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WOMEN'S LEAGUE

PRESS RELEASE



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: OCTOBER 20, 2003

WEEKLY RELEASE #2

UCONN TIES UP NO. 10 MERCYHURST

Defending champ Providence opens with a win and a tie on the road

The University of Connecticut is right on the cusp of being a real contender in women's hockey, and proved that by recording a 2-2 tie against 10th-ranked Mercyhurst Sunday, just 24 hours after suffering a very close loss (2-1) to the Lakers. Junior stopper Shannon Murphy was sharp in the tie, turning aside 31 of the 33 shots she faced. The Huskies killed off all eight power play opportunities they allowed and now are a perfect 17-for-17 on the season.

Providence snipers Kelli Halcisak and Rush Zimmerman have not lost a step in the offseason – they opened the season by combining for seven points in a 5-1 win at Vermont. St. Lawrence kept the two off the scoreboard Sunday, but the Saints had to settle for a 2-2 tie against the defending Hockey East champs.

Northeastern fell to the Saints 4-1 on Saturday, despite 30 saves from superstar Chanda Gunn. Gunn was perfect at Vermont on Sunday, posting 25 saves on 25 shots and getting all the offense she needed from sophomore Marie Desrosiers, who contributed her first career goal and an assist in the 2-0 victory.

Boston College and New Hampshire have yet to play, but Maine saw its first action with a big game against sixth-ranked Wisconsin yesterday, narrowly losing by a 5-4 final. Meagan Aarts had two goals and an assist in the loss, while Lara Smart stopped 41 of the 46-shot Badger shooting gallery she faced, including all 17 she endured in the third period. The Black Bears will seek to even the unique Sunday-Monday series when they host Wisconsin again today.

League action begins Thursday with Northeastern at Providence. Hockey East will host a pre-game dinner/reception prior to the game. All media are invited to attend. See related release for more information.

RECENT RESULTS

Saturday, October 18

Mercyhurst 2, at Connecticut 1
 Providence 5, at Vermont 1
 at St. Lawrence 4, Northeastern 1

Sunday, October 19

at Connecticut 2, Mercyhurst 2 (OT)
 Wisconsin 5, at Maine 4
 Providence 2, at St. Lawrence 2 (OT)
 Northeastern 2, at Vermont 0

UPCOMING GAMES

Monday, October 20

Wisconsin at Maine (2pm)

Thursday, October 23

Northeastern at Providence (7pm) *

Friday, October 24

New Hampshire at Connecticut (7pm) *

Saturday, October 25

Northeastern at Quinnipiac (5pm)
 Colgate at Maine (7pm)

Sunday, October 26

Connecticut at New Hampshire (2pm) *
 Colgate at Maine (2pm)
 Quinnipiac at Boston College (5pm)

* Hockey East game

All times Eastern

2003-04 STANDINGS

Team	GP	W	L	T	Pts	Overall	Offense	Defense
Boston College	0	0	0	0	0	0-0-0	-	-
Connecticut	0	0	0	0	0	1-1-2	1.50 GPG	1.25 GAGP
Maine	0	0	0	0	0	0-1-0	4.00 GPG	5.00 GAGP
New Hampshire	0	0	0	0	0	0-0-0	-	-
Northeastern	0	0	0	0	0	1-1-0	1.50 GPG	2.00 GAGP
Providence	0	0	0	0	0	1-0-1	3.50 GPG	1.50 GAGP



TPS LOUISVILLE PLAYER OF THE WEEK

RUSH ZIMMERMAN – Providence
Junior Forward; Grosse Pointe, MI

Had a hand in four of the five goals that Providence scored in a 5-1 win at Vermont. Zimmerman contributed one goal of her own and set up three others.

ITECH ROOKIE OF THE WEEK

MARIE DESROSIERS – Northeastern
Sophomore Forward; St. Hubert, QC

Had the game-winning goal and added one assist to lead the Huskies to a 2-0 win at Vermont.

DEFENSIVE PLAYER OF THE WEEK

CHANDA GUNN – Northeastern
Senior Goaltender; Huntington Beach, CA

Stopped all 25 shots she faced in a 2-0 shutout at Vermont, her ninth career shutout. Also made 30 saves in a 4-1 loss at St. Lawrence, currently ranked seventh.

HOCKEY EAST HONOR ROLL

- **Meagan Aarts, Maine** (Sr. F; Watford, ON) – Scored twice and added an assist vs. sixth-ranked Wisconsin.
- **Kelli Halcisak, PC** (Sr. D; Grosse Ile, MI) – Netted a goal and two assists in the Friars' 5-1 win at Vermont.
- **Lara Smart, Maine** (Sr. G; Airdrie, Alberta) – Made 41 saves, including 17 on 17 shots faced in the third period alone in a 5-4 loss against sixth-ranked Wisconsin.
- **Natalie Vibert, UConn** (Fr. D; Thunder Bay, ON) – Scored her first career goal in a 2-2 tie against No. 9 Mercyhurst.

TEAM STATISTICS (All Games)

TEAM OFFENSE

Team	GP	G	GPG
1. Maine.....	1	4	4.00
2. Providence.....	2	7	3.50
3. Connecticut.....	4	6	1.50
Northeastern.....	2	3	1.50

TEAM DEFENSE

Team	GP	GA	GAPG
1. Connecticut.....	4	5	1.25
2. Providence.....	2	3	1.50
3. Northeastern.....	2	4	2.00
4. Maine.....	1	5	5.00

POWER PLAY

Team	GP	PPG	Att	SHGA	Pct
1. Connecticut.....	4	4	23	0	.174
2. Providence.....	2	2	16	0	.125
3. Northeastern.....	2	1	9	0	.111
4. Maine.....	1	0	3	0	.000

PENALTY KILL

Team	GP	OPPG	Att	SHG	Pct
1. Connecticut.....	4	0	17	0	1.000
Northeastern.....	2	0	10	0	1.000
3. Providence.....	2	1	9	0	.889
4. Maine.....	1	1	3	0	.667

TEAM NOTES

University of Connecticut: The Huskies have not allowed a power play goal in four games this season, going 17-for-17 on the kill ... Senior Stefanie Snow played in her 100th career game on Saturday.

University of Maine: Meagan Aarts is currently the all-time points leader at UMaine with 94 points, one more than classmate Karen Droog ... the Black Bears had seven newcomers in the lineup on Sunday in the season-opener against Wisconsin.

Northeastern University: Senior goalie Chanda Gunn recorded her ninth career shutout Sunday at Vermont ... NU's three goals this weekend came from three different players and all were career firsts.

Providence College: Prominent Brown transfer Karen Thatcher registered her first point as a Friar Sunday, assisting on junior Darlene Stephenson's second goal of the season.

LEADING SCORERS (All Games)

	Player, School	Cl	GP	G	A	Pts
1	Rush Zimmerman, PC	Jr	2	1	3	4
2	Meagan Aarts, Maine	Sr	1	2	1	3
	Darlene Stephenson, PC	Sr	2	2	1	3
	Kelli Halcisak, PC *	Sr	2	1	2	3
5	Marie Desrosiers, NU	So	2	1	1	2
	Cyndy Kenyon, NU	So	2	0	2	2
	Meredith Roth, PC *	Sr	2	0	2	2
	Tiffany Owens, CT	Jr	4	2	0	2
	Stefanie Snow, CT *	Sr	4	1	1	2
	Natalie Vibert, CT *	Fr	4	1	1	2
	Angie Wallace, CT	Fr	4	1	1	2
	Jennifer Houlden, CT *	So	4	0	2	2

* defenseman



LEADING GOALTENDERS (All games)

	Player, School	Cl	GP	Min	W	L	T	SP	GAA
1	Kaitlyn Shain, CT	So	2	118	1	1	0	.960	1.01
2	Shannon Murphy, CT	Jr	2	130	0	0	2	.951	1.38
3	Jana Budgen, PC	So	2	125	1	0	1	.930	1.44
4	Chanda Gunn, NU	Sr	2	119	1	1	0	.948	1.51

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SEASON TWO FACES OFF AT PROVIDENCE
Media invited to enjoy Thursday's pre-game reception

The Women's Hockey East Association, facing off its second season, will host a pre-game dinner/reception for staff, sponsors, coaches, and some players and administrators this Thursday, Oct. 24, before the first league game of the 2003-04 slate. All media are invited to join the festivities and to conduct interviews in an open forum.

Interviews may be conducted starting at 5:30 p.m. in the Friars Club room at Schneider Arena. Food will be available at 6:00 and Hockey East Commissioner Joe Bertagna will address the attendees shortly thereafter.

At 7:00, Providence will begin its defense of the 2003 Hockey East title by facing off against visiting Northeastern in a classic confrontation between two old-school women's hockey rivals. The league schedule this season includes two home dates for each Hockey East team against each Hockey East opponent. That lifts the total league game slate to 20 games per team, up from 15 in the inaugural season.

**Please make your reservations for this event
through Media Relations Director Noah Smith**

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