



# PRESS RELEASE

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## **Michael Hrabal Named Hockey East Player of the Year**

*McQueen Tabbed Top Rookie, Leaman Voted Coach of the Year*

**AMESBURY, Mass.** - The Hockey East Association announced today that Massachusetts junior goaltender **Michael Hrabal** (Prague, Czechia) has been awarded the honor of 2025-26 Hockey East Player of the Year.

Alongside Hrabal, Providence freshman forward **Roger McQueen** (Saskatoon, Sask.) was named Pro Ambitions Rookie of the Year while Friars Head Coach **Nate Leaman** was voted Coach of the Year by his peers for the second time (2015-16).

All three awards were selected by the league's 11 head coaches.

**Hrabal** becomes the third Minuteman to be named Hockey East Player of the Year, all during **Greg Carvel's** tenure, and the Prague, Czechia native is the first European-born player to claim the league's highest individual honor. Among goalies who have played in 15 games or more since January 10, Hrabal leads the NCAA in wins (13), goals against (22), shutouts (4), goals against average (1.37), and save percentage (.958), and is fifth in saves (502). In 18 Hockey East games, Hrabal posted a .952 save percentage, the second-best mark in league history, and a 1.55 goals against average, the fourth-best season-long number since Hockey East was founded. He led all Hockey East netminders in both categories, as well as with four shutouts, and was second with 12 wins. His 554 saves were fourth in conference play. Nationally, his four overall shutouts are the second-most of any goalie, his .935 overall save percentage is third and his 18 wins is the fifth-highest total. He has been named the National Goaltender of the Month in both January and February while collecting Hockey East Player of the Month in January and Goaltender of the Month in February. He was unanimously selected to the All-Hockey East First Team and as Goaltender of the Year, the first Minuteman to be so honored.

**McQueen** is the fourth Friar to be named Pro Ambitions Rookie of the Year and the first since **Jon Gillies** in 2012-13. Other Providence honorees include **Craig Darby** (1990-91) and **Rob Gaudreau** (1988-89). McQueen put more pucks on net in Hockey East play than any other rookie, firing 74 shots on goal in 24 league games. His two game-winning goals were tied for the most of any first-year Hockey East player. He ranks eighth nationally among rookies with 313 faceoff wins. In 24 Hockey East games, the freshman, who was drafted 10th overall by the Anaheim Ducks in the 2025 NHL Entry Draft, scored nine goals and added nine assists for 18 points and had a plus-10 rating.

**Leaman** collects his second Bob Kullen Award as Hockey East Coach of the Year after guiding Providence to the most wins in league play in program history (18) and the Friars' first-ever No. 1 seed in the Hockey East Tournament. Under Leaman's guidance, Providence scored the most goals in Hockey East games (86) while also allowing the fewest against (46). Their shooting percentage was the second-best in league play, converting at 11.1%, while allowing the second-fewest shots against (619) and winning the second-most faceoffs (723) in conference action.

The Hockey East semifinals are set for 4:00pm and 7:00pm on Friday, March 20 at TD Garden in Boston, while the 41st championship game will be played Saturday, March 21 at 7:00pm. Championship tickets can be purchased at Ticketmaster.com.

### 2026 Hockey East Men's Tournament Schedule

Date	Match Up	Time	TV/Streaming
Wed., March 11	#6 Boston University def. #11 Vermont, 4-1		
Wed., March 11	#7 Northeastern def. #10 New Hampshire, 7-3		
Wed., March 11	#8 Merrimack def. #9 UMass Lowell, 5-3		
Fri., March 13	#4 Boston College def. #5 Maine, 5-0		
Sat., March 14	#3 UConn def. #6 Boston University, 5-3		
Sat., March 14	#2 Massachusetts def. #7 Northeastern, 4-1		
Sat., March 14	#8 Merrimack def. #1 Providence, 3-2 (OT)		
Fri., March 20	#2 Massachusetts vs. #8 Merrimack	4:00pm	NESN+ / ESPN+
Fri., March 20	#3 UConn vs. #4 Boston College	7:00pm	NESN+ / ESPN+
Sat., March 21	41st Hockey East Men's Championship	7:00pm	NESN / ESPN+

All games and times are tentative and subject to change.

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