



THE BEACON NEWSLETTER

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MARCH

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WOMEN'S HOCKEY 14-12-1, 10-9-0 ECAC

Head Coach: Maura Crowell

WHAT'S NEXT ?

SEASON COMPLETE

WHAT HAPPENED ?

March 3 at RIT 3-5 L

The End of an Era Two of the greatest Division III college women's ice hockey players laced up their skates for the last time on Saturday. Senior forward **Melissa Belmonte (South Boston, MA)** and **Andrea Ciarletta (Watertown, MA)** played their final game in UMass Boston's 5-3 semifinals loss at Rochester Institute of Technology.

The pair burst onto the scene as freshman with Ciarletta being named the ECAC East Rookie of the Year after leading the nation in points per game and goals per game, while Belmonte was the country's third-leading scorer with 53 points. The duo began the saga on November 7, 2003 and Ciarletta tallied four points that night, while Belmonte collected three.

Photo by A.J. Rourke



Senior, Melissa Wigmore

On Saturday, they each chipped in with two points. You could sense that they didn't want it to end, four years of milestones, of sweat and tears and even more laughs and they weren't the only ones. Senior defenseman **Melissa Wigmore (Duxbury, MA)**, perhaps played the finest game of her Beacons' career. The forward, converted defenseman sliced through the RIT defense and netted her sixth goal of the season just 1:28 after the Tigers had taken a 1-0 edge. Junior **Lauren O'Connor (Everett, MA)** was in on the assist and the game was tied at 1-1 at 8:26 of the opening period.

The score remained tied going into the second period, but RIT scored three times, including a power play tally to take a 4-1 advantage after two periods of play.

The Tigers scored at 4:59 of the final period for a 5-1 cushion, but Ciarletta and junior forward **Katherine Wall (Arlington, MA)** set up Belmonte for her 21st goal of the season at 14:13 of

the third period to make it 5-2. UMass Boston sensed the urgency as it headed into the game's final minute and Wigmore potted her second goal of the afternoon for her second two-goal effort of the season, thanks to a feed from who else, but Belmonte and Ciarletta, with what would be 50 seconds left to play in their careers.

Sophomore goalie **Jessica Sams (Bellingham, MA)** came up with 30 saves, including many of the highlight-reel variety.



BELMONTE, WIGMORE AND CIARLETTA NAMED TO ECAC EAST WOMEN'S HOCKEY ALL-CONFERENCE TEAM

University of Massachusetts Boston women's ice hockey players **Melissa Belmonte (South Boston, MA)** and **Melissa Wigmore (Duxbury, MA)** were both named to the Eastern College Athletic Conference East Second Team, while **Andrea Ciarletta (Watertown, MA)** was selected to the Honorable Mention Team.

Belmonte's selection is her first to the All-Conference squad since she was named Honorable Mention as a freshman. The senior has been outstanding for the Beacons this season with a balanced offensive attack, netting 21 goals to rank second on the team and sixth in ECAC East, while her 0.78 goals per game average places her seventh in the nation. A co-captain for UMB, she has tallied 23 assists, the fourth-highest total in school history, to put her fifth among conference leaders as well as 13th in NCAA III with 0.85 per game. The forward's 44 points in 27 games is the third-highest mark in school annals and ranks her third in ECAC East, while her rate of 1.63 per game is the ninth-highest mark in the country. Belmonte has been potent on the power play as well, netting a school-record seven goals, with the advantage, to rank 11th in the nation and fifth on the ECAC East list, while her 14 points on the power play are the seventh-most among league players. The Fontbonne Academy product came into the season with high expectations, being named to the USCHO.com Pre-Season Honorable Mention squad and has been one of the Beacons' most consistent players, racking up at least one point in 20 of 27 contests, including a team-leading 14 multi-point outings. She also potted at least two goals on seven occasions, including her seventh career hat trick to go with two assists vs. Castleton State College on February 4. The hat trick marked the most goals in school-history by a senior at UMB as did her four assists at College of the Holy Cross on February 10. Belmonte tied for the team-high with an eight-game scoring streak, tallying 23 points for an average of 2.9 points per game from January 28 to February 16 and also owned a four-game streak of at least one goal with a total of nine during the string from January 28 to February 4. She was named the ECAC East Player of the Week for the second time in her career for the week of January 29 to February 4.



THE BEACON SPOTLIGHT



Katelyn Pohlman
Ice Hockey

Birthday: 5-19-88

Hometown: Newton

Year: Freshman

Major: None

Nickname: KP

What do you like most about UMass

Boston? That it is in Boston

Favorite place on campus? Quinn

Favorite sports team? New England Patriots

Favorite athlete? Tom Brady

Something that most people don't know about you? I have 27 first cousins

Favorite vacation spot? Hawaii

Accomplishment you are most proud of in your sport? Being able to play in college

Favorite holiday? Christmas

Would you rather live in a log cabin or downtown? log cabin

Do you have any pets? a fish

Favorite movie? Men of Honor,

Remember the Titans

Favorite pre-game song to get

pumped up? any Tech-no

What bones have you broken? fingers

Pepsi or Coke? Pepsi

Favorite Cereal? Cheerios (honeynut)

Favorite city or town? Newton

Favorite ice cream? Chocolate

If it could rain something other than rain, what would it rain? money

Favorite Sesame Street character? Bert

Hats or no hats? Hats

Morning or night? Night

Peanut Butter: Crunchy or creamy? crunchy

Favorite Season? Summer

Favorite Saved by the Bell character? Screech



Wigmore becomes just the second defenseman in school history to be selected as high as the ECAC East's Second Team. The senior led UMass Boston's blueliners in points (13), goals (eight) and assists (five), while ranking 41st in the nation in points per game by a defenseman with 0.52. The assistant captain also stands 14th among ECAC East defenseman for total points. She stepped up her play vs. top opponents, putting together a three-game point-streak in consecutive games against ECAC East tournament top seeded Rochester Institute of Technology, conference regular-season champion Saint Anselm College and the league's number three seed New England College from November 5 to November 11 and also tallied an assist in the Beacon's 5-2 ECAC East quarterfinals victory over University of Southern Maine on February 24

and netted a pair of goals at RIT in the semifinals. The Pomfret School product owned another three-game point-streak from January 6-9, including a career-high two goals at State University of New York-Cortland on January 6.

Ciarletta is the only player in school history to be named to the ECAC East All-Conference team in all four years of play, having been named to the Second Team as a freshman and sophomore and to the First Team as a junior. The senior led the Beacons with 22 goals, which ranks fifth among ECAC East players and her 0.81 goals per game mark is the fifth-highest rate in the nation. The forward places second for UMass Boston with 38 points and ranks seventh in ECAC East and 12th in the country with 1.41 points per outing. Her total of 16 assists is the second-best on the team and puts her 10th among conference leaders.



The graduate of Watertown High School made her goals count, registering five game-winners to rank fourth in the nation and the league and her seven power play goals match Belmonte for the school-record. Ciarletta started the season slowly without a point in her first four games, but picked it up quickly, notching at least one point in 19 of her last 23 games, including 10 multi-point efforts and seven tilts with two or more goals. She owned three point-streaks of four games or longer, including an eight-game stretch that saw her tally 21 points, including back-to-back hat tricks for her second and third of the season to give her a school-record 11 for her career. Ciarletta racked up a school-record matching six points on three goals and three assists at Massachusetts Institute of Technology on February 9 and was later named ECAC Player of the Week for her efforts for the eighth time in her career.