



# Hockey Commissioners Association

## For Immediate Release:

Wednesday, January 4, 2017

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## Harvard's Ryan Donato Named National College Hockey Player of the Month

*Northeastern Netminder Cayden Primeau Honored as Nation's Top Rookie*

**WAKEFIELD, Mass.** – Harvard forward **Ryan Donato** (Scituate, Mass.) who has started the season with a career-high 12-game point streak was named the Hockey Commissioners' Association National Division I Player of the Month for December.

The 6-1, 181-pound junior finished the month as Division I leader in points per game (2.50); goals per game (2.00); hat tricks (2); shots on goal (5.75) and tied for first in both goals (8) and game-winning goals (2), while finishing second in points with ten recording eight goals and adding two assists.

The Boston Bruins draftee bookend the month of December with a pair of hat tricks, first recording three goals on December 1 in a 6-2 conference win at Quinnipiac and then closing the month netting three goals and adding an assist in a Crimson win over host Vermont in the 21st annual TD Bank Catamount Cup at Gutterson Fieldhouse. The hat tricks were the third and fourth of his career. He was selected to the All-Tournament Team, finishing the two games with four goals and one assist and also earned ECAC Hockey Player of the Week honors in the last week of December. He was named the ECAC Hockey Player of the Month for December as well. Donato currently leads the nation averaging 1.00 goals per game and 1.67 points per game.

Donato was recently one of four players currently playing college hockey selected to the U.S. Olympic Hockey Team competing in the 2018 PyeongChang Winter Olympic Games between February 14-25, 2018, an honor previously bestowed on his father, Harvard head coach Ted Donato '91, who represented the U.S. at the 1992 Winter Olympics in Albertville.

After being tabbed as the Hockey East Goaltender of the Month following a stingy performance throughout December, Northeastern freshman netminder **Cayden Primeau** (Vorhees, N.J.) has been named the Hockey Commissioners' Association National Division I Rookie of the Month for December.

Primeau went undefeated in the month of December, backstopping Northeastern to a 4-0-1 record and helping to lift his team into second place in the Hockey East table. He stopped 135 shots in 302:57 of work, good for the nation's third-best goals against average (1.19) and sixth-best save percentage (.957). He allowed just one goal in four of his five starts and two goals or fewer in each game in which he appeared. He currently sits at 7-3-2 on the year with a 1.89 over-all goals against average, the best among all league netminders while his .927 save percentage is second-best.

The 6-4, 188-pound goalkeeper made at least 24 stops in each of his five starts, including back-to-back 28-save outings against Merrimack to start the month of December, allowing just two goals on the weekend. For his efforts, he was named Pro Ambitions Rookie of the Week on Dec. 4 by Hockey East.

Drafted by the Montreal Canadiens 199th overall in the 7th round of the 2017 NHL Entry Draft, the Vorhees, N.J. native currently sits atop the league standings in goals against average (1.63) and save percentage (.942) in conference play.

Primeau is 5-1-1 in his last seven decisions dating back to Nov. 17, posting a 1.56 goals against average and .941 save percentage in that span.

#HCA#

### HCA Commissioners' Choice Awards December 2017

#### National Player of the Month

Ryan Donato, Harvard, ECACH

#### National Rookie of the Month

Cayden Primeau, Northeastern, HEA

#### Honorable Mention Player of the Month

Brady Ferguson, Robert Morris, AHA

Andrew Sturtz, Penn State, Big Ten

Patrick Holway, Maine, HEA

Nick Halloran, Colorado College, NCHC

C.J. Suess, WCHA

#### Honorable Mention Rookie of the Month

Luke Santerno, Bentley, AHA

Colin Theisen, Notre Dame, Big Ten

Ryan Ferland, Princeton, ECACH

Jaakko Heikkinen, Denver, NCHC

Jake Jaremko, Minnesota State, WCHA



**Bob DeGregorio, Atlantic Hockey • Jim Delany, Big Ten**  
**Steve Hagwell, ECAC Hockey • Joe Bertagna, Hockey East**  
**Josh Fenton, NCHC • Bill Robertson, WCHA**