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# PRESS RELEASE

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## HOCKEY EAST RECOGNIZES 20 “SPECIAL FRIENDS” *Honorees include faculty representatives and familiar fans*

As part of the ongoing celebration of Hockey East's 20th anniversary, the league is pleased to acknowledge 20 “Special Friends” of Hockey East. The 20 people listed below have consistently worked with little recognition to support the league and its member programs in a variety of ways over the past 20 seasons:

- Tim Churchard** - Volunteer assistant coach and one-time UNH hockey player is now the team's sports psychologist.
- Bill Cotter** - Northeastern University trustee was a player/manager in the early 1970's and still keeps hockey on the university's agenda.
- Norinne “Nonni” Daly** - President of the UMaine “M” Club was Assistant Commissioner for Hockey East from 1991 to 1994.
- Anthony Dello Russo** - Board member of BC's Pike's Peak Club has been unofficial team statistician for 45 years.
- Elliot Driben** - BU's most familiar face has been an actively involved program benefactor for 35 years.
- Bob Gamache** - Associate Dean of Marine Sciences and Technology at UMass Lowell is the official scorer for the River Hawks.
- Jeanne Goss** - Veteran is now in her 11th season as Administrative Assistant with the UMaine hockey program.
- Richard Halgin** - Professor of Psychology at UMass assists the team in the area of sports psychology.
- Steve Hardy** - Professor of Kinesiology is the faculty representative for UNH hockey.
- Mike Kidonian** - Official timekeeper at Schneider Arena for many years frequently travels to support the Friars on the road.
- Don Lampron** - Director of Athletic Facilities at UMass Lowell has been a fan and friend of Lowell hockey since the mid-1970's.
- Mike Logan** - Regular emcee at Friars hockey banquets also coordinates internet broadcasts for most Friar contests.
- Mike Merchant** - Former Minuteman player ('77) is President of The Pond Club at UMass.
- Steve Nazro** - Director of Events at the FleetCenter has been a spectacular host for 16 of the first 20 Hockey East tournaments.
- Tom Peters** - Associate Athletic Director at Boston College has specific duties that include overseeing men's and women's hockey.
- Jim Prior** - The voice of Walter Brown Arena (and many other rinks) is also Hockey East's coordinator of minor officials.
- John Savastano** - Technical specialist involved with Merrimack since the 1970's coordinates arena music and game videotape.
- Rick Savastano** - Brother of above, full-time lawyer has long been the clock operator and PA Announcer at Merrimack's Lawler Arena.
- Dave Twombly** - President of the Friends of Northeastern Hockey has been active with that group since graduating in 1984.
- Brian “Sasquatch” Zive** - 1994 BU grad has bared his soul (among other things) for Terrier hockey ever since.

“Special Friend” selections represent two individuals affiliated with each of the nine member programs (as nominated by the respective head coaches) and two affiliated directly with the league office. Only 20 have been officially identified and acknowledged here, but Hockey East has countless more in the areas of administration, faculty, fans, media and more. Those named above merely represent a cross-section of the kinds of supporters the league is privileged to have as the foundation for its success. The excellence displayed on the ice through the skills of Hockey East's student athletes has been mirrored off the ice by the dedicated efforts of hundreds of individuals.