

MEN'S HOCKEY



News Staff File Photo/Dan Pagliarini

Sophomore forward Ludwig Karlsson is one of the returning starters this season. He led the Huskies with 26 points last season.

Huskies putting last season behind them

By Eoghan Kelly
NEWS STAFF

As students and fans file into Matthews Arena next Wednesday night, the scene will seem familiar as the men's hockey team opens another season, but the team and fans will be looking to erase last year's sour ending.

The Doghouse and pep band will seat themselves above the ice in the Matthews balcony, accompanied by the traditional beginning-of-the-season mantra of the loyal Northeastern fan-base: "We're putting last season behind us - this is our year."

But this year - perhaps the most unfamiliar aspect of it all - the fans aren't just telling themselves that. They believe it.

"It's definitely a different team than last year," Doghouse student section co-leader and senior journalism major Sean Hathaway said. "Everything I've heard ... has just been how much missing the playoffs by one point really hurt them inside, how they didn't want that to happen again."

Civil engineering major Mike Chafetz, echoed his co-leader's sentiment.

"I think it's going to be an excit-

ing season," he said. "I think it'll be a different style of hockey in general ... Missing the playoffs is disappointing; it's tough to take as a player, way tougher to take than as a fan I'm sure."

To a degree, the Huskies have certainly committed to ridding themselves of the memory of their disappointing 2011-12 campaign, during which they trudged to a 9-14-4 (13-16-5 overall) Hockey East record and missed out on the final conference playoff spot by one point.

According to senior forward and
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FIELD HOCKEY

Poland springs into record books

By Andy MacDougall
NEWS CORRESPONDENT

Long after those in attendance forget the score, and after the memory of who exactly the 2012 Northeastern field hockey played on Oct. 3 fades away, one moment from Wednesday night's matchup against Harvard will forever linger with the program.

Jordan Field at Harvard University was the site of Northeastern field hockey history Wednesday evening, as senior forward Crystal Poland became Northeastern's all-time leading goal scorer with a two-goal performance in a 4-1 victory over the Crimson.

"Honestly, it's just a benefit of playing for this team," Poland said. "First and foremost, I come out here to win the game. I go out to score, but if there's an open player, I'm not going to take the shot. [The record] is really cool, but the season's not over yet. We have to keep pushing."

Poland now has 68 career goals, standing one ahead of former record holders Mari Creatini (2001-04) and Denise Nasca (1992-95).

"I think it's awesome," junior forward Lindsay Bennett said. "I think it reflects our season so far and how great a team we are this year. I know [Poland] is really modest, and I like to push her buttons a little bit and kind of embarrass her, so I made a big deal out of it. It's a huge accomplishment, and she deserves to be applauded for it."

After a two-goal performance on the road against James Madison University last Friday brought her within one of the record, Poland wasted little time in picking up where she left off.

The Huskies (9-2) earned a penalty corner 4:49 into the first. Bennett sent it to the top of the circle for senior forward Nicky Graham, who set up a blistering shot for Poland that found the back of the net.

Northeastern would add to their lead seven minutes later. A pass deep into the circle by senior forward Hannah Hoelscher was deflected into the air in front of Crimson goalkeeper Cynthia Tassopoulos. Sophomore forward Kelly Dunn was able to get her stick on the loose ball and tallied her second goal of the season to extend Northeastern's lead to 2-0.

Just three minutes later, Poland placed herself alone atop the record books, as the triumvirate of Bennett-Graham-Poland united for Northeastern's second successful penalty corner of the half, and pushed the Huskies to a three goal lead.

The penalty corner was Northeastern's fourth converted corner in two games, an element to their offense that head coach Cheryl Murtagh and her players have worked hard to refine.

"Everybody [we play] is tough," Murtagh said. "Our schedule is not an easy schedule. There's always rivalries coming up, conference play coming up. You can never really take it easy, and we're just trying to get better."

Sophomore back Kate Carlson
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VOLLEYBALL

Huskies surpass CAA foes despite second set struggles

By Madeline Sattler
NEWS STAFF

The volleyball team improved to 3-0 in the Colonial Athletic Association (CAA) with wins over the University of North Carolina-Wilmington (UNCW) and the College of William & Mary last weekend, but continuing struggles in the second set meant the Huskies had to work for their undefeated record.

"We get so overconfident after that first set win," head coach Ken

Nichols said. "The real goal now is how do we fix our second set issues."

In each of their first three CAA games this season, the Huskies had trouble in the second set.

Northeastern defeated UNCW, 3-1, on Friday night (25-17, 23-25, 25-21, 25-14).

After the Seahawks tied the first set at 10, the Huskies pulled ahead and never looked back. Junior setter Ina Kamenova recorded 10 assists in the set and junior outside hitter Kelly Bacon clinched the set with the game-winning kill.

"The first [set] we came out with a good amount of energy and then the second one we kind of played timid," junior outside hitter Janelle Tucker said after the UNCW game. "I think our serving and our serve-receive wasn't as good as the first

set and we let off the gas at the service line."

The second set struggles started when UNCW opened up its biggest lead of the day at 16-11, but the Huskies steadily came back to eventually tie it at 22 with a kill by Bacon. However, the home team could not close and the Seahawks took the set, 25-23.

"[The match] was sort of like Hofstra (Sept. 22, a 3-1 win) in that it was a good battle in the first set," Nichols said after Friday's match. "Then, we got rattled again and we have to find a way to settle ourselves."

Both the third and the fourth set went to Northeastern. Sophomore libero Natalia Skiba scooped up 11 of her 18 digs in the final two sets to anchor a steady defense. Sophomore setter Jillian Briner had the set-winning service ace in the third and Tucker's 15th kill of the day won the match for the Huskies.

"We got it together towards the end and we pulled it off and played like we usually do," Skiba said.

On Sunday, the Huskies defeated another CAA foe, William & Mary, 3-1 (25-14, 25-23, 21-25, 25-13). Similarly, Northeastern jumped out to a fast start in the first set with nine straight points, struggled in the second and then dropped the third.

"It was similar to the previous two conference matches in that there were times of complete dominance and then there were a couple of close sets," Nichols said.

The second set was, once again, a struggle for the Huskies as the

Tribe jumped out to an early lead. A Tucker kill tied the game at 15 and the two teams battled back and forth for the rest of the set. One of Briner's 12 kills sealed the set victory for the Huskies, but it was a hard-fought battle.

"We've got two sets in each of the matches where we've just been totally in control and then two sets in each of the matches that were tight," Nichols said.

The Tribe took a 4-3 lead in the third set on a Northeastern attacking error and would never look back. Skiba scooped up six of her

23 digs in the set and senior middle hitter Nicole Bishop knocked in three of her eight kills.

"That bump that we had been hitting in the second sets kind of got pushed to the third set," Nichols said.

In the final set, the Tribe opened up with a 6-3 run, but Northeastern scored 10 straight points before running away with the set, 25-13, to close the match. Bacon had five kills in the set and 12 on the day. Kamenova led the team in assists on the afternoon with 27.

In three CAA games this season,

the Huskies are 3-0 in opening sets. They hold a 1-2 record in second sets and have surrendered one set to each of their last three opponents.

"No one's going to give it to us; we have to fight for everything," Bishop said. "It's just a start-to-finish thing."

The Huskies will conclude their eight-game homestand with two games on Solomon Court this weekend. Friday night, the George Mason University Patriots and the Huskies will face off at 7 p.m. On Sunday at 1 p.m. James Madison University will take the court.

Northeastern	3
UNCW	1
Northeastern	3
William & Mary	1



News Photo/Zack Williamson

Junior outside hitter Janelle Tucker's two double-double's last weekend earned her CAA Offensive Player of the Week.

WOMEN'S HOCKEY

NU looking to repeat last season magic

By Madeline Sattler

NEWS STAFF

The women's ice hockey team is looking to improve on last year's successes as its season opens this weekend at Syracuse and Colgate universities.

"We're excited for the season," head coach Dave Flint said. "We've got a few goals, but they're all real attainable."

The Huskies were third in the Women's Hockey East Association (WHEA) behind Northeastern 4 and Blades 6 in a crosstown rivals Boston College and Boston University in the WHEA Preseason Coaches Poll.

Last season, Northeastern finished first in the WHEA and claimed the first regular season title in school history. Northeastern also won its first Beanpot title in 14 years, a feat they will look to repeat this year.

"We want to repeat all the things we did last year with the Beanpot and regular season [title]," senior forward Casey Pickett said.

The Huskies saw their first game action on Sunday with an exhibition match against the Boston Blades of the Canadian Women's Hockey League. Although Northeastern was on the losing end of a 6-4 score, Flint noted that he was pleased with how the game went.

"I didn't know what to expect with it being our first game and playing against a team that is that good," he said. "But I thought we



News Photo/Zack Williamson

Junior goalie Kelsey O'Sullivan had seven saves in the third period on Sunday.

did a lot of good things."

Forward Jess Koizumi got the Blades on the board after 90 seconds of play. Northeastern freshman forward Paige Savage got her first collegiate goal shortly thereafter to tie up the game. Sophomore defender Ann Doherty and sophomore forward Kendall Coyne assisted the goal.

The Blades scored twice, on goals by Kelly Steadman and Karen Thatcher, before Pickett recorded the Huskies' second goal. With

21.4 seconds left to play in the second period, Savage sent a shot that bounced off the keeper Mandy Mackrell to Pickett, who was there for the rebound.

"I think our speed was good and I think we were moving the puck a lot better than we did last year," Pickett said.

Thatcher scored early in the final period to give the Blades a two-goal advantage. Four minutes later, senior forward Siena Falino pushed the puck past goalie Lauren Patter-

son to pull the Huskies within one.

Late in the final period, freshman forward Tori Hickel tied the game at four with her first collegiate goal. Junior forward Katie MacSorley had the assist.

"The freshmen did great today," Flint said after Sunday's game. "They had two of our goals and they're going to be counted on [this season]."

The tie was short-lived as Steadman scored her third goal just over a minute later. Then Flint opted to

pull sophomore goaltender junior Kelsey O'Sullivan with just under a minute to go. It proved costly as Kate Buesser scored an empty-net goal despite a diving effort by Coyne.

"I think the game had a lot of momentum shifts," Coyne said. "We were getting adjusted to being as a team and being together the first game."

Sophomore goaltender Chloe Desjardins will look to take over keeper duties. She will have big shoes to fill after last season's goalie Florence Schelling had a career season. Schelling led the WHEA in goals against average, save percentage and win percentage.

Desjardins saw limited time last season and will have to adjust to a full-time role this year.

"I think as Chloe gets experience, she's going to get better and better," Flint said. "She's a very good goalie and we just need her a little bit more playing time."

In Sunday's exhibition match, Desjardins allowed three goals in 40 minutes of playing time and stopped 15 shots on goal.

The Huskies will open up their season this weekend on the road. They will play at Colgate tomorrow at 7 p.m. and take on the Syracuse Orange on Saturday at 4 p.m. Their home-opener will be the following weekend against Union University.

"We're going to try to tune up a few things in the D-zone and try to get a game plan for Friday and Saturday," Flint said. "I'm pretty optimistic about the season."

MEN'S HOCKEY

Madigan not worried about youth, powerplay

FROM MEN'S HOCKEY, PAGE 12

captain Vinny Saponari, the way last season ended left a sour taste in the team's mouth.

"The summer's long. After last season, it made it even longer, just losing the way we did by one point and missing the playoffs," Saponari said. "We definitely changed our attitude. We have a whole new focus. Not much is the same as last year."

The Huskies only lost one senior, forward Mike McLaughlin, to graduation, but seven additional underclassmen said their farewells to fans at the end of last year.

Redshirt-junior forwards Alex Tucker and Steve Quailer joined McLaughlin, choosing to leave the team instead of play out their final year of NCAA eligibility. Quailer signed a two-year deal with the Montreal Canadiens in June.

Gone, too, are three of Northeastern's top four defensemen. Sophomore Anthony Bitetto signed a two-year contract with the Nashville Predators, classmate Luke Eibler transferred to Northern Michigan University and junior Drew Daniels — accompanied by his brother, Justin — left the team for undisclosed reasons.

Sophomore forward Rob Don-gara, who struggled to see consistent playing time in 2011-12 after winning the team's Rookie of the Year award the season prior, transferred to the University of Massachusetts-Amherst.

By the end of the line changes, the Huskies had lost 39 percent of their offensive production and nearly 68 percent of their power play scoring from the 2011-12 season.

But 18 players will return this season, including five of Northeastern's seven leading scorers: sophomore and assistant captain Ludwig Karlsson, Saponari, senior forward Garrett Vermeersch, and junior forwards Braden Pimm and Cody Ferriero.

"Eighteen returning players is still a lot of players to return with some real good quality and leader-

ship," second-year head coach Jim Madigan said. "There are some real good players in this program that we're fortunate are going to be juniors and seniors this year."

Saponari and Madigan both expressed confidence in returning senior goaltender Chris Rawlings — and his .917 career save percentage — to bounce back after an underwhelming performance in 2011-12.

"Chris [Rawlings] is one of our hardest workers on the team and he knows just as well as we do that last year wasn't the way he wanted to play," Saponari said. "I've seen him in the weight room, on the ice longer than most people, so I know he's been working as hard as

he can."

Despite the number of returning players, the door has been opened for Madigan's first recruiting class to replace the team's off season departures.

The good news, Saponari said, is that the incoming group has the talent to pull it off.

"A lot of them have experience in pretty high competitive levels, so that's exciting," he said. "They come in looking really physically big and strong and should make an immediate impact on our team and against other teams."

Northeastern's incoming recruiting class is headlined by freshman forward Kevin Roy, the 2011-12 United States Hockey

League (USHL) Player of the Year who broke the league's scoring record a year ago with 54 goals and 104 points. Kevin and his goalie brother, Derick, decommitted from Brown University in late July and announced their plans to attend Northeastern on Aug. 6.

"I'm really happy the way me and my brother ended up here," Kevin Roy said after practice Wednesday. "I think it's a really great place, great program, we have a real good team and I think we can do some special stuff this season."

Five other newcomer forwards will join Kevin Roy in the fight for game-day roster spots, including freshmen Cam Darcy, Mike Mc-

Murty and Ryan Belonger.

Drew Ellement is the only senior of the defensive line, leaving the rest to be underclassmen. He and sophomores Josh Manson and Dan Cornell will share the workload with some or all of the five freshmen Madigan and his coaching staff ushered in during the off-season.

Madigan said that up to three rookie defensemen could dress on any given night, but he's not worried about inexperience.

"You always have a little concern with inexperience at any position," Madigan said. "[There] are still four returning upperclassmen who played a lot of games."

Also atop Madigan's list of things he isn't worried about is the team's power play, which converted only 21 of 153 chances (13.7 percent) last season. Madigan said it has continued to improve through pre-season practices.

Northeastern will have an early opportunity to test it in the home-opener next week. The Merrimack Warriors were ranked 32nd nationally in penalty kill (81.2 percent) last year.

But first, the Huskies must first face St. Francis Xavier University (Canada) in an exhibition game at Matthews Arena on Sunday afternoon. St. Francis Xavier beat Northeastern 8-5 in a preseason game on Oct. 2, 2011.

Sunday's game will not count. Instead, it will serve as a benchmark to gauge what this team still has left to improve.

But for the first time, the fans, alumni and university will see the response from the team that was a point away from the offseason seven months earlier.

"I guess after last year, missing the playoffs, we don't deserve to be picked higher," Saponari said. "They go off what we were last year and what they think we have. [But] when you're inside the locker room and inside our weight room, we feel we're a lot higher than [eighth], so we're not worried about what they pick us as."



News Staff File Photo/Dan Pagliaroli/File

Sophomore forward Ludwig Karlsson had 10 goals and 16 assists last season.

FIELD HOCKEY

Huskies win at Harvard

FROM FIELD HOCKEY, PAGE 12

added an unassisted goal with 7:05 left in the first half to give Northeastern a comfortable 4-0 lead heading into the break.

Harvard played much more aggressively in the second half, dominating the Huskies in shots (11 to 5) and penalty corners (5 to 2), but couldn't get the ball past senior goalie Lizzie Priest and a staunch

circle defense.

With just under six minutes left on the clock, Harvard's Kim Goh snuck a ball past Priest on a penalty stroke to bring the Crimson within three, but by then, Northeastern was in full control.

"I think we just came out hard like we've been doing all season," Graham said. "We came here to make a statement. We came here

wanting to be the best [field hockey team] in Boston, and this was the first step towards that. We had to come out strong and we had to pull out the win."

Northeastern has a quick turnaround, as they return to the pitch tomorrow in Newark, Del., to take on the University of Delaware at 7 p.m.

Huskies succeeding on low tallies

The men's soccer team has been having a season that gives most fans heart attacks. All but two of its eight games have been decided by one goal or less, with five of those going to double overtime. They make it impossible to know the result of the game until the final whistle.

The Huskies have a 5-1-2 overall record, and their only Colonial Athletic Association (CAA) game thus far (against William & Mary on Sept. 22) ended in a 1-1 tie. They are now on a four-game unbeaten streak, with a 2-0-2 record during those games.

But they have struggled offensively throughout the first stretch of the season. Their 5-2 win over the College of the Holy Cross on Sept. 25 marks only the second time the Huskies have score more than one goal in a game this season.

Northeastern's biggest star has been senior forward Don Anding, who was named CAA Offensive Player of the Week on Oct. 1 after a hat trick against Holy Cross and the equalizing tally against Virginia Commonwealth University. Anding leads the Huskies with six goals and two assists in eight games, with two of his goals being game-winners. He is also ranked third in the conference in points and goals.

Unfortunately, they have had difficulty finding another offensive threat. Anding accounts for just under half of the Huskies goals and one-third of the team's total shots. While he has been playing sensationally, the Huskies have to find a way to give him support.

Freshman forward Terence Carter and sophomore forward Donovan Fayd'Herbe de Maudave each have two goals and no assists. Carter has only played in four games, so hopefully he can help the Huskies offense as he gets more playing time.

Without a second offensive threat, the Huskies will have trouble winning games because teams could try to lock down Anding. Either Carter or Fayd'Herbe de Maudave – or both – will need to provide that support for the Huskies to continue winning games.

Northeastern's defense has been outstanding at keeping the Huskies alive late in games. Starting senior goalkeeper Oliver Blum has only allowed five goals in 628:30 of playing time and touts an impressive 0.72 goals against average (GAA), the highest in the CAA. With him in net, the Huskies are 5-0-2.

Freshman goalkeeper Dylan Faber also has had a good start at Northeastern. He has a GAA of 1.38 in 261:38. The defense and the goalies have kept the Huskies in tight games, including the five double OT games. The Huskies also have three shutouts through the first eight games.

Northeastern matches up very well in the conference on defense. They are tied with James Madison University for first place in the division in goals against (9) but fall at only seventh in goals per game (1.62). Old Dominion University leads the conference with 3.12 goals per game, which is a large difference to make up if the Huskies want make a run for the CAA Championship – but that's still a long time away.

In the meantime, Northeastern continued conference play last night on the road on the road against Drexel University (6-2-1), pulling off at 2-0 regulation win.

The Dragons had been involved in higher scoring games than the Huskies, but also have let up more goals. Drexel is ranked third in the conference in goals per game with 2 and is ranked fifth in goals allowed with 1.22 per game.

As long as the Huskies' defense continues to play at the same level they have all year, they should be in a lot of close games. However, it seems that at some point in conference play, they will need an offense to emerge. They have an impressive record, but five of their games have gone to double overtime.

Unless someone can step up to support Anding and present a bona fide one-two scoring punch, Northeastern may not be able to keep up its impressive record with so many games coming down to the final minutes.

– Chris Judd can be reached at sports@HuntNewsNU.com



Under the Lights: Jill Briner

By Elizabeth Thomas
NEWS STAFF

Sophomore setter Jill Briner was able to lead the Huskies to a victory over the College of William & Mary this past Sunday at Solomon Court. Briner recorded her third career triple-double with 12 kills, 20 assists and 11 digs in the Huskies' 14th win of the season.

"It was a tough game but I knew all the girls were working very hard to come up with a win," Briner said. "It just felt great to help with that win in any way I could."

An Oak Park, Ill. native, Briner credits her immense family support for her success.

"I've played volleyball since I was 6," she said. "My parents knew I was going to be tall and they both loved volleyball and played it. So once I came around they were there to help me into it."

Growing up an adopted only child, Briner's parents knew from a young age that she would flourish in volleyball.

"They were both too

short to play competitively and I've always been tall, so they just knew it was something I would love to play just like them and be better since I am taller," Briner said. "They both have helped me tremendously and I wouldn't be able to play at the level I am at now without them."

While the season wears on, Briner rigorously works on her academics, realizing how crucial

it is to be successful not only on the court, but in the classroom.

"I know it's super important to get a good co-op and try and manage that with playing and good grades," she said.

Briner said she has nothing but faith in her team making the post season and knows what she needs to do to improve herself to help them get there.

"We can definitely make it far into the post season with this team we have now. Everyone contributes a lot and knows that each person plays an important piece in getting us there," Briner said.

"There are personal things I need to do better too and I will work on them nonstop these last games here, if it means we could get the chance of making it to the playoffs."

Northeastern's next game will be against Colonial Athletic Association rivals George Mason University tomorrow at 7 p.m. at Solomon Court.



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STANDINGS

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

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

CAA VOLLEYBALL			
		CAA	Overall
1	Northeastern	3-0	14-3
2	Towson	2-0	15-3
3	James Madison	2-0	9-7
4	William & Mary	2-1	10-7
5	Delaware	1-1	6-11
6	Goerge Mason	1-1	3-12
7	Hofstra	1-2	13-9
8	UNCW	0-3	7-11
9	Georgia State	0-4	2-14

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

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