

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: OCTOBER 4, 2004

PRESS

Noah Smith Director of Media Relations Hockey East Association

591 North Ave - #2 Wakefield, MA 01880 Office: (781) 245-2122 Cell: (617) 335-3709

nsmith@HockeyEastOnline.com

WEEKLY RELEASE #1

ZABKOWICZ LEADS MAINE PAST HOST VERMONT Werner opens junior season with OT goal in exhibition play

Jump-starting the 2004-05 season just one day after practice began was no problem for the Maine Black Bears. Defenseman-turned-forward Tom Zabkowicz converted just two minutes into Sunday's game at Vermont, opening up a four-goal first period for the Black Bears, who cruised to a 7-1 victory. Zabkowicz also contributed two assists and was named the first CCM Player of the Week for the 2004-05 season. Rookies Keenan Hopson and Billy Ryan were among the seven different goal scorers, each netting his first collegiate goal. Maine's special teams were outstanding, as the Black Bears converted three of seven chances on the power play and successfully killed eight of nine short-handed situations. Jimmy Howard looked his old self in net, allowing just one goal on 23 shots faced.

Four other teams played warm-up exhibition games, most emerging successfully. UMass junior Stephen Werner provided the exclamation point of the weekend, notching a shorthanded goal in overtime to down St. Francis Xavier, 2-1, on Saturday. Werner also assisted on the game's opening goal, scored on the power play by teammate Kevin Jarman. On Sunday, St. Francis Xavier surrendered at Providence, 4-1. There were 98 penalty minutes handed out in the game, yielding 28 power plays. The Friars scored three times on 16 chances while holding St. Francis Xavier scoreless on 12 attempts.

Fortunes were reversed for UMass Lowell against St. Thomas, however, in a Sunday game at Nashua, N.H. The River Hawks converted on just one of 14 power play chances while surrendering three power play goals on only eight opportunities for St. Thomas. But UMass Lowell won the even-strength play and emerged with a 4-4 tie. St. Thomas lost 5-2 at Merrimack on Saturday after yielding four first-period goals to the unrelenting Warriors.

2004-05 STANDINGS

<u>Team</u> Boston College Boston University Maine	GP 0 0 0	W 0 0 0	<u>L</u> 0 0 0	T 0 0 0	Pts 0 0 0	Overall 0-0-0 0-0-0 1-0-0	Offense - - 7.00 GPG	Defense - - 1.00 GAPG
Massachusetts	0	0	0	0	0	0-0-0	-	-
UMass Lowell	0	0	0	0	0	0-0-0	-	-
Merrimack	0	0	0	0	0	0-0-0	-	-
New Hampshire	0	0	0	0	0	0-0-0	-	-
Northeastern	0	0	0	0	0	0-0-0	-	-
Providence	0	0	0	0	0	0-0-0	-	-

CCM HOCKEY PLAYER OF THE WEEK

TOM ZABKOWICZ - Maine

Sophomore Forward; Greendale, WI

The former defenseman scored the opening goal and later added two assists to power Maine to a 7-1 win at Vermont on Sunday.

SUPERSKILLS HOCKEY ROOKIE OF THE WEEK

KEENAN HOPSON – Maine

Freshman Forward; Prince George, BC

Scored a goal and added one assist in the first period of his first collegiate game, a 7-1 win for Maine at Vermont.

RECENT RESULTS

Saturday, October 2

at UMass 2, St. Francis Xavier 1 (OT) (exh.) at Merrimack 5, St. Thomas 2 (exh.)

Sunday, October 3

Maine 7, at Vermont 1 at Providence 4, St. Francis Xavier 1 (exh.) UMass Lowell 4, St. Thomas 4 (OT) (exhibition at Nashua, NH)

UPCOMING GAMES

Friday, October 8

Clarkson at Providence North Dakota at Maine (8pm - CSTV) Lefty McFadden Invitational at Dayton, OH Northeastern vs. Michigan (5pm) Boston University vs. Miami (8pm)

Saturday, October 9

UMass Lowell at Niagara Clarkson at Massachusetts North Dakota at Maine (WABI) Lefty McFadden Invitational Boston University vs. Michigan (4:30pm) Northeastern vs. Miami (7:30pm) IceBreaker Tournament at New Hampshire St. Cloud vs. St. Lawrence (2pm) Ohio State vs. UNH (5pm - NHPTV) Maverick Stampede at Nebraska-Omaha Merrimack vs. Rensselaer (5:30pm) Connecticut vs. Nebraska-Omaha (8:30pm) New Brunswick at Boston College (exh.)

Sunday, October 10

IceBreaker Tournament (2/5pm) (UNH game on NHPTV) Maverick Stampede (4/7pm)

* Hockey East game Games start at 7pm unless indicated. All game times are Eastern Time.