

Wednesday, May 9, 2012

**EASTERN M-LACROSSE COMES UP SHORT IN NCAA COMEBACK**  
*Six-goal third quarter puts them back in contention in 13-9 loss to No. 17 Trinity in opener*

HARTFORD, Conn. -- Eastern Connecticut State University converted eight of 21 shots and outscored Trinity College in the second half after missing 19 of 20 in the first in a 13-9 loss in the opening round of the NCAA Division III men's lacrosse tournament Wednesday afternoon at at Jesse/Miller Field.

Trailing 8-1 at halftime and by eight three minutes into the second half, Eastern (12-6) regained its scoring touch to outscore No. 17 Trinity (11-6) 9-2 the rest of the way.

The Warriors scored three times in the final minute of the third quarter on goals by seniors **Michael Sullinger (Brookfield)**, and **Salieu Bolivar (Norwalk)** and one by sophomore **Tyler Fresen (Newington)** to cut the gap to five with 15 minutes left, then pulled as close as three, 12-9 with six minutes left on early fourth-quarter strikes by senior **Jeremy Cogliano (Bedford, MA)** and a man-up marker by first-year junior **Christian Leone (West Norwalk)**.

Eastern junior **Josh Dubinski (Woodstock)** won 18 of 25 faceoffs against four different Trinity opponents and finished his first season as a starter with a .635 winning percentage (251-for-395).

The Warriors had won seven straight and nine of ten prior to the loss. Eastern had qualified for its seventh NCAA tournament in 12 years by winning last weekend's Little East Conference playoff title.

Appearing in its first NCAA tournament (as an at-large selection), the Bantams defeated Eastern for the sixth straight time after the Warriors had won six of the first eight in the series.

Saturday, May 5, 2012

## **EASTERN MEN'S LACROSSE WINS SEVENTH LEC CHAMPIONSHIP**

*Led by Jamie Tommins (24 saves), defense leads Warriors to 13-10 win over Keene State*

MANSFIELD, Conn. – Senior **Jamie Tommins (Fairfield)** made a career-high 24 saves and the man-down unit killed ten of 11 penalties as the Eastern Connecticut State University men's lacrosse team won its seventh Little East Conference championship in 12 years with a 13-10 victory over Keene State College Saturday afternoon at the Mansfield Outdoor Complex.

A winner of seven straight, Eastern (12-5) scored seven consecutive goals in the second half to erase a three-goal deficit with 25 minutes left and down two-time defending playoff champion Keene (10-6). The Owls had won seven straight – including a 21-0 pasting of Plymouth State University in Thursday's semifinals -- since dropping a 14-11 decision to Eastern at Mansfield a month ago.

Keene outshot Eastern, 55-33, but Tommins – named the tournament's Most Outstanding Player -- turned back 24 shots – one shy of the program record -- including 11 in the fourth quarter when the Owls outshot the Warriors, 22-4. The Warriors scored the final five goals of the third quarter to move out to a 10-8 lead with 15 minutes remaining, then scored the first two of the fourth quarter to build the lead to four, 12-8, with nine minutes left.

Eastern accumulated nine minutes and 30 seconds worth of penalties, but its man-down unit killed off seven penalties in the final quarter to preserve the lead and surrendered just one man-up goal on 11 tries in the contest.

There were five ties and two lead changes before Eastern took the lead for good on sophomore midfielder **Mike Devine's (Cheshire)** goal on a pass from sophomore attack **Mike Jordan (Cheshire)** that made it 9-8 with two minutes left in the third quarter. Shut out in the first half, Devine scored three of the first four goals in the 7-0 run – the first two on assists from senior attack **Michael Sullinger (Brookfield)**. Sullinger, the team leader in points, closed out the third quarter with his second goal of the match with 5.8 seconds left, and first-year junior attack **Christian Leone (West Norwalk)** and senior attack **Jeremy Cogliano (Bedford, MA)** beat Keene junior goalie Jason Leser (Brewster, NY) to open the fourth quarter to give the hosts a four-goal lead, 12-8, with nine minutes left.

After the Warriors opened the second half with a goal from sophomore attack **Trevor Morrisette (Bedford, NH)** that tied the match for the fourth time, Keene took its largest lead (three goals) on strikes from senior attack Matt Schairer (Wrentham, MA), senior midfielder Ian Hart (Richmond, NH) and junior midfielder J.T. Galloway (Simsbury). Devine (two goals) and Morrisette then struck in a span of just over two minutes as the Warriors began to take the momentum.

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Junior **Josh Dubinsky (Woodstock)** won 18 of 26 faceoffs Saturday against three Keene opponents and 39 of 54 (72.2 percent) in two matches this season against Keene. Sullinger led the Warriors with six points (four assists) and Leone (four assists) and Morrissette (four goals) added five points each. Dubinsky had 15 ground balls and the Warriors survived eight more turnovers than the Owls.

Leser stopped nine Eastern shots, with junior attack Taylor Jette (Simsbury) scoring four goals on 12 shots and Schairer two on 11 attempts. Jette scored three of his goals in the first 26 minutes but only one the rest of the way, that coming with his team down by four with five minutes left. Jette and Schairer have combined for 88 of their team's goals, with senior midfielder Ian Hart (Richmond) adding 33 (Hart scored once on ten shots Saturday).

Twenty-one of Keene's shots were wide of the goal.

Eastern qualifies for the NCAA Division III Tournament -- its seventh in the last 12 years, which gets underway Wednesday.

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Saturday, April 21, 2012

**EASTERN M-LACROSSE POSTS FIFTH STRAIGHT IN LEC, 18-7**  
*Warriors continue dominance of USM, 18-7; will earn No. 1 seed with Tuesday win*

GORHAM, Maine -- The Eastern Connecticut State University men's lacrosse team displayed its offensive firepower in the second and third quarters – and its ability to kill penalties throughout - - outscoring the University of Southern Maine by 11 en route to its fifth straight Little East Conference victory, 18-7, Saturday afternoon at Hannaford Field.

The penalty-plagued win was the third straight and fifth in the last six games for Eastern (8-5, 5-0 Little East). Southern Maine (4-9, 1-4 Little East) was coming off its first Little East victory of the season, but fell to Eastern for the 11<sup>th</sup> straight time in this series.

With two regular-season conference matches remaining (Tuesday at home against Western Connecticut at 7 p.m. and Saturday at Massachusetts Boston), Eastern remained a game up in the standings on Keene State and Western. On Saturday, Keene got past host UMass Dartmouth, 13-8, and Western nipped Plymouth State in overtime, 10-9.

Having already defeated two-time defending regular-season LEC champion Keene, Eastern moved to within two victories of posting its eighth undefeated LEC regular season in 12 years of conference competition. A win over Western guarantees the Warriors the top seed in the upcoming LEC playoffs and no worse than a share of the regular-season title with Keene.

Eastern's man-down unit spent plenty of time on the field as the Warriors committed a team-high 11 penalties for a team-high 9 ½ minutes. Southern Maine's 12 penalties for 11 ½ minutes were also the most against the Warriors this season. Eastern successfully killed off eight of USM's ten extra-man efforts, and senior attack **Jeremy Cogliano (Bedford, MA)** chipped in a man-down goal to open the second half.

Junior attack **Christian Leone (West Norwalk)** and senior midfielder **Salieu Bolivar (Norwalk)** paced the Warriors' balanced scoring with three goals apiece. Senior attacks **Michael Sullinger (Brookfield)** and Cogliano, junior midfielder **Kevin Fechtmann (Levittown, NY)** and sophomore **Mike Devine (Cheshire)** each had two goals.

Junior midfielder **Josh Dubinsky (Woodstock)** controlled the "X" by winning 15 of 19 faceoffs and scooping up a game-high 13 groundballs. He improved his season faceoff percentage to .629 and his ground ball average to 11.9. In five LEC wins, Dubinsky shows a .717 faceoff winning percentage and a ground ball average nearly 13.0.

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The Warriors used four goalies in the game. Senior **Jamie Tommins (Fairfield)** started and played the first half making five saves. Junior **Drew Deane (Vernon)** played the third quarter and stopped all three shots to come his way. Rookies **John Capodicasa (West Hartford)** and **Richard Squires (Norwalk)** split the fourth quarter, combining for five saves. The collegiate appearance was the first in the career of Squires, who turned back the only shot that he saw over his five minute stint.

Freshman Kaleb Smith led the Huskies scoring two goals and dishing out an assist for three points. Five other players had one goal. Junior **Kyle Dussault** started in the Huskies cage playing three quarters and making eight saves. Junior **Ryan Hatch** had three saves in the final quarter.

The Huskies tied the score midway through the first quarter on a score by junior Ryan Foley, but that would be the last tie as the Warriors outscored the Huskies 9-3 over the remainder of the first half.

Sullinger gave the Warriors the lead for good with his first goal with 6:46 left in the first quarter. The goal sparked a run of three consecutive Warrior goals that made it 4-1 before junior Mike Orlando scored for the Huskies.

Bolivar and Leone scored for the Warriors in the opening two minutes of the second period as part of a four-goal run that pushed the visitors' lead to 8-2.

The Warriors put the issue to bed in the third quarter scoring seven unanswered goals. Cogliano had a man-down goal early to ignite the run of Warrior goals. Devine and Fechtmann each scored twice, and Leone and Bolivar recorded one goal.

Tuesday, April 24, 2012

**EASTERN M-LACROSSE CLINCHES TOP SEED IN LEC TOURNEY**  
*Warriors remain undefeated in conference with 14-5 verdict over Western Connecticut*

MANSFIELD, Conn. – The Eastern Connecticut State University men’s lacrosse team clinched the top seed in the Little East Conference playoffs for the eighth time in 12 years with a 14-5 victory over Western Connecticut State University Tuesday night at the Mansfield Outdoor Complex.

A winner of four straight, Eastern (9-5, 6-0 Little East) defeated Western (9-5, 4-2 Little East) for the 12<sup>th</sup> time in this 12-game series. The Warriors look to close out their eighth undefeated regular season in conference play Saturday when it visits Massachusetts Boston (1-5 in the conference) at 3 p.m.

Eastern, which has allowed less than ten goals per game this season, limited Western to one goal in three of four quarters and to two in the other. Senior goalie **Jamie Tommins (Fairfield)** made ten saves in the first 51 minutes and junior **Drew Deane (Vernon)** contributed nine scoreless minutes with two saves.

Senior attack **Michael Sullinger (Brookfield)** had four goals to lead Eastern, , sophomore attack **Trevor Morrissette (Bedford, NH)** adding three and senior midfielder **Salieu Bolivar (Norwalk)** two.

Saturday, April 28, 2012

## **EASTERN M-LACROSSE FINISHES UNBEATEN IN LEC FOR EIGHTH TIME**

*Warriors outscore UMass Boston 11-0 in third quarter, go on to win outright LEC regular-season title*

BOSTON – Senior attacks **Jeremy Cogliano (Bedford, MA)** and **Michael Sullinger (Brookfield)**, sophomore attack **Trevor Morrissette (Bedford, NH)** and sophomore midfielder Mike Devine (Cheshire) combined for nine of the team's 11 third-quarter goals and six assists as the Eastern Connecticut State University men's lacrosse team expanded a three-goal halftime lead in a 20-5 victory at the University of Massachusetts Boston Saturday which completed the team's eighth undefeated conference regular season (all in unbeaten fashion) in 12 seasons.

Already assured of the LEC playoff's No. 1 seed, Eastern (10-5, 7-0 Little East) won its eighth outright regular-season championship, finishing one game ahead of two-time defending champion Keene State College. The Owls nailed down the No. 2 seed with an 18-6 win over visiting Western Connecticut State University.

Eastern scored a season-high six extra-man goals on seven tries, all in the second half and four in the third quarter.

Eastern defeated UMass Boston (3-13, 1-6 Little East) for the 19<sup>th</sup> straight time, holding the Beacons to two goals through three quarters. Sullinger finished with career-highs of seven assists and ten points, equaling the fifth-most ever in a match in program history. Morrissette and Devine both had four goals. In his first career start, freshman faceoff specialist **Keith Sardo (Ellington)** won 19 of 28 faceoffs and picked up seven ground balls. Sophomore defenseman **Chris Brown (Cohasset, MA)** added six ground balls and sophomore long stick **Mike Fanning (Norwell, MA)** five.

First-year sophomore transfer **Eric Swanson (Bozrah)** and freshman **Kyle Waterbury (Clinton)** each recorded their first career points in the match, Swanson scored the team's final goal on an assist from Waterbury with just under a minute left.

Eastern, along with Keene, gains a first-round LEC playoff bye and will host a semifinal game Thursday night. The time and opponents has not yet been determined.

Saturday, April 14, 2012

## **Men's Lacrosse**

### **Eastern Conn. 13, Plymouth State University 9**

MANSFIELD, Conn. – Eastern Connecticut State University erased an early four-goal deficit and emerged with a 13-9 Little East Conference victory over Plymouth State University in a battle of early-season men's lacrosse conference unbeatens Saturday afternoon at the Mansfield Outdoor Complex.

Eastern (6-5, 3-0 Little East) handed Plymouth (8-2, 2-1 Little East) its first loss since the Panthers dropped a 12-10 season-opener decision at the University of New England. Eastern won for the sixth straight time against Plymouth.

Trailing 5-1, Eastern answered with four straight goals to pull even with 6:35 left in the first half, and took the lead for good by scoring the final four goals of the match over the last 7:36. Senior midfielder **Salieu Bolivar (Norwalk, CT)** beat Plymouth senior goalie Jack Tyo (East Sandwich, MA) with a high, hard shot – his only goal of the match -- to give the Warriors the lead for good, 10-9, with 7:36 left, sophomore midfielder **Mike Devine (Cheshire, CT)** followed 37 seconds later third of the game and sophomore midfieler **Tyler Fresen (Newington, CT)** scored two insurance goals 1:34 apart in the final five minutes.

Plymouth scored four first-quarter goals on nine shots, but was held to only five goals the rest of the way. Eastern's five-goal second quarter pulled it even at six-all at halftime and its six-goal fourth quarter overcame a one-goal deficit after three quarters.

Eastern senior goalie **Jamie Tommins (Fairfield, CT)** made nine saves and Tyo seven.

Eastern junior faceoff specialist **Josh Dubinsky (Woodstock)** raised season percentage to .616 by winning 21 of 26. He scooped up 15 ground balls.

Seven different players combined for Plymouth's goals, with team point leader Ty Long (Dover, NH), a junior midfielder, and junior midfielder Stephen Patch (Newbury, NH) netting two each. Patch scored consecutive goals late in the first quarter go give the Panthers a 4-1 lead and contributed to four of his team's first five goals by scoring two and assisting on two.

Eastern hosts Massachusetts Dartmouth Wednesday at 7 p.m.

Wednesday, April 11, 2012

## **EASTERN M-LACROSSE OFFENSE SPUTTERS IN 9-3 LOSS** *Warriors are shut out for first 39 minutes in intra-regional setback to Wesleyan*

MIDDLETOWN, Conn. The Eastern Connecticut State University men's lacrosse team entered Wednesday's intra-regional match with Wesleyan University averaging over 11 goals a match. That average took a beating after the Cardinals shut the Warriors out for the first 39 minutes and came away with a 9-3 victory.

Eastern (5-5) lost for the fourth time in its last five road matches after Wesleyan's (8-2) five-goal second quarter proved to be the difference in the Cardinals' third straight victory over Eastern in this series.

For their part, the Warriors defense gave up more than two goals in a quarter only once against the Cardinals, but couldn't get untracked after the hosts' five-goal second quarter gave them a 6-0 advantage at the break.

Wesleyan won for the fifth time in as many contests at home this season and returned to the win column after a five-match win streak went by the boards in an 11-5 loss at Colby College Saturday.

The Cardinals took the lead for good on the first point of the game by senior DJ Bernatavitz as he converted a shot from the right side off a pass from senior Max Landow into the only goal of the first quarter with 9:16 to go.

Bernatavitz added three points in the second quarter as Wesleyan tacked on five goals to hold a 6-0 lead at halftime.

Bernatavitz fed sophomore Aidan Daniell for his first of two goals in the stanza at the 12:54 mark. Then long-pole junior Brendan Hanley scored from long range eight seconds later to make it 3-0. Landow took a pass from Bernatavitz on a fast break and scored from in front to make it 4-0 at the 8:41 mark. The next two Cardinal goals both came during a man-up situation with Daniell and Bernatavitz doing the honors. Daniell leads Wesleyan in scoring on the year with 22 points (13-9-22).

Wesleyan was awarded the first seven extra-man tries in the match -- all six in the first half and the first of the second -- and capitalized on three of those opportunities. Eastern couldn't take advantage of six man-up opportunities, including a one-minute, two-man advantage in the second quarter when it trailed by five.

The teams scored evenly over the final two periods with each netting a pair in the third quarter and one in the final frame. Eastern sophomore midfielder **Mike Devine (Cheshire)** had a goal and an assist for the Warriors, but potted only one of a team-high 11 chances.

Facing four different opponents, Eastern junior faceoff specialist Josh Dubinsky (Woodstock) won eight of 16 attempts and matched sophomore defenseman **Chris Brown (Cohasset, MA)** with seven ground balls.

Team scoring leader **Michael Sullinger (Brookfield)** ended Eastern's scoring drought with 6:05 left in the third period after Wesleyan had scored the first seven goals.

Eastern also got a goal from sophomore long-pole **Mike Fanning (Norwell, MA)**. Wesleyan's final three goals came from senior John Froats, sophomore Graham Macnab and sophomore Remy Lieberman.

Eastern senior **Jamie Tommins (Fairfield)** followed up Saturday's 16-save performance in a home win over Keene State with 15 more Wednesday.

The match was the first for Eastern at Wesleyan since 2009, when the Cardinals emerged from a second-round NCAA tournament game with a slim 8-4 decision.

Eastern hosting Plymouth State University Saturday at 4 p.m. in a Little East Conference match. **-30-**

Saturday, April 7, 2012

**EASTERN M-LACROSSE PREVAILS OVER KEENE STATE, 14-11**  
*Behind Tommins and Dubinsky, Warriors end Owls' 19-game Little East winning streak*

MANSFIELD, Conn. -- Junior **Josh Dubinsky (Woodstock)** won 21 of 28 faceoffs and the Eastern Connecticut State University men's lacrosse team never trailed after scoring the final three goals of the first half in a 14-11 victory over Keene State College Saturday afternoon at the Mansfield Outdoor Complex.

Eastern (5-4, 2-0 Little East) defeated Keene State (3-5, 1-1 Little East) for the first time in the last five meetings and snapped the two-time defending regular-season and playoff champion Owls' 19-game conference winning streak, which began after Eastern defeated Keene, 12-8 in the 2009 LEC title game at home. The Warriors improved to 11-1 against the Owls at home in this 23-game series, having dropped a 17-11 home loss to Keene in 2010.

There were five ties and three lead changes in this game between the two-ranked teams in the LEC pre-season poll. Eastern never trailed by more than two goals and was never behind after scoring the final three goals of the first half that gave it its first lead (8-7) since late in the first quarter.

Beginning with sophomore **Mike Devine's (Cheshire)** second goal of the match, Eastern outscored Keene 7-2 over 21 minutes to turn a two-goal deficit into a 12-9 lead six seconds into the fourth quarter.

Dubinsky, who scored that goal six seconds into the fourth quarter after winning the faceoff and picking up the ground ball, won 21 of 28 faceoffs to push his season percentage over .600 to .602.

Senior goalie **Jamie Tommins (Fairfield)** came up with 16 saves for Eastern – his sixth game this season of last least ten. Seven of Tommins' saves came in the decisive third quarter when the only goals he allowed in the period came three minutes apart and allowed the Owls to tie the game at 9-9.

Senior attack **Michael Sullinger (Brookfield)** scored a season-high five goals and added two assists to lead Eastern, while Devine added three and first-year junior attack **Christian Leone (West Norwalk)** had two goals and an assist.

Dubinsky picked up 17 ground balls, with senior defenseman **Tommy Flynn (Mineola, NY)** credited with six and Sullinger five.

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Junior attack Taylor Jette (Simsbury) gave the Owls a quick lead on their first possession of the match and Keene led by two goals on three occasions, the final time at 7-5 when junior midfielder J.T. Galloway (Simsbury) scored the second of his two goals on the day on an assist from senior midfielder Ian Hart (Richmond, NH) with seven minutes left in the first half.

Jette led Keene with three goals, senior Matt Schairer (Wrentham, MA) and Ian Hart adding two goals and two assists each. Junior goalie Jason Leser (Brewster, NY) made nine saves for the Owls, evening his record at 3-3.

In Keene's 19-17 regular-season victory over Eastern at Keene, NH, Jette and Schairer combined for ten goals and three assists.

Eastern visits No. 15 nationally-ranked Wesleyan University Wednesday at 4:30 p.m.

Saturday, March 17, 2012

**DEFENSE SPARKS EASTERN MEN'S LACROSSE TO 12-7 WIN**  
*Warriors hold Wheaton scoreless for long stretches in recording non-conference victory*

MANSFIELD, Conn. -- The Eastern Connecticut State University men's lacrosse team shut out Wheaton College (MA) for the final 11 minutes of the first quarter and held the Lyons off the board for the entire third quarter in posting a 12-7 non-conference victory Saturday afternoon at the Mansfield Outdoor Complex.

Eastern (3-2) scored the final five goals of the first half and later connected on four straight goals in a 13 minute stretch spanning the end of the first half and beginning of the second ini downing Wheaton (2-3) for the tenth straight time after losing the first match between the teams in this series.

The Warriors controlled play by winning 20 of 23 faceoffs, collecting twice as many ground balls and unloading nearly twice as many shots.

Five different players found the back of the net in a five-goal run which gave the hosts a 6-1 lead after one quarter. Senior attackman **Michael Sulliniger (Brookfield)** assisted the first three goals when the Warriors grabbed the early momentum, then scored the first of his four goals to cap the run with 26 seconds left in the quarter.

Wheaton scored as many as two consecutive goals only once in the match until the final ten minutes. With Wheaton trailing 8-3 five minutes into the second quarter, junior midfielder Sean Doherty (East Lyme) set up senior attack Mike Harrington's (Sturbridge, MA) goal and followed with his own four minutes later to pull the Lyons to within three, 8-5, with just under three minutes left in the first half. After an Eastern timeout, Sullinger beat Wheaton sophomore goalie Harrison Bramhall (Barrington, RI) from close range on a pass from sophomore **Tyler Fresen (Newington)**, however, to restore a four-goal advantage, and senior goalie **Jamie Tommins (Fairfield)** made a difficult save on a long-range shot as time expired in the first half.

Leading 9-5 at the break, the Warriors kept the Lyons from scoring in the third quarter – giving up only two shots – and carried a 12-5 lead into the final 15 minutes.

Eastern junior faceoff midfielder **Josh Dubinsky (Woodstock)** won 19 of 22 faceoffs and picked up 16 ground balls for Eastern, and Fresen and seniors **Tommy Flynn (Mineola, NY)** and **Salieu Bolivar (Norwalk)** combined for 13 ground balls.

Harrington had three goals and Doherty three assists for Wheaton.

Tommins turned back six shots over the first 54 minutes to receive credit for the win in net. Bramhall made 12 saves for Wheaton.

Eastern visits Widener University Tuesday at 7 p.m.

Tuesday, March 13, 2012

## **MEN'S LACROSSE**

**Eastern Conn. 15, Babson College 12**

MANSFIELD, Conn. – First-year junior transfer **Christian Leone (West Norwalk)** had five assists, but his lone goal on a man-up situation with 5:33 left was a key one as the Eastern Connecticut State University men's lacrosse team never trailed after the opening goal to post a tight 15-12 victory over Babson College Tuesday afternoon at the Mansfield Outdoor Complex.

The win is the seventh straight for Eastern (2-2) against Babson (3-2) in a game which featured two New England-ranked teams in the host Warriors (tied for 10<sup>th</sup>) and the visiting Beavers (9<sup>th</sup>).

Eastern never trailed after the first eight minutes and led by four with seven minutes left in the first half, but Babson continued to challenge for the lead. Three times in the second half, the Warriors opened up a three-goal lead, but each time the Beavers got one back to cut the lead to two.

With 8:36 left, Babson made it a one-goal game on senior Cam Caruso's (St. Charles, IL) unassisted goal. Soon after, the Warriors were awarded consecutive man-up chances and Leone converted on the second Babson penalty with his first career goal with 5:33 left.

Thirty seconds later, team sophomore scoring leader **Mike Devine (Cheshire)** scored his team-leading 17 goal of the season – third of the match – to push Eastern's lead to 15-12.

Senior **Jamie Tommins (Fairfield)** made ten saves for Eastern while junior James Whalen (Westwood, MA) turned back nine shots for Babson.

Eastern hosts Wheaton College (MA) Saturday at 1 p.m.

Tuesday, March 6, 2012

**LATE RALLY BY EASTERN M-LACROSSE JUST SHORT, 10-9**  
*Warriors keep No. 15 Endicott off board for final 14 minutes in non-conference loss*

BEVERLY, Mass. -- It had been 16 years since the Eastern Connecticut State University and Endicott College men's lacrosse teams had battled, but the result remained the same: the home team winning by one goal.

Tuesday night, Eastern (1-2) scored the final four goals of the match – keeping Endicott (1-1) off the board for the final 14-plus minutes – but couldn't get the equalizer in a 10-9 loss to the Gulls, ranked No. 15 nationally and No. 4 in New England.

Sixteen years ago, Eastern also outscored Endicott 4-1 in the final quarter and did not allow a visiting goal in that final quarter for over 14 minutes until the Gulls cut the Eastern margin to one with nine seconds left in a match which ended in Eastern's favor at Nevers Field, 9-8.

This year, both teams were coming off tight losses to nationally-ranked teams, Eastern losing by four at No. 7 Stevens Tech last Wednesday and Endicott by three against No. 6 RIT at Cambridge, Mass.

Against Endicott, the Warriors were slow getting out of the gate Tuesday, giving up the first three goals (two on man-up situations) and trailing by four, 7-3 at halftime. Eastern outscored the hosts 6-3 over the final 30 minutes, however, cutting the deficit to the final one-goal margin on fourth-quarter goals by sophomores **Mike Devine (Cheshire)**, **Tyler Fresen (Newington)** and **Trevor Morrissette (Bedford, NH)**.

Morrissette's only goal of the match in a man-advantage try on senior **Michael Sullinger's (Brookfield)** third assist of the match in the final minute gave the Warriors an opportunity to pull even. However, Endicott won its 16<sup>th</sup> faceoff in 22 tries, and by the time Eastern freshman **Travis Tiger (Ridgefield)** dislodged the ball free, time expired.

Endicott outshot Eastern 41-23 but was able to put on four more shots on goal than the Warriors. Eastern senior **Jamie Tommins (Fairfield)** turned back nine shots, with Endicott junior Tom Burke making six.

Both teams were balanced offensively, as 14 different players combined for the game's 19 goals and ten contributed at least one assist. Devine led Eastern with three, senior **Salieu Bolivar (Norwalk)** adding two and Sullinger finished with three assists. Senior **Tommy Flynn (Mineola, NY)** led Eastern with six ground balls.

Connor McCormack and Brian Estes each had two goals for the Gulls, with eight other players contributing one each.

Endicott has reached the second round of the NCAA tournament each of the last two seasons after winning back-to-back ECAC tournament titles in 2008 and 2009.

Eastern hosts Babson College Tuesday at 4 p.m.

## Molta, Bob (Athletics)

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**From:** Rob Palardy [rpalardy@endicott.edu]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, March 06, 2012 10:21 PM  
**To:** rpalardy@endicott.edu; ckaufman@endicott.edu; rwyllie@endicott.edu; jwaldner@endicott.edu; edougher@endicott.edu; tredman@endicott.edu; gkaye@wne.edu; kmcdevit@wne.edu; sports@globe.com; sports@bostonherald.com; apboston@ap.org; pstacey@salemnews.com; mgrenier@salemnews.com; mwilliams@salemnews.com; mjenkins@salemnews.com; sports@itemlive.com; manfredi.mike@gmail.com; bkipouras@yahoo.com; mburke@gloucestertimes.com; news@d3sports.com; desk@ncaasports.com; info@insidelacrosse.com  
**Cc:** Molta, Bob (Athletics)  
**Subject:** NCAA MEN'S LACROSSE: #15 Endicott 10, Eastern Connecticut 9

### Endicott edges Eastern Connecticut to earn home opener victory

**BEVERLY, Mass.** – The Endicott men's lacrosse team held a lead entering the fourth quarter against Eastern Connecticut on Tuesday night, but four-goal advantage dwindled down to just one before the Gulls were able to defeat the Warriors 10-9 in their 2012 home opener.

Endicott junior attacker **Brian Estes (Derry, N.H.)** scored what was the game-winner just 38 seconds into the fourth quarter as his goal with an assist to **Chris O'Brien (Hampden, Mass.)** gave the Blue and Green their 10<sup>th</sup> and final goal of the game. With a 10-5 lead after Estes' third goal of the season, Endicott allowed four straight tallies by the visitors before the end of regulation.

The Gulls earned their first win of the season, improving to 1-1 in 2012, and will next take on #7 Stevens on Saturday, March 10<sup>th</sup> at 1:00 pm at Endicott Stadium. With back-to-back losses, Eastern Connecticut is now 1-2 after winning their season opener. The Warriors will host Babson next Tuesday at 4:00 pm.

Endicott raced out to a 3-0 lead early in the first quarter thanks in part to a goal and an assist by junior attacker **Connor McCormack (Norwalk, Conn.)**. McCormack, who beat the goalie twice in this game, kicked off the scoring just 1:06 into the game with an unassisted goal before assisting on the second of two man-up goals to make it 3-0 Endicott. The first man-up goal was **Jon Thanas' (Cumberland, R.I.)** fourth goal of the season with an assist to **Connor Prescott (Norwalk, Conn.)** followed by **Peter Erickson's (Yarmouth, Maine)** tally assisted by McCormack.

Eastern Connecticut scored twice in-a-row on goals by **Jeremy Cogliano (Bedford, Mass.)** and **Mike Devine (Cheshire, Conn.)**. Devine's goal was the first of three goals for the sophomore who now leads the Warriors 14 on the season. During Eastern Connecticut's four-goal run to end the game, Devine scored two of those goals to threaten the Endicott lead.

Estes finished off the first quarter with the first of his two goals with just 48 ticks remaining.

**Harry Holden (Duxbury, Mass.)** scored the first of three goals for Endicott at the start of the second quarter with an assist to Thanas. After Warriors senior **Michael Sullinger (Brookfield, Conn.)** scored man-up at 7:26, the Gulls saw **Brendan Eppley (Darien, Conn.)** and Prescott go back-to-back to give Endicott a 7-3 halftime advantage.

The two teams exchanged goals in the third quarter as Endicott maintained a four-goal lead going into the fourth. **Sam Ozycz (Cheshire, Conn.)**, who was dominated on face-offs by winning 16-of-22 attempts with nine groundballs, took just three seconds after a face-off to score his first goal of the season in the quarter.

Estes pushed Endicott ahead by five goals (10-5) at the 14:22 mark of the fourth quarter before Eastern Connecticut attempted their comeback. Two goals by Devine and one by **Tyler Fresen (Newington, Conn.)** were even strength and

Wednesday, February 29, 2012

## **EASTERN M-LACROSSE CHALLENGES NO. 8 STEVENS IN LOSS**

*Devine scores six goals, but hosts convert five extra-man opportunities to down Warriors*

HOBOKEN, N.J. – Senior goalie **Jamie Tommins (Fairfield)** made 16 saves and sophomore midfielder **Mike Devine (Cheshire)** scored a career-high six goals as the Eastern Connecticut State University men's lacrosse team challenged No. 8 nationally-ranked Stevens Institute of Technology before dropping a 14-10 decision Wednesday at DeBaun Field.

Each team scored its goals in spurts, but Stevens (2-0) answered a streak of three straight by Eastern (1-1) which opened the second half with three of its own that pushed the Ducks into a 10-6 lead with just over a minute left in the third period. The Warriors got two back to open the fourth period but Stevens again answered with four straight that quelled Eastern's upset bid. Tommins held Stevens' high-powered offense in check throughout, turning back 16 shots. The hosts unloaded 64 shots to post an advantage of better than 2-to-1, but only 30 of them reached the cage.

Devine, who scored five goals in Eastern's opening 11-4 win at Gordon College Saturday, led all players with six goals, with senior attack **Michael Sullinger (Brookfield)** chipping in two goals and two assists. First-year junior transfer and starting attackman **Christian Leone (West Norwalk)** recorded the first two points of his career with two assists.

Against Stevens, which reached the second round of last year's NCAA tournament, Eastern dug out of an early 6-2 hole when Devine scored twice – the first coming on the team's second extra-man goal of the young season – and Sullinger scored a third to pull the visitors to within one, 7-6, early in the second half.

Eight of the game's 24 goals came in man-up situations. Stevens scored five – four coming among its first seven goals. Two of Eastern's three extra-man goals came in the final minute to account for the final four-goal margin.

Four of Stevens' first seven goals came in man-up situations, two by freshman attack Andrew Scrutchfield.

Junior midfielder **Josh Dubinsky (Woodstock)** was 10-for-27 at the faceoff "X" and picked up a team-high nine groundballs.

Eastern visits Endicott College Tuesday at 7 p.m. The Gulls are rated No. 11 nationally and No. 4 in New England.