

PRESS RELEASE

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Women's Hockey East Names 2016-17 Pro Ambitions All-Rookie Team

Five Other Award Winners Announced for 2016-17 Season

WAKEFIELD, Mass. - The Women's Hockey East Association today announced the 2016-17 Pro Ambitions All-Rookie Team and five other season-long awards as voted by the league's nine head coaches ahead of the 2017 Women's Hockey East Championship, March 4 and 5 at Boston University's Walter Brown Arena. The honorees will be recognized at Friday night's annual awards banquet.

The 2016-17 Pro Ambitions All-Rookie Team consists of six players and includes defensemen **Abby Cook** (Kelowna, B.C./Boston University) and **Whitney Dove** (Port Moody, B.C./Providence) and forwards **Delaney Belinskas** (Port Orange, Fla./Boston College), **Caitrin Lonergan** (Roslindale, Mass./Boston College), **Eve-Audrey Picard** (Longueuil, Que./ Vermont), and **Tereza Vanišová** (Strakonice, Czech Republic/Maine).

Also set to be recognized at Friday night's ceremonies will be Boston College junior **Megan Keller** (Farmington Hills, Mich.) as Women's Hockey East's best defenseman for the second consecutive season. Keller was voted the unanimous winner for 2016-17. Northeastern senior **Hayley Scamurra** (Williamsville, N.Y.) will be honored as the best defensive forward during the regular season while Providence senior forward **Cassidy Carels** (Bruxelles, Man.) is set to be recognized with the conference's sportsmanship award. Two statistical award champions will also be acknowledged, including the league's top scorer, Boston University junior forward **Victoria Bach** (Milton, Ont.), and the ARMY ROTC Three Stars Award winner, New Hampshire senior forward **Jonna Curtis** (Elk River, Minn.), who accumulated the highest total of points from first, second, and third star accolades during Women's Hockey East league games over the course of the regular season.

The 15th annual Women's Hockey East Tournament championship will take place this weekend, Saturday, March 4, and Sunday, March 5, at Boston University's Walter Brown Arena. No. 1 Boston College will square off with No. 5 Vermont Saturday at 1:30 p.m., while No. 2 Northeastern and No. 3 Boston University take the ice at 4:30 p.m. The winners advance to Sunday's championship tilt at 1:30 p.m. Fans can purchase tickets online at Ticketmaster.com or by calling 800-745-3000. Tickets start at just five dollars.

Pro Ambitions All-Rookie Team

D: Abby Cook, Boston University

D: Whitney Dove, Providence *

F: Delaney Belinskas, Boston College *

F: Caitrin Lonergan, Boston College *

F: Ève-Audrey Picard, Vermont

F: Tereza Vanišová, Maine

Sportsmanship Award

Cassidy Carels, Providence (Sr., F; Bruxelles, Man.)

Runners-up:

Andie Anastos, Boston College (Sr., F; Farmington Hills, Mich.) MJ Pelletier, New Hampshire (So., D; Dalhousie, N.B.)

Best Defenseman Award

Megan Keller, Boston College * (Jr., Farmington Hills, Mich.)

Runners-up:

Heather Mottau, Northeastern (Sr., Milton, Mass.) Taylor Willard, Vermont (Jr., Naperville, III.)

ARMY ROTC Three Stars Award

Jonna Curtis, New Hampshire (Sr., F; Elk River, Minn.)

Runners-up:

McKenna Brand, Northeastern (Jr., F; Nevis, Minn.) Brooke Boquist, Providence (Jr., F; Thunder Bay, Ont.) Andie Anastos, Boston College (Sr., F; Farmington Hills, Mich.)

Best Defensive Forward Award

Hayley Scamurra, Northeastern (Sr., Williamsville, N.Y.)

Runner-up:

Brooke Stacey, Maine (Sr., Kahnawake, Que.)

WHEA Scoring Champion

Victoria Bach, Boston University (Jr., F; Milton, Ont.) 19g, 16a, 35p

Runner-up:

Jonna Curtis, New Hampshire (Sr., F; Elk River, Minn.) 17g, 15a, 32p

* denotes unanimous selection

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