

Wednesday, March 2, 2011

STEVENS TECH PULLS AWAY FROM EASTERN M-LACROSSE, 13-6 *No. 20 Ducks score all four goals of fourth period ; Warriors drop opener*

MANSFIELD, Conn. – The Stevens Tech men’s lacrosse team extended a three-goal lead after three periods by scoring twice in the opening minutes of the fourth period and went on to a 13-6 non-conference victory over Eastern Connecticut State University Wednesday at the Mansfield Outdoor Complex.

Playing its season-opener, Eastern bounced back from an early four-goal deficit to pull to within three goals after three periods when senior attack **Vinny Tornatore (Norwalk)** scored off a pass from freshman Tyler midfielder **Tyler Fresen (Newington)** in an extra-man situation with just 38 seconds left in the session.

The win is the fourth straight for Stevens (2-0) in this series against Eastern after the Warriors captured the matchup. The Ducks are ranked No. 20 in the first USILA Division III poll of the year.

Sophomore midfielder Nicolas Philippi (Mullica Hill, NJ) pushed Stevens’ lead to 10-6 with his second goal three minutes into the final period, and senior midfielder Brandon Faubert (Virginia Beach, VA) converted a man-up goal 30 seconds later after the Warriors were serving a minute penalty for an illegiate body check to give the Ducks a five-goal cushion, 11-6.

Eastern senior All-America **Eric Vasil (Southington)** won 17 of 21 faceoffs against five different opponents. He was successful on ten of 11 in the first half, when the Warriors trailed by only two, 6-4, at the break.

Senior midfielder Chris Laurita (South Brunswick, NJ) netted two of his three goals to help stake Stevens to an early 5-1 lead before the Warriors bounced back on a pair of goals from senior attack **Grant Albertson (New Canaan)** and one from Tornatore to cut the gap to two, 6-4, in the opening minute of the second half. Consecutive goals from Albertson and Tornatore in that stretch marked the only time in the game that the Warriors were able to string together as many as two unanswered goals.

Seven of the goals in the match came on extra-man opportunities. Two of Albertson’s team-high three came with the man enjoying a man-up.

Stevens junior Eric Yando (Baldwinsville, NY) made 17 saves for his second win of the season in as many decisions. Eastern sophomore Donald Berube (Tewksbury, MA) made 13 saves, seven coming when Stevens unloaded 23 of its 54 shots in its four-goal fourth period. The Warriors unloaded 20 shots in the second period but managed to get only two past Yando.

Fresen and Albertson each had two assists for Eastern, with the points the first of Fresen’s career.

Stevens junior attack Kevin Rose (Garden City, NY) contributed to five of his team’s goals by scoring three and dishing off for two more. Rose had both of his assists in the first half and all of his goals in the second.

Eastern hosts Gordon College Saturday at 3 p.m.

Saturday, March 5, 2011

EASTERN M-LACROSSE FENDS OFF GORDON'S CHALLENGE

After scoring the match's first five goals, Warriors play Scots on even terms in 10-6 win

MANSFIELD, Conn. -- For 25 minutes, the Eastern Connecticut State University men's lacrosse team didn't even work up a sweat racking up a five-goal lead over Gordon College in an eventual 10-6 victory.

Over the final 35 minutes, however, visiting Gordon (0-2) made the Warriors sweat, outscoring the Warriors by one after Eastern's (1-1) fast start in a non-conference match Saturday afternoon at the Mansfield Outdoor Complex.

Coming off a 13-6 loss to No. 20 nationally-ranked Stevens Tech in its season and home opener during the week, Eastern raced to 5-0 lead Saturday midway through the second quarter before the Fighting Scots began fighting back. Gordon scored its first two goals in the final five minutes of the first half to build some momentum. Trailing by four, Gordon scored twice in a span of 1:29 in the fourth to cut the Eastern lead to two with eight minutes left before the Warriors gained enough separation on goals by seniors **Eric Vasil (Southington)** and **Vinny Tornatore (Norwalk)** to defeat the Fighting Scots in the first meeting between the programs in 14 years.

Sophomore goalie **Donald Berube (Tewksbury, MA)** made 16 saves and picked up ten ground balls, while Gordon sophomore Houston Zemanski stopped 19 Eastern shots.

Vasil won 15 of 20 faceoffs, picked up 13 ground balls and scored his first two goals of the season. After coming for all six of the team's goals against Stevens, first-line attackers junior attack **Mike Sullinger (Brookfield)** and seniors **Grant Albertson (New Canaan)** and Tornatore combined for half of Saturday's goals. Sullinger had a hand in seven of the team's goals by scoring three and assisting on four more. Sullinger either scored or assisted on the team's first three goals in the opening six minutes and later set up Vasil and Tornatore for the clinching fourth-quarter goals.

Contributing their first points at Eastern were freshmen **Mike Devine (Cheshire)** and **Trevor Morrisette (Bedford, NH)**, and first-year sophomore transfers **Eric Kluge (North East, MD)** and **Nick Stoop (Crofton, MD)**. Devin had two goals, Kluge one and Stoop and Morrisette one assist each.

Eastern visits Babson College Wednesday at 4 p.m.

Wednesday, March 9, 2011

VASIL LEADS EASTERN M-LACROSSE PAST BABSON, 16-11
All-America midfielder wins 23 of 28 faceoffs, sets match record with 26 ground balls

BABSON PARK, Mass. – Senior All-America midfielder **Eric Vasil (Southington)** won 23 of 28 faceoffs and broke the Eastern Connecticut State University men's lacrosse program record with 26 ground balls in the Warriors' 16-11 non-conference victory over Babson College Wednesday afternoon at MacDowell Field.

In improving its series record against Babson (1-2) to 11-3 with its sixth straight victory over the Beavers, Eastern (2-1) broke from a one-goal halftime lead with eight third-quarter goals to carry a 14-10 lead into the final quarter.

Already the program season and career record-holder for ground balls, Vasil broke the match record by five against Babson. The record of 21 was previously held by Ben Raccio of Southington, who set the mark in his first collegiate game April 11, 2006 in a 25-1 win at Mitchell College. As a junior last year, Vasil picked up a career-high 20 ground balls in the season-opener, then matched it a week later in a 12-11 home win over Babson.

Vasil has led Division III in ground balls and faceoff percentage each of the past two years.

Trailing twice early by two goals, Eastern scored four straight in a four-minute, 39-second stretch in the second quarter to take the lead for good, then responded with five of the first six goals of the third quarter to build an 11-6 lead. In that four-goal burst in the second quarter, senior attack **Vinny Tornatore (Norwalk)** struck first in the opening minutes, junior **Mike Sullinger (Brookfield)** tied the game three minutes later, and sophomore midfielder **Eric Kluge (North East, MD)** followed soon-after with the go-ahead goal. Junior midfielder **Salicu Bolivar (Norwalk)** made it 6-4.

Scoreless in the team's first two matches, Bolivar totaled three goals and two assists, with Vasil chipped in three goals and two assists for the Warriors, while Vasil had a goal and a career-high three assists and Tornatore and senior attack **Grant Albertson (New Canaan)** added three goals. Vasil contributed a career-high three assists.

Eastern sophomore goalie **Donald Berube (Tewksbury, MA)** made 14 saves

The teams combined for 13 goals in that wild third quarter, but the Warriors scored five of the first six goals in that period to open up breathing room, Albertson had two and junior attack **Jeremy Cogliano (Bedford, MA)** added a key short-handed strike to make it 11-6. After the hosts cut the gap to two, Bolivar scored back-to-back unassisted tallies in the final 88 seconds of the third to push the Warriors' lead back to four, 14-10.

Defenders **Tommy Flynn (Mineola, NY)**, a junior, and **Nick Stoop (Crofton, MD)**, a first-year sophomore transfer, each picked up four ground balls for Eastern. In three games this year, Vasil shows a .794 faceoff percentage (54-of-68) and is averaging 18.3 ground balls.

Eastern visits Becker College Tuesday at 4 p.m.

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LEICESTER, Mass. -- Seventeen different players scored goals and 20 contributed a point as the Eastern Connecticut State University men's lacrosse team rolled past Becker College, 22-4 Tuesday afternoon at Alumni Field. The win is the third straight for Eastern (3-1), which was facing Becker (1-3) for the first time. The Warriors scored the first 13 goals of the match, didn't allow a shot until the final second of the first quarter, and finished with a 52-13 advantage in shots. All 40 players in uniform saw action. Six Eastern players recorded their first career goals: junior **Mark Vincent (Norwalk)**, sophomores **Carl Skaats (Lebanon)** and **Josh Dubinski (Woodstock)** and freshmen **Mike Jordan (Cheshire)**, **Mike Gillotti (Danbury)** and **Tyler Fresen (Newington)**. Freshman **Travis Pastor (Brookfield)** was credited with his first collegiate point with an assist. Senior All-America **Eric Vasil (Southington)** was 8-of-9 in the faceoff circle to push his nation's-best faceoff percentage over 80 percent to 80.8. All three Eastern goalies saw time, with sophomore **Donald Berube (Tewksbury, MA)** playing the first quarter and recording his third win in four decisions this year. Junior **Jamie Tommins (Fairfield)** and sophomore **Drew Deane (Vernon)** saw their first work of the season between the pipes. Eastern hosts Mount Ida College Saturday at noon.

3-15-11

Saturday, March 19, 2011

EASTERN M-LACROSSE ROLLS PAST MOUNT IDA COLLEGE, 19-4
Warriors score first 12 goals, Vasil wins 19 of 21 faceoffs with 18 GBs in non-conference win

MANSFIELD, Conn. -- Senior All-America **Eric Vasil (Southington)** won 19 of 21 faceoffs and scooped up 18 ground balls to power the Eastern Connecticut State University men's lacrosse team to a 19-4 non-conference win over Mount Ida College Saturday afternoon at the Mansfield Outdoor Complex.

A winner of four straight and all four matches in this series with Mount Ida (1-4), Eastern (4-1) scored the first 12 goals of the match, holding the Mustangs off the board for the first 27 minutes.

A total of 13 players contributed a goal or assist for Eastern, which outshot Mount Ida, 64-22, and held a 40-14 advantage in ground balls. Vasil, the two-time national leader in faceoff percentage and ground balls, won 19 of 21 faceoffs and scooped up 18 ground balls. In five starts this year, Vasil has an .828 faceoff percentage (82-of-99) and is averaging 18.8 ground balls.

Senior attack **Grant Albertson (New Canaan)** led Eastern with four goals and two assists, with freshman attack **Mike Jordan (Cheshire)** adding three goals and junior attack **Mike Sullinger (Brookfield)** two goals and three assists.

Eastern visits Amherst College Tuesday at 4:30 p.m.

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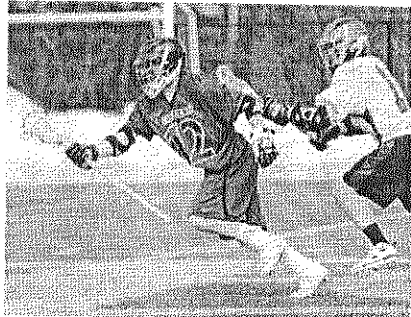
Eastern visits Amherst College Tuesday at 4:30 p.m.

Men's Lacrosse: Warriors Cruise, 19-4

By Bob Molta on March 19, 2011 3:05 PM

All-America Eric Vasil wins 19 of 21 faceoffs with 18 GBs in victory

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Above: Eric Vasil

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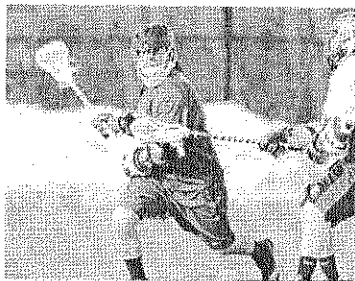
Eastern visits Amherst College Tuesday at 4:30 p.m.

Men's Lacrosse: Warriors Deflated, 12-7

By Bob Molta on March 22, 2011 8:32 PM

They make run after early deficit but four-game streak halted

AMHERST, Mass. - Eastern Connecticut State University's top attacking line was held in check throughout and the Warriors couldn't complete a comeback from five goals down in a 12-7 loss to Amherst College Tuesday afternoon that ended a four-game winning streak.



At right, Mark Vincent

Ranked No. 20 in Division III and coming off a 10-3 win over nationally-ranked Connecticut College in its home opener Saturday, Amherst (4-1) scored the first five goals of the game and limited the Warriors' top attacking line to a single goal and one assist. The Warriors had won their last four this year - scoring double-digit goals in each - and had upended Amherst, 14-12 a year ago at home.

Down 5-0 after 17 minutes (five different Amherst players scored goals), Eastern later made it a three-goal match by the end of the third quarter, but the Lord Jeffs got quick goals from freshman Devin Acton and junior Cole Cherney that restored the five-goal advantage with ten minutes left in the game.

Acton led all players with four goals and junior Evan Redwood was credited with five assists. Junior midfielder **Salieu Bolivar (Norwalk)** and freshman midfielder **Mike Dovine (Cheshire)** each had two goals for Eastern, and sophomore transfer midfielder **Eric Kluge (North East, MD)** had a goal and three assists.

Eastern sophomore goalie **Donald Berube (Tewksbury, MA)** made 17 saves and senior All-America midfielder **Eric Vasil (Southington)** won 16 of 22 faceoffs against a pair of Amherst opponents, and picked up 12 ground balls. Eastern's man-down unit excelled, stopping the hosts on all six of their extra-man opportunities.

Amherst junior **Sam Jakimo** won his fourth game in as many decisions in net, stopping 13 shots over the first 59 minutes.

Eastern hosts Connecticut College Tuesday at 7 p.m.

Tuesday, March 29, 2011

EASTERN M-LACROSSE GETS BEST OF CONN COLLEGE, 12-11
Warriors emerge with win in see-saw game by scoring four of final six goals

MANSFIELD, Conn. – In a game where neither team scored more than two unanswered goals, Eastern Connecticut State University scored four of the final six to post a 12-11 men's lacrosse victory over Connecticut College Tuesday night in a non-conference match at the Mansfield Outdoor Complex.

Eastern (5-2) was assessed the first eight penalties of the match and ten of 13 in the game but emerged with the win when junior midfielder **Salieu Bolivar (Norwalk)** set up junior attack **Mike Sullinger (Brookfield)** for the deciding goal with 34 seconds left.

Sullinger's game-winning goal was the final one in a contest which featured eight ties and five lead changes. The Warriors never led by more than one goal but trailed by three midway through the second quarter. The Warriors never trailed, however, after senior attack **Grant Albertson (New Canaan)** tied the match at 9-all with his second goal on a pass from Sullinger with 2:31 left in the third quarter.

Eastern, which evens the all-time series at 2-2 (none of the matches have been decided by more than four goals), successfully killed off the first seven penalties of the match before Connecticut College (2-5) converted its only extra-man opportunity in ten tries to take a two-goal lead with 3:25 left in the first half. The goal is the only one allowed by Eastern's man-down team on 18 chances in the last two matches.

Leading 4-2 late in the first quarter, Conn couldn't pad its margin despite having a three-man advantage beginning in the final seconds of the quarter. Behind the effort of senior midfielder **Eric Vasil (Southington)**, Eastern was able to clear the ball out of its own end of the field while playing three men down and held the Camels without a shot in that time.

Bolivar's second goal of the match with six minutes left pushed Eastern into an 11-10 lead before Conn senior midfielder Mark Mangano (Basking Ridge, NJ) tied the match for the final time by scoring his sixth goal (four came in the first half when he scored all of his team's goals) with 4:14 left. Eastern sophomore goalie **Donald Berube (Tewksbury, MA)** initially caught the shot in his stick but couldn't control it as it bounced in.

Sullinger's team-leading 23rd point (tenth goal) on a feed from Bolivar shot the Warriors back into the lead with 34 seconds left. Conn sophomore midfielder Brendan Schrader (Annapolis, MD) won the ensuing faceoff when junior defenseman Nick Rodricks (Baltimore) was credited with the ground ball. Conn called a timeout with 24.5 seconds left, and after Eastern's defense neutralized senior attack Ryan Hayes (Darien), senior midfielder Eric Duran (Pennington, NJ) took a shot that sailed wide. The Camels re-gained possession with 0.4 seconds left but could not get off a shot before the final horn.

(more)

Vasil, the national leader in ground balls and faceoff percentage, won 17 of 26 faceoffs and controlled 12 ground balls. Bolivar had four ground balls and matched Albertson, **Eric Kluge (North East, MD)**, a sophomore midfielder, and freshmen midfielders **Mike Devine (Cheshire)** and **Tyler Fresen (Newington)** with two goals each. Fresen had scored only one goal through the first six matches but struck twice in the final 2:21 of the first half to help the Warriors re-gain momentum and pull into a 6-6 tie at halftime.

Mangano scored on his first four shots and on six of 12 in the match. Sophomore midfielder Stephen Eicher (Northport, NY) followed Mangano with three goals.

Berube made ten saves – all coming after the first quarter –to gain his fifth win in seven decisions. Conn junior Rob Moccia (Malvern, PA) sustained his his third loss in as many decisions – all coming off the bench in five matches. Moccia made five saves after being inserted in place of sophomore starter John Lenchan (Hingham, MA) to start the second half in a 6-6 tie.

Eastern opens its Little East Conference schedule Saturday at 1 p.m. by hosting the University of Southern Maine.

Saturday, April 2, 2011

IN LITTLE EAST, EASTERN HAS ENOUGH TO WITHSTAND USM
Warriors' penalty-killing unit put to test again in 11-7 victory in LEC men's lacrosse opener

MANSFIELD, Conn. – The Eastern Connecticut State University men's lacrosse team padded a slim three-goal halftime lead by killing off a penalty early in the second half, then followed by scoring twice in a span of less than two minutes – the second on an extra-man opportunity – and went on to trim the University of Southern Maine, 11-7, Saturday afternoon in the Little East Conference opener at the Mansfield Outdoor Complex.

A seven-time conference regular-season champion, Eastern (6-2, 1-0 Little East) limited Southern Maine (2-5, 0-1 Little East) to two goals on ten extra-man tries. The Warriors, whistled for five straight penalties in the second half, have killed off 34 of their opponents' 38 man-up tries over the last five matches.

The Warriors trailed twice by a goal in the opening quarter but were able to open up some room by scoring three straight goals in the second quarter, then began the second half with the goals by freshman **Mike Devine (Cheshire)** and senior **Grant Albertson (New Canaan)**. Senior **Vinny Tornatore's (Norwalk)** man-down strike in the opening minutes of the second quarter sparked that three-goal run, with junior **Salieu Bolivar (Norwalk)** and Albertson adding even-strength goals two minutes apart to push Eastern's lead to 7-3.

In the second half, Eastern's defense allowed only one goal on seven Southern Maine man-up opportunities. The Huskies managed only that one man-up goal from Tim Bryant in the second half against sophomore netminder **Donald Berube (Tewksbury, MA)** until scoring twice in the final 89 seconds after the starting goalie had retired to the bench.

Albertson and Bolivar each had three of Eastern's goals, Albertson maintaining his team lead with 18 goals. The pair combined to take more than half (24) of the team's 45 shots.

Senior All-America **Eric Vasil (Southington)** won 16 of 18 faceoffs and scooped up 16 ground balls. Vasil leads Division III with a .794 faceoff percentage and an average of 14.4 ground balls per game.

Southern Maine sophomore goalie Kyle Dussault kept his team within striking distance all afternoon by making 18 saves, while Berube turned back 12 shots to improve his season mark to 6-2.

Eastern hosts Massachusetts Boston in a Little East Conference game Saturday at 4 p.m.

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Warriors' penalty-killing unit put to test again in 11-7 victory in LEC men's lacrosse opener

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Eastern hosts Massachusetts Boston in a Little East Conference game Saturday at 4 p.m.

Tuesday, April 12, 2011

WESLEYAN CONTAINS EASTERN M-LACROSSE FOR 13-8 VICTORY *Penalties shackle Warriors in battle of teams ranked in New England Top 10*

MANSFIELD, Conn. -- Wesleyan University scored five straight goals in an 11-minute span to move out to a six-goal lead six minutes into the second half and the Eastern Connecticut State University men's lacrosse team never got closer than four thereafter in a 13-8 loss Tuesday night at the Mansfield Outdoor Complex

Eastern (7-3) had a three-game winning streak ended and lost for the first time after five consecutive home victories while Wesleyan (8-3) won for only the second time in its last five games.

In a battle of the No. 6 (Wesleyan) and No. 10 (Eastern) ranked teams in New England, Wesleyan was awarded six more man-up opportunities than Eastern and capitalized on four of its ten extra-man tries. The Warriors were whistled for all four of the penalties in the first half – two of them locking Eastern in for the full one-minute penalty. Eastern also played two men down for a minute midway through the fourth quarter, but was able to successfully kill off that penalty.

Five different players scored for Wesleyan in that four-goal stretch. During their run, the Cards kept the Warriors from scoring for over 16 minutes when it pushed a one-goal lead to six, 10-4, with nine minutes left in the third quarter. Trailing by seven, the Warriors got late goals from junior midfielder **Salicu Bolivar (Norwalk)** in a man-down situation, and from senior attack **Grant Albertson (New Canaan)** inside the final four minutes

Eastern senior All-America **Eric Vasil (Southington)**, ranked No. 1 nationally in faceoff percentage and No. 2 in ground balls per game, won 16 of 23 attempts and had ten ground balls against three different Wesleyan faceoff opponents.

As a team, Wesleyan turned the ball over only ten times and outshot Eastern by 11. The Cardinals' defense never allowed Eastern to score more than two goals in a row and never gave up more than two goals in a period.

In his 26th consecutive start, sophomore goalie **Donald Berube (Tewksbury, MA)** made 13 saves while Wesleyan junior goalie Grant Covington made five saves before departing in the final five minutes.

Junior midfielder DJ Bernatavitz had three (second half) goals and an assist for Wesleyan, with two of his goals coming in man-up situations. Two of Bernatavitz's goals came in succession and killed any Eastern comeback hopes after Bolivar and freshman **Tyler Fresen (Newington)** had scored less than two minutes apart to pull the Warriors to within four, 10-6, with 6:22 left in the third quarter.

(more)

Bolivar scored three of Eastern's goals but was the only player on the team with more than one, with Fresen assisting on three Eastern goals. Junior defenseman **Tommy Flynn (Mincola, NY)** picked up six ground balls.

The victory is the second straight for Wesleyan over Eastern and evens the all-time series at 4-4 after the Warriors had claimed four in a row. In the most previous meeting, Wesleyan had posted an 8-4 victory over the Warriors in the second round of the 2009 NCAA Division III Tournament at Middletown.

Eastern visits Keene State College in a Little East Conference match Saturday at 6 p.m.

Saturday, April 9, 2011

MEN'S LACROSSE 21, UMASS BOSTON 2

MANSFIELD, Conn. -- Seventeen players contributed a goal or assist and senior All-America **Eric Vasil (Southington)** pushed his nation-leading faceoff percentage over .800 as the Eastern Connecticut State University men's lacrosse team tuned up for next Saturday's Little East Conference showdown at Keene State College by dismantling the University of Massachusetts Boston, 21-2, in a Little East Conference match Saturday afternoon at the Mansfield Outdoor Complex. Led by senior captain **Vinny Tornatore's (Norwalk)** five goals, Eastern led 18-0 early in the fourth quarter on the way to its 18th straight win over UMass Boston in as many games in the series. Vasil won 14 of 16 faceoffs to improve his faceoff percentage to .801 (145-of-181). He also picked up 15 ground balls and is now averaging 14.4 ground balls per game -- second in Division III. Eastern and defending LEC champion Keene State will both bring 2-0 LEC marks into Saturday's 6 p.m. contest at the Owl Athletic Complex. Keene edged Western Connecticut, 11-8, Saturday at Danbury. On Tuesday, the Warriors host Wesleyan University at 7 p.m. in a non-conference match. Wesleyan is rated No. 6 in New England, Eastern No. 9 and Keene State No. 10.

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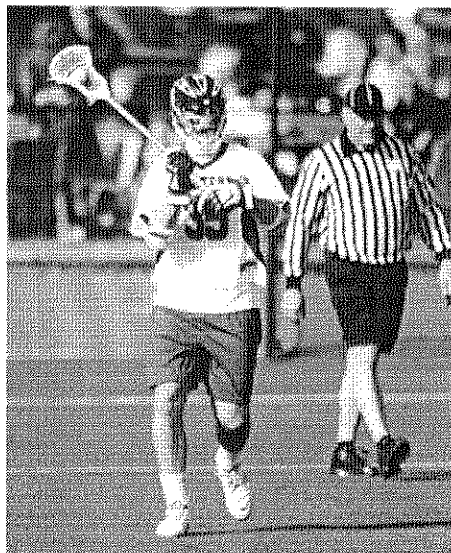
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M-Lax: Warriors Sizzle, then Fizzle

By Bob Molta on April 17, 2011 12:20 AM

It's a tale of two halves as Keene rallies for stunning 19-17 LEC win



[Season Statistics.pdf](#)

KEENE, N.H. - The visiting team has had little success in recent years when the Eastern Connecticut State University and Keene State College men's lacrosse teams have met in Little East Conference play.

In 11 games over the last six years, the visiting team has won only once each when the teams have squared off in LEC regular-season and playoff competition.

At left, Mike Devine

Saturday night in an early-season battle

between of conference unbeaten and regionally-ranked foes, Eastern (7-4, 2-1 Little East) made a bid to reverse that trend, but the visiting Warriors let an eight-goal first-half lead slip away as host Keene (8-2, 3-0 Little East) stormed back in the second half for a wild 19-17 triumph at the Owl Athletic Complex.

The win is the fifth in a row for Keene, which won for the third straight time in this 21-game series. Eastern, which was outscored 9-1 in the third quarter, lost its second straight game.

The Owls, who trailed 13-5 late in the first half, scored eight unanswered goals to tie the game at 13-all and took the lead for good 15-14 on a goal by junior Taylor Jette with 18 seconds to play in the third quarter.

Leading 7-5, Eastern netted six consecutive goals to take a 13-5 lead. Keene came out of the locker room like a different team, scoring the first seven goals of the third quarter, tying the game (13-13) on a goal by senior Mike Araujo. Schairer was the catalyst of the comeback, scoring three of the Owls goals in the flurry.

Jette scored an even up goal at the end of the third quarter and a man-up goal to start the fourth quarter to put Keene up 16-14. Junior **Sailieu**

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Bolivar (Norwalk) got the Warriors within a goal (17-16) with 7:31 to play, but goals by juniors Matthew Crimmins and Griffin Meehan pushed the Owls lead back up to three goals (19-16).

True to form, Eastern senior All-American **Eric Vasil (Southington)** was virtually unstoppable in the circle, winning 28 of 37 faceoffs and scooping up 23 ground balls.

Meehan, who kept Keene in the game in the early going, finished with five goals and two assists while Jette found the back of the net four times.

Freshman **Mike Devine (Cheshire)** had four goals and sophomore **Eric Kluge (North East, MD)** and junior **Mike Sullinger (Brookfield)** and Boliver each finished with three goals for the Warriors.

Keene junior goalie Jason Leser, who made a key stop against Kluge in the closing minute, finished with 10 saves. Eastern sophomore goalie **Donald Berube (Tewksbury, MA)** finished with 13 saves.

Eastern visits the University of Massachusetts Dartmouth Tuesday at 4 p.m.

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Saturday, April 23, 2011

EASTERN M-LACROSSE SHUTS OUT SALEM, HALTS SKID
Warriors post fourth shutout in history, return to winning ways with 17-0 verdict

MANSFIELD, Conn. -- The Eastern Connecticut State University defense limited Salem State University to 15 shots as the Warriors halted a three-game losing streak with a 17-0 Little East Conference men's lacrosse verdict Saturday afternoon at the Mansfield Outdoor Complex.

Eastern (8-5, 3-2 little east) entered play in a four-way tie for third place in the conference and finishes the day in a three-way tie for second with Western Connecticut and Massachusetts Dartmouth after Western upended visiting UMass Dartmouth, 10-9 in overtime Saturday.

Salem State (6-7, 1-4 little east) ends the day a half-game ahead of eighth-place Massachusetts Boston, which had its match at Plymouth State postponed to Monday.

Every Eastern field player in uniform saw time against Salem, with 11 players collecting a point with either a goal or assist. Senior All-America **Eric Vasil (Southington)** won 17 of 19 faceoffs against four different Salem faceoff opponents to up his nation-leading percentage seven points to .784 and won 16 ground balls to improve his nation-leading ground ball average to 15.1.

Eastern outshot the Vikings by 28 and scored three man-up goals in the second half.

First-year sophomore defenseman **Nick Stoop (Crofton, MD)** scored his first career goal with five minutes left in the first half for Eastern while junior midfielder **Salieu Bolivar (Norwalk)** scored twice in the first seven minutes and finished with a game-high four goals.

The shutout is the fourth in program history, second against Salem State.

Eastern visits Western Connecticut Wednesday at 5 p.m. and closes out the regular season Saturday at Plymouth State University in LEC play. The top two teams in the final conference standings are awarded byes in the LEC playoffs, which get underway with first-round games Tuesday, May 3.

Tuesday, April 19, 2011

WITH WIN OVER EASTERN M-LAX, UMD JOINS EXCLUSIVE CLUB

In Little East Conference match, Warriors fall to Corsairs for third straight setback, 10-9

NORTH DARTMOUTH, MA- Until Tuesday, the list of Little East Conference men's lacrosse opponents able to beat Eastern Connecticut State University in 11 years of conference regular-season competition was a short one. Tuesday, the names on that list doubled.

Coming off a disheartening 19-17 loss at Keene State College Saturday night, Eastern (7-5, 2-2 little east) dropped a second straight regular-season conference match for the first time ever in a 10-9 setback to the University of Massachusetts Dartmouth at Cressy Field.

Through the first three conference matches of this year, Eastern had won 60 of 64 regular-season LEC verdicts, with the four losses coming in 11 matches to Keene State.

A winner of 14 straight against the Corsairs – ten coming in LEC regular-season play and only one closely contested – Eastern dropped its third straight overall decisions this year when the hosts erased an early four-goal deficit to score three straight down the stretch on the way to its third conference win in four decisions and 11th overall victory in 13 tries.

In a sloppy game which featured 50 turnovers (30 by Eastern) but only six penalties (the first five against Eastern), the Warriors got early fourth-quarter goals from senior **Grant Albertson (New Canaan)** and first-year sophomore **Eric Kluge (North East, MD)** to take their final (one-goal lead) before the hosts countered with three in a row over a span of six minutes to go ahead, 10-8. Albertson got Eastern within a goal with his third goal of the match with 2:28 left on a pass from junior **Mike Sullinger (Brookfield)**, but UMass was able to hold off Eastern in the final minutes.

Leading 5-1 a minute into the second quarter, Eastern gave up goals to AIC junior transfer Nick Brett and freshman Jordan McPherson within 16 seconds and had to settle for a 5-3 halftime lead. UMass took its first lead in the third quarter when it limited the Warriors to just one goal and answered with four of its own.

Eastern matched the Corsairs in total shots but was able to put only half of its attempts on net. National leader **Eric Vasil (Southington)** won 16 of 23 faceoffs against UMass freshman Jordan McPherson and picked up 17 ground balls. Eastern sophomore goalie Donald Berube (Tewksbury, MA) made 12 saves while UMD freshman Nick Thayer was credited with nine.

Eastern hosts Little East Conference opponent Salem State University Saturday at 1 p.m. in its regular-season home finale.



UMass

Dartmouth

Dave Geringer, Sports Information Director
For Immediate Release: Tuesday, April 19, 2011

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MEN'S LACROSSE DOWNS EASTERN CONNECTICUT STATE, 10-9

NORTH DARTMOUTH, MA-The University of Massachusetts Dartmouth men's lacrosse team did something they hadn't done before in their Little East Conference match against visiting Eastern Connecticut State at Cressy Field Tuesday.

The Corsairs outscored the Warriors, 7-4, in the second half and defeated Eastern Connecticut for the first time ever, 10-9.

Trailing, 5-1, early in the second quarter, the Corsairs got goals from junior attacker Nick Brett (Loudon, NH/Merrimack Valley HS/AIC) and freshman midfielder Jordan McPherson (Westwood, MA/Westwood HS) to close to within 5-3 at halftime. Junior midfielder Christian Roberto (Wakefield, MA/Malden Catholic HS) scored early in the third quarter to make it 5-4, and the teams stayed within two goals of each other after that.

The Corsairs rallied in the fourth quarter, getting consecutive goals from Roberto, senior midfielder Bobby Smith (Wakefield, MA/Wakefield HS) and senior attacker Josh Arsenault (Revere, MA/Malden Catholic HS) to claim a 10-8 advantage with 3:08 remaining. Senior attacker Grant Albertson (New Canaan, CT/Trinity Pawling HS-NY) scored for ECSU to make it 10-9 with 2:28 left, but the Warriors could come no closer.

Arsenault had three goals and Roberto, Brett and Smith each had two for UMD. Albertson had three and senior attacker Vinny Tornatore (Norwalk, CT/Norwalk HS) had two for ECSU.

"Our senior leadership carried the day today," said UMass Dartmouth Head Coach Kevin Mahoney. "Our captains, Josh Arsenault, Bobby Smith, (senior defender) Paul Nunes (Mansfield, MA/Mansfield HS) and (senior midfielder) Steve Espinola (Groton, MA/Groton-Dunstable HS) did a great job of getting everyone on the same page, controlling the pace, and keeping us going for all four quarters. We said we wanted to win every quarter, and they came out in the first quarter as their usual devastating selves. Our defender played well, (freshman goalkeeper) Nick Thayer (Chelmsford, MA/Chelmsford HS) did a great job in the cage, and Christian Roberto did a great job in the cage. We did a great job of containing a powerhouse offense."

The Corsairs outshot the Warriors, 36-35. Freshman goalkeeper Nick Thayer (Chelmsford, MA/Chelmsford HS) made nine saves for UMD, while sophomore Donald Berube (Tewksbury, MA/Tewksbury HS) made 12 stops for USM.

UMass Dartmouth improved to 11-2 and 3-1 in the Little East Conference with the victory, while Eastern Connecticut dropped to 7-5 and 2-2 in LEC action with the defeat. The Corsairs will return to action when they visit Western Connecticut State Saturday. The Warriors will host Salem State Saturday.

UMASS DARTMOUTH LACROSSE

Wednesday, April 27, 2011

EASTERN M-LACROSSE RETAINS SHARE OF SECOND PLACE IN LEC
Warriors maintain hopes of first-round playoff bye with 11-8 victory over Western Connecticut

DANBURY, Conn. – The Eastern Connecticut State University men’s lacrosse team utilized a critical scoring run in the third quarter to pull away from Western Connecticut State University, 11-8 Wednesday night in a Little East Conference match at the Westside Athletic Complex.

Eastern’s (9-5, 4-2 little east) 11th straight win over Western (8-6, 3-3 little east) in this series keeps it locked in a two-way tie for second place in the conference with the University of Massachusetts Dartmouth, which dumped visiting Salem State University, 11-5, Wednesday night. Keene State (6-0) nailed down its second straight LEC regular-season title and the No. 1 playoff seed with an 18-9 victory over visiting Plymouth State University Wednesday afternoon.

In the final regular-season conference matches Saturday, Eastern visits Plymouth State University (3-3) and UMass Dartmouth hosts the University of Massachusetts Boston (0-6). If Eastern and UMass Dartmouth win Saturday, UMass Dartmouth unofficially receives the No. 2 seed and second first-round playoff bye based on its 10-9 regular-season victory over Eastern April 19. The Warriors will be accorded the No. 2 seed if they win Saturday and UMass Dartmouth loses. In Tuesday’s first-round playoff games, the No. 3 seed hosts the No. 6 seed and No. 4 seed entertains the No. 5 seed.

Trailing against Western by a goal in the opening minute of the second quarter, Eastern outscored the hosts 6-1, getting goals from six different players and assists from four different players. The burst, which carried into the first two minutes of the fourth quarter, vaulted Eastern into a three-goal lead with five-and-a-half minutes left.

Junior **Salieu Bolivar (Norwalk)** scored four goals to take over the team goals lead with 29, and added an assist and first-year sophomore **Eric Kluge (North East, MD)** added two goals and were Eastern’s two multiple-goal scorers. Sophomore goalie **Donald Berube (Chelmsford, MA)** made 11 saves, eight in the second half when the Warriors gave up only four goals. Junior **Mike Sullinger (Brookfield)** had four ground balls and senior **Eric Vasil (Southington)** won 12 of 21 faceoffs.



WestConn Men's Lacrosse Final

At Western Connecticut State University

For immediate use: Wednesday, April 27th, 2011

Contact: Scott Russell – Assistant to the SID – 203-727-4601

Eastern wins in-state battle with WestConn in men's lacrosse, 11-8

DANBURY, CT (April 27) – Junior Salieu Bolivar (Norwalk, CT) scored in the game's first minute and finished with four goals and one assist to lead the Eastern Connecticut State University men's lacrosse team to an 11-8 victory over in-state and Little East Conference rival Western Connecticut State University Wednesday afternoon at the Westside Athletic Complex.

Junior **Mike Schoen (Tolland, CT)** led the WestConn offensive attack with four goals, followed by single goals from freshman **Ryan Foster (Ledyard, CT)**, senior **James Dipientrantonio (Yorktown Heights, NY)**, junior **Ryan Gillis (Norwich, CT)**, and junior **Francisco Silva (Port Washington, NY)**. WestConn's season scoring leader, junior **Sean Macey (New Fairfield, CT)**, was unable to find the net, but led the Colonials with two assists.

In addition to Bolivar's four goals for Eastern Connecticut, sophomore Eric Kluge (North East, MD) scored twice, followed by freshman Mike Divine (Cheshire, CT), senior Vinny Tornatore (Norwalk, CT), senior Grant Albertson (New Canaan, CT), senior Brian Fechtmann (Levittown, NY), and freshman Trevor Morrisette (Bedford, NH) who each scored once.

Eastern's early goal in the first quarter stood for nearly 10 minutes until Silva scored the equalizer to get WestConn on the board. Two minutes later, Schoen scored the first of his four goals to give the Colonials a 2-1 lead. A defensive lapse by WestConn left Kluge alone in front of the goal, and the Warrior midfielder took a quick pass from junior Mike Sullinger (Brookfield, CT) and beat the WestConn keeper for a 2-2 tie. The teams traded goals in the final 90 seconds and the score stood deadlocked at 3-3 after one.

Dipientrantonio converted a man-up opportunity for WestConn in the opening minute of the second quarter to give the Colonials their final lead of the game, 4-3. Morrisette scored midway through the period for a 4-4 tie, and Tornatore's goal at the 5:09 gave Eastern Connecticut the lead at intermission, 5-4.

The Warriors took the first two-goal advantage of the game five minutes into the second half, but junior **Eric Small (Glastonbury, CT)** answered for the Colonials by winning the ensuing face-off and assisting on Foster's goal to trim the margin to 6-5. Defense and goaltending dominated play over the next five minutes, until Eastern Connecticut scored back to back goals less than 30 seconds apart for an 8-5 lead.

Albertson's goal for Eastern in the second minute of the fourth quarter gave the Warriors a little breathing room and a 9-5 lead. Schoen responded with his second goal of the game two minutes later, but Bolivar's fourth goal pushed the Eastern lead back to four and Kluge's second gave the visitors their largest lead of the day, 11-6 with just over five minutes to play. Schoen scored twice in the final two minutes for WestConn, but Eastern Connecticut claimed the victory by the final margin of 11-8.

WestConn keeper **Tyler Martone (Cheshire, CT)** finished with 19 saves, while Donald Berube (Tewksbury, MA) recorded 11 saves (eight in the second half) to earn the victory for Eastern Connecticut, now 9-5 on the season and 4-2 in the Little East Conference.

WestConn, now 8-6 on the season and 3-3 in the LEC, will finish regular-season play by visiting LEC rival Southern Maine on Saturday, April 30th. Game time is slated for Noon.

Lacrosse Game Summary (Final)

Eastern Connecticut (9-5, 4-2 LEC) vs. Western Connecticut (8-6, 3-3 LEC)

SCORE BY PERIOD	1	2	3	4	Tot
Eastern Connecticut.	3	2	3	3	11
Western Connecticut.	3	1	1	3	8

Eastern Connecticut SCORING: GOALS: Salieu Bolivar 4; Eric Kluge 2; Mike Devine 1; Vinny Tornatore 1; Grant Albertson 1; Brian Fechtmann 1; Trevor Morrisette 1. ASSISTS: Salieu Bolivar 1; Mike Devine 1; Tyler Fresen 1; Mike Sullinger 1; Vinny Tornatore 1.

Western Connecticut SCORING: GOALS: Mike Schoen 4; Ryan Foster 1; Jim Dipientrantonio 1; Ryan Gillis 1; Francisco Silva 1. ASSISTS: Sean Macey 2; Raul Bourgeois 1; Ryan Foster 1; Ross Manweiler 1; Eric Small 1.

SHOTS - Eastern 45; Western Connecticut 42. SHOTS ON GOAL - Eastern 30; Western Connecticut 19.

GOALIES - ECSU: Berube 9-5 (60 min, 19 shots-11 saves, 8 GA); WCSU: Martone 8-6 (60, 30-19, 11).

Saturday, April 30, 2011

EASTERN M-LACROSSE SHARES SECOND PLACE IN LITTLE EAST *Warriors will be No. 3 seed in conference playoffs and will host first-round match Tuesday*

PLYMOUTH, N.H. – The Eastern Connecticut State University men’s lacrosse team entered the final weekend of the regular season Saturday without control of its own Little East Conference post-season destiny.

And for that reason – despite a 13-9 victory over Plymouth State University – the Warriors will be required to play a first-round tournament match for the first time in 11 years of LEC playoff competition.

Eastern (10-5, 5-2 little east) recorded double digits in overall victories for the 14th time in its 16-year history Saturday with its win over Plymouth (7-7, 3-4 little east), but as the No. 3 seed, must play a first-round tournament match Tuesday at 6 p.m. at the Mansfield Outdoor Complex. The Warriors will face the No. 6 seed, which will be determined Sunday night based on the outcome of a makeup match between Western Connecticut and the University of Southern Maine.

Eastern and Massachusetts Dartmouth share second place in the final conference standings behind unbeaten regular-season champion Keene State College, but the Corsairs were accorded the No. 2 seed and a first-round playoff bye based upon their head-to-head 10-9 victory over Eastern 11 days ago at North Dartmouth, Mass.

A first-round playoff victory for Eastern would set up a re-match against UMass Dartmouth Thursday at North Dartmouth, Mass., with that winner advancing to Saturday’s championship game.

Against Plymouth Saturday, junior **Jeremy Cogliano (Bedford, MA)** scored a career-high three goals and chipped in an assist in his second start, and freshman **Mike Devine (Cheshire)** added three as the Warriors withstood three Plymouth extra-man strikes to down the Panthers for the 11th straight time in LEC regular-season play.

National faceoff and ground ball leader **Eric Vasil (Southington)** won 22-of-26 face-offs against two Plymouth faceoff opponents and sparked a four-goal Eastern run midway through the second quarter. Vasil tied the match for the final time, and sophomore **Eric Kluge (North East, MD)** converted a pass from junior **Mike Sullinger (Brookfield)** less than a minute to give the Warriors the lead for good, 7-6. Eastern went on to score eight of the final 11 goals of the match to finish with a winning (4-3) regular-season road record.

It was a tight battle for the first 30 minutes of the contest, with five ties and four lead changes.

Eastern players served five-and-a-half penalty minutes before being awarded their first extra-man opportunity with just 65 seconds left in the match. The Panthers capitalized on seven man-up situations with three goals, breaking an early tie with their first and netting their final two goals with the man advantage in the final ten minutes.

Eastern more than doubled Plymouth’s shot output and ground ball total, with sophomore goalie **Donald Berube (Tewksbury, MA)** needing only three saves (never more than one in a quarter) to post his tenth win of the season.

Tuesday, May 3, 2011

EASTERN M-LACROSSE MARCHES INTO LEC SEMIFINALS

In first round, defense limits Plymouth to one goal through first 51 minutes

MANSFIELD, Conn. -- Playing a first-round game in the Little East Conference men's lacrosse playoffs for the first time in the 11-year history of the championship, third-seeded Eastern Connecticut State University limited sixth-seeded Plymouth State University to one goal through the first 51 minutes in a 12-5 victory at the Mansfield Outdoor Complex.

With its fourth straight win this year, Eastern (11-5) advances to face second-seeded and host University of Massachusetts Dartmouth (13-3) Thursday at 6 p.m. in the playoff semifinals. In the other semifinal round match Thursday, top-seeded Keene State College (12-2) will host No. 4 Western Connecticut State University (10-6) at 3:30 p.m. . Western advanced with a 10-3 win over visiting No. 5 seed University of Southern Maine Tuesday night. The winners will move on to the championship match Saturday at the highest remaining seed.

After gaining first-round tournament byes each of the previous ten seasons, the Warriors played a first-round match this year after losing to Keene State and UMass Dartmouth in the regular season.

Senior attack **Grant Albertson (New Canaan)**, who did not play Saturday in Eastern's 13-9 victory at Plymouth State (7-8) in the regular-season finale, helped the Warriors score the first six goals Tuesday. Albertson scored four of his career-tying -high five goals in the first 19 minutes.

Eastern nearly doubled Plymouth's shot total through the first three quarters and led 12-1 before the visitors scored all four of the game's goals in the fourth quarter.

Eastern senior All-America **Eric Vasil (Southington)** and sophomore **Josh Dubinsky (Woodstock)** combined to win all 20 of the game's faceoffs against five different Plymouth opponents. The national leader in faceoff percentage and ground balls per game, Vasil picked up ground balls on all 13 of his faceoff wins, while Dubinsky was 6-for-6 with three ground balls.

With a career-tying four assists, Eastern junior attack **Mike Sullinger (Brookfield)** upped his team-leading season total to 26 while Albertson took over the club lead in goals with 33. In two matches this year against Plymouth, Vasil is 35-for-39 on faceoffs with 35 ground balls.

Junior attack Teddy Akrivlellis scored twice for Plymouth and senior midfielder Drew Kirwin had two assists.

Saturday, May 7, 2011

EASTERN M-LACROSSE DROPS LEC PLAYOFF TITLE GAME, 14-9
Top seeded Keene answers early flurry with eight unanswered goals to defend 2010 title

KEENE, N.H. – The Eastern Connecticut State University men’s lacrosse team scored three quick goals but Keene State College answered with eight of its own and never trailed thereafter as the Owls successfully defended their Little East Conference title with a 14-9 victory Saturday night at the Owl Athletic Complex.

With its 11th straight win, Keene (14-2) qualifies automatically for the NCAA Division III tournament, which gets underway this week. The title is the fourth in the last seven years for Keene, which becomes the first program to win as many as two straight LEC titles since Eastern (12-6) captured the first four titles (defeating Keene in two of the finals). Keene and Eastern have now met eight times in the finals in the 11-year history of the playoff, with both sides having won four times.

Keene junior attack Griffin Meehan was named the playoff Most Outstanding Player for the second straight year after scoring six goals in the title game for the second straight season.

Eastern scored three times in three minutes in the second quarter to pull to within a pair, but Keene shut out Eastern in the third quarter to carry an 11-7 lead into the final 15 minutes. The Warriors scored the first goal of the fourth quarter on senior **Sean Leary’s (West Hartford)** first career goal, but Keene answered with the next three to re-gain a six-goal advantage with seven minutes left.

Eastern senior **Eric Vasil (Southington)** closed out a storied faceoff career by winning 21 of 24 and breaking his own season records for wins (315), percentage (.802) and attempts.(393). He concludes his four-year career as the runaway career leader in all three categories.

Eastern’s penalty-killing unit gave up only one goal on Keene’s 13 extra-man chances, but the Warriors were scoreless on six extra-man opportunities of their own.

After losing to UMass Dartmouth April 19, Eastern reeled off five straight wins, the final one coming against the Corsairs in Thursday’s LEC semifinal by a score of 14-8.

Thursday, May 5, 2011

EASTERN M-LACROSSE MOVES INTO LEC PLAYOFF TITLE MATCH

In semifinals, Warriors score seven straight goals in second half to pull away from UMD, 14-8

NORTH DARTMOUTH, Mass. – The Eastern Connecticut State University men's lacrosse team is gaining momentum, and just at the right time.

In the semifinals of the Little East Conference playoffs Thursday night, third-seeded Eastern (12-5) ran off seven straight goals – including the final six of the third quarter – to pull away from second-seeded University of Massachusetts Dartmouth, 14-8, at Cressy Field to move into the Little East championship game for the tenth time in 11 years.

With its fifth straight victory since losing by a goal at UMass Dartmouth (13-4) 16 days ago, Eastern advances to the LEC title match for the tenth time in the 11-year history of the championship. The Warriors will face top-seeded host Keene State College (13-2), which disposed of visiting fourth-seeded Western Connecticut State University, 17-6, Thursday.

After blowing an early 5-1 lead and losing to UMass Dartmouth for the first time in program history last month, Eastern never trailed this time around. Sophomore goalie **Donald Berube (Chelmsford, MA)** came up with 13 saves – equaling his highest total in 11 matches – senior All-America **Eric Vasil (Southington)** won 19 straight faceoffs through three quarters and 24 of 26 with 20 ground balls in the game, and Eastern's man-down unit killed off six of seven of UMass's extra-man tries.

With the game tied at 4-all a minute into the second half, the Warriors took over by outscoring the hosts 7-1 the rest of the quarter to build a six-goal lead heading into the final 15 minutes. Junior attack **Mike Sullinger (Brookfield)** and junior midfielder **Salieu Bolivar (Norwalk)** struck for goals in the opening two three minutes of the second half to seal the verdict.

In the decisive 5-0 scoring run that ended the third quarter, freshman midfielder **Mike Devine (Cheshire)** scored twice and senior attackmen **Vinny Tornatore (Norwalk)** and **Grant Albertson (New Canaan)** and first-year sophomore midfielder **Eric Kluge (North East, MD)** once each.

Vasile won all 19 faceoff attempts through three quarters to extend his streak over three matches to 34 straight without a loss before Jordan McPherson of UMass ended the run by corraling the faceoff that began the fourth quarter.

Little East scoring leader Nick Brett, a first-year junior transfer, unloaded 14 shots but connected on only two for UMass, with Berube saving five of those attempts. UMass freshman goalie Nick Thayer made 15 stops, eight coming when the Warriors unleashed 25 shots in the middle two quarters.

Ranked tenth in New England, Keene defeated Eastern, 19-17 in the regular-season meeting between the programs three weeks ago at Keene, NH. The teams will be meeting in the final for the eighth time in the past nine years, with Eastern winning four and Keene three. Keene won last year over Eastern at Keene, NH, 14-10.