



PRESS RELEASE

Noah Smith
Director of Media Relations
Hockey East Association
 Phone: (781) 245-2122
 Fax: (781) 245-2492
 Cell: (617) 335-3709
nsmith@HockeyEastOnline.com

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: MARCH 13, 2003

HOCKEY EAST NAMES 2002-03 ALL-STARS *All nine teams represented as talent pot is stirred*

In a testimony to the balance of talent league-wide this season, at least one player from eight of the nine Hockey East programs was named to one of the two annual All-Star teams. Including the All-Rookie team, all nine were acknowledged.

For the first time in their nine seasons as a member of Hockey East, the University of Massachusetts Minutemen name one of their own alongside Hockey East's best. Former centerman Thomas Pöck has been named a Second Team All-Star defenseman, following his highly successful early season conversion to the blueline position.

Merrimack, another program often underrepresented, is honored by the Second Team selection of senior captain Joe Exter, who remains hospitalized following a tragic collision during the Hockey East quarterfinals. Exter was the one most responsible for getting a very young team into the playoffs.

KOHO Co-Player of the Year Ben Eaves of Boston College was the only unanimous selection as a First Team Hockey East All-Star, although he had to share Player of the Year honors with fellow First Teamer Mike Ayers of UNH. Both players have reached All-Star status for the second consecutive season, as have Colin Hemingway (UNH) and Ed McGrane (UML).

The All-Rookie Team proved to be as equally balanced as the All-Star teams, naming seven players from six different squads. Boston U. had two honorees for the second straight year.

2002-03 Hockey East All-Stars

| <u>First Team</u> | <u>Position</u> | <u>Second Team</u> |
|---|-----------------|---|
| Mike Ayers, Jr., New Hampshire ² (<i>Hingham, MA</i>) | Goaltender | Joe Exter, Sr., Merrimack (<i>Cranston, RI</i>) |
| Freddy Meyer, Sr., Boston University (<i>Sanbornville, NH</i>) | Defense | J.D. Forrest, Jr., Boston College (<i>Albany, NY</i>) |
| Francis Nault, Jr., Maine (<i>Tracy, QC</i>) | Defense | Thomas Pöck, Jr., Massachusetts (<i>Klagenfurt, Austria</i>) |
| | Defense | Stephen Wood, Jr., Providence (<i>Sudbury, MA</i>) |
| Ben Eaves, Jr., Boston College * ² (<i>Faribault, MN</i>) | Forward | Colin Hemingway, Sr., New Hampshire ² (<i>Surrey, BC</i>) |
| Lanny Gare, Sr., New Hampshire (<i>Vernon, BC</i>) | Forward | Lucas Lawson, Sr., Maine (<i>Braeside, ON</i>) |
| Martin Kariya, Sr., Maine (<i>North Vancouver, BC</i>) | Forward | Ed McGrane, Sr., UMass Lowell ² (<i>Hamilton, ON</i>) |

* unanimous selection ² two-time All-Star

Honorable Mention –

Goaltenders: Sean Fields (Boston University), Nolan Schaefer (Providence)

Defense: Andrew Alberts (Boston College)

Forwards: Jon DiSalvatore (Providence College), Peter Fregoe (Providence)

Greg Mauldin (Massachusetts), Tony Voce (Boston College)

2002-03 Hockey East All-Rookie Team

Jim Howard, Maine, Goaltender (*Ogdensburg, NY*) *
 Jakabs Redlihs, Boston University, Defenseman (*Riga, Latvia*)
 Bryan Schmidt, Merrimack, Defenseman (*Bloomington, MN*) *
 Chris Collins, Boston College, Forward (*Fairport, NY*)
 Mike Morris, Northeastern, Forward (*Braintree, MA*)
 David VanderGulik, Boston University, Forward (*Abbottsford, BC*)
 Stephen Werner, Massachusetts, Forward (*Chevy Chase, MD*) *

* unanimous selection