FEBRUARY 23, 2012

WOMEN'S HOCKEY

Another trophy for the Huskies' collection

Team clinches WHEA title; Schelling, Coyne recongized for season stats

By Madeline Sattler News Correspondent

For the first time in the university's history, the Huskies clinched the Women's Hockey East Association's (WHEA) regular season title Sunday afternoon at Matthews

The United State College Hockey Online No. 7 Huskies wrapped up the regular season with a 22-6-4 record.

"It's huge for us," head coach David Flint said. "Hopefully we're going to take that momentum. We've set a precedent and hopefully it's a thing for years to come.

Going into Sunday's game against the Providence College Friars, the Huskies trailed the Boston College Eagles by one point in the rankings. Northeastern needed a victory to take the No. 1 spot and win the Hockey East regular season title.

The game was a fight to the final seconds, but Northeastern prevailed and ended the season with a 2-1 vic-

After the game, Hockey East chairman Joe Bertanga presented the Hockey East trophy to the

"I think we worked really hard all season," junior forward Casey Pickett said. "I think we deserved everything we've gotten so far."

The Huskies snagged the Beanpot title less than two weeks ago. In the semifinal game against the Boston

Providence Northeastern

College Eagles was a battle and eventually the Huskies won in a

"It's huge for us ... we've set a precedent and hoppful it's a thing for years to come."

> - David Flint, head coach

"It was unreal and I honestly can't even describe it," Pickett said.

Senior goaltender Florence Schelling finished the season with a .950 save percentage and a 1.43 goals against average. She is tied for first in the nation for the best save percentage.

Schelling was awarded the Army ROTC Three Stars Award Monday, which is annually presented to the Hockey East player with the most cumulative games stars over the conference schedule. Schelling was named the No. 1 star in four games and was one of three stars in 12 games this season.



NEWS STAFF PHOTO/DAN PAGILAROLI

The women's hockey team clinched the Women's Hockey East Association's regular season title less than two weeks after winning Northeastern's 15th Beanpot. The team travels to Hyannis for post-season play March 3.

"From a coaching standpoint it's comforting knowing you have a solid goalie," Flint said.

Schelling's teammate Coyne finished in second for the Army ROTC Three Stars Award, and have been named two of the top 30 finalists for the Patty Kazmaier Award, awarded to the top player in Division I hock-

The Huskies are heading into the postseason with the No. 1 seed and their best regular season record in



-USA BOBSLED/PATRICK HENDRICK

NU alumnus Steve Langton (left) and Steven Holcomb placed first at the two-man bobsled World Championship Sunday in Lake Placid, N.Y. Their title was the first-ever for the US.

Alumnus slides into first place

By Sarah Moomaw

News Staff

Northeastern doesn't have a bobsled team. But as of Sunday, it has a world champion bobsledder.

Steve Langton, who graduated in 2005 with a Bachelor's degree in business management and entrepreneurship, and sled partner Steven Holcomb raised the first-place trophy for the two-man bobsled at the 2012 World Championship in Lake Placid, N.Y. with a time of 3:42.88.

'Obviously, I'm very happy with the way things turned out," Langton said. "Everything came together for us ... Steve [Holcomb] is a very talented pilot. We worked really hard on and off the track, and being our home track, I think it meant a little bit more. We really stepped up to the plate. It couldn't have gone any

The title is the first-ever for the United States. The American team's time was less than a second faster than that of Canadian silver medalists Lyndon Rush and Jesse Lumsden, 3:43.34.

As a student Langton was a member of the men's track team, competing in the 100-meter dash, 50-meter dash and the long jump. Upon graduation, he went to work for land-development company owned by his father, who played football at Northeastern.

Eighteen months later, he missed competing and wanted to return to sports. At 6-foot-2 and 220 pounds, Langton said returning to track would mean he'd be about 60 pounds bigger than the competition. After competing for the Huskies, he knew succeeding in track again at his size would prove to be a challenge, so he opted to find an alternative sport.
"I wasn't done competing. I was-

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MEN'S BASKETBALL

Hoops wins by 3 in OT

By Max Nagel

NEWS CORRESPONDENT

In his last regular-season home game, senior forward Kashief Edwards scored a career-high 22 points as the Huskies handed Colonial Athletic Association No. 2 George Mason University its third conference loss, 85-82, last night.

The team honored Edwards in a senior night ceremony before the

game.

"Having Kashief on the team has been a pleasure," head coach Bill Coen said. "He gives us a lot and tonight, he played a great game.'

Edwards has been a member of the men's basketball team for only one season after playing three years at Niagara University

The first half of the game was even for both teams. Points off turnovers (12), second-chance points (five) and steals (eight) were identical for both teams.

George Mason 82 Northeastern 85 (OT)

Mason's 12. George Mason led rebounding 17-13.

Huskies committed 13 turnovers to

But it was lackluster play from the Huskies that allowed the Patriots to get a halftime lead of seven points, 38-31.

"I think the reason for our poor first-half shooting wasn't that we couldn't make shots, but that George Mason's defense prevented us from scoring," Coen said. "They step onto the court ready to play. They have an amazing amount of energy and their defense was effective in stopping us."

George Mason's bench put up 18 points to Northeastern's six. Mason was playing physical defense – eight first half fouls – with an early full

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NEWS STAFF PHOTO/DAN PAGLIAROLI

Junior guard Joel Smith had 19 points last night. On Saturday (above), Smith had 20 points and was six-for-ten beyond the arc.

Back-to-back games challenge facilities staff

By Sarah Moomaw NEWS STAFF

Six hours separated Saturday's men's basketball tip off and the men's hockey puck drop at Matthews. In a race against the clock, the athletics facilities crew had to turn the hardwood floor into slick ice.

Athletics Facilities Supervisor Bill Smith and his crew of 32 only need 75 minutes to do so, setting a new record for a doubleheader turnover.

Waiting for the basketball game to end is the hardest part," Smith said. "Because if it goes into overtime then we're behind the eight-

The transformation requires breaking down risers, chairs, pulling up the hardwood floor, returning the glass atop the boards and smoothing

over the ice multiple times.

For a normal floor turnover Smith calls on 26 people – a mix of Northeastern students and other handymen. He boosts his crew on doubleheader days for efficiency.

After breaking down the risers and the chairs that create basketball's N-Zone, the crew goes to work in teams of four to reinstall the panes of glass, before they begin breaking down the floor.

Just how many pieces make up

"Oh, come on," Smith said.

After some quick math and help from his crew, they had a number. The hardwood floor consists of 15 rows of 15 rectangular sections. Between the hardwood and the ice are 513 rectangular insulation sheets plus 62 specially-cut sheets for around the curves. In all, not counting the risers and chairs, the crew has to remove 800 individual items to reveal the ice's surface.

Saturday's doubleheader marks the second and last of the season as both teams head into playoff tournaments at neutral sites in their con-

Athletic Facilities Coordinator Greg Shields has only been on the crew for two months, but said the changeover went smoothly and he enjoyed the craze of his first double-

"I thought it was pretty interesting," he said. "I'm sure they'll get old at some point, but right now it's pretty cool."

When the seasons end, the athletics facilities crew isn't off the hook. They are also responsible for floor turnovers and stage construction for concerts inside Matthews.

"[Doubleheaders are] more difficult, because with concerts you don't have to warry about the best

don't have to worry about the basketball court itself," said junior biochemistry major Curtis Šousa, who has been on the crew for two years.



The ice at Matthews Arena must be covered with 800 pieces of insulation before the hardwood floor can be laid. It took the crew only an hour and 15 minutes to turnover the floor Saturday.

Smith was quick to counter, pointing out the stage used for concerts requires 10 boards around the ice to be removed to make room, adding a challenge and lengthening the installation process.

"That's the toughest part," Smith said. "Putting the board back in."

With the Zambonis returning to their parking spots and puck drop just over an hour away, the crew took a few minutes to sit back and

take a breather before installing the nets for warm-ups.

"Honest to god, I do like doing doubleheaders," Smith said. "I love doubleheaders."

WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

Women's hoops tops JMU, wins second straight



Sophomore forward Jewel Tunstull had eight points in Sunday's win. The Huskies improved to 4-11 in conference play. Their regular season wraps up Wednesday at home against Hofstra University at 7 p.m.

By Justin Clear-Vekinis News Correspondent

The women's basketball team stunned the Colonial Athletic Association (CAA) No. 2 James Madison University by winning 61-50 Sunday at home.

Northeastern entered Sunday's game having lost the last 11 games against the Dukes, making the victory the first-ever for the pro-

The Huskies held JMU to a mere 50 points, the lowest of any

opponent all season.
"We work hard, we play hard, we work hard, we play hard, we compete," head coach Daynia LaForce-Mann said. "If we continue to do that, we can win any basketball game."

Junior guard Deanna Kerkhof—

who was named CAA player of the week – led all scorers with 23 points, followed by senior guard Jamie Conroy with 12.

The Huskies kept all JMU players to single-digit points for their lowest point total all season. Guards sophomore Kirby Burkholder and junior Tarik Hislop were the high scorers with eight points each

eight points each.

JMU picked up 52 rebounds compared to the Huskies' 47. However, Northeastern forced 14 turnovers leading to 17 points for the Huskies.

"What was huge for us was rebounding," LaForce-Mann said.
"[JMU] is a very good rebounding team and to only be down on rebounding by five is pretty

Sophomore forward Christine Huber was responsible for 13 of the Huskies' rebounds, with Kerkhof and Conroy each adding

The game was close in the first half, with the lead changing hands nine times until the Huskies had a two-point advantage, 23-21, going into the half.

James Madison Northeastern

The second half was a different story as Northeastern stayed ahead for the entire 20 minutes, which started with a 9-0 run.

The Dukes responded with a 7-2 run of their own to close the gap, but the Huskies matched every response from the Dukes point-for-point, if not shooting for

Twice in the second half, Northeastern extended its lead to 11, with the first time coming six minutes into the second half, and then once again at the finish.

Both teams ran into foul trouble in the second half, with three players from both team ending the game with four fouls each.

JMU fouled 23 times, which helped the Huskies as they knocked down 80 percent of their 25 free throws in comparison to the Dukes' 47 percent from the

"We are used to people trying to beat us up," LaForce-Mann

said. "Teams feel that with physicality they can beat us, and I think the games against Georgia State and George Mason prepared us for the physicality of this game." Similar to the blowout of

Georgia State last Thursday, the Dukes' last shot of the game was an air-ball, a trend that is helping Northeastern.

The Dukes came into Sunday's game with a 20-5 record, sitting second in the CAA and on a fivegame win streak.
"We kind of felt a little disre-

spected by James Madison," LaForce-Mann said. "They didn't look like they were ready to play us and I told my team that they need to respect us and how hard we work."

The Dukes left with their first road loss in their last seven road

Northeastern won two straight games for the first time this season, with only three regular season game left the Huskies look to

keep the momentum up.

"Three more," Huber said. "We're trying to go 5-0 for our last games so we can get a nice sweet

entry into the tournament."

Northeastern travels first to Norfolk, Va., to take on the Lady Monarchs of Old Dominion University. The Lady Monarchs hold a 6-9 in the CAA (9-18 overall) and are currently in ninth, one spot above the Huskies on the

MEN'S BASKETBALL

Lone senior leads team in points

MEN'S BASKETBALL, from page 16

court press that constricted Northeastern from putting up points. The Patriots shot 52 percent (13-25) from the field while the Huskies hit to just 42 percent (10-

Coming out of the locker room for the second half, the Huskies put together some offense and gained their first lead of the game with an Edwards layup, 54-53, with 9:59 left on the clock.

Northeastern went 22-42 (67 percent) from the field and 5-11 (67 percent) from three-point range in the second half. Twenty-eight rebounds allowed them to bring a win into reach and to a tie at the final buzzer, 75-75. Edwards had the game-tying dunk with 0:29 remaining in the

"We were able to play a steady offense and get points slowly," Coen said. "We started to make rebounds. I believe that rebounds win games. Saturday, we didn't rebound, tonight we did. We won tonight."

Junior guard Jonathan Lee led the Huskies in shooting 18-for-20 from the free throw line, scoring a careerhigh 27 points.

Junior guard Joel Smith had five three-pointers, placing him higher on Northeastern's all-time threepoint scorers list ahead of Lamont Hough (1989-93, 151) with 154 threepointers, ending the game with 19 points and with eight rebounds.

"I wanted to go out with a bang in my last game," Edwards said. "The

fans helped us out ... it was great." The five-minute overtime period let Northeastern put up a quick 10 points the Patriots could not match.

The Huskies return to CAA play with their final regular season game Saturday at noon at the University of Delaware. The Blue Hens are 15-12 on the year and 10-6 in CAA con-

Northeastern will conclude its season when they travel to Richmond, Va., March 2-5 for the CAA tournament.

"I think those will be great games. If tonight is any implication of how we will play against teams in our conference, I think we can do well," Coen said. "These games are never easy. Conference play is always close."

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Your champion hockey team

The women's hockey team deserves your attention.

It's not the 22-6-4 overall record, the ranking as the seventh-best team in the nation, or the sheer fact that classmates should support one

What's impressive, in my humble opinion, are the numbers behind the players' success, and the talent with which they've done it.

Nine freshmen made the roster out of camp, and 15 underclassmen make up the slight majority of the 24-woman roster. If anything, inexperience at the collegiate level should have weighed this team down in a demanding, fast-paced Hockey East.



Mac Minute

Andy MacDougall

Instead, this team has thrived on the ice. A season after playing to a 16-13-8 overall record (6-10-5 Hockey East), and falling just short of the school's first Hockey East Championship in a 3-1 loss to Boston College, the Huskies are tearing through their opponents this season and racking up hard-

their opponents this season and racking up naruware left and right.

Earlier this month, the team carried home Northeastern's 15th Beanpot trophy in style, as junior forward Casey Pickett's overtime gamewinning goal on Boston University's home ice sent the Terriers back towards Commonwealth Avenue empty handed.

This Sunday, less than two weeks after the Beanpot final, the Huskies clinched the program's first Hockey East regular season title, a 2-1 victory over Providence College on Alumni Day at Matthews Arena.

And what's worse is, for all the accomplishments this team has achieved this season, the talent on this team is what gets the least amount of recognition.

Freshmam forward Kendall Coyne is one of the best athletes on campus, if not the best, and could end up as the best women's hockey player in school history should she stay healthy over her next three years

er in school history should she stay healthy over her next three years with the team. But Coyne is an athlete that 95 percent of the student population couldn't pick out from a lineup, and that's a shame.

Only a freshman on this year's squad, Coyne leads the team in goals (26), is second in assists (19), and is first in points (45). She has taken nearly twice as many shots on net as the next best player on the team, and singlehandedly registers one of every five shots the Huskies made.

Coyne has put up gaudy numbers as a first-year, and by the end of the season, she could break into the top-10 single season scoring records for

Northeastern women's hockey – as a freshman.

Oh, and then there's the whole matter of being a 19-year-old on the US Women's National team, having notched four goals and two assists as the United States took home the gold medal at the 2011 International Ice Hockey Federation Championships in Zurich, Switzerland last spring, and helping the national team prepare for the 2014 Olympics in Sochi, Russia.

Not to be outdone by her teammate, senior netminder Florence Not to be outdone by her teammate, senior netminder Florence Schelling has been on the Switzerland National Team for the last five seasons. She was between the pipes for the Swiss in both Turin in 2006 and Vancouver in 2010, and has been to seven world championships. Her senior season has been an historic one, registering a 20-5-4 record with a solid 1.43 goals against average (3rd in the nation), a .950 save percentage (T-1st) and eight shutouts (1st). This week, Schelling was voted to the Hockey East All-Decade team.

Freshman forward Lucie Povova was a member of the Czech women's national team that swept the competition en route to an International Ice Hockey Federation (IIHF) Division II World Championship last April. Povova has scored seven goals and 13 assist for 20 points in her first season with Northeastern.

Then there is junior forward Casey Pickett, who more than doubled

Then there is junior forward Casey Pickett, who more than doubled her career point total with a line of 18-23-41 for the season. Pickett may

ner career point total with a line of 18-23-41 for the season. Pickett may not be a national team member, but has meant just as much to the success of the women's team as anyone else on the squad.

And these four are just a few of the accomplishments this team's players have gathered as a whole. National championships, U-18 titles, national team camp invites, you name it, this roster has two or three players who have done it.

The players who have done it.

There's nothing I can really say that will convince fans to attend one of the women's games, especially considering the season is now over and the Hockey East tournament will be taking place down in Hyannis, but this team deserves more public acknowledgement, if not increased attention from both students and fans of the game.

The players on this roster are some of the best in the world, and gentillar the season of the season is now over the season.

erally, that's something true sports fans can appreciate.

- Andy MacDougall can be reached at sports@HuntNewsNU.com.

ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT

Langton looks toward '14 Ölympics in Russia

BOBSELD, from page 16

n't happy not being involved in sports," he said. "I identified myself as an athlete my entire life. I sought to find a new outlet for my talents. As it turns out, five years later, bobsledding is a much better fit than track ever could have been ... in bobsled, if you're 100 kilos, 102 kilos, 220, 225 (pounds), that's just what

they are looking for."

Bobsledding offered him an outlet that combine his skills from sprinting in track and his size as a break and pushman.

Taking the second seat in the twoman sled, his two responsibilities are insuring a strong start out of the gate and getting the breaks down at just the right time at the end of the

"I'm just there to push the sled faster than everyone else and at the end, I stop the sled," Langton said.

Langton was invited to a US team camp in Lake Placid in September 2007 and after testing at the top of the invitees, he earned a spot on the team. He jumped into the action

when the 2008 season started, sliding in every two and four-man race of the 2008 World Cup Tour. His season performance won him the title of rookie of the year. He made the 2010 US Olympic

team and competed in the two-man event, placing 10th with a time of

He and his teammates are beginning to focus in the 2014 Winter Olympics in Sochi, Russia. However the official roster won't be

set until January 2014. "Honestly, if I didn't win a medal in 2014, I'd be really disappointed," he said. "We have the talent. We have the support staff ... As of right now, I'm on the right track. I guess vou can even say that making the 2014 Olympics is a goal of mine."

Langton is also a pushman for the four-man bobsled. He and his team, including Holcomb, will slide for another World Championship this weekend, with two runs Saturday and two runs Sunday. Medals will be awarded based the lowest combined-score Sunday at 12:50 p.m.

WOMEN'S HOCKEY

Defense propels Huskies

By Madeline Sattler

NEWS CORRESPONDENT

The women's hockey team finished the regular season with the most wins (22-6-4 overall) in the past decade, largely in part to hav-

ing a top-tier defensive lineup.

The United States College
Hockey Online (USCHO) No. 7 ranked women's hockey team's a strong defense and a top-ranked penalty kill unit teamed up with the offense to bring the 2012 Beanpot and the Women's Hockey East Association (WHEA) Regular Season Championship titles to campus.

The Huskies ranked first WHEA for total scoring defense and third nationwide, averaging 1.53 goals scored per game. The defense has allowed the lowest number of goals in Hockey East

"Each year [the defense] has been getting so much better," sen-ior defender Stephanie Gavronsky

The defense has been successful in limiting opponents in the opening period. Opposing teams only recorded nine goals in the first period and only notched the game's first goal seven times in the regular season. Northeastern is 13-1-1 when leading after the first

"Just knowing our positions has really helped [senior goaltender] Florence [Schelling] out in the net," Gavronsky said. "We've been picking up sticks and just getting on the body."

Gavronsky is a four-year veteran and this year served as tri-captain. She has six goals and eight

assists on the season, which ties her with sophomore defender Maggie DiMasi for most points on the team by a defender.

Additionally, Northeastern performance on the penalty kill this season has only allowed 15 goals. But they have not given opponents many chances to play man-up, averaging 9.1 penalty minutes a game – second lowest in WHEA.

"If we do happen to get a penalty, we're not just going to seize up," Gavronsky said.

The Huskies are the nation's No. 2 ranked penalty kill unit, second to the Clarkson University Golden Knights. Northeastern has shut down 118 power plays in 133 opportunities (88.7 percent) this

In the second period of Sunday's game against the Providence College Friars, the Huskies found themselves at a two-man down disadvantage. Gavronsky was sitting in the penalty box for tripping. Freshman defender Ann Doherty followed soon after, forcing the Huskies to play with two-men down for 38 seconds. Despite these roadblocks, Northeastern held its ground and shut down the Friars.

Friars.
Earlier in the season, the Huskies took on the University of Maine Black Bears in a two-game weekend series Feb. 11 and 12. The penalty kill unit combined to go 10-for-10. The Black Bears did not get the puck in the net despite 20 minutes of many apportunities.

utes of man-up opportunities.
"There are times when I feel better when we're on the penalty kill than on the power play," head coach David Flint said.

Northeastern's strength extend-

ed to the opposite end of the spectrum as they put up points in shorthanded situations.

"We're a huge threat too," Gavronsky said. "We've had a couple short-handed goals with Coyne and Pickett up front"

ple short-handed goals with Coyne and Pickett up front."

Junior forward Casey Pickett is responsible for half of the Huskies' eight shorthanded goals. She is tied for first in the nation. This season's total marks the most for the program since the Huskies. the program since the Huskies joined the WHEA and ranks them No. 1 in Hockey East and third

Schelling played a key role in this season penalty kill unit, Flint said. "Your best penalty kill is your

Schelling has only allowed 14 goals on opposing power plays. Schelling has had a career season defensively. The Swiss native shut out opponents eight times to lead the nation. She holds a 1.43 goals against average and a .950 save percentage.

percentage.

"I just know this is the time where I'm probably going to a lot shots," Schelling said. "I just stay focused and get ready."

The defense will be crucial going into the postseason. The Huskies have a bye week and then will head to Cape Cod next weekend for the Hockey East semifinal game. They will take on the lowest seed of either the Providence College Friars, the Black Bears or the University of New Hampshire Wildcats March 3 at 12:30 p.m.

"We have to keep working"

"We have to keep working hard," Schelling said. "We still have a long way to go.'

MEN'S HOCKEY



NEWS STAFF PHOTO/DAN PAGLIAROLI

Sophomore forward Branden Pimm had four shots on goal in Saturday's 2-2 tie against Providence College. Pimm has 66 shots on the season. Northeastern picked up two points in Hockey East standings Saturday. They remain in a tie for eighth place with the University of Massachusetts-Amherst.

earns back-to-back ties

By Eoghan Kelly

NEWS STAFF

With only two weekends remaining in the regular season, the Huskies (11-14-5, 7-12-4 Hockey East) remain in a tie with the University of Massachusetts-Amherst for the eighth and final playoff spot.

Northeastern skated to back-toback ties, 1-1 and 2-2, with PC at Matthews Arena Friday and Saturday nights, and in the process earned two crucial league points to stay afloat in the Hockey East play-

"[Saturday night] felt like a play-off game to be honest," junior for-ward Alex Tuckerman said. "I think our team's happy to come out with a couple of points this week-

Providence Northeastern 1 (OT)

Providence Northeastern 2 (OT)

end. I feel like it's nice to see a playoff tempo from our team going into the last couple weekends here."

Junior forwards Garrett Vermeersch and Drew Daniels each tallied a point while skating in their 100th career games Friday and Saturday night, respectively.

goaltender Junior Rawlings turned away a career-high 47 shots in Saturday's series conclusion against the Friars (12-14-4, 10-10-3 Hockey East). But a pair of soft goals marred Rawlings

career night.

The first came 2:36 into the second period, when Rawlings mishandled the rebound of a shot from Friars junior forward Chris Rooney. Rawlings seemed to squeeze the puck between his pads, but it trickled in front of the net for freshman winger Shane Luke to tuck past Rawlings for his fifth goal of the year.

The tally brought the score to 1-1 after Tuckerman put the Huskies on top with 2:26 to play in the opening frame. With Luke serving an interference minor, Daniels wristed a shot from the point that senior center Mike McLaughlin deflected in front of PC senior goalie Alex Beaudry. Tuckerman

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MEN'S HOCKEY

Huskies still fighting for final playoff spot

MEN'S HOCKEY, from page 14

was waiting at the near post to tap the rebound into a vacated net for his fourth goal of the season with 12 seconds remaining on the power play

Just four minutes after Rawlings allowed the Friars to equalize, sophomore defenseman Kevin Hart fired a power play shot from the red line that Rawlings attempted to steer to the corner boards. Instead, the puck ricocheted into the top corner of the Northeastern net, giving Hart his second goal of the season and allowing PC to take a 2-1 lead at 6:47 of the second.

"I thought that Chris [Rawlings] settled down," Huskies head coach Jim Madigan said. "He made some real key saves for us after that second goal ... the sign of a good goaltender is when you give up maybe a bad goal or a couple bad goals and how you react and do you bounce back, and I thought he bounced back really well after that second goal."

Freshman winger Adam Reid drew the Huskies even when he took a pass from Vermeersch, skated past a Friar defenseman and beat Beaudry to the five-hole with 4:59 left in the second.

4:59 left in the second.

The goal was Reid's fifth of the year, while Vermeersch's assist gave him at least one point in 15 of his last 19 games.

The game advanced to overtime for the second consecutive night. The remainder of regulation played out scoreless, despite two of breakaways from freshman winger Joseph Manno.

Sophomore defender Anthony Bitetto appeared to score a last-second game-winner on a one-timer from the high slot, but replays showed the puck crossed the goal line after the final buzzer.

PC head coach Nate Leaman commended both Rawlings and Beaudry for stifling the game's offense and keeping the score deadlocked.

"Two pretty good goaltenders there within the league," Leaman said. "Both of them came up big at big times. I mean, shots 49-35, that's very rarely a 2-2 game."

The Huskies were without junior winger Robbie Vrolyk, who suffered a lower-body injury late in the first period Friday night. To compensate, Madigan dressed 11 forwards and seven defensemen Saturday night, including both freshmen Ben Oskroba and Dan Cornell.

Cornell left the game with a head injury in the first period but later returned after getting stitches. Oskroba was dismissed with a game misconduct at 4:39 of the second for a hit to the head of PC senior winger Matt Bergland.

"I thought our guys worked hard," Madigan said. "This weekend was a hard-fought weekend. There's a lot of bruises and bumps and cuts and guys on their team who got knocked out of the weekend, guys on our team who got knocked out of the weekend, guys tonight on both teams who got hurt, and then some misconducts. So the kids who were on the ice for both teams battled hard."

The teams played a hotly-contested game Friday night, combining for only one goal apiece, 44 total shots and 35 total blocked shots.

Junior center Tim Schaller put the Friars on top just 29 seconds into the game when his shot from the left corner deflected through the five-hole of Rawlings for his team-leading 14th goal of the sea-

Vermeersch tied the game 6:23 into the first period when he deflected a shot from freshman defenseman Josh Manson over Beaudry's glove. Vermeersch has a career-high seven goals and 13 assists this season.

The rest of the game played out scoreless, but not for a lack of chances. Both goalies made point-blank saves in the second and third periods. The most notable coming when Beaudry stoned McLaughlin on a shorthanded breakaway with two minutes left in regulation. Each

side went on the power play four times – none of which were converted.

Madigan blamed a lack of execution for Northeastern's man-advantage woes.

"Poor execution," Madigan said.
"We didn't win enough battles,
quite frankly, along the wall to
come up with the puck ... and then
when the puck went in the corner
we didn't retrieve it very well."

The Huskies' playoff fate is in their own hands with two-game series against No. 10 University of Maine and No. 5 Boston University remaining. They must win to stay in the race, but they can get help this weekend if University of New Hampshire steal a win in its two-game series.

It is uncertain whether Vrolyk will play in this weekend's games against Maine. He is currently day-to-day after X-rays following Friday's game returned negative. Junior forward Steve Quailer is slated to return to the lineup next weekend, but has not been confirmed by Madigan.

Reid said Friday night that the key to Northeastern's success down the stretch is a factor of the team's focus.

"We absolutely have to be [focused]," he said. "We have two and a half weekends left now and every game is crucial, every point's crucial. We have no choice but to focus."



NEWS STAFF PHOTO/DAN PAGLIAROLI

Freshman forward Adam Reid had the game-tying goal Saturday night for his fifth goal of the season.

