

PRESS RELEASE

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EIGHTH ANNUAL WHEA TOURNAMENT PAIRINGS SET ~No. 4 seed NU faces No. 5 UConn Saturday; No. 3 BU faces archrival No. 6 BC Sunday~

WAKEFIELD, Mass. - The Women's Hockey East Association announced on Sunday the pairings for the upcoming 2010 WHEA Tournament on Saturday, February 27 and Sunday, February 28 at campus sites for the one-game quarterfinal playoff.

No. 4 seed Northeastern University will host. No. 5 Connecticut on Saturday, Feb. 27 at 4pm at Matthews Arena in Boston, while No. 3 seed Boston University will host No. 6 Boston College on Sunday, Feb. 28 at 3 p.m. at Walter Brown Arena in Boston in the opening quarterfinal round. The advancing teams will then be reseeded for the semifinal round.

No. 1 seed Providence College and No. 2 seed University of New Hampshire have earned first-round byes and will compete the following weekend on March 6 in the WHEA semifinals, hosted by the Providence College Friars at Schneider Arena in Providence, R.I. The Friars will play the lowest remaining seed and UNH will play the highest remaining seed. Providence clinched the WHEA regular-season title outright with a 5-2 victory Saturday at Vermont. The games will be played at 12 p.m. and 3 p.m. in Providence and the advancing teams will play in the Hockey East Championship Game on Sunday at 12:30 p.m.

B2 Networks will stream four of the five tournament games live on the internet, excluding the Championship Game. The New England Sports Network (NESN) will air the WHEA Championship Game on Sunday, March 7 on tape delay at approximately 4 p.m.

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 PLAYOFF SCHEDULE

Quarterfinals

Saturday, February 27 (at Matthews Arena, Boston, Mass.) No. 5 UConn at No. 4 Northeastern (4pm) Live on B2 Networks

Sunday, February 28 (at Walter Brown Arena, Boston, Mass.) No. 6 Boston College at No. 3 Boston University (3pm) Live on B2 Networks

Semifinals

Saturday, March 6 (at Schneider Arena, Providence, R.I.) TBA vs. No. 1 Providence College (12/3pm) Live on B2 Networks

TBA vs. No. 2 New Hampshire (12/3pm) Live on B2 Networks

Finals

Sunday, March 7 (at Schneider Arena, Providence, R.I.) TBA (12:30pm) Tape Delay on NESN (4pm)

~WHEA~