



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

MEN'S RELEASE

www.HockeyEastOnline.com

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: SUNDAY, MARCH 22, 2009

FOUR LEAGUE TEAMS PUNCH TICKET TO NCAA TOURNEY PLAY **~Boston U., New Hampshire, Northeastern and Vermont all qualify~**

WAKEFIELD, Mass. – The NCAA Division I men's ice hockey committee announced on Sunday afternoon the 16-team field for the upcoming NCAA Tournament with four Hockey East teams qualifying for the 2009 Tournament.

Hockey East Regular-Season and Tournament Champion Boston University (31-6-4) is the top overall seed in the tournament and will face Ohio State (23-14-4) from the CCHA at 5:30 p.m. in the opening round of the Northeast Regional on Saturday, March 28 at the Verizon Wireless Arena in Manchester, N.H. BU (31-6-4) will be making its 31st appearance in the NCAA tournament and first since the 2006-07 season. Host No. 3 seed New Hampshire will face No. 2 seed North Dakota (24-14-4) from the WCHA at 2 p.m. in Manchester on Saturday as well. UNH and North Dakota will meet in the NCAA Tournament for the first time on Saturday. UNH owns a 12-22 all-time record in the NCAA playoffs, which includes a 10-14 all-time record under head coach Dick Umile. The Wildcats have qualified for the tournament in the last eight seasons, the second longest active streak behind only Michigan (19). Both opening round games will be broadcast live on ESPN2. The winners will play in the Northeast Regional Final on Sunday, March 29 at 5:30 p.m. on ESPNU. Tickets for the Northeast regional at the Verizon Wireless Arena in Manchester, New Hampshire are still available. Fans can purchase tickets by visiting the Verizon Wireless Arena box office, by calling 603/868-7300 or by logging onto the internet at www.unhwildcats.com or www.ticketmaster.com. Tickets for the three-game package are \$82.

The No. 2 seed Northeastern Huskies (25-11-4) will take the ice against Cornell (21-9-4) on Saturday, March 28 at 4 p.m. in Grand Rapids, Mich. at Van Andel Arena in the Midwest Regional. The Huskies are 25-11-4 and are making their first NCAA Tournament appearance since 1994. Should the Huskies advance they would face either Bemidji State or Notre Dame in the Midwest Regional Final on Sunday, March 29 at 8 p.m. All the Midwest regional games will be broadcast live on ESPNU. Tickets can be purchased from Ticketmaster by phone at 1-800-745-3000 or on the web at ticketmaster.com

No. 3 seed Vermont (20-11-5) appears in the NCAA Tournament for the first time since 1997 with a first-round contest against Yale on Friday, March 27 vs. host Yale University (24-7-2) in Bridgeport, Conn (6:30 p.m.) in the East Regional. The other matchup in the regional is Michigan and Air Force, the winners advance to the regional final on Saturday, March 28 at 6:30 p.m. Vermont is 1-4 all-time in the NCAA Men's Hockey Tournament. The Catamounts lone win is against Lake Superior State, 2-1, at Knickerbocker Arena (now known as the Times Union Center) in Albany, N.Y., in 1996 to earn a spot in the Frozen Four. Vermont went on to lose to Colorado College, 4-3, in double overtime in the Frozen Four at Riverfront Coliseum in Cincinnati, Ohio. Tickets are also on sale through the Harbor Yard box office at (203) 368-1000 or online through Ticketmaster.com. Adult all-session tickets are available for \$75 and discounted youth (18 & under) all-session tickets are available for \$50. All the East regional games will be broadcast live on ESPNU.

Hockey East teams have made 78 NCAA appearances since 1985 and have posted an impressive 100-86-1 record during that time. The league has won five NCAA Championships since the league's inception, most recently in 2008 (Boston College Eagles).

~www.HockeyEastOnline.com~