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# WOMEN'S LEAGUE

# PRESS RELEASE



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WEEKLY RELEASE #20

## PROVIDENCE, UNH SHARE REGULAR SEASON TITLE *But BC and UConn look primed entering tournament*

Call it a draw for Providence and UNH, a fitting ending to the regular season for the two teams that have battled for three years for Hockey East supremacy.

Providence got a scare at Northeastern Saturday, rallying back from an early 3-1 deficit to take a 4-3 lead, only to be tied up in the closing minutes. But four shots in the first minute of OT yielded the winning goal from rookie blueliner Kathleen Smith. Smith figured prominently in the rematch as well, sending Karen Thatcher on a successful short-handed breakaway in the final minute that gave PC a narrow 2-1 victory. NU's Marisa Hourihan made 51 saves in the contest.

The dramatic win secured the No. 1 seed for Providence and a share of the regular season title with UNH, who swept Boston College. The Wildcats swarmed Saturday at home, posting a 10-2 win over the Eagles, with hat tricks from both Lindsay Hansen and Jennifer Hitchcock. Defenseman Jackie Wedster had a goal and three assists and finished the game with an outstanding +6 rating. Sunday's rematch at BC was not nearly as one-sided, as the two teams were 1-1 deep into the third before Hansen scored the game-winner. Nicole Hekle had five points on the weekend to edge PC's Karen Thatcher for the Hockey East scoring title.

Despite the two losses, the Boston College Eagles are headed to the postseason for the first time since joining the Hockey East, and will face Providence in the noon semifinal on Saturday at BU's Walter Brown Arena. The Friars posted three two-goal victories vs. BC this year, but the Eagles notched a 4-1 win in the other game of the season series.

In the other semifinal, UNH will take on UConn, the hottest team in Hockey East. The Huskies are undefeated in their last eight games (6-0-2) which includes two wins vs. Providence and a win and a tie vs. UNH. This past weekend, UConn swept host Maine by scores of 3-2 and 4-1. Rookie Jaclyn Hawkins led the way with two goals and three assists and won Hockey East's goal-scoring crown with 18 goals in just 18 league games played. Junior goaltender Kaitlyn Shain stopped 37 shots in each contest.

### RECENT RESULTS

#### Friday, March 4

Connecticut 3, at Maine 2 \*

#### Saturday, March 5

Connecticut 4, at Maine 1 \*

Providence 5, at Northeastern 4 (OT) \*  
 at New Hampshire 10, Boston College 2 \*

#### Sunday, March 6

at Providence 2, Northeastern 1 \*

New Hampshire 2, at Boston College 1 \*

### CHAMPIONSHIP SCHEDULE

(all games at BU's Walter Brown Arena)

#### Saturday, March 12

Semifinal Round

#1 Providence vs. #4 BC (12noon)

#2 UNH vs. #3 Connecticut (3pm)

#### Sunday, March 13

Championship Game (1pm)

(Televised live on NESN)

\* Hockey East game

All times Eastern

## HOCKEY EAST STANDINGS

Seed/Team	GP	W	L	T	Pts	Overall	HE Offense	HE Defense
1. Providence *	20	14	4	2	30	19-10-5	3.25 GPG	2.40 GAPG
2. New Hampshire *	20	13	3	4	30	21-7-6	3.80 GPG	1.65 GAPG
3. Connecticut	20	11	5	4	26	15-11-8	2.75 GPG	2.15 GAPG
4. Boston College	20	6	11	3	15	10-19-4	2.30 GPG	3.35 GAPG
5. Maine	20	5	13	2	12	14-15-3	1.95 GPG	2.85 GAPG
6. Northeastern	20	2	15	3	7	3-25-4	1.90 GPG	3.55 GAPG

\* - PC and UNH share the regular season title; PC is awarded the No. 1 seed based on a 2-1-1 record vs. UNH.

### PLAYER OF THE WEEK

**LINDSAY HANSEN – New Hampshire**  
*Junior Forward; Northport, NY*

Had a hat trick and one assist in a 10-2 win vs. BC and followed that up with one assist and the game-winning goal late in a 2-1 win at BC.

### ITECH ROOKIE OF THE WEEK

**JACLYN HAWKINS – Connecticut**  
*Freshman Forward; Manotick, ON*

Had a hand in five of the seven goals that UConn scored in a sweep at Maine, scoring three of her own and setting up two others.

### DEFENSIVE PLAYER OF THE WEEK

**MARISA HOURIHAN – Northeastern**  
*Junior Goaltender; Hanover, MA*

Stopped 51 of 53 shots in a narrow 2-1 loss at Providence Sunday, just one day after stopping 35 in an overtime loss at home vs. the Friars.

## HOCKEY EAST HONOR ROLL

- **Leah Craig, UNH** (Fr. F; Seaforth, ON) – Scored a goal and added three assists in a 10-2 win vs. BC.
- **Nicole Hekle, UNH** (So. F; Winnipeg, MB) – Set up four goals and posted a +5 rating in Saturday's 10-2 win vs. BC.
- **Jennifer Hitchcock, UNH** (Fr. F; LaSalle, ON) – Notched a hat trick to lead UNH over BC Saturday, 10-2.
- **Kaitlyn Shain, UConn** (Jr. G; Calgary, AB) – Posted 37 saves in each of two victories at Maine, totalling 74 saves on 77 shots faced, allowing just three total goals in the road sweep.
- **Kathleen Smith, PC** (Fr. D; Waterloo, ON) – Scored the OT goal that lifted PC at NU on Saturday, and sprung teammate Karen Thatcher for a last-minute game-winner in Sunday's rematch.
- **Karen Thatcher, PC** (Jr. F; Douglas, MA) – Scored three goals in a weekend sweep of NU, including the short-handed game winner in the final minute of a 2-1 win.
- **Jackie Wedster, UNH** (So. F; Chicago, IL) – Had a goal and three assists and a +6 rating in a 10-2 win vs. BC.
- **Rush Zimmerman, PC** (Sr. F; Grosse Pointe, MI) – Had a goal in each game and added one assist in a sweep vs. NU.

## TEAM NOTES

**Boston College:** Deb Spillane has at least one point in seven of the last eight games ... Kerri Sanders has had her most productive season at BC, setting a career high in points with 23.

**University of Connecticut:** In her first season with the Huskies, Jaclyn Hawkins has established new team records for single season goals (24) and points (37). scored in a single season (24) and total points in a season (37). Tiffany Owens and Shannon Connolly both tallied their 16th assists of the season on Saturday, setting a new team mark in that category as well.

**University of Maine:** Although outshooting opponents in each of their last six losses, Maine came up on the short end each game. Maine lost both games vs. UConn this weekend despite outshooting the Huskies by a 2.5-to-1 margin in each game.

**University of New Hampshire:** On Saturday, Lindsay Hansen became the 33rd Wildcat to reach 100 career points. In the same game, Jackie Wedster and Diana Saly became the first UNH defensemen this season to record multiple points in one game, with four and two, respectively.

**Northeastern University:** The Huskies lost all four games vs. top seed Providence, but two were in overtime and one other was a one goal loss. The other loss was by only two goals ... Marisa Hourihan ranks first in the nation in saves with 1235.

**Providence College:** Providence concluded the regular season with a five-game unbeaten streak, its longest of the season.

Congratulations to Providence sniper **Rush Zimmerman**, winner of the 2004-05 **ITECH Three Stars Award**

Name	Pos	Stars	Pts
<b>Rush Zimmerman, PC</b>	<b>F</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>25</b>
Jaclyn Hawkins, UConn	F	9	24
Kaitlyn Shain, UConn	G	8	17
Stephanie Jones, UNH	F	7	16



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## WOMEN'S HOCKEY EAST CHAMPIONSHIP TOURNAMENT

Mar. 12-13 at BU's Walter Brown Arena

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### LEADING GOALTENDERS (League games)

Player, School	CI	GP	Min	W	L	T	SP	GAA
1 Melissa Bourdon, UNH	So	16	874	10	2	2	.915	1.85
2 Kaitlyn Shain, CT	Jr	15	911	9	3	3	.935	1.91
3 Amy Thomas, PC	Sr	18	1077	13	3	2	.901	2.34
4 Alison Quandt, BC	Jr	12	706	5	5	2	.902	2.72
5 Rachel Gettings, ME	So	20	1205	5	13	2	.861	2.79

### LEADING GOALTENDERS (All games)

Player, School	CI	GP	Min	W	L	T	SP	GAA
1 Melissa Bourdon, UNH	So	30	1704	18	6	4	.916	1.94
2 Kaitlyn Shain, CT	Jr	23	1352	11	7	4	.927	2.17
3 Rachel Gettings, ME	So	31	1864	14	15	2	.877	2.35
4 Shannon Murphy, CT	Sr	13	713	4	4	4	.915	2.52
Amy Thomas, PC	Sr	32	1882	18	9	5	.895	2.52

### LEADING SCORERS (League games)

	Player, School	Cl	GP	G	A	Pts
1	Nicole Hekle, UNH	So	20	13	20	33
2	Karen Thatcher, PC	Jr	18	13	19	32
3	Rush Zimmerman, PC	Sr	20	16	14	30
4	Stephanie Jones, UNH	Sr	20	14	12	26
	Lindsay Hansen, UNH	Jr	20	8	18	26
6	Jaclyn Hawkins, UConn	Fr	18	18	6	24
7	Leah Craig, UNH	Fr	20	7	14	21
8	Deborah Spillane, BC	Fr	20	13	7	20
9	Tristan Desmet, Maine	Sr	20	12	7	19
10	Sonny Watrous, PC	So	16	7	10	17
	Amy Goodney, NU	So	20	4	13	17
12	Jennifer Hitchcock, UNH	Fr	20	10	6	16
	Kerri Sanders, BC	Sr	20	6	10	16
	Crystal Rochon, NU	So	20	7	9	16

### LEADING SCORERS (All games)

	Player, School	Cl	GP	G	A	Pts
1	Karen Thatcher, PC	Jr	29	24	28	52
	Rush Zimmerman, PC	Sr	34	23	29	52
	Nicole Hekle, UNH	So	34	19	33	52
4	Stephanie Jones, UNH	Sr	34	23	17	40
5	Lindsay Hansen, UNH	Jr	34	9	28	37
6	Jaclyn Hawkins, UConn	Fr	32	24	12	36
7	Deborah Spillane, BC	Fr	33	19	16	35
8	Sonny Watrous, PC	So	30	19	15	34
9	Tristan Desmet, Maine	Sr	33	17	14	31
10	Tiffany Owens, UConn	Sr	34	12	16	28
11	Sarah Feldman, BC	Fr	33	15	12	27
	Taylor Palazeti, UNH	Fr	34	15	12	27
	Leah Craig, UNH	Fr	34	11	16	27
14	Lindsey Caleo, UNH	So	34	3	22	25
15	Jennifer Hitchcock, UNH	Fr	34	13	11	24

### TEAM STATISTICS (League games)

#### TEAM OFFENSE

Team	GP	G	GPG
1.New Hampshire.....	20	76	3.80
2.Providence.....	20	65	3.25
3.Connecticut.....	20	55	2.75
4.Boston College.....	20	46	2.30
5.Maine.....	20	39	1.95
6.Northeastern.....	20	38	1.90

#### TEAM DEFENSE

Team	GP	GA	GAPG
1.New Hampshire.....	20	33	1.65
2.Connecticut.....	20	43	2.15
3.Providence.....	20	48	2.40
4.Maine.....	20	57	2.85
5.Boston College.....	20	67	3.35
6.Northeastern.....	20	71	3.55

#### POWER PLAY

Team	GP	PPG	Att	SHGA	Pct
1.Boston College.....	20	22	110	3	.200
2.Providence.....	20	20	101	1	.198
3.New Hampshire.....	20	22	116	1	.190
4.Connecticut.....	20	19	111	0	.171
5.Northeastern.....	20	13	97	6	.134
6.Maine.....	20	13	121	5	.107

#### PENALTY KILL

Team	GP	OPPG	Att	SHG	Pct
1.New Hampshire.....	20	12	103	2	.883
2.Connecticut.....	20	13	94	5	.862
3.Providence.....	20	17	102	3	.833
4.Maine.....	20	21	115	2	.817
5.Boston College.....	20	20	107	3	.813
6.Northeastern.....	20	26	135	1	.807

### TEAM STATISTICS (All games)

#### TEAM OFFENSE

Team	GP	G	GPG
1.New Hampshire.....	34	115	3.38
2.Providence.....	34	105	3.09
3.Connecticut.....	34	89	2.62
4.Maine.....	32	79	2.47
5.Boston College.....	33	74	2.24
6.Northeastern.....	32	56	1.75

#### TEAM DEFENSE

Team	GP	GA	GAPG
1.New Hampshire.....	34	61	1.79
2.Connecticut.....	34	81	2.38
3.Maine.....	32	76	2.38
4.Providence.....	34	91	2.68
5.Boston College.....	33	110	3.33
6.Northeastern.....	32	132	4.12

#### POWER PLAY

Team	GP	PPG	Att	SHGA	Pct
1.Boston College.....	33	38	186	6	.204
2.Providence.....	34	40	212	2	.189
3.New Hampshire.....	34	40	215	2	.186
4.Connecticut.....	34	36	219	0	.164
5.Northeastern.....	32	21	181	12	.116
6.Maine.....	32	21	196	8	.107

#### PENALTY KILL

Team	GP	OPPG	Att	SHG	Pct
1.New Hampshire.....	34	18	202	3	.911
2.Providence.....	34	28	214	3	.869
3.Maine.....	32	27	188	3	.856
4.Connecticut.....	34	30	179	5	.832
5.Boston College.....	33	35	185	3	.811
6.Northeastern.....	32	44	218	1	.798