



Pete Souris
Director of Public Relations
Hockey East Association

591 North Ave - #2
 Wakefield, MA 01880
 Office: (781) 245-2122
 Cell: (603) 512-1166
 psouris@HockeyEastOnline.com

PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: MONDAY, JUNE 23, 2008

11 HOCKEY EAST STUDENT-ATHLETES SELECTED IN 2008 NHL DRAFT **~BU's Wilson headlines draft class as No. 7 overall pick by Nashville~**

WAKEFIELD, MASS. – Hockey East was once again well represented in the 2008 NHL Entry Draft with 11 current and incoming student-athletes selected at the Scotiabank Place over the weekend hosted by the NHL's Ottawa Senators.

2008 Hockey East Rookie of the Year Colin Wilson was the first Hockey East player selected with the No. 7 overall pick in the first round by the Nashville Predators. Wilson became the 27th Hockey East player to be selected in the first round all-time, which includes the ninth Boston University Terrier, since the league's inception in 1984. Wilson recorded 35 points (12g,23a) in his freshman season in 37 games, as the Terriers third leading scorer. Wilson's 28 points in league play was a league best among rookies, along with BC's Joe Whitney. They ranked tied for sixth in overall league scoring in 2007-2008.

The Terriers were well represented in this year's draft with a league-high five players selected, while Boston College saw three players taken and Maine saw two incoming freshmen selected. Incoming BU freshman Corey Trivino was the next highest pick after Wilson, taken with the 36th pick in Round 2 by the New York Islanders. Incoming Eagles forward Jimmy Hayes was picked by the Toronto Maple Leafs with the 60th pick in Round 2.

Northeastern incoming freshman Steve Quailer was selected by the Montreal Canadiens in Round 3 with the 86th overall pick. Incoming Terriers Vinny Saponari (Atlanta) and David Warsofsky (St. Louis) were picked back-to-back in Round 4 with the 94th and 95th picks respectively. The Maine Black Bears had a pair of draftees in the fourth round. Ryan Hegarty was taken by the Anaheim Mighty Duck with pick No. 113, while Gustav Nyquist was taken by the Stanley Cup Champion Detroit Red Wings with the 121st overall pick. BC incoming freshman Cam Atkinson was selected with pick No. 157 of the sixth round by the Columbus Blue Jackets. The Toronto Maple Leafs then selected incoming Terrier goaltender Grant Rollheiser with the 158th pick in Round 6.

BC's Ben Smith was one of two current Hockey East players selected in this year's draft. Smith was taken by the Chicago Blackhawks with the 169th pick in Round 6. Smith was the third leading scorer on the Eagles, as he helped them to their third National Championship in school history. He recorded 50 points (25g,25a) in his sophomore season at the Heights.

Four additional student-athletes that will attend Hockey East schools beginning in the fall of 2009 were also selected in the 2008 NHL Draft.

2008 HOCKEY EAST NHL DRAFT SELECTIONS

Rd.	Pick #	Team	Player	School	Position
1	7	Nashville	Colin Wilson	Boston University	Forward
2	36	New York Islanders	Corey Trivino	Boston University	Forward
2	60	Toronto Maple Leafs	Jimmy Hayes	Boston College	Forward
3	86	Montreal Canadiens	Steve Quailer	Northeastern	Forward
4	94	Atlanta Thrashers	Vinny Saponari	Boston University	Forward
4	95	St. Louis Blues	David Warsofsky	Boston University	Defense
4	113	Anaheim Mighty Ducks	Ryan Hegarty	Maine	Defense
4	121	Detroit Red Wings	Gustav Nyquist	Maine	Forward
6	157	Columbus Blue Jackets	Cam Atkinson	Boston College	Forward
6	158	Toronto Maple Leafs	Grant Rollheiser	Boston University	Goaltender
6	169	Chicago Blackhawks	Ben Smith	Boston College	Forward

– **HockeyEastOnline.com** –