



# HISTORY IN HEADLINES

**July 11, 1983** - The Athletics Directors of five ECAC schools — Bill Flynn of BC, John Simpson of BU, Andy Mooradian of UNH, Joe Zabilski of Northeastern and Lou Lamoriello of Providence College — agree to form a new college hockey conference, to begin play in 1984-85. The league is officially founded exactly one month later.

**August 23, 1983** - The University of Maine is admitted as the 6th member of Hockey East.

**September 28, 1983** - The University of Lowell is admitted as the 7th member of Hockey East.

**October 21, 1983** - Lou Lamoriello is named the first Hockey East Commissioner.

**January 18, 1984** - Formal presentation of the Hockey East name and logo is made at a press conference at the Parker House in Boston.

**August 29, 1984** - Hockey East enters into a three-year agreement with the NESN and WSBK-TV in Boston. The television contract, a first for college hockey, includes coverage of nearly 30 regular season games per season.

**October 12, 1984** - The inaugural season of Hockey East starts with four inter-league crossover games vs. WCHA teams.

**March 16, 1985** - The Providence Civic Center hosts the first Hockey East Championships. Providence College defeats Boston College, 2-1 in double overtime, to take the first Hockey East Championship title. Providence junior goaltender Chris Terreri is named Hockey East Tournament MVP after backstopping the Friars to the Hockey East title with a 65-save performance in the championship game. Two weeks later, the Friars take three overtimes to beat BC again in the NCAA semifinals. Although Providence yielded to Rensselaer, 2-1, in the title game, Terreri is selected Most Outstanding Player.

**March 15, 1986** - Boston University wins its first Hockey East championship with a 9-4 win over Beanpot rival Boston College. MVP Peter Marshall remains the only player to ever score a hat trick in the Hockey East title game.

**June 21, 1986** - History is put into motion with the drafting of four Hockey East players in the first round of the NHL Entry Draft. Incoming BC freshman Brian Leetch is the first Hockey East selection, going ninth overall to the New York Rangers, a team he leads to the Stanley Cup championship in 1994. Scott Young (BU), Craig Janney (BC) and Tom Fitzgerald are the other first round picks - each enjoys a successful NHL career.

**July 1, 1987** - Dennis Hanks is promoted from Director of Communications to temporary Executive Director of Hockey East, succeeding Commissioner Lou Lamoriello, who accepted a position with the NHL's New Jersey Devils.

**March 7, 1988** - The Executive Committee unanimously christens the league championship trophy "The Lamoriello Cup" to honor the league's first commissioner. A permanent legacy trophy in his name is commissioned 10 years later.

**June 20, 1988** - Stu Haskell, Commissioner of the North Atlantic Conference and former Athletics Director at the University of Maine, is named commissioner of Hockey East.

**January 30, 1989** - Merrimack College is announced as the 8th member of Hockey East and begins league competition the following season.

**February 28, 1989** - BC head coach Len Ceglarski becomes the first coach in college hockey history to reach the 600-win plateau with a 3-1 win at Boston University.

**March 30, 1990** - Hockey East again sends two teams (BC and BU) to the NCAA Frozen Four.

**January 17, 1991** - The Athletics Directors vote to name the conference tournament MVP trophy after William Flynn, the outgoing BC Athletics Director. They also vote to name the Coach of the Year Award in memory of Bob Kullen, former head hockey coach at the University of New Hampshire who passed away earlier in the season at age 41 after a long illness.

**February 25, 1991** - Boston College claims its third consecutive regular season championship, its sixth in the seven-year history of Hockey East.

**March 31, 1991** - David Emma of Boston College receives the 1991 Hobey Baker Award, becoming the first Hockey East player to claim it.

**April 2, 1992** - Hockey East boasts seven All-America picks. One day later, Maine's Scott Pellerin becomes Hockey East's second consecutive Hobey Baker Award winner.

**March 11, 1993** - Maine freshman Paul Kariya is named Hockey East's Player of the Year and Rookie of the Year, matching Brian Leetch's feat following the 1986-87 season. He soon becomes the third consecutive Hockey East player to win the Hobey Baker Award, and remains the only freshman ever designated for the honor.

**March 23, 1993** - The University of Massachusetts is announced as the ninth member of Hockey East and begin competing in league play in 1994-95.

**April 3, 1993** - Trailing 4-2 vs. defending NCAA champion Lake Superior State in the 1993 title game, the University of Maine gets three goals in the third period from senior captain Jim Montgomery to claim Hockey East's first NCAA championship. The team also sets a new NCAA record by finishing with a 42-1-2 record. Montgomery is an obvious pick as Most Outstanding Player.

**September 30, 1993** - Robert M. DeGregorio, Jr., is named acting commissioner of Hockey East and serves in that capacity for four seasons.

**March 2, 1994** - After 10 seasons of play, Hockey East announces its first All-Decade Team. Forwards are John Cullen (BU), David Emma (BC), Craig Janney (BC), Paul Kariya (Maine), Jim Montgomery (Maine) and Scott Pellerin (Maine). Defensemen are Brian Leetch (BC), Rob Gaudreau (PC), Peter Ahola (BU) and Greg Brown (BC). The goaltenders are Chris Terreri (PC) and Bruce Racine (NU).

**March 15, 1994** - For the first time ever, four Hockey East teams are selected for the NCAA Tournament — Boston University, UMass Lowell, New Hampshire and Northeastern.

**April 1, 1995** - Boston University and Maine face off for the NCAA Championship in the first title game between two Hockey East schools. BU defeats Maine, 6-2, thanks in part to two goals from Most Outstanding Player, Chris O'Sullivan.

**November 3, 1995** - Northeastern University reopens the newly-renovated Boston Arena, the oldest ice hockey arena in the world, rededicated as Matthews Arena.

**November 10, 1995** - New Hampshire opens up its new athletic facility and rink, Towse Rink at the Whittemore Center, with a 6-5 overtime win over top-ranked Boston University.

**November 21, 1995** - BU Head Coach Jack Parker notches his 500th career win in a 7-1 home win over Cornell. Parker becomes the ninth coach in the history of college hockey to reach the 500-victory milestone.

**November 30, 1996** - Boston College head coach Jerry York notches his 500th career win in a 6-4 victory at St. Lawrence.

**July 1, 1997** - Joe Bertagna officially takes over as the fourth commissioner in Hockey East history. After a lengthy career with the ECAC, Bertagna becomes the league's first full-time commissioner.

**November 17, 1998** - HockeyEastOnline.com, the official league web site, is launched.

**January 24, 1998** - BC freshman goaltender Scott Clemmensen breaks a 44-year old NCAA record, playing 254:23 without allowing a goal.

**January 27, 1998** - UMass Lowell christens the new Tsongas Arena.

**March 29, 1998** - Hockey East dominates the NCAA East Regional, with BC and UNH advancing to the Frozen Four in Boston. All six players named to the East Regional All-Tournament team are from Hockey East.



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**April 3, 1998** - Boston University captain Chris Drury captures the Hobey Baker award, marking the fourth time a Hockey East player has been so honored in the decade of the '90's.

**August 10, 1998** - Hockey East honors one of its own, renaming the team sportsmanship award the Charles E. Holt Team Sportsmanship Award in recognition of the legendary coach's lifetime achievements.

**March 19, 1999** - BC successfully defends its Hockey East title against UNH by a score of 5-4 in overtime, but the bigger story is the new attendance record set: 28,038 for the two-day event, up almost 10,000 from one year prior.

**April 6-8, 1999** - Hockey East enters three teams (BC, Maine, and UNH) in the NCAA Frozen Four, posting a 6-0 record against non-conference opponents along the way. Jason Krog of UNH wins the Hobey Baker Award, Hockey East's second in as many seasons and fifth of the '90's, but Maine captures the national title once again, taking a 3-2 OT decision from the Wildcats.

**April 8, 1999** - Hockey East announces the largest corporate partnership in the history of college hockey as Bauer/Nike is named the "Official Equipment Supplier of Hockey East".

**October 5, 1999** - Hockey East names the All-Decade Team of the 1990s. Included on the team are the five Hobey Baker winners - Chris Drury (BU), David Emma (BC), Paul Kariya (Maine), Jason Krog (UNH), and Scott Pellerin (Maine).

**April 7, 2000** - Two Hockey East players collect the sport's highest individual honors. Boston College's Mike Mottau is named the third consecutive Hockey East Hobey Baker Award winner while Maine's Jim Leger receives the Hockey Humanitarian Award as college hockey's top citizen.

**June 26, 2000** - BU's Rick DiPietro becomes the first goalie ever selected first overall in the NHL Entry Draft when the New York Islanders choose him as their goalie of the future. UMass Lowell's Ron Hainsey, along with BC's Brooks Orpik and Krys Kolanos, are also identified as elite prospects and are selected in the first round as well.

**January 27, 2001** - Hobey Baker hopeful Brian Gionta of Boston College scores five goals on five shots in the first period of a 7-2 win over Maine.

**March 15, 2001** - Gionta becomes the first player ever to be named a Hockey East All-Star for four straight seasons. He finishes his career as the all-time leading goal-scorer in Hockey East play with 83 goals in 96 games.

**April 7, 2001** - BC sophomore Krys Kolanos beats North Dakota goaltender Karl Goehring at 4:43 of overtime to clinch a long-awaited NCAA championship for the Eagles. Rookie Chuck Kobasew is named the Tournament's Most Outstanding Player, three weeks after being selected MVP of the Hockey East Tournament.

**August 11, 2001** - Seven former Hockey East players are among the 15 pre-selected to represent Team USA's silver-medal winning entry at the 2002 Winter Olympics.

**September 24, 2001** - Hockey East loses one of its most prominent icons when Maine head coach Shawn Walsh passes away at age 46 following a lengthy battle against cancer.

**September 28, 2001** - The launch of a women's Hockey East league is announced with play scheduled to begin in 2002-03.

**December 13, 2001** - 10,053 fans witness Colin Hemingway's six-point performance as UNH defeats Dartmouth, 6-3, in the first college hockey game at the new Verizon Wireless Arena in Manchester, NH.

**March 16, 2002** - A record crowd of 17,122 watches the UNH Wildcats win their first-ever Hockey East tournament title with a 3-1 win over arch-rival Maine.

**April 12, 2002** - Maine head coach Tim Whitehead becomes the fourth different Hockey East coach in eight seasons to be acknowledged with the Spencer Penrose Award as the top college bench boss in the nation. He steered a team devastated by the death of former head coach Shawn Walsh all the way to the NCAA title game.

**March 14, 2003** - A capacity crowd of 17,565 is treated to a night of spectacular hockey in the Hockey East semifinals at the FleetCenter. In the first game, UNH edges UMass, 5-4, in the first-ever semifinal appearance for the Minutemen. In the nightcap, an immediate classic, Boston University outlasts Boston College, 6-5 in double overtime.

**September 30, 2003** - Hockey East opens its 20th anniversary season by announcing a new partnership with the New England Sports Network. The 2003-04 broadcast schedule includes regular season telecasts from eight of the nine Hockey East arenas, as well as live coverage of both the men's and women's championship games.

**January 8, 2004** - The University of Vermont is admitted as the 10th member of Hockey East. The Catamounts are scheduled to begin league play in 2005-06.

**March 20, 2004** - Maine goaltender Jimmy Howard is named Hockey East Tournament MVP after stopping 63 of 64 shots in a 2-1 triple overtime championship game win over UMass. Maine advances all the way to the NCAA title game, giving Hockey East a run of eight straight appearances in the culminating contest of the college hockey season. Howard sets new single season NCAA records for GAA (1.19) and save percentage (.956).

**January 3, 2005** - Boston University opens the state-of-the-art Harry Agganis Arena with a 2-1 win over top-ranked Minnesota.

**March 18-19, 2005** - The first-ever championship tournament sellout is achieved as 35,130 file into the FleetCenter for the two-day event.

**January 12, 2007** - NESN launches "Friday Night Ice," the crown jewel in a television schedule that boasts more than 70 league games.

**March 18, 2007** - Hockey East receives a record five invitations to the 16-team NCAA field.

**March 22, 2008** - The Eagles down Vermont 4-0 in the 24th annual Championship. The Catamounts make their first HEA title game appearance in school history.

**April 12, 2008** - Boston College defeats CCHA foe Notre Dame, 4-1 at the Pepsi Center in Denver, Colorado for its third National Championship in school history. Junior Nathan Gerbe is named Most Outstanding Player of the Tournament with eights points (5g,3a) in two Frozen Four contests.

**March 20-21, 2009** - NJ Devils President Lou Lamoriello presents BU the Lamoriello Trophy as the 25th tournament champion. 17 Hockey East alumni of the Top 50 all-time HEA players return for the championship weekend festivities.

**April 10, 2009** - BU blueliner Matt Gilroy returns Hockey East to the Hobey Baker podium, becoming the league's 7th player to be honored as the nation's best.

**April 11, 2009** - Boston University wins its fifth national title in school history with an amazing comeback against Miami. The Terriers score two extra attacker goals in the final minute of the game and Terrier Colby Cohen wins it in overtime.

**January 8, 2010** - Boston University defeats Boston College, 3-2, in front of 38,472 freezing fans at historic Fenway Park.

**October 5, 2011** - Notre Dame is announced as the 11th member of Hockey East.

**January 7, 2012** - Another sellout crowd for Frozen Fenway witnesses two overtime thrillers: Massachusetts defeating Vermont, 3-2, and Maine beating New Hampshire, 5-4.





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**June 21, 2012** - The league officially accepts Connecticut as the 12th member school.

**March 23, 2013** - UMass Lowell shuts out Boston University, 1-0, at the TD Garden for its first Hockey East Tournament Championship in school history.

**January 4-11, 2014** - Eight member schools participate in the third edition of Frozen Fenway, attracting 57,149 fans for two doubleheaders.

**March 21-22, 2014** - UMass Lowell goalie Connor Hellebuyck completes back-to-back shutouts of Notre Dame and UNH at TD Garden to lead UML to their second-straight league title.

**April 11, 2014** - BC's Johnny Gaudreau becomes the 8th Hockey East player to claim the Hobey Baker Award, following a brilliant junior season in which he tied Paul Kariya's record 31-game point streak, notching 29 goals and 32 assists in the span.

**October 18, 2015** - UConn is welcomed into the Hockey East family, playing its first league game at Merrimack, a 2-1 overtime loss. The Huskies would collect their first league win on Nov. 5 against No. 5 Boston College, 1-0, in their first home game.

**March 6, 2015** - No. 12 UMass and No. 5 Notre Dame play the longest college hockey game in history, as Shane Walsh's fifth-overtime goal lifted the Minutemen over the Irish after 151:42 of play. Notre Dame goaltender Cal Petersen set an NCAA record in this game with 87 saves in a 4-3 loss.

**March 25, 2015** - Boston University captures the eighth Hockey East Tournament title in program history, toppling UMass Lowell, 5-3, at TD Garden.

**April 10, 2015** - Hockey East boasts its second consecutive Hobey Baker Award winner as BU's Jack Eichel becomes just the second freshman to capture the trophy. Eichel led the nation in point scoring as a rookie.

**April 11, 2015** - Providence College wins the first NCAA national title in school history, 4-3, over Boston University at TD Garden. Goaltender Jon Gillies is named Most Outstanding Player of the Frozen Four.

**September 21, 2015** - Hockey East announces a two-year partnership with American Sports Network, leading to a record 105 Hockey East games finding a home on television in 2015-16.

**January 22, 2016** - Boston College head coach Jerry York wins his 1000th career game with an 8-0 decision over UMass.

**March 18, 2016** - UMass Lowell defeats Providence, 2-1, in triple overtime of the Hockey East semifinals, ending the ninth-longest college hockey game in history.

**March 19, 2016** - Northeastern wins its second Hockey East tournament title in school history, and its first since 1988.

**March 20, 2016** - Six Hockey East teams are selected to the NCAA tournament, tying the highest total from a single league in NCAA history. With those six selections, Hockey East has now had 105 teams chosen to the NCAA Tournament field, more than any other conference since Hockey East's inception in 1984.

**January 7 & 15, 2017** - In frigid temperatures and snow storms, the fourth edition of Frozen Fenway provides men's and women's teams an unforgettable experience in America's Most Friendly Ballpark.

**February 25, 2017** - For the first time in league history, Hockey East crowns tri-champions as UMass Lowell, Boston University, and Boston College each earning 29 points in conference play.

**March 16, 2017** - Hockey East announces the Hockey East All-Tournament Team will be now known as the Steve Nazro All-Tournament Team, named after the long-time TD Garden VP of Special Events.

**March 18, 2017** - UMass Lowell claims its third Lamoriello Trophy as Hockey East Tournament Champions in its fifth straight trip to the title game.

**January 1, 2018** - Fifteen players with ties to Hockey East are named to national teams in the 2018 Olympic Winter Games, including Boston University junior Jordan Greenway, who became the first black player named to a U.S. Olympic Ice Hockey roster.

**February 10, 2019** - Legendary New Hampshire head coach Dick Umile is presented with the Hockey East Founders Medal.

**March 17, 2018** - Boston University captures its ninth Hockey East Tournament title, 2-0, over Providence.

**April 6, 2018** - Northeastern's Adam Gaudette becomes the first Husky to win the Hobey Baker Memorial Award, the ninth player from Hockey East to be honored as the nation's top player.

**September 10, 2018** - Hockey East begins celebration of its 35th season on the ice, including unveiling a new logo.

**March 22, 2019** - Boston College tops UMass, 3-0, in the Hockey East semifinals to become the first-ever seven seed to advance to the title game at TD Garden. In between semifinal games, Boston College's Tom Peters and UMass Lowell's Dana Skinner are presented with the Hockey East Founders Medal.

**March 23, 2019** - Northeastern wins its third Lamoriello Trophy and second in four years as goaltender Cayden Primeau stopped 141 shots, including 38 saves in the title game.

**April 1, 2019** - UMass and Providence advance to the NCAA Frozen Four, the 14th time that two Hockey East programs moved onto college hockey's final weekend in the league's 35-year history.

**April 9, 2019** - UMass's Greg Cravel is named AHCA Coach of the Year.

**April 12, 2019** - Hockey East sweeps the major individual awards as Boston University's Joel Farabee, Northeastern's Cayden Primeau, and UMass's Cale Makar win the Tim Taylor Award, Mike Richter Award, and Hobey Baker Award, respectively.

**April 13, 2019** - UMass appears in the national title game for the first time in program history, falling to UMD, 3-0.

**June 24, 2019** - Hockey East sets a record with 27 players selected in the NHL Draft, including four in the first round.

**July 22, 2019** - Hockey East Commissioner Joe Bertagna and the Hockey East Athletic Directors announce that 2019-20 will be Bertagna's 23rd and final season as commissioner of the league.

**September 26, 2019** - Hockey East announces its most comprehensive television package ever, placing nearly 100 games on NESN and aggregating its digital offerings in one place for the first time, partnering with CBS All Access.

**February 17, 2020** - Steve Metcalf is announced as the fifth commissioner in league history.

**February 27, 2020** - Tim Benedetto, Dick DeCaprio, John Gravallese, and Kathy Wynters are named recipients of the Hockey East Founders Medal. Wynters is the first woman and the three men are the first officials to receive the league's highest honor.

**March 6, 2020** - Kathy Wynters announced that she is stepping down from Hockey East. Wynters began her tenure with the conference in 1983 and was the longest-serving staffer in conference history.

**March 12, 2020** - Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the Hockey East Tournament is canceled for the first time in history. The NCAA Tournament is canceled shortly after.

**November 11, 2020** - Hockey East announces a plan to play league-only games in 2020-21 during the COVID-19 pandemic.

**March 20, 2021** - UMass wins its first Hockey East Tournament crown in program history. The game is played on campus in front of zero fans due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

**April 10, 2021** - UMass wins its first NCAA National Championship, Hockey East's 10th crown in league history.

