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WOMEN'S PRESS RELEASE

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WHEA ANNOUNCES 2010 ALL-STARS TEAMS AT ANNUAL CHAMPIONSHIP BANQUET ~10 of 12 All-Stars will compete this weekend in WHEA Tournament at Providence~

WAKEFIELD, Mass. - The Women's Hockey East Association announced the league's All-Star teams on Friday night at the Providence Marriott Downtown at the annual WHEA Championship Awards Banquet, as voted on by the league's eight head coaches.

New Hampshire senior forward Kelly Paton (Woodstock, Ont.) and Northeastern sophomore goaltender Florence Schelling (Oberengstringen, Switzerland), the 2010 Pure Hockey Co-Players of the Year, headlined the group of First-Team All-Stars as unanimous selections, along with Connecticut senior defenseman Cristin Allen (Pickering, Ont.). UNH's Courtney Birchard (Mississauga, Ont.) and Micaela Long (South Boston, Mass.) also represented the Wildcats, at defense and forward, respectively. Rounding out the first team up front was Providence College sophomore Ashley Cottrell (Sterling Heights, Mich.).

Paton scored 32 points in league play and scored a career-high 51 points overall in her final season in Durham. Schelling was crowned the Bauer Goaltending Champion with a 1.50 GAA and a .946 save percentage. Long was the league's Scoring Champion with 34 points in league play for the Wildcats. Cottrell ranked third in league play in scoring with 22 points for the Friars. Allen was named the inaugural recipient of the league's Best Defenseman Award with a league-high 16 points among blueliners. Birchard was the second leading defensive scorer in league play with 13 points, despite missing the final the four games of the regular-season due to injury.

Sophomore Genevieve Lacasse (Scarborough, Ont.) earned Second-Team honors for the second straight season for the Friars, along with teammates Amber Yung (Rockville, Va.) on defense and junior Jean O'Neill (Strafford, Pa.) at forward. Boston University's Tara Watchorn (Newcastle, Ont.) and Melissa Anderson also were voted for the first time in their Terriers career. Senior forward Allie Thunstrom (Maplewood, Minn.) from Boston College was also chosen for the second consecutive season as a Second-Team selection.

Lacasse's 11 league wins were most of any WHEA netminder and her 2.02 GAA was fifth best in the conference statistical leaderboard. Watchorn ranked fourth among defenders with 11 points, while Yung was tied for sixth with nine points in league games. Anderson was the fourth ranked scorer in the league this year with 21 points, while Thunstrom was right behind her with 20 points. O'Neill posted a career-high 19 points in her junior year, which ranked seventh among all conference skaters.

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 First-Team All-Stars

G: Florence Schelling, Northeastern * (So., Oberengstringen, Switzerland)

D: Cristin Allen, Connecticut * (Sr., Pickering, Ontario)

D: Courtney Birchard, New Hampshire (Jr., Mississauga, Ontario)

F: Micaela Long, New Hampshire (Sr., South Boston, Mass.)

F: Ashley Cottrell, Providence College (So., Sterling Heights, Mich.)

F: Kelly Paton, New Hampshire * (Sr., Woodstock, Ontario)

2010 WHEA Second-Team All-Stars

G: Genevieve Lacasse, Providence College (So., Scarborough, Ontario)

D: Tara Watchorn, Boston University (So., Newcastle, Ontario)

D: Amber Yung, Providence College (Jr., Rockville, Va.)

F: Melissa Anderson, Boston University (Sr., Langley, B.C.)

F: Jean O'Neill, Providence College (Jr., Strafford, Pa.)

F: Allie Thunstrom, Boston College (Sr., Maplewood, Minn.)

2010 WHEA Honorable Mention All-Stars

G: Alexandra Garcia, Connecticut (So., Point-Claire, Quebec)

D: Kasey Boucher, Boston University (So., Lewiston, Maine)

D: Jody Sydor, Connecticut (Jr., St. Albert, Alberta)

F: Kristina Lavoie, New Hampshire (Fr., Fonthill, Ontario)

F: Alyse Ruff, Providence College (Jr., Taulatin, Ore.)

F: Monique Weber, Connecticut (So., Rogers, Minn.)

* unanimous selections