders. I was pretty disappointed that Ellis didn't get up for the Richter Award, just like (Jon) Gillies didn't last year, but it didn't really rattle him at all. He came back and played a great game tonight.

UMass Lowell head coach Norm Bazin
UML 2, PC 1 (3OT)
March 18, 2016
TD Garden

Opening statement

We're very excited to be moving on to the championship game. Obviously it was a good couple games out there tonight. There were a lot of irregular shifts but I thought that the guys did a good job of staying with the process. We're very excited.

UMass Lowell Senior Forward A.J. White and Senior Goaltender Kevin Boyle
UML, 2, PC 1 (3OT)
March 18, 2016
TD Garden

On the fatigue factor

A.J. White: "I think we were just trying to stay hydrated and if we stuck to the process we'd probably have a good outcome and I think that was our mindset throughout the whole time was staying positive and kind of sticking with what we do and how we play."

Kevin Boyle: "Yeah, you know, I think I drank about six Gatorade bottles throughout those 'two' games, but yeah like he said just stick to the process no matter where we are and luckily that paid off for us"

On the Final Goal

A.J. White: "From what I remember it got kicked off a pass off the half-wall made a really good pass to me and I was just trying to corral the puck and it hit my skate toward the net. It might have even hit their D-man before it went in but I know at first they said 'no goal' on the ice and for it being a long review you're always a bit nervous but I'm glad it went our way."

On staying focused

Kevin Boyle: "You know, it's a high-caliber game, the Hockey East Semi-Finals, I don't think it's too hard to keep your focus. Like I said, you stay hydrated and pretty much do your best for the team in front of you. They did a great job, got a couple bounces but for the most part kept everything to the outside and made my job pretty easy."