



# THE BEACON Newsletter

Men's Soccer  
Women's Soccer  
Volleyball  
Men's Cross Country  
Women's Cross Country  
Women's Tennis

Men's Basketball  
Women's Basketball  
Men's Ice Hockey  
Women's Ice Hockey  
Men's Indoor Track  
Women's Indoor Track

Baseball  
Softball  
Men's Lacrosse  
Men's Tennis  
Men's Outdoor Track  
Women's Outdoor Track

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MARCH  
10

VOLUME 4, No. 25

## MEN'S HOCKEY

11-14-2, 5-12-2 ECAC

WHAT'S  
NEXT ?

*Head Coach: Peter Belisle*

**What a Run** The men's ice hockey team just ran out of upsets in a 5-2 loss at nationally-ranked Norwich in the semifinals of the ECAC East Tournament on Saturday. Still, 2007-08 will go down as a landmark season for the Beacons, who found themselves receiving a vote in that national poll last week and a heckuva lot to look forward to in the future.

The Cadets took a 1-0 edge with a power play score just 2:11 into the first period, but were held in check until just 16 seconds into the second period when they took a 2-0 margin. UMass Boston responded at 3:01 of

the middle period when freshman forward **Matt Atsoff (Macomb, MI)** took a feed from classmate **Eric Tufman (Abington, PA)** and netted his 12th goal of the season to cut the deficit to 2-1. The teams went into the final period with just one goal separating them, but Norwich took advantage of another power play with a goal at 3:05 of the third period to take a 3-1 lead. The Cadets scored twice more in a span of two minutes with the first coming at 10:26 and the second at 12:26 to take a 5-1 advantage. Senior forward **Kyle Simpson (Scituate, MA)** combined with junior forward **Rocco Dabecco (South Park, PA)** to set up freshman forward **Devin Hutchinson (Port Huron, MI)** for his third goal of the season to make it 5-2 at 15:36, but that would be the final score of the day as the top-seeded Cadets came away with the win.

Photo by AJ Rourke



Senior, Kyle Simpson

SEASON COMPLETE

WHAT  
HAPPENED ?

March  
8 at Norwich 2-5 L

## M & W INDOOR TRACK & FIELD

WHAT'S  
NEXT ?

*Head Coach: Pershing Reid*

Photo by AJ Rourke



Senior, Mike Leavitt

**From Indoor to Outdoor** Senior **Mike Leavitt (Brockton, MA)** finished 23rd in the 3000 meters with a time of 9:11.13 to lead the UMass Boston men's indoor track and field team at the 2008 ECAC Division III Men's Indoor Track and Field Championships. The meet was hosted by Harvard University in Cambridge, MA. Leavitt was the Beacons' only competitor to compete at the championships and capped UMass Boston's first indoor season since 2001.

SEASON COMPLETE

WHAT  
HAPPENED ?

March  
7&8 ECAC Championships



# WOMEN'S HOCKEY 14-12-0, 11-8-0 ECAC

*Head Coach: Maura Crowell*

## WHAT'S NEXT ?

SEASON COMPLETE

## WHAT HAPPENED ?

March 8 vs. N. E. College 3-6 L

## THE BEACON SPOTLIGHT



**Katelyn Sawyer-Lajoie**  
Ice Hockey

**Birthday:** 4/21/1987  
**Hometown:** Marlboro, MA  
**Year:** Sophomore  
**Major:** Criminal Justice  
**Nickname:** LaJoie  
**What do you like most about UMass Boston?** academics/social life  
**Favorite place on campus?** Athletic center  
**Favorite sports team?** Bruins  
**Favorite athlete?** Phil Kessel  
**Something most people don't know about you?** I'm funny  
**Favorite vacation spot?** florida  
**Accomplishment you are most proud of in your sport?** Being the top scorer for freshmen, my freshmen year  
**Favorite holiday?** XMas  
**Would you rather live in a log cabin or downtown?** log cabin  
**Do you have any pets?** Yes  
**Favorite movies?** Superbad  
**Favorite artist or band?** Kenny Chesney  
**Favorite pre-game song to get pumped up?** Sweet Caroline, Shipping up to Boston  
**Pepsi or Coke?** Coke  
**Favorite Cereal?** Lucky Charms  
**Favorite city?** Boston  
**Favorite ice cream?** Chocolate chip cookie dough  
**Favorite Sesame Street character?** Snuffleupagus  
**Hats or no hats?** no hats  
**Morning or Night?** night  
**Peanut Butter: Crunchy or creamy?** creamy  
**Favorite Season?** Summer  
**Favorite Saved by the Bell character?** Screech

**Not Feeling Lucky** The Playland Ice Casino might be a fun place for New Yorkers to visit in the summer, but its just never been a desirable winter destination for UMass Boston's women's ice hockey team, which fell in the ECAC East semifinals to New England College, 6-3, on Saturday night.

New England College took a 2-1 edge on the power play just 30 seconds into the second period, but the Beacons answered when freshman forward **Katie Kirwan (Centerville, MA)** set up senior forward **Lauren O'Connor (Everett, MA)** for her fourth goal of the season at the 6:42 mark of the middle period to knot the score at 2-2. The Pilgrims reclaimed the lead at 9:54 of the second session for a 3-2 margin and increased their lead to 4-2 at 9:35 of the third period, but UMass Boston countered with an unassisted goal from sophomore forward **Maria Nasta (Andover, MA)** for her team-high 20th of the season to tie a school-record for goals by a sophomore and pull UMB to within 4-3 with 14:31 gone in the final period. New England College wasted no time in keeping the

pressure on with a goal just 59 seconds later for a 5-3 advantage. The Beacons appeared to cut the deficit to a goal, but the score was waived off. The Pilgrims tallied the final goal of the night with an empty netter with 72 seconds left to play in the contest.

New England College started quickly when it found the back of the net at the 1:35 mark of the first period, before Kirwan assisted on senior forward **Katherine Wall's (Arlington, MA)** fifth goal of the season for UMass Boston to tie the tilt at 1-1 with just 51 seconds left in the opening period.

Freshman goalie **Brittany Squillante (Scottsdale, AZ)** made 23 saves for the Beacons and O'Connor played in her final game for the Beacons to tie the school-record for career games played with 103.

Photo by AJ Rourke



Senior, Lauren O'Connor

## DONOVAN NAMED ECAC EAST MEN'S ICE HOCKEY GOALIE OF THE YEAR, TUFMAN TABBED TO ALL-ROOKIE TEAM

Men's ice hockey player **Ryan Donovan (Rexford, NY)** was named the 2007-08 ECAC East



Men's Ice Hockey Goalie of the Year and also earned a spot on the All-ECAC East First Team, while **Eric Tufman (Abington, PA)** was selected to the All-ECAC East All-Rookie Team.

Donovan becomes the first goaltender in school history to earn the top goalie award after establishing himself as one of the best "big game" goaltenders in the league. The sophomore leads ECAC East with 819 saves in a league-high and school-record 1533:35 minutes of action and has averaged 31.5 saves per game. Donovan has posted 30 or more saves on 17 occasions this year, including five outings with 40-plus and has earned 11 victories to rank second at UMass Boston for wins in a single campaign. The second-year stopper has met the challenge when it's come to tough opponents, turning in a 42-save effort and allowing three goals to take down nationally-ranked Middlebury College on February 16 a day after he helped put an end to a nine-year losing streak to Williams College with 37 saves in a 2-2 tie. He also stopped 42 out of 45 shots in a 3-2 overtime loss to nationally-ranked Norwich University on January 19 to help the Beacons hold the distinction of being the only team this season to take the Cadets into overtime. Donovan has also lived in the nightmares of players from nationally-ranked Babson College, holding the Beavers winless in a pair of meetings, including a 35-save performance on December 5 to gain a 1-1 tie and allowing just one goal, while turning away 33 shots in the Beacons' 4-1 ECAC East Tournament quarterfinals victory at Babson on March 1. A two-time Goalie of the Week honoree this season, Donovan has already surpassed his own school-mark for games played with 26 this year and owns a 3.40 goals against average, which is the fourth-lowest mark in school annals, while ranking 11th in ECAC East this year. A product of Avon Old Farms (CT), he has turned in a .904 save percentage to place seventh among league leaders and stand fourth on the school's all-time single-season list, while allowing two or fewer scores on eight occasions.

Tufman lands on the All-Rookie squad after a phenomenal first season at UMass Boston. The freshman has regularly been recognized as one of the ECAC East's top rookies, having been selected the Rookie of the Week a league-high six times. The winger led all league freshmen with 1.44 points per game, while ranking sixth among the nation's rookies in points per outing. The first-year player emerged as the top player for the Beacons, which had a roster comprised of 17 freshmen and five sophomores and just three seniors out of 29 players, leading the squad with 36 points and 18 goals, while standing second with 18 assists. The Abington Senior High School product ranked sixth among the league leaders in points, fourth in goals and 10 in assists and made his scores count, racking up four game-winning tallies to place 12th among the national leaders as well as third in ECAC East. Tufman has also been a big part of UMass Boston's power play, potting nine goals with the extra skater to stand 16th in NCAA Division III, while ranking second in ECAC East and entering the UMB record-book as the second-highest total in a season in school annals. He also ranks sixth in the league with 15 (9-6-15) power play points. A former member of the Philadelphia Little Flyers of the American Junior Hockey League, he has been extremely reliable for the Beacons, notching at least one point in 20 of 25 contests, including nine multi-point efforts and a season-high of four points on three occasions. The forward has put together four separate point-scoring streaks of four games or more, including a five-game streak that saw him tally 11 points from December 28 to January 18 and a seven-game stretch that produced eight points from January 22 to February 9. UMB hockey fans got their first taste of the impact he has brought to the program when he collected four points on a pair of goals and two assists in his second collegiate game of the season at Southern New Hampshire University on November 24 and later saw him help the Beacons to their first Codfish Bowl victory since 1997 with a 5-4 triumph over Fitchburg State College on December 29, thanks to another four-point effort, which led to a spot on the All-Tournament team. His point-total is the most by a UMass Boston freshman since Joe McCafferty (1981-83, 1984-85) racked up a school-record 77 points during the 1981-82 campaign. Tufman has already drawn attention from the hockey community after being named one of 16 semifinalists by the Gridiron Club of Greater Boston for the eighth Joe Concannon Award, presented annually to the best American-born college hockey player in New England playing at the D-II/III level.



## SOUSA NAMED ECAC EAST WOMEN'S ICE HOCKEY ROOKIE OF THE YEAR, NASTA TABBED FIRST TEAM



**Rachel Sousa (Woburn, MA)** was named the 2007-08 ECAC East Women's Ice Hockey Rookie of the Year and **Maria Nasta (Andover, MA)** was selected to the All-ECAC East First Team. Sousa was also selected to the ECAC East All-Rookie squad.

Nasta, who is just the second player in school history to be selected to the ECAC East First Team, has exploded onto the scene for UMass Boston with a breakout season that has seen her name among the nation's leaders in points, goals and assists all season.

The sophomore leads the Beacons with 44 points, 19 goals and 25 assists in 25 contests, while ranking third in the nation with 1.00 assists per game, fourth with 1.76 points per outing and seventh with 0.76 goals per game. The center leads ECAC East in points and assists and stands fifth in total goals, while ranking fourth among the nation's leaders with four game-winning goals and third among league leaders. The Andover High School product has also been a force on the power play with 14 points (2-12-14) to rank second in ECAC East and her two short-handed points (1-1-2) place her eighth among league leaders as does her one short-handed tally. Nasta made an impression early for UMass Boston becoming the fifth player in school history to register a hat trick in just her fourth game of the year. It would be the second of 14 multi-point efforts on the campaign, the third most in a season in school history. She also tallied three or more points in a game on eight occasions, including a pair of four-point performances. The 5'6" forward has been the team's most consistent scorer, picking up at least one point in all but five of UMass Boston's 25 games and put together an eight-game point-scoring streak from January 12 to February 2 for the third-longest for a UMB player, while picking up 17 points during the stretch. She has also posted four multi-goal games on the season to rank as the seventh-most in school history. The second-year player smashed the school-record for points and assists by a sophomore and is just one helper shy of tying the overall school-record, while owning the third-highest point total in school history for a season. Her goal total is also the seventh-highest total in school history and one shy of the most by a sophomore. Nasta's game-winning tally is also one shy of the school-standard. Nasta hasn't slowed down either as she currently enjoys a five-game point-scoring streak that has seen her total 10 points, while heading into the ECAC East Tournament Semifinals. She was named the ECAC East Co-Player of the Week for the week of February 11-17 after collecting six points on a pair of goals and four assists in two games.

Sousa becomes just the second player in school history to take ECAC East Rookie of the Year honors and the first since the program's inaugural season when Andrea Ciarletta (2003-07) was honored. She has helped to complement the UMass Boston offense this season and has been among the top rookies in the nation all season as well with 33 points on 13 goals and 20 assists in 25 games to rank second on the team in all categories. The freshman, who was named ECAC East Rookie of the Week a league-high three times, ranks third among all NCAA Division III rookies with 1.32 points per game and stands second among ECAC East freshman in total points, while placing 19th among all players in the country in points per game and eighth among ECAC East total points leaders. The right winger has shown an exceptional ability to distribute the puck, averaging 0.79 assists per outing to place 12th among the nation's leaders, while ranking fourth among league leaders in total assists. She has been a main component on the Beacons' power play with six power play scores to rank 15th in the country and sixth among ECAC East players and stands fifth in the league with 12 points (6-6-12) with the extra skater. A graduate of Woburn High School, she has also proven to be the difference with a pair of game-winning goals to rank 16th in ECAC East. Sousa enjoyed an 11-game point-scoring streak from January 12 to February 16 to tie for the longest such streak in school-history, while racking up 22 points and being arguably the team's most productive player during that stretch. A former member of the Chelmsford Lions junior hockey team, Sousa has notched at least one point in 17 of 25 contests, while racking up 11 multi-point efforts for the sixth-most in school annals. Her first season has been one of the best for a freshman in school history with her point, goal and assist totals all ranking as the third-highest for a freshman at UMB, while placing her ninth among all players for a season in points, sixth in assists and 10 in goals at UMass Boston. Sousa's power play goal total is the fourth most in a season at UMB as well. The forward can already be found among the team's career leaders with the fifth-most power play goals and multi-point efforts. She stands ninth on the career points and assists list and 10th on the goals scored ladder, while ranking sixth in multi-goal games and seventh in game-winning scores for the Beacons.

