

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: JANUARY 4, 2023

## Alexa Pongo Named Hockey East Player of the Month

*Luisa Welcke Tabbed as Top Rookie, Evans Best D, Philips Is Honored Goaltender*



### Hockey East Player of the Month

#### Alexa Pongo - Merrimack

Sophomore, Forward; Midhurst, Ontario

Alexa Pongo led all of Hockey East with five goals in five games in December, ending the month on a three-game goal scoring streak and helping her team to back-to-back wins to close out 2022. She scored her five tallies on just nine shots, converting at a 55% success rate. She scored one game-winning goal and netted two on the power play while also winning 51% of her faceoffs.

Dec.	Opponent	Result	G-A-P
2	at Providence	L, 2-4	2-0-2
3	at Providence	L, 1-4	0-0-0
7	DARTMOUTH	L, 1-2 (OT)	1-0-1
10	at Dartmouth	W, 4-3	1-0-1
31	at St. Anselm	W, 4-2	1-0-1
<b>Totals</b>		<b>2-3-0</b>	<b>5-0-5</b>

**Runner-up:** Alina Mueller, Northeastern



### Pro Ambitions

#### Rookie of the Month

#### Luisa Welcke - Maine

Forward; Heidelberg, Germany

Luisa Welcke led all Hockey East rookies with 1.50 points per game on two goals and one assist in December. She set up the game-winning goal in a 3-0 win at Boston University on Dec. 2 before scoring twice, including the game-winning strike, the next day in a 3-2 triumph.

Dec.	Opponent	Result	G-A-P
2	at Boston University	W, 3-0	0-1-1
3	at Boston University	W, 3-2	2-0-1
<b>Totals</b>		<b>2-0-0</b>	<b>2-1-1</b>

**Runner-up:** Megan Woodworth, UConn



### Army ROTC

#### Defender of the Month

#### Payten Evans - Merrimack

Freshman; Calgary, Alta.

No league defender had more points or assists than Payten Evans's four helpers in five games in December. Her three assists across her final two outings helped Merrimack to two wins to end the 2022 calendar year.

Dec.	Opponent	Result	G-A-P
2	at Providence	L, 2-4	0-1-1
3	at Providence	L, 1-4	0-0-0
7	DARTMOUTH	L, 1-2 (OT)	0-0-0
10	at Dartmouth	W, 4-3	0-1-1
31	at St. Anselm	W, 4-2	0-2-2
<b>Totals</b>		<b>2-3-0</b>	<b>0-4-4</b>

**Runner-up:** Claire Tyo, Providence



### Stop It Goaltending

#### Goaltender of the Month

#### Megan Warrenner - UConn

Sophomore; Stoney Creek, Ont.

Megan Warrenner was perfect in two starts in December, kicking out all 42 shots she faced to deliver a pair of shutout wins for UConn. She improved to 4-1-0 on the year. On Dec. 3, she stopped all 27 shots from New Hampshire in a 1-0 win and turned in a 15-save performance on Dec. 31 at Brown.

Dec.	Opponent	Result	Min	Svs	GA
3	at New Hampshire	W, 1-0	60:00	27	0
31	at Brown	W, 3-0	60:00	15	0
<b>Totals</b>		<b>2-0-0</b>	<b>120:00</b>	<b>42</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>0.00 GAA, 1.00 SV%</b>					

**Runner-up:** Sandra Abstreiter, Providence

