



PRESS RELEASE

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

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: JUNE 23, 2003

NHL DRAFT HARVESTS HOCKEY EAST CROP *18 current and future Hockey East players chosen*

In a banner year for U.S. college hockey talent, Hockey East shared center stage, witnessing 18 of its current and future talents being tabbed as NHL-calibre material at the Entry Draft in Nashville this weekend.

Nine collegians were selected in the first round, including a record seven current players. BC's Patrick Eaves led the way for Hockey East at 29th overall, several spots ahead of where he was originally slated. Eaves was joined by Maine goaltender Jim Howard, Hockey East's 2002-03 Rookie of the Year who went 64th overall, and by fellow U.S. National Development Team alums Stephen Werner of UMass (83rd) and Greg Moore of Maine (143rd). Friar defenseman James Pemberton rounded out Hockey East's current player selections at 124th overall, going to the Florida Panthers.

A total of 13 Hockey East prospects were also selected, headlined by a hulking incoming BC forward at 26th overall. With most of its players already drafted, Boston U. had to wait until No. 75 to enter the fray. By draft's end, however, two more incoming Terriers had been picked, as had four future Wildcats. UMass, Maine, Northeastern and Providence saw one recruit each picked by NHL clubs.

HOCKEY EAST 2003 NHL ENTRY DRAFT SELECTIONS

Rd	Overall	Name	Pos	School	NHL Team
1	29th	Patrick Eaves	F	Boston College	Ottawa
2	64th	Jim Howard	G	Maine	Detroit
3	83rd	Stephen Werner	F	Massachusetts	Washington
4	124th	James Pemberton	D	Providence	Florida
5	143rd	Greg Moore	F	Maine	Calgary