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WOMEN'S PRESS RELEASE

Pete Souris
Director of Public Relations
Hockey East Association
591 North Ave – #2
Wakefield, MA 01880
Office: (781) 245-2122
Cell: (603) 512-1166
psouris@HockeyEastOnline.com

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2010 WHEA CHAMPIONSHIP FIELD SET FOR MARCH 6-7 AT PC'S SCHNEIDER ARENA ~No. 1 seed PC faces off with No. 5 UConn Saturday; No. 2 UNH meets No. 3 BU~

WAKEFIELD, Mass. -- The Women's Hockey East Association announced on Sunday the pairings for the upcoming eighth annual WHEA Tournament on Saturday, March 6 and Sunday, March 7 hosted at Schneider Arena on the campus of Providence College.

No. 1 seed and host Providence (15-10-9, 11-5-5-3 WHEA) will face No. 5 Connecticut (20-8-7, 10-5-6-1 WHEA) on Saturday afternoon (12pm) in the first WHEA semifinal, while No. 2 New Hampshire (19-7-5, 13-6-2-0 WHEA) will square off against No. 3 Boston University (15-8-12, 10-6-5-3 WHEA) in the second semifinal (3pm). UConn won the season series vs. PC (1-0-2), but the Friars won both shootouts in the series. BU and UNH were tied 1-1-1 in the three-game season series with the Terriers winning the one tie in shootout fashion.

UNH owns a 10-3 all-time record in the WHEA Tournament, while Providence owns a 9-4-0 record, they are the only two schools to qualify for all seven years of tournament action. BU owns a 1-2 record in WHEA Tournament action, while UConn is 1-5.

The Friars and Wildcats earned first round byes, as they finished in the top two spots in the league standings. The Friars clinched their third regular-season title in school history on Saturday, February 20 with a 5-2 victory at Vermont. UNH finished the regular-season in a three-way tie with Boston University and Northeastern, but won the head-to-head tiebreaker with the best record vs. the tied teams. UConn advanced to the semifinal round with a 4-1 win at Northeastern on Saturday in the WHEA quarterfinals, while BU earned a 3-1 win vs. BC on Sunday at Walter Brown Arena to advance in the WHEA playoffs.

The WHEA Championship Game will be played on Sunday, March 7 at 12:30 p.m. The game will be tape delayed on the New England Sports Network (NESN) at 6 p.m., following NESN's Boston Bruins hockey coverage. Both WHEA semifinals games will be broadcast live on the internet by B2 Networks at www.b2livetv.com. Games will be sold on an individual basis for \$8 (US). Fans can own a personal copy of each game by going to www.b2tv.com and downloading the event from B2onDemand for a price of just \$19.95 per game.

Providence College won the first three WHEA Tournament Championships (2003, 2004, 2005) and New Hampshire has won the last four league tournament titles (2006, 2007, 2008, 2009).

Tickets for the 2010 Women's Hockey East Championship are on sale now. Tickets may be purchased through the Providence College Athletic Ticket Office, by calling (401) 865-GOPC (4672) or by logging on to www.friars.com. Tickets prices are \$5 for adults and \$3 for seniors, youths and groups of 10 or more. Student from Hockey East schools are eligible for a complimentary ticket, with a valid student ID, at the box office on game day.

The Women's Hockey East Association is an eight-team, Division-I college hockey conference which began play in 2002-2003, with offices based in Wakefield, Mass. The league also sponsors an 10 team men's league which began play in 1984-1985.

2010 WHEA CHAMPIONSHIP SCHEDULE

Semifinals

Saturday, March 6 (at Schneider Arena, Providence, R.I.)
No. 5 Connecticut vs. No. 1 Providence College (12pm)
Live on B2 Networks (www.b2livetv.com)

No. 3 Boston University vs. No. 2 New Hampshire (3pm)
Live on B2 Networks (www.b2livetv.com)

Championship Game (12:30 pm)

Sunday, March 7 (at Schneider Arena, Providence, R.I.)
Tape Delay on NESN at 6pm