

WOMEN SOCCER

Huskies clinch home-field advantage

By Trevor Wenners

NEWS CORRESPONDENT

The Huskies have guaranteed themselves home field advantage in the first round of the Colonial Athletic Association tournament with a 3-2 victory against the Hofstra University Pride on yesterday afternoon in Hempstead, N.Y.

"It is a nice accomplishment to be able to play at home field but we know we are playing against a great team," head coach Tracey

Leone said. "We need to mentally and physically get some rest and then get back at it."

The Huskies got on the board early with a goal by redshirt-sophomore Devin Griffin, unassisted, at 5:02.

The Pride answered a minute later when freshman forward Leah Galton scored, assisted by freshman midfielder Jill Mulholland, at 6:17.

"We fought through the first half but the second half we played much better," head coach Tracey Leone said. "[I] give a lot of credit to our team, we were resilient in a time when we were exhausted."

The game went into halftime still tied at one but senior forward Greta Samueldottir broke the tie at 67:38 when she scored assisted by sophomore forward Lahaina

Zoller.

The Pride answered back again to tie the game but junior forward Hanna Terry ultimately ended the game with a goal at 77:01.

"Hanna Terry is a special player," Leone said. "In every game she has been a huge impact for us; she has created chances [and] she has scored some big goals."

The Huskies had already guaranteed themselves a playoff berth with Samueldottir's penalty shot 34 seconds into overtime against the Old Dominion University Monarchs in Norfolk, Va., for a 2-1 win Sunday to springboard the Huskies into the postseason.

Sophomore goalkeeper Paige Burnett recorded four saves in the victory while Samueldottir recorded five shots to lead the Huskies to their sixth conference win.

"She is a great pressure player [and] a great finisher," Leone said.

After a scoreless first half, Samueldottir put the Huskies on the board at 51:52 assisted by redshirt-sophomore Hannah O'Donnell and freshman defender Oksana Nicholls. Nicholls' assist was her first career point as a member of the Huskies.

The tally came off a corner kick taken by Nicholls, which was then headed by O'Donnell and then Samueldottir was able to get a head on it and put it into the net.

"It is nice to secure a playoff spot this year with our doing rather than through other teams," Samueldottir said.

The Monarchs responded at 73:38 with sophomore forward Taylor Smith's second goal of the season, assisted by freshman for-

ward Jordan Jones, to tie the game.

The Huskies kept their composure and eventually won the game in overtime.

"The team came out with a lot of energy and created a lot of great chances," Leone said. "It was a well deserved victory [and] we are very excited we clinched a playoff spot."

After scoring two goals in the contest, Samueldottir sits third in Northeastern history with 25 goals, 61 points and also recorded her third multi-goal game of the season.

"She is playing with such an urgency and desire to extend her senior season," Leone said.

The Huskies outshot the Monarchs 14-11 and had a 76-5 edge in shots on goal.

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MEN'S HOCKEY



News Photo/Kevin Ahearn

Junior forward Braden Pimm registered four shots on goal in Saturday's 3-0 loss at BC.

Eagles offense overpowers young Husky team, 3-0

By Eoghan Kelly

NEWS STAFF

Midway through the second period of Saturday night's men's hockey matchup, the Boston College pep band struck up Coldplay's "Viva la Vida" and filled Conte Forum with the tune of the song's famous first line:

"I used to rule the world."

It seemed fitting for an Eagles team that, after riding a 19-game winning streak to a NCAA championship in April, was overpowered and knocked off in a 3-1 loss to a young, unranked Northeastern team in its first game of the season the week before. But once the song's echoes could no longer be heard reverberating off the arena walls, the Eagles proved they do still rule the college hockey world – for now.

The Eagles brought the Huskies back down to earth Saturday night, dominating Northeastern for a full

60 minutes in a 3-0 victory and delivering their first loss of the 2012-13 season.

As a result, BC regained the top spot in the United States College Hockey Online (USCHO) poll Monday while Northeastern sank one spot to No. 15. The two teams are tied atop the Hockey East standings with four points and a 2-1 record.

"It was a tough loss," senior forward Garrett Vermeersch said after a team practice Wednesday. "We knew it wasn't going to be easy ... We knew they were gonna come out hard and it was a special night for them so they were definitely gonna want to win. We just didn't do some of the things that we did the last game."

The Huskies had an opportunity to play spoiler on the night BC raised its 2011-12 championship banner. The Eagles came out of the opening faceoff energized, from the pregame festivities, their 5-4 overtime edging of University of Massachusetts-Amherst the night

before and desire to avenge last week's upset.

But the Huskies' game plan crumbled and they failed to respond.

BC brought the high-octane attack it lacked in its season-opener, disrupting the Northeastern breakout and forcing the Huskies to consistently turn the puck over in the defensive and neutral zones.

The takeaways and offensive onslaught forced the Huskies out of position defensively, leading to a swarm of early offensive chances and two goals – by senior Kevin Hayes on the power play and sophomore Johnny Gaudreau – within the first 11 minutes that gave BC a lead it would never relinquish.

It was a complete role reversal for a Northeastern team that used an identical strategy to outscore its opponents 5-1 in the first periods of its first two games.

"They were all over us for the first [period]. I felt like we were

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MEN'S SOCCER

NU draws after 2OT

By Eoghan Kelly

NEWS STAFF

To find the men's soccer team's last loss, one would have to delve backward in the Northeastern records to Sept. 9 when the Huskies suffered a 4-1 blow-out at the University of Michigan.

The only things in the records since then are achievements.

Following that loss – Northeastern's only of the season – the Huskies have won or tied a program-best 11 consecutive games, a streak that was extended with a 2-2 draw at Towson University yesterday afternoon.

In that stretch, the Huskies (11-1-3, 6-0-2 Colonial Athletic Association) have also gone undefeated at home for the second consecutive season, tied the program record for most consecutive wins and secured a berth in the CAA tournament.

Northeastern is currently second in the conference standings and can secure a regular season championship with a win and at least a draw in its final two games.

"It was a big win," senior forward Don Anding said. "It's a pretty big feat for us so we're pretty happy about the home streak and everything, so we're just sort of trying to keep our momentum going."

What's more impressive than the Huskies' accomplishments is the way they've earned them.

Northeastern's defense has springboarded it to the top of the CAA, conceding more than one goal in only three games and limiting the offense's obligation to score multiple goals to get a victory. The Huskies have five 1-0 wins in 2012.

Their shutdown defensive play has also allowed the Huskies to grind out matches and force them into overtime, where Northeastern has not lost this season (4-0-3).

Anding said the team's overtime record is a testament to its resiliency.

"We've had trouble in the past with overtime games," Anding said. "I think coming out on top in all the overtime games we have sort of just kept momentum, when

in the past we would just lose those games and sort of lose our way for a little bit and have to work back. So I think being able to win those games really gave us the momentum to keep moving forward."

The Northeastern defense is led by redshirt-sophomore Ambry Moss, a 2011 CAA All-Rookie Team member, sophomore Simon Cox – who has established himself as a two-way player with four goals in 2012, one of which was scored in Wednesday's draw – and junior Jonathan Eckford.

Junior Conner Alexander, traditionally a centerback, has made the transition to outside back and plays alongside junior Nikko Lara and freshman Devin Devoy.

As a defensive unit, the Huskies have allowed a conference-best 0.86 goals per game.

But senior goalkeeper Oliver Blum is the team's most valuable defensive player, amassing four shutouts and, going into Wednesday's game, the eighth-best goals against average and No. 11 save percentage in the NCAA. Blum also made two saves in the team's 2-1 win over the University of North Carolina-Wilmington on Saturday that set the program record for longest unbeaten streak.

"We know that sometimes we're not always gonna score, but we have Olly back there so we know we're gonna get a shutout," senior midfielder Andre Ciliotta said after a 1-0 double-overtime win over Hofstra University on Oct. 17. "We just have to put one in."

The team's offensive attack has complemented its stark defense with consistent goal-scoring, and the Huskies have not been shut out a single time in 2012.

According to head coach Brian Ainscough, junior midfielder Dante Marini and Ciliotta have both battled injuries this season, making way for Northeastern's young players – sophomore Donovan Fayd'Herbe de Maudave and freshman Terence Carter – to step up. Fayd'Herbe de Maudave and Carter have 11 and eight points, respectively, second- and third-best on the team.

Both pale in comparison to Anding, who has a team-high 28 points – the most of any Northeastern player since 2002 – and five game-winning goals. But the additional offensive production has taken

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VOLLEYBALL

Huskies slide, drop back-to-back losses

By Madeline Sattler
NEWS STAFF

With two losses over the weekend and only four regular season games remaining, the volleyball team is looking to get back to the basics of the game in hopes of finishing the season in strong fashion.

“We’re going to go back to some of the preseason mindsets and train really hard,” head coach Ken Nichols said. “It’s about reestablishing in their minds the commitment level that it takes.”

The Huskies headed into the weekend tied with Towson University for first place in the Colonial Athletic Association (CAA). On Sunday afternoon, the Huskies dropped straight sets to the Tigers (22-25, 21-25, 22-25), which they hadn’t done since losing to the reigning national champions of University of California-Los Angeles and University of California-Santa Barbara on Aug. 31 and Sept. 1.

Northeastern	2
Delaware	3
Northeastern	0
Towson	3

Northeastern got on the board first with a kill by junior outside hitter Kelly Bacon. But the Tigers took the lead after tying it up at four and never looked back.

Towson’s lead grew to 18-9, but Northeastern rallied back to pull within one at 22-23 thanks to a kill by junior outside hitter Janelle Tucker. A Northeastern blocking error and a kill by Tiger senior setter Marta Machos ultimately won the set for Towson.

“We need to remember that we need to take it from teams, they’re not just going to give it to us,” said senior middle hitter Nicole Bishop, who had five kills and six blocks Sunday afternoon.

The second set was close, but 16 Northeastern errors gave the Tigers the win. Towson got took an early lead thanks to two of them, and Northeastern quickly squandered away its early 5-4 lead.

The Tigers went on a six point run which included three attacking errors. Towson’s biggest lead of the set, 20-12, came after three

straight Husky errors.

The Huskies clawed back, scoring nine of the next 12 points to pull within two. However, two errors in the final two points gave Towson the second set victory.

“The first two sets we were down a bunch and dug ourselves out without complete domination,” Nichols said.

Tucker had four of her six kills in the set and sophomore setter Jillian Briner had seven of her 17 assists in the second set.

In the final set, Northeastern jumped out to a 5-1 lead which included sophomore libero Natalia Skiba’s first kill of the season. Towson came right back with five straight points of their own.

The Huskies saw their biggest lead on the afternoon at 14-9. But the Tigers would not go down without a battle as they tied the set at 21.

“Towson played like Towson plays – super tough,” Nichols said. “But we know we can play at that level, we just have to get to a place mentally where we do it from the beginning to the end.”

Three late Husky attacking er-

rors helped the Tigers seal the match and remain undefeated in the CAA (8-0).

Bacon was the Huskies’ offensive leader on the afternoon with 13 kills while Skiba scooped up 15 digs. The 24 errors were the difference for the Huskies.

The loss to Towson came on the heels of a five-set marathon loss on Friday night’s marathon loss to the University of Delaware (28-26, 19-25, 25-20, 17-25, 10-15). The Blue Hens now own a 9-3 lifetime conference record over the Huskies.

The five-set match was the first for Northeastern since their season-opening 3-2 win over the University of Alabama on Aug. 24.

“These were two tough road losses,” Nichols said.

Again errors were costly for the Huskies as they had 35 attacking errors in the game.

“By no means do I think we let them have [the win],” Bishop said. “We just need to work on our unforced errors and focusing on game plan and really just playing our best game.”

Bacon led the offense with 20

kills after not breaking double digits in the two previous matches (Oct. 7 and Oct. 13). Briner and junior middle hitter Nichole Kurz contributed 13 kills apiece while junior setter Ina Kamenova had 35 assists.

Skiba had a season-high 31 digs to anchor the defense. Tucker and Bacon had 17 and 18 digs respectively.

The two weekend losses bumped Northeastern back to a tie for second place in the CAA. With only four matches left in the season, the Huskies will look to reduce errors and get back to their winning ways.

“We know how to play volleyball, but sometimes you just need to brush up on fundamentals and remember that it’s that easy to beat a team,” Bishop said. “We are that talented and we are that good.”

The Huskies will take on Georgia State University in the final regular season home game at Solomon Court on Sunday at 1 p.m. Northeastern’s two seniors, Bishop and outside hitter Jasmine Marta, will be honored before the game.

BEHIND THE SCENES

Huskies give back, partner with Team Impact

By Sarah Moomaw
NEWS STAFF

On Saturday, Michayla Mathis became the newest Husky. She was flanked by her parents, the women’s basketball team and its coaches as she signed her National Letter of Intent, officially joining the women’s basketball team.

It’s not standard practice for NLIs to be signed at a recruiting day, but Michayla is special. She is 10 years old and not a basketball player. She is Northeastern’s latest Team Impact match.

The Boston-based nonprofit organization matches children with life-threatening illnesses with college athletic teams as an outlet for support. Team Impact believes the connection goes both ways, benefiting the kids while also acting as a grounding force for participating athletic teams.

“These kids just teach you [a] lesson,” Maura Mahoney, director of case management and communications for Team Impact, said. “A bad day for some of these student athletes is an extra long lift or a couple sprints at practice. But having Michayla here just gives them that perspective that they really



Michael, Michayla and Michelle Mathis (not pictured) were joined by the women’s basketball team and coaches during the signing of the National Letter of Intent on Saturday.

should just be so grateful, which is something that a lot of student athletes can learn from.”

Michayla is undergoing treatment for a brain tumor on her optic

nerve. The inoperable tumor has limited the sight in her left eye to only six inches of peripheral vision and almost no frontal vision.

Her mother, Michelle, says treatment is working and some sight has started to return, but in reality there’s no perfect treatment.

“It’s always going to be with her, but when she gets to 21, it stops growing,” Michelle Mathis said. “The doctor said she’s going to outlive us all.”

Michayla is at the beginning of a new 52-week treatment plan at Dana Farber Cancer Institute. Having 13 new teammates who will be more like older sisters will give her something to focus her energy on.

“I think this is going to help because she’ll have somewhere else to look forward to and think about as opposed to just treatment every week,” Michelle Mathis said.

Through Team Impact, the family becomes a part of Northeastern athletics and is welcome on campus, at practice and at every game.

While on campus Saturday, they met the team and coaches for the first time. The girls had previously reached out and connected with Michayla via phone calls and text messages. They welcomed her with open arms, giving her her own locker and a jersey with the number five on it.

Michelle and her husband, Michael Mathis, said they are excited to be part of the Husky family and are looking forward to what their new relationship with the team will bring.

“It’s just fun to be here,” Michelle Mathis said. “I just feel like with these ladies taking her on as part of their team, it’s going to change Michayla’s whole outlook on life.”

Team Impact reached out to graduate student and former North-

eastern basketball player Dani Iervolino to assess the team’s interest last semester. After discussing it with the girls and coaches, they signed on and were added to the waiting list for a match.

“We’re more interested in the impact it’ll leave us,” senior forward Christine Huber said. “We’re really hoping to get to know Michayla and her family. They are so sweet and loving and just to impact someone’s life the way Team Impact allows us too, I think we are really going to benefit from this experience.”

“I feel like [the team] is more excited when she’s around. We want her to get the full effect of the whole relationship so we will really put in the effort to make sure we are doing what we have to do.”

Michayla isn’t the only Husky placed through Team Impact. All of Northeastern’s athletic teams have partnered with the nonprofit.

Men’s hockey was the first match made, in the middle of last season. They’ve given 9-year-old Ario Nour his own locker in Matthews Arena. Liam McGourty, baseball’s honorary Husky, has his place with the team, too.

“I was happy and excited,” Michayla said remembering the day she found out the Huskies would become her team.

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After signing, Michayla (center) warmed up for practice with her new teammates on Saturday. For more photos, check HuntNewsNU.com.

FIELD HOCKEY

Poland breaks record in NU's spilt weekend

By Andy MacDougall

NEWS CORRESPONDENT

When senior forward Crystal Poland broke Northeastern's all-time goals record three weeks ago in a game against Harvard University, she tried to shrug off the recognition. It was more about the win, she claimed. It had always been about earning the win.

Well, Poland's latest accomplishment is a little more difficult to brush off.

With two goals against Hofstra University on Friday, Poland broke the Northeastern all-time points record of 162. And behind four goals on the weekend by both Poland and freshman forward Deirdre Duke, the Huskies (12-4, 4-1 CAA) notched a dominating 7-1 victory over Hofstra University before falling to cross-town rival Boston University, 4-3, in double-overtime.

"I think one of the major points to take away is that the attack did a really good job in putting in 10 goals this weekend," senior midfielder Allison Conti said. "That's a very positive thing that we should be proud of as a team, but we also let in five [goals]."

In their final trip to Durham, N.H., for the remainder of the 2012 season, the Huskies netted a season-high seven goals on the Pride in their most dominating offensive output of the season.

Scoring opened up early and got out of hand late. Poland pulled herself within one point of the Northeastern record after burying one of her trademark goals 3:22 into the game — off a penalty corner pass from junior forward Lindsay Bennett, set up by senior forward Nicky Graham.

Duke would then go on to net a natural hat trick, scoring the next three Northeastern goals. Her first came from Bennett on a pass in the circle just more than five minutes into the game.

She would follow it up a little more than 20 minutes later off a feed from sophomore back Kate Carlson that she dribbled through the defense. Her third goal of the half would come with a minute left in the first half, as she deflected a shot from sophomore midfielder Caroline Judge into the back of the



News File Photo/Zack Williamson

Freshman forward Deirdre Duke's (right) four goals in Friday's game was the second-largest output in the NCAA this season.

leading goal and points totals, netting the equalizer off of a penalty stroke, for her 23rd goal of the season.

At 24:01, BU's junior midfielder Ella Gunson was able to beat Northeastern senior goalie Lizzie Priest with another reverse stick drive that went top-shelf on the veteran netminder. Gunson's goal put the Terriers up 2-1 at the half.

Northeastern would take the lead on goals by Poland and Bennett less than two minutes apart early in the second, but Gunson tied the game at three with fifteen minutes remaining to send the game to overtime.

The first overtime was evenly matched, but when Graham dove behind Priest to keep the ball out of the net, BU was awarded a penalty stroke. BU's senior forward Nicole van Oosterom hit the left post and it ricocheted wide.

In the second overtime, Poland and Duke had shots early, but Gunson took a pass at the 92:38 mark of the game, shot it low, and tucked it past Priest for the game-winner.

"It was kind of a mixed emotions weekend, I suppose," Duke said. "We're kind of regrouping and re-evaluating all our stuff. We were coasting there for a while, and I think we became a bit too complacent. We're getting back to basics."

Poland finished the game with a season-high nine shots on net. Poland's record-breaking weekend — in which she netted nine points — brought her CAA Co-Player of the Week honors. It was the fourth time this season the conference has awarded the honor to Poland.

Right behind her was Duke, whose four-goal outburst earned the freshman her third CAA Rookie of the Week nomination.

For the third consecutive week, Northeastern remained at No. 10 in this week's National Field Hockey Coaches Poll. This is the seventh-consecutive week the Huskies have earned an appearance in the Top 10.

Northeastern will return to the pitch Friday in Philadelphia as they play Drexel University before returning home for Senior Day on Sunday afternoon at Harvard to face Towson University.

"Our main focus is just to out-play Drexel 110 percent," said Conti. "We want to come out flying and shut them down right away. It's their home field, so we know they're going to come out hard, and they've always had a good program. We really respect them, and we're just going to come out aggressive and try to put one in right away."

Power play needs to take risks

This is the first entry in a new partnership between the Huntington News and the Husky Hockey News blog. The opinions expressed herein are those of writer, not necessarily The News. For more from Husky Hockey News, visit their website at huskyhockeynews.com and follow them on Twitter at @HuskyHockeyNews.

It's easy to be impatient with a new-look roster's flaws.

There have only been three games for the men's hockey team's young roster, and flashes of brilliance should help the team, as new players discover their roles and settle into them with comfort. Obviously no team is perfect and it will have to be accepted that some of those flaws will be here to stay. One loss on the road against the ghost of the 2011-12 Boston College Eagles won't change that.

The Huskies lost their step in several aspects during what was an understandably tough first road game of the year against a defending national champion. But one thing has stood out to me in particular: The coaching staff has done a remarkable job in slotting together some dangerous offensive weapons and intelligent players with great instincts. So, why is the power play still ineffective?

It's still very early, but one has to question if a man-advantage that's been 1-for-21 to start the season is rooted in a fundamental issue that has carried over to the new season, or just growing pains for a roster of college kids still getting used to one another. Admittedly, it's not like BC's elite penalty kill made things any easier. The Huskies never really put anyone well out of position on the attack. It is understood that the two-minute period of time has a partial purpose of not allowing the other team to put shots on goal and to tire them down. This is something head coach Jim Madigan and company have appeared to adhere to in the interest of having success over a full 60 minutes of hockey. I feel that with a lead and/or control of the pace of the game, this viewpoint makes a good deal of sense. But in close and losing situations, a power play needs to pack a punch and be used as a weapon for a team that has an arsenal of offensively gifted players.

So what do the Huskies need to do to take advantage of their gunslingers, playmakers and puck-battlers? The answer could lie in a sustainable, basic concept that can be applied to each power play unit, something that allows players to be active yet patient with their options.

We'll start off with the setup: It looked much better the first two games, despite BC bringing back old memories during the last game in Chestnut Hill. Older players showed less poise than the younger ones at times, but it looks like this team is shifting to a more organized and layered entry into the offensive zone. This is great, but the faceoff wins need to come more frequently in support of this well-timed entry.

As for pressure and scoring chances, last year's (and sometimes, this season's) umbrella setup was ineffective. The occasional flurry can produce some well-earned goals, and the setup virtually eliminates an opposing goal. But the umbrella doesn't encourage enough movement to guide defensemen out of passing lanes and move the goaltender into an unfavorable position. To put it simply, it isn't dangerous enough, and entails the offensive players settling for some less-than-ideal scoring chances. From a defensive standpoint, predictability and stagnation of movement around the point makes penalty killers more comfortable with moving in one-on-one and disrupting the attack. Very rarely will you see a goalie lose his bearings with this setup.

The main setup this season is what I call a "reverse umbrella", a spin-off of last year's formation. Instead of the traditional three point men and two corner players, there are two point men and a player in the low slot near the net. It's a nice change, but doesn't exactly force a low defenseman to stay locked into position. A good penalty kill will force a team to spread out.

The Huskies hadn't trailed in a game until last weekend, which means that they should get the benefit of the doubt here numbers-wise, given the strategy employed. But for an observer who has followed this team closely, the struggles here hold too much semblance to those of last season. Success is often characterized by effectively gauging risk versus reward. Ushering in a riskier attack with more scoring potential could be what makes this skilled offense soar. There are many possible formations to experiment with, like an overload that reduces the usable space a defender has, and can throw a goaltender around the crease like a slinky. Again, it's probably too early to judge, but the fact is an umbrella is for those who don't want to risk getting wet. It's time to go out in the storm and take some chances, and this year the Huskies could have the lineup to get away with that and more.

— Cory Bigda can be reached at info@huskyhockeynews.com

MEN'S SOCCER

Huskies push unbeaten streak to 11

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some pressure off of Anding and allowed the Huskies to create a more balanced attack.

Anding and Fayd'Herbe de Maudave scored a goal apiece in both the win over UNCW (6-9-1, 3-5-0 CAA) on Saturday and Wednesday's draw at Towson (4-9-2, 2-5-2 CAA). Both have five-game scoring streaks of 12 and seven points, respectively, and Anding was named CAA Player of the Week the last two weeks.

"[Fayd'Herbe de Maudave has] been a great influence for the team," Anding said. "He always brings a lot to the table. The desire he has for the game, motive to win, is relentless and he always sort of gets in the right spot. He's got that eye for the goal."

The Huskies have already

locked down a postseason spot, but Anding said his team won't lose focus with so much on the line — including hosting the CAA tournament and earning a first-round bye that would give the Huskies some much-needed rest.

"Qualifying for the playoffs was always a goal, but the spot that we put ourselves in, there's sort of no looking back now," Anding said. "Pretty much none of the [CAA] teams like coming up to Boston in November and playing in the cold, playing on the turf, they're not used to the field and we think we could really use that to our advantage and make it easy for ourselves."

Northeastern fans will have to wait and see what they pull off next. They return to Parsons Field looking to extend their home-win streak on Saturday.

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STANDINGS

MEN'S HOCKEY EAST			
		HEA	Overall
1	Northeastern	2-1-0	2-1-0
2	BC	2-1-0	2-1-0
3	UNH	1-0-0	3-0-0
4	BU	1-1-1	1-1-0
5	UMass Lowell	0-0-1	1-1-1
6	Vermont	0-0-1	0-0-1
7	Maine	0-0-0	1-4-0
8	UMass	0-1-0	1-1-0
9	Merrimack	0-1-0	1-3-0
10	Providence	0-1-0	1-2-1

WOMEN'S HOCKEY EAST			
		WHEA	Overall
1	BU	2-0-0	5-1-0
2	Providence	2-0-0	3-3-0
3	UConn	1-1-0	1-5-1
4	Maine	1-1-0	1-3-0
5	BC	1-2-0	1-2-0
6	UNH	1-2-0	3-2-0
7	Vermont	1-2-0	2-5-0
8	Northeastern	1-0-0	4-1-0

CAA MEN'S SOCCER			
		CAA	Overall
1	Drexel	7-1-2	11-3-2
2	Northeastern	6-0-2	11-1-3
3	James Madison	5-1-2	7-5-3
4	Old Dominion	4-2-2	10-2-2
5	George Mason	4-4	11-5
6	Hofstra	4-4	10-5-1
7	UNCW	3-5	6-9-1
8	Towson	2-5-2	4-9-2
9	Delaware	1-4-3	3-10-4
10	William & Mary	1-5-2	3-10-3
11	Georgia State	1-7	4-11

CAA WOMEN'S SOCCER			
		CAA	Overall
1	William & Mary	8-2	14-5
2	Drexel	7-2-1	13-3-2
3	UNCW	7-3	12-6-1
4	Northeastern	7-3	9-9
5	Hofstra	6-4	10-8
6	Delaware	6-4	9-8
7	James Madison	5-5	7-11
8	George Mason	3-6-1	7-11-1
9	Old Dominion	2-8	4-14
10	Georgia State	1-8-1	4-11-2
11	Towson	1-8-1	1-15-2

CAA FIELD HOCKEY			
		CAA	Overall
1	Old Dominion	6-0	13-4
2	Northeastern	4-1	12-4
3	Drexel	3-2	11-6
4	William & Mary	3-3	10-7
5	James Madison	3-3	9-7
6	Delaware	3-3	7-10
7	Hofstra	0-5	6-10
8	Towson	0-5	1-16

CAA VOLLEYBALL			
		CAA	Overall
1	Towson	8-0	21-3
2	Northeastern	6-2	17-5
3	Delaware	6-2	12-12
4	James Madison	4-3	11-11
5	William & Mary	3-4	11-10
6	George Mason	2-5	4-16
7	Hofstra	2-6	14-13
8	Georgia State	2-6	4-16
9	UNCW	1-6	9-14

MEN'S HOCKEY Eagles reign on banner night



News Photo/Kevin Ahearn

Sophomore forward Ludwig Karlsson has six shots on a goal, including one in Saturday's loss at Conte Forum to the Eagles.

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on our heels for most of it," sophomore defenseman Josh Manson said Wednesday. "That's been our game in our own barn. I guess when we're on the road we gotta get maybe more mentally prepared or get ready for the first period a little bit better."

Northeastern struggled to establish its forecheck, making it too difficult to engage in the physical offensive play that pushed its first two opponents onto their heels and too easy for BC's young defensemen to get comfortable.

The Huskies were hampered when head coach Jim Madigan was forced to jumble lines after senior center Steve Morra suffered a lower-body injury on his second shift and missed the remainder of the game. Senior forward and captain Vinny Saponari also missed the majority of the third period after receiving a 10-minute misconduct for unsportsmanlike play.

Northeastern often abandoned the aggressive two-forward forecheck that brought so much success in its first two games, clearing the way for BC to break out of its zone quickly and easily without any prolonged offensive pressure.

"Their neutral zone forecheck was killing us," Vermeersch said. "We were trying to throw pucks in the middle, and we know to stay away from the middle, especially against BC. We just kept throwing it up the middle so they were doing a good job clogging it up and we just were having a tough time getting into their zone."

When the Huskies did have the puck, the Eagles made life easy for senior goaltender Parker Milner by guarding the middle of the ice, keeping the Northeastern forwards to the outside of the offensive zone and breaking up cross-ice passes that would ordinarily create space. BC's defense blocked eight shots and forced 10 others to go off-target, and the majority of the 26 shots that reached goal were from low-percentage scoring areas.

Madigan chalked Northeastern's lack of scoring up to inconsistent offensive pressure and the solid play of BC's netminder.

"We had a little momentum – it wasn't sustained though. It was bits here and there," he said after the game. "[Milner] did a good job on the shots that were in front of him ... and he's a good goalie, so when he sees a lot of shots, he's going to make those saves."

Northeastern started to come alive in the second period once they got their cycle going deep in the offensive zone and did a better job of controlling the puck along the corner boards, leading to grade-A chances for sophomore forward Joe Manno and freshman forward Cam Darcy on the doorstep.

But what little momentum they garnered was curbed when two penalties by Darcy and sophomore defenseman Dax Lauwers within 10 seconds of one another – two of Northeastern's eight infractions on the night – led to a 5-on-3 goal for Eagles senior forward Steven Whitney that pushed the lead to 3-0, his second power play goal against the Huskies in as many games.

"Penalties are tough, especially against a team like BC," Manson said. "They're so skilled that their power play every year is always good. We gotta be able to stay out of the box. Penalties will kill you, in this league especially with the skill on every team."

The third period was the only one in which the Huskies did not allow a man-advantage goal, but they couldn't beat Milner despite outshooting the Eagles 8-4 in the final 20 minutes. It was the first time this season Northeastern has not scored in the third period.

Bouncing back will be difficult for the Huskies as they make their only trip of the season to the University of New Hampshire on Friday night.

The Wildcats (3-0) are the only undefeated team remaining in Hockey East. They play historically well at the Whittemore Center, one of the conference's most intimidating venues due to its wildly loyal fanbase and Olympic-sized playing surface. UNH is 23-12-4 in Durham since the beginning of the 2010-11 season and have not dropped a home game to Northeastern since a 4-1 loss on Nov. 16, 2007, outscoring the Huskies 15-5 in that stretch.

But Vermeersch is confident the Huskies will respond after being shut down at BC.

"We'll be fine. It's only the third game of the season," Vermeersch said. "We know we weren't gonna go undefeated. No team's gonna go undefeated. We'll battle back, we'll get back to our gameplan and go up [to UNH] on Friday night and see what happens."

Fall sports' second season

Amid the excitement of the first couple games of the new men's hockey season and the anticipation of basketball season starting up, Northeastern students might be missing something.

The second season is almost upon us for fall sports.

Men's soccer, women's soccer, volleyball and field hockey have all clinched postseason berths, with seeding to be decided by their final games in the coming week.

It isn't a shocker that any of these teams qualified in their own right with the records they've been sporting, but for all four major fall sports to be advancing to the playoffs is an impressive feat for Northeastern athletics and a difficult precedent for hockey and basketball to uphold.

Men's soccer has dominated their regular season and entered their final three Colonial Athletic Conference (CAA) games with a 11-1-3 overall record and a 6-0-2 conference record. The team's lone loss came in an out-of-conference matchup against the University of Michigan early in the season. The only things standing between the Huskies and the first overall seed in the CAA tournament are two games against George Mason University and Old Dominion University, both middle-of-the-pack teams in the CAA. Should they remain atop the conference, they will earn a first-round bye and play in the CAA semifinals Nov. 8 or 9.



Dylan Lewis
Out of Bounds

Women's soccer's 9-9 record may indicate a team that has struggled at times. A tough non-conference schedule, including losses against No. 23 Boston University and No. 6 Boston College, hurt the team's overall win-loss record on the season. That said, the women have played significantly better in-conference, going 7-3. They've made a strong push for the postseason recently, going 5-1 in their last six games, all against CAA opponents. With their win against Hofstra yesterday, they locked up fourth place in the CAA. They will host a rematch with Hofstra on Sunday in the CAA quarterfinals.

Northeastern field hockey's season has been well-documented here in the Huntington News, but here's the lowdown on the team: despite not having a true home field, they've managed to go 12-4 on the season and 4-1 in the CAA. Their four losses were each by one goal, with two coming in double overtime. With wins in their remaining two games against Drexel University (3-2 CAA) and Towson University (0-5 CAA), the women would lock up the regular season title as CAA-leading Old Dominion University is postseason and title ineligible. This would earn them a first round bye, placing them in the CAA semifinals Nov. 2.

The volleyball team has displayed similar dominance, going 17-5 on the season, 6-2 in conference, placing them second in the CAA. They have four conference games remaining on their schedule, making their postseason a little tougher to predict. But even if they were to lose their remaining four games, they should still advance to the conference tournament. Their remaining schedule pits them against Georgia State University (2-6 CAA), the College of William & Mary (3-4 CAA), James Madison University (4-3 CAA) and George Mason University (2-5 CAA), all mid-level and basement-dwelling teams in the CAA. But with four games left it's hard to know where they'll fall. If all goes as planned and they maintain their second seed position, they should be the product of a first round bye and find themselves in CAA semifinals in mid-November.

So what does this all mean? The next three weekends should all have some Northeastern athletics program participating in conference tournament play.

If that doesn't get you excited, I don't know what will.

– Dylan Lewis can be reached at sports@HuntNewsNU.com

WOMEN'S SOCCER Terry nets first goal



News Photo/Kevin Ahearn

Junior midfielder Hanna Terry netted her first goal of the season in NU's loss to the College of William & Mary on Friday in Virginia.

WOMEN'S SOCCER, FROM PAGE 16

But, junior midfielder Hanna Terry's first goal as a Husky on Friday was not enough to defeat the College of William & Mary.

The Tribe pulled out to a one-goal lead just before the first half ended. Their first goal came from freshman midfielder Nicole Baxter, assisted by junior forward Audrey Barry, at 44:07.

They scored again in the 67th minute when junior midfielder Dani Rutter found the back of the net, assisted by sophomore midfielder Aly Shaughnessy.

Terry answered the bell by fighting through traffic to score at 72:42 to cut the lead in half.

Junior midfielder Hillary Savoy had a quality opportunity to even the score in the 81st minute but freshman goalkeeper Caroline Casey was there to make the save.

The Tribe won the shot battle 10-8 and Burnett recorded three saves in the defeat. Samuelsdottir and Terry led the Huskies offensive attack, each recording three shots in the match.

Leone said she was happy with the team's effort in the game but noticed a little fatigue from the grueling regular season schedule.

"We played really well and it was good to see how we compared right now with the top team in our conference," Leone said.