

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: DECEMBER 7, 2005

ALL-STARS GEARING UP TO FACE TEAM USA *Hockey East's best will take on U.S. National Team on Sunday*

Final preparations are now being made for the first-ever Women's Hockey East "All-Star" game. The Hockey East All-Stars will take on the 2006 U.S. Women's National Team this coming Sunday, Dec. 11, at UNH's Whittemore Center, as part of Team USA's Hilton Family Skate to 2006 Tour. The tour is designed to pit Team USA against elite-level competition in preparation for the 2006 Winter Olympics.

The forward trio of Nicole Hekle (UNH), Karen Thatcher (Providence) and Jaclyn Hawkins (UConn) gives the Hockey East team instant scoring credibility – they combined for 69 goals and 80 assists last season. Forward line combinations will be one of the most interesting aspects of the game, as the best talents from different teams will get the opportunity to play together. Boston College's first line of Sarah Feldman, Deb Spillane and Becky Zavisza will likely remain together for the game, but the remaining lines will offer unique mixes.

UConn's Heather Linstad, the senior member of women's Hockey East coaching fraternity with 211 career victories, will act as head coach of the All-Star squad.

The 2006 U.S. National Team is loaded with America's best at every position, including former Northeastern All-American goaltender Chanda Gunn, and former UNH sniper Tricia Dunn. Dunn won the gold medal as a member of Team USA at the 1998 Olympics and was also on the silver-winning squad in 2002.

Face-off for the contest is slated for 2:00 p.m. Tickets are available at the Whittemore Center box office and at all Pure Hockey outlets. Comcast's CN8 will televise the game live throughout New England.

The Women's Hockey East Association is an eight-team, Division-I college hockey conference, with offices based in Wakefield, Mass. Charter members UNH, Northeastern and Providence combined to win 15 ECAC conference championships prior to the new league's inaugural season of 2002-03.



HILTON FAMILY SKATE TO 2006 TOUR

WOMEN'S HOCKEY EAST ALL-STARS vs. 2006 U.S. WOMEN'S NATIONAL TEAM

Sunday, December 11, 2005 at the Whittemore Center, University of New Hampshire
2:00 p.m. — Aired LIVE on Comcast's CN8

Women's Hockey East All-Star Team

No	Player, School	Class	Pos	Height	Hometown
1	Kaitlyn Shain, Connecticut	Sr	G	5-5	Calgary, AB
2	Martine Garland, New Hampshire	So	D	5-10	Toronto, ON
3	Abbey Kaknes, Vermont	Sr	F	5-4	St. Charles, IL
4	Amanda Shaw, Boston University	Fr	D	5-9	St. Thomas, ON
5	Jennifer Houlden, Connecticut (A)	Sr	D	5-4	Richmond Hill, ON
6	Becky Zavisza, Boston College	Fr	F	5-8	Suffield, CT
7	Sarah Feldman, Boston College	So	F	5-6	Fall River, MA
8	Sonny Watrous, Providence	Jr	F	5-8	Albuquerque, NM
9	Cara Hendry, Boston University	Jr	F	5-9	Calgary, AB
10	Amy Goodney, Northeastern	Jr	F	5-4	Marquette, MI
11	Nikki Petrich, Northeastern	So	F	5-10	Flint, MI
12	Kacey Bellamy, New Hampshire	Fr	D / F	5-7	Westfield, MA
14	Jaclyn Hawkins, Connecticut	So	F	5-7	Manotick, ON
15	Maggie Taverna, Boston College *	Fr	F / D	5-8	Howell, NJ
17	Nicole Hekle, New Hampshire (A)	Jr	F	5-9	Winnipeg, MB
18	Kristin Gigliotti, Providence *	Jr	D	5-6	Sauquoit, NY
20	Karen Thatcher, Providence (C)	Sr	F	5-7	Douglas, MA
21	Deb Spillane, Boston College	So	F	5-8	Franklin, MA
22	Natalie Vibert, Connecticut	Jr	D	5-4	Thunder Bay, ON
23	Angela Taylor, New Hampshire	Fr	F	5-11	Foxbar, Scotland
27	Jana Bugden, Providence	Jr	G	5-11	Corner Brook, NF
30	Marisa Hourihan, Northeastern	Sr	G	5-4	Hanover, MA
55	Kelly Law, Maine	Jr	D	5-8	Markham, ON

* Alternates

Women's Hockey East All-Star Team Staff

Head Coach: Heather Linstad (UConn)
 Assistant Coaches: Bob Deraney (Providence), Tom Mutch (BC) and Erin Whitten Hamlen (UNH)
 Captain: Karen Thatcher (Providence)
 Alternate Captains: Nicole Hekle (UNH) and Jennifer Houlden (UConn)
 Trainer: Christopher Lai (UNH)
 Student Trainers: Sarah Mahoney (UNH) and Nicole Robicheau (UNH)
 Equipment Manager: Sal Lombardi (Providence) and Phil Neri (UNH)
 Team Physician: Dr. Charles Blitze (UNH)
 Sports Information: Doug Poole (UNH)

Women's Hockey East Office Staff

Commissioner: Joe Bertagna
 Director of Marketing: Kathy Wynters
 Director of Media Relations: Noah Smith
 Supervisor of Officials: John Gallagher
 Office Administrator: Brenda Powers
 Web Services: Dan Parkhurst

