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WOMEN'S PRESS RELEASE

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BOSTON UNIVERSITY AND NEW HAMPSHIRE HEAD TO NCAA TOURNAMENT ~League sends two teams to NCAA's for second time in eight-year history~

WAKEFIELD, Mass. -- The NCAA Division I Women's Ice Hockey Committee announced on Sunday night via a live online announcement that WHEA Tournament Champion Boston University and New Hampshire have qualified for the NCAA Tournament.

BU will face the No. 1 overall seed and CHA Tournament Champion Mercyhurst on Saturday, March 13 at 2pm in Erie, Pa. at the Mercyhurst Ice Center. The two teams split a two-game series in 2008-09 at Walter Brown Arena with BU winning the second game, a 3-2 victory on October 11 in Boston. The Terriers earned their first trip to the NCAA Tournament in school history after they came out victorious in overtime against Connecticut on Sunday afternoon at PC's Schneider Arena in the WHEA Tournament Championship Game, as Hockey East's automatic qualifier. Sophomore defenseman Tara Watchorn (Newcastle, Ont.) scored 9:52 into the extra frame to help the Terriers their first WHEA Tournament Championship in school history. BU senior goalie Melissa Haber (Toronto, Ont.) was named the tournament's Most Valuable Player with a 3-0-0 record and a 0.63 GAA and a .967 save percentage in three tournament games.

The University of New Hampshire will travel to play the University of Minnesota-Duluth in a NCAA quarterfinal game to be played March 13 (3 p.m. Eastern) at the Duluth Entertainment Convention Center (DECC). UNH (19-8-5), which finished second in the Hockey East regular-season standings and lost in the semifinals of the league tournament, received one of five at-large invitations to the 2010 NCAA Women's Ice Hockey Championship. The Wildcats are making their fifth consecutive appearance in the NCAA tourney. This will mark the third consecutive year that UNH and UMD face off in NCAA postseason play; the Bulldogs won the previous two meetings.

The quarterfinal winners advance to the Women's Frozen Four, which will be held March 19 & 21 at the University of Minnesota's Ridder Arena. The championship game will be played live at noon Central time, Sunday, March 21, on CBS College Sports Network.

For more information regarding the National Collegiate Women's Ice Hockey Championship, log on to www.NCAA.com.

~WHEA~