

Noah Smith
Director of Media Relations
Hockey East Association
 Phone: (781) 245-2122
 Cell: (617) 335-3709
 nsmith@HockeyEastOnline.com

WOMEN'S LEAGUE

PRESS RELEASE



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: MARCH 21, 2005

WEEKLY RELEASE #22

FIRST GOAL IS FINAL ONE FOR FRIARS

Providence overpowered by top seed Minnesota in NCAA Tournament

Hockey East's first-ever berth in the Women's NCAA Tournament began well enough with PC's Katelynn Laffin scoring the first goal of the game, a power-play marker, just 4:42 into the Friars' quarterfinal contest at top seed Minnesota.

Unfortunately, the joy was somewhat short-lived as the host Gophers took control of the game from that point on to post a 6-1 win and advance to next weekend's Frozen Four at UNH. Bobbi Ross and Kelly Stephens had two goals each for Minnesota, while Natalie Darwitz and Krissy Wendell were credited with three assists apiece. The Gophers let loose 39 shots-on-goal, overpowering PC goaltender Amy Thomas, who finished with 33 saves. The Friars were limited to just 14 shots-on-goal, including only three in both the second and third periods.

Providence was the only Eastern team that failed to advance as Harvard and Dartmouth held serve vs. Mercyhurst and Wisconsin, respectively, while St. Lawrence provided the big first-round upset, ousting No. 2 seed Minnesota-Duluth 3-2 in overtime. The Harvard-Mercyhurst game offered the most drama, however, as the Lakers posted a 3-1 first-period lead before Harvard stormed back to tie it. It was 4-4 at the end of regulation, with all four Crimson goals scored by Nicole Correiro. Harvard's 83rd shot of the game was the winner in the third overtime, as Correiro set up a goal by teammate Julie Chu.

Harvard will take on St. Lawrence in Friday's first semifinal at UNH. The second semifinal will feature defending champ Minnesota taking on Dartmouth. The Whittemore Center is hosting the NCAA Tournament for the second time in four years.

Overall Scoring Leaders (Final)

Player, School	CI	GP	G	A	Pts
1 Karen Thatcher, PC	Jr	32	25	33	58
2 Rush Zimmerman, PC	Sr	37	26	31	57
3 Nicole Hekle, UNH	So	35	19	33	52
4 Stephanie Jones, UNH	Sr	35	23	19	42
5 Sonny Watrous, PC	So	33	21	18	39

Overall Goaltending Leaders (Final)

Player, School	CI	GP	Min	W	L	T	SP	GAA
1 Melissa Bourdon, UNH	So	31	1747	18	6	4	.913	1.99
2 Kaitlyn Shain, CT	Jr	25	1482	12	8	4	.924	2.27
3 Rachel Gettings, ME	So	31	1864	14	15	2	.877	2.35
4 Amy Thomas, PC	Sr	35	2062	20	10	5	.896	2.53
5 Alison Quandt, BC	Jr	24	1392	8	13	3	.889	3.14

FINAL HOCKEY EAST STANDINGS

Team	GP	W	L	T	Pts	Overall	HE Offense	HE Defense
1. Providence	20	14	4	2	30	21-11-5	3.25 GPG	2.40 GAPG
New Hampshire	20	13	3	4	30	21-8-6	3.80 GPG	1.65 GAPG
3. Connecticut	20	11	5	4	26	16-12-8	2.75 GPG	2.15 GAPG
4. Boston College	20	6	11	3	15	10-20-4	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

HOCKEY EAST TOURNAMENT

Saturday, March 12

Semifinal Round at Boston University
 #1 Providence 9, #4 Boston College 1
 #3 Connecticut 5, #2 UNH 4 (OT)

Sunday, March 13

Championship Game at Boston University
 Providence 3, Connecticut 1

NCAA TOURNAMENT

Friday, March 18 – Quarterfinals

at Minnesota 6, Providence 1
 St. Lawrence 3, at Minnesota-Duluth 2 (OT)

Saturday, March 19 – Quarterfinals

Quarterfinal Round
 at Harvard 5, Mercyhurst 4 (3OT)
 at Dartmouth 4, Wisconsin 3

Friday, March 25 – Semifinals at UNH

St. Lawrence vs. Harvard (5pm - CSTV)
 Dartmouth vs. Minnesota (8pm - CSTV)

Sunday, March 27 – at UNH

Third-place game (12:30pm)
 Championship game (4pm - CSTV)

All times Eastern