

Tufts nearly broke a 2-2 tie with 15:39 left in regulation, when Lach was unmarked directly in front of the goal and one-timed a pass from Green that sailed over the top.

Tonelli of Tufts matched Appel with several sparkling saves. Twelve minutes into overtime, Furman found space on the right side and sent a high shot that Tonelli knocked over the cross bar.

Appel made three saves to improve his record to 3-0-0 this season, 18-4-3 in his 25-game career.

Eastern lost starting sophomore midfielder **Sean Collins (Bristol)** seven minutes into the match with a nose injury. He was replaced by sophomore **Scott Mishley (Trumbull)**, who played 91 minutes.

Eastern hosts Western Connecticut State University Saturday at 1 p.m. in its Little East Conference opener.

**Eastern Conn. 3, Tufts U. 2, 2 ot**

Tufts U. (0-2-0)	2	0	(0)	(0)	--	2
Eastern Conn. (4-0-1)	1	1	(0)	(1)	--	3

**Scoring:** T-Ron Coleman (Pat Tonelli) 11:37; T-Alex Lach (Ben Green) 22:40; E-Maxim Fantl (Matt Esposito, Matt Furman) 23:17; E-Fantl (Jon DeCasanova) 46:40; Furman (Esposito) 109:37.

**Shots:** T-10, E-13; **Saves:** T-Pat Tonelli 6, E-Carl Appel 3.

**Corner kicks:** T-4, E-6.

Saturday, Sept. 19, 2009

**NO. 16 EASTERN M-SOCCER ERUPTS IN SECOND HALF OF LEC OPENER**  
*Warriors score twice in 11 minutes in second half to pull away from Western, 4-0*

MANFIELD, Conn. – Nine different players contributed a goal or assist as the Eastern Connecticut State University men's soccer team remained unbeaten this season with a 4-0 win over Western Connecticut State University in the Little East Conference opener for both teams Saturday afternoon at the Mansfield Outdoor Complex.

Ranked No. 2 in New England and No. 16 in Division III, Eastern (5-0-1, 1-0-0 little east) got goals 11 minutes apart early in the second half from senior **Chris Bourdeau (Thompson)** and freshman **Cory Tobler (Portland)** and went on to its highest goal total against Western Connecticut (2-4-0, 0-1-0 little east) since a 7-1 victory at Danbury in 1987.

The pre-season favorite to win its second conference title in three years, Eastern carried a 1-0 lead into the half before erupting in the second half. Bourdeau scored his third goal of the season nine minutes into the second half on a header following a corner kick from sophomore **Matt Esposito (East Haven)** to make it 2-0, and Tobler recorded his first collegiate goal 11 minutes later when he fired into an open net after sophomore **Sean Collins (Bristol)** found him unmarked on the left side of the cage.

First-year sophomore **Matt Furman (Montville)** scored his third goal in the last four matches to give Eastern a 1-0 lead midway through the first period. Furman, who scored the game-winning goal with 22.7 seconds left in sudden death overtime Tuesday against Tufts, drilled an open 12-yarder from the middle of the box on a pass from senior **Maxim Fantl (West Hartford)**. The assist gave Fantl at least one point in five of six matches this season.

Tobler finished off the scoring with 1:34 left when he swooped in to finish off a shot by senior **Sean Capezzone (Colchester)**, which had been saved on a dive by Western freshman keeper Angelo Tsingerliotis (Norwalk).

Capezzone was credited with his first career assist on the play and freshman **Bradley Fletcher (Middletown)** gained his first career point with an assist on Furman's go-ahead goal.

Sophomore keeper **Carl Appel (West Windsor, NJ)** shut out Western for the second time in as many career starts. He made three saves to post his eighth career save in 26 starts. Appel's most difficult save came with eight minutes left in the first half and preserved a 1-0 lead. After Western junior Daniel DaSilva (Danbury) split two defenders

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and carried inside ten yards on the right side, Appel rejected the shot with a dive to his right, and the ball was cleared away by sophomore **Aaron Smiles (Bedford, MA)**.

Western starting junior back Luis Duque (Naugatuck) hobbled from the field just three minutes into play with a pulled hamstring and did not return to action.

Western has not scored against Eastern in the last three meetings, since a 1-1 double-overtime tie at Danbury in 2006.

The home match was the fourth straight for Eastern, which visits Trinity College Wednesday at 4:30 p.m.

**Eastern Conn. 4, Western Conn. 0**

Western Conn. (2-4-0, 0-1-0 little east)	0	0	--	0
Eastern Conn. (5-0-1, 1-0-0 little east)	1	3	--	4

**Scoring:** Matt Furman (Bradley Fletcher, Maxim Fantl) 22:58; Chris Bourdeau (Matt Esposito, Nicholas Boretti) 53:37; Cory Tobler (Sean Collins) 64:51; Tobler (Sean Capezzone) 88:26.

**Shots:** W-9, E-12; **Saves:** W-Angelo Tsingerliotis 4, E-Carl Appel 3.

**Corner kicks:** W-1, E-4.

Wednesday, Sept. 23, 2009

**EASTERN MEN'S SOCCER RISES TO NO. 13 IN NATIONAL POLL**  
*Warriors move up three spots in third weekly NSCAA Division III ranking*

WILLIMANTIC, Conn. – The Eastern Connecticut State University men's soccer team equaled its highest national ranking ever when it moved up three spots to No. 13 in the third weekly NSCAA Division III national ranking, released Tuesday.

On the strength of home wins over Tufts University (3-2 in sudden death) and Western Connecticut State University (4-0), the Warriors reached their highest ranking every, which was set during last year's 14-game unbeaten streak. Eastern remained as the No. 2 ranked team in New England, behind No. 2 nationally-ranked Amherst College.

Eastern (5-0-1) has outscored its six opponents this year by a combined 16-6. Twelve different players have contributed either a goal or assist this season, led by first-team all-region forward **Maxim Fantl (West Hartford)**, first-year sophomore forward **Matt Furman (Montville)** and senior midfielder **Chris Bourdeau (Thompson)**. Fantl has seven goals and 17 points, Furman three goals and seven points and Bourdeau three goals and six points. Defensively, three keepers have seen action, among them sophomore **Carl Appel (West Windsor, NJ)**. Appel has a 0.45 goals-against average and an .889 save percentage.

Last week, Fantl, Furman, and freshman midfielder **Cory Tobler (Portland)** each scored two goals to lead the Warriors to two victories. Furman scored with 22.7 seconds left in overtime against Tufts.

Eastern returns to action Wednesday afternoon at Trinity College. The Bantams were one of only two teams in the regular-season to beat Eastern.

Wednesday, Sept. 23, 2009

**Men's Soccer  
at Hartford, Conn.**

**Trinity College 1, Eastern Conn. 0**

Eastern Conn. (5-1-1)	0	0	--	0
Trinity College (3-0-1)	0	1	--	1

**Scoring:** Peter Marlette (Dan Mayernick) 66:10.

**Shots:** E-12, T-15; **Saves:** E-Carl Appel 3 (0 goals allowed, 45:00 min.), Jordan Munsell 5 (1 goal allowed, 45:00), T-Grant Schonberg 4.

**NOTES:** In a battle of unbeaten regionally-ranked teams, Peter Marlette scored his first goal of the season midway through the first half in No. 5 Trinity College's 1-0 win over No. 2 Eastern Connecticut State University Wednesday afternoon.

Marlette finished off a header from senior Dan Mayernick, heading the ball off an Eastern defender who attempted to clear the ball off the goal line with a leaping head ball try.

Eastern is ranked No. 13 nationally and was shut out for the first time this year.

Eastern first-year sophomore transfer **Matt Furman (Montville)** hit the crossbar once and the left post once and Eastern freshman keeper **Jordan Munsell (Waterford)** made five saves in the second half in place of sophomore starter **Carl Appel (West Windsor, NJ)**.

Trinity was one of only two teams to defeat Eastern in the regular season last year, posting a 2-0 victory in the Warriors' home-opener.

Eastern hosts Keene State College Saturday at 3 p.m. in a Little East Conference match.

Saturday, Sept. 26, 2009

**KEENE MEN'S SOCCER ROLLS PAST EASTERN IN LITTLE EAST, 4-1**  
*Owls score three in second half to hand Warriors second straight loss*

MANSFIELD, Conn. The last time the Eastern Connecticut State University men's soccer team hosted Keene State College, the Warriors recorded a penalty-kick shootout win to claim their first Little East Conference post-season tournament championship.

That was ancient news to Keene State freshmen Joe Senecal and Shawn Shand, who each scored twice Saturday to lead the Owls to a 4-1 victory. The Keene win is its first away from its home field this season after three losses, and the loss is Eastern's first this year at the Mansfield Outdoor Complex after three wins and a tie.

Keene (5-3-0, 2-0-0 little east) remains undefeated against Eastern (5-2-1, 1-1 little east) all-time in conference regular-season play, improving to 10-0-3. Technically, the teams had tied the last four times they had met, with Eastern's penalty-kick shootout win in 2007 giving it the LEC crown but being recorded as a tie.

With the score tied 1-1 early in the second half, Shand scored his team-leading fourth goal of the season on a 35-yard free kick that bounced in off the crossbar. Senecal made it 3-1 ten minutes later with his third goal of the year on his own rebound, and Shand rounded out the scoring in the 80<sup>th</sup> minute with his fifth goal.

Ranked second in New England and 13<sup>th</sup> nationally, Eastern trailed throughout the first half but finally gained the equalizer when sophomore back **Aaron Smiles (Bedford, MA)** scored his first career goal after nine career assists. Smiles delivered a free kick from outside the box into the upper right corner of the goal, a shot which could not be contested by Keene senior keeper Peter Kersker.

Senecal gave Keene the early momentum and forced the Warriors to play catchup the rest of the half when he won a ball on the left side of the box, and carried the ball from left to right before sending a low shot into the left corner of the net beyond the dive of Eastern sophomore keeper **Carl Appel (West Windsor, NJ)**.

Kersker stopped ten of Eastern's 11 shots on net to even his personal record at 3-3.

Eastern looks to bounce back from its first two losses of the season Tuesday when it hosts Salem State College at 4 p.m.

**Keene State College 4, Eastern Conn.1**

Keene State (5-3-0, 2-0-0 little east)	1	3	-- 4
Eastern Conn. (5-2-1, 1-1 little east)	0	1	-- 1

**Scoring:** K-Joe Senecal 1:02; E-Aaron Smiles 48:37; K-Shawn Shand 50:42; K-Senecal 60:33; K-Shand 79:37.

**Shots:** K-11, E-15; **Saves:** K-Peter Kersker 10, Carl Appel 5; **Corner kicks:** K-5, E-5.

Tuesday, Sept. 29, 2009

## **EASTERN M-SOCCER BACK ON TRACK WITH 3-0 VICTORY**

*Ranked No. 8 in New England, Warriors down Salem for first time since 1971*

MANSFIELD, Conn. – The Eastern Connecticut State University men's soccer team returned to the winning track Tuesday afternoon, scoring twice in the first half and allowing only two shots in the second in a 3-0 victory over Salem State College at the Mansfield Outdoor Complex.

It marks the first win for Eastern (6-2-1) over Salem State (4-3-0) since 1971, the Warriors losing 11 and tying four against the Vikings since that victory. The teams played to a 3-3 tie a year ago at Salem, MA in the resumption of the series for the first time in 13 years.

Eastern had slipped from second to eighth in this week's NSCAA New England Division III poll after losses last week to Trinity College and Keene State College.

Senior co-captains **Maxim Fantl (West Hartford)** and **Nicholas Boretti (Marshfield, MA)** scored 1:12 apart early in the first half, and sophomore **Aaron Smiles (Bedford, MA)** drove in a long free kick five minutes into the second half to account for all of Eastern's scoring. Fantl scored his 40<sup>th</sup> career goal (team-leading eighth of the year) inside the far left post from the right side of the net after a long run on a sideline pass from sophomore **Matt Furman (Montville)** with less than 20 minutes gone, and Boretti recorded his first goal of the season when he leaped to knock in a header off Smiles' free kick from the left side soon after.

Eastern dominated play with a 20-8 advantage in shots and a 12-3 margin in corner kicks. Sophomore **Carl Appel (West Windsor, NJ)** made four saves – only one in the second half – to post his 20<sup>th</sup> career win in 29 career starts. Appel lowered his goals-against average to 1.24 and raised his save percentage to .771 this season. Making his first appearance of the season, junior **Rick Emery (Brewster, NY)** played the final 17 minutes in net to preserve the team's third shutout win.

Salem, which had a three-game winning streak snapped, had two of its best scoring chances early in the match with the game scoreless. On the first, senior Andrew Angus (Boston, MA) made a short run through the box and fired a close, left-footed shot from the left post that Appel smothered for this first save. Seven minutes later, Appel collided with Angus in the box while both raced for a loose ball, which was eventually controlled by Eastern.

Eastern had a handful of additional chances to pad its lead, one coming in the 15<sup>th</sup> minute when freshman back **Dan Fish (Marlborough)** drove Smiles' corner kick wide of the right post. In the second half, Salem freshman keeper Scott Hall (Waltham, MA) made three brilliant saves to keep the game close. He denied Eastern sophomore **Matt Esposito**

(**East Haven**) twice, once straining to tip a long drive over the crossbar. Hall also tipped a high shot by freshman **Cory Tobler (Portland)** over the crossbar, then dove to his left to snare a low shot by Fantl with 14 minutes left.

Fantl's goal gives him 97 points in his 70-game, four-year career.

Eastern returns to Little East Conference action Saturday at 2 p.m. at the University of Massachusetts Boston. The match is the first of five straight on the road.

### **Eastern Conn. 3, Salem State College 0**

Salem State (4-3-0)	0	0	--	0
Eastern Conn. (6-2-1)	2	1	--	3

**Scoring:** Maxim Fantl (Matt Furman) 18:42; Nicholas Boretti (Aaron Smiles) 20:04; Smiles 50:14.

**Shots:** S-8, E-20; **Saves:** S-Scott Hall 9, E-Carl Appel 4 (73:08 min.), Rick Emery 0 (16:52). **Corner kicks:** S-3, E-12.

Sunday, Oct. 4, 2009

## MONTCLAIR WITHSTANDS EASTERN'S THREAT TO EXTEND STREAK

*Looking to end Red Hawks' record home streak, men's soccer falls just short*

MONTCLAIR, NJ. -- On Wednesday, the Montclair State University men's soccer team set an NCAA record with its 41<sup>st</sup> consecutive home victory. Sunday afternoon against Eastern Connecticut State University, the No. 11 nationally-ranked Red Hawks extended that all-division mark.

Barely.

Junior forward Larry Geraghty scored 48 seconds into the second overtime period as Montclair extended its NCAA record home winning streak to 42 games with a 2-1 victory at MSU Soccer Park.

In the first meeting between the programs in 16 years, Montclair (10-0-1) remained unbeaten, winning for the second time in the last three home contests in double overtime keep its winning streak alive. Montclair set the new NCAA men's soccer mark on Wednesday with a 2-0 triumph over Kean University.

Montclair, which won its first 21 matches last year before losing in the second round of the NCAA, is ranked 11<sup>th</sup> nationally and second in the South Atlantic region. Ranked 13<sup>th</sup> nationally earlier this year, Eastern (6-3-1) entered the week rated eighth in New England.

After Montclair struck quickly to take a 1-0 lead in the fourth minute of play, Eastern (6-3-1) sophomore forward **Matt Furman (Montville)** scored the equalizer 15 minutes later when he came off the bench to score an unassisted goal – his fourth of the season. Looking to clear the ball out of their own end, the Warriors sent the ball back toward the box on the right side. Furman was able to wrestle the ball away from a defender before firing a shot inside the near post, beating Montclair senior keeper Teddy Ritter. The goal was only the fourth allowed this year by Montclair and Ritter, who brought a 0.33 GAA into action.

Montclair State outshot the Warriors 18-6 however several of Montclair's attempts went either wide or high of the net. Midway through the second half, Eastern sophomore back **Aaron Smiles (Bedford, MA)** came up with a huge backline save as he knocked away a shot to keep the game tied.

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After Eastern sophomore keeper **Carl Appel (West Windsor, NJ)** came up with a save to extend play in the first overtime, Eastern senior all-region forward and scoring leader **Maxim Fantl (West Hartford)** nearly ended the game. He outraced two defenders and had a virtual 1-on-1 with Ritter, who came off his line and made a sliding stop of the shot just inside the top of the box. That forced a second ten-minute overtime session, and the Red Hawks capitalized quickly, netting the winner less than a minute into play.

After Eastern took the opening kick to start the second OT period, Montclair gained possession and moved the ball down the field. Senior Michael Cullen received a pass at the top of the box and slid a ball through the left side, where Geraghty picked it up and got around Appel before knocking in the game-winner with his fourth goal of the season. The assist was the second of the game for Michael Cullen, who had set up brother Joseph's fourth goal of the season in the fourth minute.

Ritter finished with seven saves while Appel stopped eight shots for the Warriors. Appel's save total is a season-high and just two behind his career best.

Montclair outshot Eastern 29-14 but was able to put only three more shots on net than the Warriors. The hosts also held an 11-5 advantage in corner kicks.

Eastern visits Becker College Tuesday at 4 p.m.

**Montclair State U. 2, Eastern Conn. 1, 2ot**

Eastern Conn. (6-3-1)	1	0	(0)	(0)	--	1
Montclair State (10-0-1)	1	0	(0)	(1)	--	2

**Scoring:** M-Joseph Cullen (Michael Cullen) 3:24; E-Matt Furman 20:22; M-Larry Geraghty (M. Cullen).

**Shots:** E-14, M-29; **Saves:** E-Carl Appel 8, M-Teddy Ritter 7.

**Corner kicks:** E-5, M-11.

Tuesday, Oct. 6, 2009

**EASTERN M-SOCCER ROLLS PAST BECKER COLLEGE, 5-0**  
*Warriors use two scoring bursts to post one-sided non-conference victory over Hawks*

LEICESTER, Mass. – The Eastern Connecticut State University men’s soccer team scored twice in five minutes to break a scoreless tie and three times in the final nine minutes in rolling to a 5-0 non-conference victory over Becker College Tuesday afternoon.

It marks the sixth time in 11 matches that Eastern (7-3-1) has scored at least three goals in a match. The Warriors recorded their fourth shutout of the season (second in the last three games) in handing Becker (2-9-1) its seventh shutout of the year, third in a row. Eastern is ranked ninth in New England.

Although Eastern could not break through with a goal until the final minutes of the first half, the prospects of a tightly-contested match between two teams selected to win their respective conferences this season never materialized. Although the game remained scoreless for over 40 minutes, the Warriors were never threatened. Leading 2-0 at halftime, Eastern outshot Becker 11-2 after the break, finally breaking through by scoring three goals in the final nine minutes.

Four first-year players contributed points for Eastern. Freshmen backs **Jon DeCasanova (Glastonbury)** and **Ryan McCormack (Shelton)** had their first collegiate goals – McCormack’s coming on his first collegiate shot. DeCasanova also contributed an assist, as did freshman back **Dan Fish (Marlborough)**. First-year sophomore midfielder **Matt Furman (Montville)** also scored his fifth goal of the year.

Eastern returns to Little East Conference play Saturday at the University of Southern Maine at 1 p.m.

**Eastern Conn. 5, Becker College 0**

Eastern Conn. (7-3-1)	1	4	--	5
Becker College (2-9-1)	0	0	--	0

**Scoring:** Own goal 42:36; Matt Furman (Dan Fish) 47:54; Nicholas Boretti (Jon DeCasanova) 81:09; Ryan McCormack (Sean Collins) 85:34; DeCasanova (Sean Capezzone) 89:50.

**Shots:** E-16, B-2; **Saves:** E-Carl Appel 0 (45:00 min.), Jordan Munsell 1 (45:00), B-Aaron Fill 4. **Corner kicks:** E-10, B-1.

Saturday, Oct. 10, 2009

## **AGAINST USM, EASTERN M-SOCCER POSTS FIFTH SHUTOUT**

*Warriors hold Huskies scoreless for fourth time in last six meetings with 2-0 victory*

PORTLAND, Maine -- Freshman back **Dan Fish** (Marlborough) scored his first career goal and senior forward **Maxim Fantl** (West Hartford) scored the 41<sup>st</sup> of his four-year career as the Eastern Connecticut State University men's soccer team shut out the University of Southern Maine, 2-0, Saturday afternoon in a Little East Conference match at Memorial Field.

Ranked No. 9 in New England, Eastern (8-3-1, 2-1-1 little east) has won its last four matches by shutout, posting its fifth overall this season. It marks the fourth shutouts for Eastern in the last six meetings with Southern Maine (5-5-1, 1-2-0 little east).

Southern Maine lost for the first time after a four-game unbeaten streak (3-0-1). Eastern held a 14-4 advantage in shots and 10-2 edge in penalty kicks.

Eastern capitalized on a corner kick to score the first goal with six minutes left in the first half and Fantl added an insurance goal midway through the second half. Fish's goal originated with a corner kick by sophomore **Aaron Smiles** (Bedford, MA), with sophomore **Matt Furman** (Montville) feeding Fish as the Warriors broke the 39-minute stalemate. Furman also created the scoring chance for Fantl with his team-leading fourth assist of the season.

Fantl's team-leading ninth goal of this season produced his 98<sup>th</sup> and 99<sup>th</sup> career points in 73 career matches. Last year, Fantl totaled career-highs of 16 goals and 40 points and was named the conference offensive Player-of-the-Year and first-team all-region.

Sophomore keeper **Carl Appel** (West Windsor, NJ) made one save for his ninth full shutout in 32 career starts.

Since late October of 2005, Eastern has now lost only four of 27 matches in conference regular-season play, recording a record of 15-4-8.

Eastern visits Kean University Monday for a 6 p.m. kickoff.

### **Eastern Conn. 2, U. of Southern Maine 0**

Eastern Conn. (8-3-1, 2-1-0 little east)	1	1	--	2
Southern Maine (5-5-1, 1-2-0 little east)	0	0	--	0

**Scoring:** Dan Fish (Aaron Smiles, Matt Furman) 39:11; Maxim Fantl (Furman) 68:23.

**Shots:** E-14, S-4; **Saves:** E-Carl Appel 1, S-David Kreps 3.

**Corner kicks:** E-10, S-2

Monday, Oct. 12, 2009

**EASTERN M-SOCCER CAN'T CRACK KEAN'S DEFENSE IN 2-0 LOSS**  
*Cougars are outshot 22-12 but get brilliant goalkeeping and goals from freshmen*

UNION, N.J. – The Kean University men's soccer team got production from unexpected sources to shut out Eastern Connecticut State University, 2-0, in an inter-regional matchup Monday night.

For Kean (6-5-3), sophomore keeper Brian Haines was brilliant in only his third start of the season in place of junior Alfredo Oquendo, and freshman Abner Denis scored the first two goals of his career as the Cougars gained revenge for their 3-1 loss to Eastern (8-4-1) last year at Thomas Nevers Field.

Haines made ten saves in all, at least four of them outstanding ones as the Warriors were shut out for only the second time this year. Haines lowered his goals-against average to 0.36 in four appearances this year. Haines also got help from his defenders, with one clearing the ball off the goal line on a bid by Eastern freshman back **Jon DeCasanova (Glastonbury)**.

Playing its fourth straight road game, Eastern had shut out its opponent in its previous two outings and in three of its last four. The Warriors had traveled to Portland, ME two days ago for a 2-0 Little East Conference win over the University of Southern Maine.

Both of Kean's goals came on counter-attacks, with Denis finishing off one scoring chance midway through the first half and another nine minutes into the second half.

For the third straight match, Eastern held a sizable advantage in both shots and corner kicks. The Warriors outshot the Cougars 22-12 and did not allow a corner kick, recording a dozen of their own. In the last three matches, Eastern has outshot its opponent nearly 3-to-1 and has a 32-3 advantage in corner kicks.

"We possessed well and created chance after chance after chance," noted third-year head coach **Greg DeVito**. "We had at least 3-4 great chances, but (Haines) was really quick and made two great saves in each half. But I'll give our kids a lot of credit. We never quit. We were just a little bit unlucky."

Eastern all-region senior forward **Maxim Fantl (West Hartford)**, the team leader with nine goals and 21 points, took seven of Eastern's shots, with Haines saving all four that were on net. Fantl needs one career point to become the program's first 100-point achiever in 18 years.

Eastern hosts Rhode Island College in a Little East Conference match Sunday at 1 p.m.

**Kean U. 2, Eastern Conn. 0**

Eastern Conn. (8-4-1)	0	0	--	0
Kean U. (6-5-3)	1	1	--	2

**Scoring:** Abner Denis (Guilherme Argollo) 26:26; Denis (Michael Custidiano) 53:39.

**Shots:** E-22, K-12; **Saves:** E-Carl Appel 2 (2 goals allowed, 60:14 min.), Jordan Munsell 0 (0, 29:46); K-Brian Haines 10.

**Corner kicks:** E-12, K-0.

Sunday, Oct. 18, 2009

**FANTL NETS 100<sup>th</sup> CAREER POINT IN 3-1 WIN OVER RHODE ISLAND**  
*Eastern men's soccer pulls into second-place tie with Anchormen in Little East*

MANSFIELD, Conn. – On Seniors' Day, senior **Maxim Fantl (West Hartford)** recorded his 100<sup>th</sup> career point and senior **Nicholas Boretti (Marshfield, MA)** totaled a career-high five points to lift the Eastern Connecticut State University men's soccer team to a key 3-1 Little East Conference win over Rhode Island College Sunday afternoon at the Mansfield Outdoor Complex.

With the win, Eastern (9-4-1, 3-1-0 little east) pulls into a tie for second place with Rhode Island (5-7-2, 3-2-0 little east), both clubs trailing Keene State College. Keene has 12 points and Eastern and Rhode Island nine each. Keene and Rhode Island have both played one more conference game than Eastern.

With the score tied 1-1 late in the first half, Fantl recorded his 100<sup>th</sup> and 101<sup>st</sup> career point in his 75<sup>th</sup> career match, pushing a shot from in close inside the right post for his team-leading tenth goal of the season. Fantl, who has led the Warriors in goals and assists in each of the previous three years, becomes the program's first 100-point scorer since Jason Brasher. Brasher had 105 points in a four-year career ending in 1991.

Boretti totaled a career-high five points with the second multiple-goal game of his career. Boretti gave Eastern a 1-0 lead in the sixth minute when converted a sliding one-timer at the far right post on a perfectly-placed corner kick from sophomore **Aaron Smiles (Bedford, MA)**. After Rhode Island tied the match late in the half with an own goal, Boretti helped set up Fantl's tie-breaking goal. Boretti fed sophomore **Matt Esposito (East Haven)**, who carried and slipped the ball inside to Fantl, who found room right in front of Rhode Island junior keeper Helder Faustino (Warwick, RI). The goal came on the second of only two shots in the match by Fantl.

Boretti, who serves with Fantl as a team co-captain, finished off the scoring with insurance goal midway through the second half. Senior **Chris Bourdeau (Thompson)** won a ball in the middle of the field and sent a pass on the right flank to Esposito. Despite being tightly guarded by a Rhode Island defender, Esposito carried toward the end line before sending the ball to the top of the box to an unguarded Boretti, who hammered his fourth goal of the year under the crossbar.

With the Warriors already leading 1-0, Smiles narrowly missed scoring his third goal of the season with 18 minutes left in the first half when his long free kick glanced inside the far right post but bounced back onto the field. Three minutes after Smiles' unlucky attempt, Rhode Island had its best chance. It came when senior Ryan Kelley (Hope, RI)

(more)

sent a pass all the way across the box to junior David DeMelo on the weak side, but DeMelo's sliding effort at the left post came just a second too late, as the ball traveled over the end line.

Esposito's second multiple-assist game this year gives him a team-leading seven.

Rhode Island played the final 25 minutes of the match a man down after junior back Brian Batalau (Cumberland, RI) was sent off for a red card violation – the third card of the afternoon issued to the visitors.

Despite being charged with the own goal, Eastern sophomore **Carl Appel (West Windsor, NJ)** gained his 23<sup>rd</sup> career win. Appel made two saves, both in the second half. Faustino made four saves. One came on a point-blank shot by Eastern freshman **Cory Tobler (Portland)** with ten minutes left in the first half of a tie game.

The win avenges two 2-1 losses to Rhode Island last year, the second contest coming in the semifinals of the conference tournament. The Anchormen went on to down Plymouth State University to capture their first conference playoff title.

Ranked No. 8 in New England, Eastern hosts the U.S. Coast Guard Academy Wednesday at 7 p.m. in a re-match of last year's ECAC New England Division III Tournament won by the Bears, 1-0, in New London.

**Eastern Conn. 3, Rhode Island College 1**

Rhode Island (5-7-2, 3-2-0 little east)	1	0	--	1
Eastern Conn. (9-4-1, 3-1-0 little east)	2	1	--	3

**Scoring:** E-Nicholas Boretti (Aaron Smiles) 5:30; R-Own goal 37:19; E-Maxim Fantl (Boretti, Matt Esposito) 40:51; E-Boretti (Chris Bourdeau, Esposito) 63:36.

**Shots:** R-7, E-9; **Saves:** R-Heldr Faustino 4, E-Carl Appel 2.

**Corner kicks:** R-4, E-6.

Wednesday, Oct. 21, 2009

## EASTERN M-SOCCER STRIKES EARLY, ROLLS TO 3-1 WIN OVER BEARS

*Warriors put home scoring woes against Coast Guard behind them with victory*

MANSFIELD, Conn. –Eastern Connecticut State University's home fans had not seen the men's soccer team score a goal against U.S. Coast Guard Academy in 10 years. Wednesday night, they saw the Warriors score twice in the first 16 minutes as the Warriors rolled past the U.S. Coast Guard Academy, 3-1, at the Mansfield Outdoor Complex.

After being shut out by Coast Guard (5-9-0) four consecutive times at home going back to the 1999 season, Eastern (10-4-1) built a 3-0 lead five minutes into the second half and Wednesday and eased to a its second regular-season victory over the Bears in as many years.

The victory avenged a 1-0 loss to Coast Guard in the championship game of last year's ECAC New England Division III Tournament at New London. The top-seeded Warriors lost the home field advantage in the title game after a drenching rain made Thomas Nevers Field unplayable following a 6-0 semifinal-round win over Husson University.

The win gives Eastern at least ten victories in three years under third-year head coach Greg DeVito. Since losing at home to Coast Guard, 1-0, in mid-October of 2007, the Warriors are 19-2-2 in their last 23 home matches. Eastern is 6-1-1 at home this year.

Coast Guard, which avenged its only home loss of last year (which came at the hands of Eastern in the regular season) in the ECAC final, has dropped seven straight on the road this season after an opening victory.

Wednesday, the Warriors dominated both halves, racking up a 22-5 advantage in shots and amassing an 8-2 margin in corner kicks. Sophomore keeper **Carl Appel (West Windsor, NJ)** recorded a first-half shutout without making a save, and freshman **Jordan Munsell (Waterford)** ate up the final 45 minutes in his sixth appearance of the season.

All-New England Region forward **Maxim Fantl (West Hartford)** found plenty of room to maneuver against the Bears, putting seven of his team-high nine shots on net. Fantl's first shot found pay dirt, a 25-yard blast from a difficult angle that settled into the upper corner of the net. The goal was the 11<sup>th</sup> this season and 43<sup>rd</sup> in 76 career matches for Fantl, who became the first Eastern player in 18 years to total 100 career points in Saturday's 3-1 Little East Conference home win over Rhode Island College.

(more)

In all, six different Eastern players figured in the scoring. Last year's co-assist leader as a freshman last year, sophomore **Aaron Smiles (Bedford, MA)** was credited with his team-leading fifth and sixth assists of the season when freshman **Dan Fish (Marlborough)** and senior Sean Capezzone (Colchester) each converted Smiles' corner kicks into goals. The goal was the second in the career of Capezzone -- first since 1986 -- and extended Eastern's lead to 3-0 five minutes into the second half. Freshman **Jon DeCasanova (Glastonbury)** set up Capezzone's blast from the top of the box when he got a head on Smiles' corner kick on the right side of the box.

After shutting out Eastern in last year's ECAC title match with four saves, Coast Guard senior keeper Tim Olah made seven saves this time -- several of them definite goal-savers -- but was charged with all three Eastern goals over his 65 minutes of work.

Eastern visits the University of Massachusetts Dartmouth Saturday at 1 p.m. in a Little East Conference match.

**Eastern Conn. 3, U.S. Coast Guard Academy 1**

Coast Guard (5-9-0)	0	1	--	1
Eastern (10-4-1)	2	1	--	3

**Scoring:** E-Maxim Fantl (Cory Tobler) 9:08;; E-Dan Fish (Aaron Smiles) 15:54; E-Sean Capezzone (Smiles, Jon DeCasanova) 50:03; C-Brett Godiksen 86:21.

**Shots:** C-5, E-22; **Saves:** C-Tim Olah 7 (3 goals allowed, 64:49 min.), Chris Tarbell 2 (0, 25:11), E-Carl Appel 0 (0 goals allowed, 45:00), Jordan Munsell 1 (1, 45:00).

**Corner kicks:** C-2, E-8.

Saturday, Oct. 24, 2009

**STREAKING EASTERN M-SOCCER ROLLS PAST UMASS DARTMOUTH, 3-0**  
*Warriors pull into tie for first in LEC; Fantl moves up to third in career scoring*

NORTH DARTMOUTH, Mass. – The surging Eastern Connecticut State University men’s soccer team won its sixth straight match against New England competition, recording its sixth shutout of the season with a 3-0 Little East Conference victory over the University of Massachusetts Dartmouth Saturday afternoon at Cressy Field.

Unbeaten against regional opponents since losing to Keene State College Sept. 26 in its only conference loss of the year, Eastern (11-4-1, 4-1-0 little east) pulls into a tie for first place in the conference with Keene, both teams at 4-1-0. Keene hosts Western Connecticut Sunday at 3 p.m. while Eastern plays a makeup game at Massachusetts Boston Monday at 3 p.m. On Oct. 31, the Warriors visit Plymouth State University in its final regular-season conference game while Keene visits the University of Southern Maine in its final LEC regular-season match

Behind sophomore keeper **Carl Appel’s (West Windsor, NJ)** third complete-match shutout of the year, Eastern extends its unbeaten streak against UMass to seven (5-0-2). With a goal and assist, senior forward **Maxim Fantl (West Hartford)** moves into third place all-time in career points, one ahead of Jason Brasher, a four-year player whose career ended in 1991. Last year’s LEC Offensive Player-of-the-Year, Fantl has 106 points (44 goals, 18 assists) in his 77-game career.

Since winning eight of its first ten, UMass (8-6-1, 2-3-1 little east) is winless in its last five (0-4-1).

Behind starting defenders **Aaron Smiles (Bedford, MA), Jon DeCasanova (Glastonbury), Bradley Fletcher (Middletown)** and **Dan Fish (Marlborough)**, Appel was called upon for only four saves to register his tenth career shutout in 36 starts.

With a goal and assist, senior forward **Nicholas Boretti (Marshfield, MA)** reached and eclipsed the career 50-point mark. Boretti gave Eastern a 1-0 lead in the eighth minute with his fifth goal of the season, and assisted on Fantl’s goal 12 minutes into the second half that made it 3-0. Boretti knocked in a free kick by Smiles to make it 1-0. Senior **Sean Capezzone (Colchester)** scored his second goal in as many games to make it 2-0 midway through the first half, with Fantl and sophomore **Matt Esposito (East Haven)** gaining assists on the goal. Esposito played the ball over the top to Fantl, and Capezzone buried the rebound of Fantl’s shot.

Boretti now has 51 points (18 goals, 15 assists) in his four-year career while Smiles chalked up his 15<sup>th</sup> career assist in less than two full seasons.

**Eastern Conn. 3, Massachusetts Dartmouth 0**

Eastern Conn. (11-4-1, 4-1-0 little east)	2	1	--	3
UMass Dartmouth (8-6-1, 2-3-1 little east)	0	0	--	0

**Scoring:** Nicholas Boretti (Aaron Smiles) 7:58; Sean Capezzone (Matt Esposito, Maxim Fantl) 17:58; Fantl (Boretti) 56:50.

**Shots:** E-13, MD-14; **Saves:** E-Carl Appel 4, MD-Kellen Rauch 1 (2 goals allowed, 45:00 min.), Mike Phelan 3 (1, 45:00).

Wednesday, Oct. 28, 2009

**FOR EASTERN M-SOCCER, FITCHBURG EIGHTH STRAIGHT NE VICTIM**  
*No. 8 Warriors improve home record to 7-1-1 with 3-0 non-conference shutout*

MANSFIELD, Conn. – Senior **Maxim Fantl (West Hartford)** scored his team-leading 15<sup>th</sup> goal of the season to give the Eastern Connecticut State University men's basketball team a quick lead in the 13<sup>th</sup> minute, and assisted on the final goal midway through the second half as the Warriors defeated Fitchburg State College for the sixth consecutive time, 3-0, at the Mansfield Outdoor Complex.

Ranked No. 8 in New England, Eastern (13-4-1) closes out with a 7-1-1 regular-season home record. The win is Eastern's eighth in a row against New England opponents. In those eight games, sophomore keeper **Carl Appel (West Windsor, NJ)** has a 0.31 goals-against average and a .909 save percentage and Fantl has eight goals and three assists, with four of his goals game-winners.

The Warriors could not convert three sure scoring opportunities in the first seven minutes, but finally broke through when Fantl stole the ball in Eastern's offensive end, took two touches, and beat Fitchburg goalie Matt Carey from in close with 12 minutes gone. The goal was Eastern's sixth straight that Fantl either scored or assisted upon.

Freshman **Cory Tobler (Portland)** made it 2-0 three minutes before the end of the first half. Eastern sophomore **Aaron Smiles (Bedford, MA)** sent a well-place corner kick from the left side into the box, where it was headed by a Fitchburg defender to the foot of Tobler, who one-timed his blast from the top of the box past Carey. Fantl totaled his sixth assist midway through the first half when he found **Matt Furman (Montville)** in the box on a cross from the end line. The goal was the sixth for Furman this year, first in seven games.

Appel made two saves before leaving in favor of freshman **Jordan Munsell (Waterford)** early in the second half. Appel needed one outstanding save to preserve the shutout. That came in the first half when he dove to the right post to deny Fitchburg's (6-8-2) Lionso Ventura on a shot from the left flank.

Eastern closes out the regular season Saturday at Plymouth State University in a 4:30 p.m. Little East Conference match.

**Eastern Conn. 3, Fitchburg State College 0**

Fitchburg State (6-8-2)	0	0	--	0
Eastern Conn. (13-4-1)	2	1	--	3

**Scoring:** Maxim Fantl 12:02; Cory Tobler 41:52; Matt Furman (Fantl) 66:22.

**Shots:** F-4, E-16; **Saves:** F-Matt Carey 3, E-Carl Appel 2 (56:30), Jordan Munsell 1 (33:30).

**Corner kicks:** F-3, E-4.

# M-SOCCER RE-GAINS SHARE OF FIRST PLACE IN LITTLE EAST

By Bob Molta on October 26, 2009 7:49 PM

*Once again, Max is major factor in Warriors' 3-1 win over UMass Boston*

*Below: Maxim Fantl*



BOSTON - Men's soccer regained a share of the Little East Conference lead with its tenth straight win over the University of Massachusetts Boston, 3-1, in a makeup game Monday afternoon.

The conference's pre-season favorite, Eastern (12-4-1, 5-1-0 little east) can gain a share of the conference regular-season title Saturday with a win at Plymouth State University. By defeating

UMass Boston (4-10-1, 1-5-0 little east), Eastern guaranteed itself no worse than the No. 2 seed in the LEC playoffs, which involve the top four finishers in the final regular-season standings. Semifinal-round games are scheduled for Wed., Nov. 4 at the higher seeds.

Eastern has now won seven straight matches against New England opponents since losing a 4-1 home decision to Keene Sept. 26. The Owls share the top spot in the conference with Eastern and have an opportunity to claim the outright title and the No. 1 tournament seed when they visit the University of Southern Maine Saturday.

If Eastern and Keene finish in a tie for first place, the teams will share the regular-season title, but the Owls will be awarded the No. 1 seed based upon their regular-season victory over the Warriors.

Against UMass, Eastern senior **Maxim Fantl (West Hartford)** re-gained the LEC scoring lead from Plymouth senior Semir Mehmedovic by scoring the team's first two goals and assisting on the third. Fantl has five goals and two assists during the team's current four-game winning streak and has 14 goals and five assists this year for 33 points. In 78 career games, Fantl is third all-time in scoring at Eastern with 111 points (46 goals, 19 assists).

Fantl scored on the rebound of a shot by sophomore **Matt Furman (Montville)** in the 21st minute after senior midfielder **Chris Bourdeau (Thompson)** played the ball over the top of the UMass defense to give Eastern a 1-0 lead, then scored an unassisted goal on a defensive mistake 12 minutes later to make it 2-0. After UMass scored its only goal against sophomore keeper **Carl Appel (West Windsor, NJ)** late in the first half, Fantl set up senior **Nicholas Boretti (Marshfield, MA)** with a header 11 minutes into the second half. The goal was the sixth this year for Boretti, second only to Fantl. That scoring play originated with a corner kick by sophomore **Aaron Smiles (Bedford, MA)**, who sent a drive toward the far post, where Fantl headed it down and Boretti sent the ball in on one bounce. The assist was the conference-leading eighth this year for Smiles, who matches his team-leading total of a year ago.

Appel recorded seven saves to gain his 26th career in two years. The saves equal his highest total this season in a win and equal his second-highest total in any game.

Eastern is now 14-3-3 in regular-season LEC games under third-year head coach Greg DeVito.

Eastern hosts Fitchburg State College Wednesday at 3 p.m. in the final regular-season home game of the season.

### **Eastern Conn. 3, Massachusetts Boston 1**

Eastern Conn. (12-4-1, 5-1-0 little east) 2 1 -- 3  
UMass Boston (4-10-1, 1-5-0 little east) 1 0 -- 1

**Scoring:**E- Maxim Fantl (Matt Furman); E-Fantl 32:22; MB-Victor Costa (Mike Zaaara, Alvin Qiriazzi 41:22; E-Nicholas Boretti (Aaron Smiles, Fantl).

**Shots:** E-19, MB-18; **Saves:** E-Carl Appel 7, MB-Domenick Pursutte 10.  
**Corner kicks:** E-4, MB-3.

Saturday, October 31, 2009

**OVERTIME GOAL GIVES EASTERN M-SOCCER SHARE OF LEC CROWN**  
*On strength of Furman's goal, Warriors come from behind to down Plymouth, 3-2*

PLYMOUTH, N.H. -- Sophomore **Matt Furman (Montville)** scored his second game-ending goal in sudden death overtime to lift the Eastern Connecticut State University men's soccer team to a 3-2 double-overtime Little East Conference win over Plymouth State University Saturday afternoon at Panther Field.

The victory gives Eastern a share of the conference regular-season title with Keene State College, both teams at 6-1-0. Having already secured the No. 2 seed in the LEC playoffs prior to Saturday's match, Eastern hosts No. 3 seed Rhode Island College Wednesday at 6 p.m. at the Mansfield Outdoor Complex. Top seed Keene State hosts No. 4 Massachusetts Dartmouth Wednesday in the other LEC semifinal. The final will be staged at the site of the highest remaining seed Saturday.

The six regular-season conference wins are the most ever by Eastern.

With Plymouth needing only a tie to gain the fourth seed in the tournament, Eastern scored the game-winner 13 minutes into sudden-death overtime when Furman knocked in a crossing pass from the corner by freshman **Cory Tobler (Portland)**. The overtime win is the second for Eastern over Plymouth at Plymouth in its last two tries. On September 15, Furman had scored with 23 seconds left in overtime to give Eastern a 3-2 win over visiting Tufts University. The game-winning goal is the fourth for Furman, who has seven goals.

Senior **Maxim Fantl (West Hartford)** scored his team-leading 16<sup>th</sup> goal of the year midway through the first half to give the Warriors a 1-0 lead, but Plymouth answered with the tying and go-ahead goals 80 seconds apart early in the second half. That lead stood up until Tobler scored an unassisted goal with 16 minutes left to force overtime.

Fantl equaled his season-best total of 16 goals which he had first scored last year on the way to LEC Offensive Player-of-the-Year honors and first-team all-region accolades. Fantl, who has 17 points during the six-game winning streak, has collected 48 goals and 116 points in 80 career matches.

Fantl entered the match sharing the conference goal-scoring lead with Plymouth senior Semir Mehmedovic. Mehmedovic gave Plymouth its 2-1 lead early in the second half with his 16<sup>th</sup> goal

Sophomore keeper **Carl Appel (New Windsor, NJ)** made seven saves to earn his 29<sup>th</sup> career win in two seasons. The Warriors scored the tying and winning goals against Plymouth reserve keeper Dan Salzer after freshman starter Bjorn Ohlsson left the game in the 68<sup>th</sup> minute after colliding with Furman. Furman was issued a yellow card warning on the play, only Eastern's sixth of the year.

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The win is Eastern's sixth straight and ninth in a row against New England competition while the home loss is the third straight for Plymouth, which awaits a possible bid to the ECAC New England Tournament.

The regular-season title is Eastern's second in three seasons under third-year head coach **Greg DeVito**, who led the Warriors to the outright regular-season in 2007.

Eastern and Rhode Island College have met in the conference playoffs in each of the last two years, the teams trading semifinal wins. The Warriors claimed a 1-0 win at home in 2007 en route to its first LEC post-season championship. Last year, Rhode Island eliminated Eastern, 2-1, at Providence on the way to a championship-game win over Plymouth.

**Eastern Conn. 3, Plymouth State U. 2, 2 ot**

Eastern Conn. (14-4-1, 6-1-0 little east)	1	1	(0)	(1)	-- 3
Plymouth State (9-8-0, 3-4-0 little east)	0	2	(0)	(0)	--2

**Scoring:** E-Maxim Fantl (Cory Tobler) 22:06; P-Dre Cabral (Parker Spear) 50:13; P-Semir Mehmedovic 51:33; Tobler 73:48; E-Matt Furman (Tobler) 103:21.

**Shots:** E-17, P-15; **Saves:** E-Carl Appel 7, P-Bjorn Ohlsson 3 (1 goal allowed, 67:30 min.), Dan Salzer 0 (2, 35:51).

**Corner kicks:** E-8, P-2.

Wednesday, Nov. 4, 2009

**EASTERN M-SOCCER ADVANCES TO LITTLE EAST TITLE MATCH**  
*Keene State's semifinal loss gives No. 2-seeded Warriors home field Saturday*

MANSFIELD, Conn. -- Second-seeded Eastern Connecticut State University will host the Little East Conference men's soccer playoff championship game for the second time in three years. The Warriors' 2-0 semifinal-round win over No.3 seed and 2008 champion Rhode Island College Wednesday night, coupled with top-seeded Keene State College's 2-1 overtime home loss to No. 4 seed Massachusetts Dartmouth, brings the final game to the Mansfield Outdoor Complex Saturday at noon.

Against Rhode Island College (9-8-2) Wednesday, senior co-captains **Nicholas Boretti (Marshfield, MA)** and **Maxim Fantl (West Hartford)** scored goals on assists from sophomore **Aaron Smiles (Bedford, MA)** to spark Eastern (15-4-1) to its seventh straight win -- tenth in a row against New England competition.

At Keene, NH Wednesday night, UMass Dartmouth (10-6-2) defeated Keene State College for the second times this year at Keene, eliminating the Owls, 2-1, in overtime to qualify for the championship game for the first time since losing a 1-0 decision at Plymouth State University in 2000. The losses were the only ones in conference play this year for Keene, which has won five of ten LEC playoff titles. Dartmouth had squeezed into the fourth and final playoff spot Saturday when Plymouth State was beaten by visiting Eastern in overtime. Plymouth needed only a tie to qualify and eliminate UMass Dartmouth from contention.

Against Rhode Island, Boretti's seventh goal of the season came on a head ball on a free kick with 1:22 left in the first half and Fantl's conference-leading 17<sup>th</sup> goal of the season 15 minutes into the second half made it 2-0. Fantl scored on the rebound of a corner kick by Smiles that was saved by Rhode Island junior keeper Helder Faustino (Warwick, RI). Fantl's goal was his 49<sup>th</sup> in 81 career games. Fantl has scored at least one goal in each of the team's seven straight wins. Boretti's goal was the 20<sup>th</sup> of his career and the assists give Smiles a conference-leading ten this year and 18 in less than two seasons.

Eastern had beaten Rhode Island, 3-1, less than three weeks ago at Mansfield to kick off the current seven-game winning streak, with Boretti scoring twice and assisting on the other goal, Fantl scoring once and Smiles assisting on one.

It was the third straight season that Eastern and Rhode Island were meeting in the semifinals of the tournament. The Anchormen had eliminated Eastern from the 2008 playoffs on the way to their first conference championship after the Warriors had

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eliminated RIC in 2007 en route to its first LEC crown. Eastern won the 2007 championship at home, defeating Keene State College on penalty kicks.

Against Rhode Island, Eastern sophomore **Carl Appel (West Windsor, NJ)** made three diving saves on low shots headed inside the post to preserve his fourth full shutout of the season. He was credited with five saves in all.

Eastern had two prime scoring chances go by the board in the first half, one of them prior to Boretti scoring the game-winning goal. The first came when freshman **Cory Tobler (Portland)** one-timed a crossing pass from Fantl over the crossbar with 17 minutes left in the first half. With three minutes left in the first half and Eastern leading 1-0, freshman **Jon DeCasanova (Glastonbury)** headed a free kick from Smiles off the right post.

In this year’s two games, Eastern did not allow Rhode Island to score a goal. In the regular-season win, the Anchormen were credited with an “own” goal after an Eastern defender inadvertently scored into the Eastern net on a clearing attempt. In two wins, Eastern allowed RIC top scorer Bruno Costa (Pawtucket, RI) just one shot, that coming midway through the second half Wednesday.

The win for Eastern is its 15<sup>th</sup> and equals its total of a year ago, which is the second-most wins in a season. Saturday, the Warriors will attempt to tie the season record of 16, set in 1969. Now 8-1-1 at home, Eastern shut out UMass Dartmouth, 3-0, 11 days ago at North Dartmouth, MA.

Eastern senior starting forward **Sean Capezzone (Colchester)** left the match 11 minutes into action with a left knee injury. His status for Saturday’s game is uncertain.

**Eastern Conn. 2, Rhode Island College 0**

Rhode Island (9-8-2)	0	0	--	0
Eastern Conn. (15-4-1)	1	1	--	2

**Scoring:** Nicholas Boretti (Aaron Smiles) 42:36; Maxim Fantl (Smiles) 59:26.

**Shots:** R-10, E-12; **Saves:** R-Helder Fastino 3, E-Carl Appel 5.

**Corner kicks:** R-7, E-7.

Saturday, Nov. 7, 2009

## **EASTERN SOCCER DOUBLES ITS PLEASURE: ANNEXES TWO LEC TITLES**

*As No. 2 seeds, men and women both win Little East championships with 1-0 wins*

For only the third time in the 11-year history of the Little East Conference soccer championship, the men's and women's teams from the same institution have hoisted playoff championship flags.

One Eastern Connecticut State University soccer team performed a road upset, while the other fended off the spirited bid of an underdog visiting squad. As both Eastern teams qualified for this coming week's NCAA Division III tournament with 1-0 triumphs in the championship games of their respective 2009 tournaments.

The women's team captured its third flag in the last seven seasons by upending top-seeded Keene State College, while the men corralled their second LEC playoff championship by withstanding the charge of fourth-seeded University of Massachusetts Boston.

Making the titles sweeter is the fact that neither Eastern team was operating a full efficiency, with a number of important cogs in both team's engines sidelined by either injury or sickness.

It marks only the third time in the history of the championship that the same institution has won both championships in the same year. Eastern becomes the first institution to win both in the same year without either the men's or women's team being the No. 1 seed.

### **Men withstand UMass's upset bid**

Utilizing only three substitutes -- two of them backup goalkeepers -- due to sickness and injury, men's soccer persevered to win its second title in three years -- both coming at home. In 2007, current assistant coach **Jay Barney** stopped two penalty kicks when Eastern posted its first-ever title with the shootout win over Keene State College. The teams had played 110- scoreless minutes before the Warriors prevailed in the PK session. Saturday's shutout extends Eastern scoreless streak in LEC title games to 200 minutes.

Saturday, senior co-captain **Nicholas Boretti (Marshfield, MA)** scored his eighth goal of the season midway through the second on assists from freshmen **Cory Tobler (Portland)** and **Jon DeCasanova (Glastonbury)** and sophomore keeper **Carl Appel (West Windsor, NJ)** made two standout saves in the second half for the team's second LEC title in as many championship game appearances.

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DeCasanova sent a pass to the left flank to Tobler, who sent a low shot through the box to the far post, where Boretti found space and one-timed it home.

Boretti was named the tournament Most Outstanding Player after scoring game-winning goals in each of the team's shutout wins in the playoffs. He scored the first goal Wednesday as the second-seeded Warriors blanked No. 3 seed Rhode Island College, 2-0, at the Mansfield Outdoor Complex.

The win is Eastern's (16-4-1) eighth straight this year and tenth in a row against New England competition and ties the 40-year-old program record for wins in a season. The Warriors are ranked fifth in New England.

With a recent spate of injuries and illness, third-year head coach **Greg DeVito** had only three substitutes at his disposal, two of whom were backup keepers **Tyler Edwardsen (Ledyard)** and **Jordan Munsell (Waterford)**, who combined for 51 minutes. The dearth of available reserves necessitated that seven starting field players logged all 90 minutes.

Among those unable to perform were forward/midfielders **Sean Capezzone (Colchester)** and **Matt Furman (Montville)**. Capezzone re-injured his left knee against Rhode Island College Wednesday, while Furman, the team's second-leading scorer, woke up with the flu Saturday morning. Eight freshmen and sophomores were among the team's starting unit.

The recent casualties forced DeVito to move sophomore **Matt Esposito (East Haven)** from midfield to back and insert sophomore **Matt Kalmin (Burlington)** at midfield, where he was making his first start of the year.

Two of Appel's saves came early in the second half when he was forced to stretch full out at the left post to stop shots by Ebenezer Vicente and Kyle Lopes. The Corsairs also had three ideal chances in the final 28 minutes. Alves put one over the crossbar with 28 minutes left, then had a free kick in the box sail wide right. A shot by Jason Couto from the top of the box shot also landed on top of the net with 13 minutes left.

Eastern scoring leader **Maxim Fantl (West Hartford)** was held scoreless on three shots (all coming in the first half), but was involved in a handful of first-half opportunities that nearly boosted the team into a halftime lead. Fantl, the LEC leader with 17 goals and 40 points, collected a cross from Tobler five minutes into play and hammered a shot of the right post. Ten minutes later, he traded places with Tobler, sending a pass ahead to the freshman, who unloaded a shot over the crossbar. Racing from left to right through the

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box midway through the stanza, Fantl then uncorked a line drive right at UMass freshman keeper Mike Phelan, who kept the game scoreless by pulling it into his body.. With eight minutes left in the half, Fantl took a pass from freshman midfielder Dan Fish (Marlborough) but volleyed it into the side of the net.

### Seniors win first LEC playoff title

Senior **Sarah Swann (Oxford)** scored her conference-leading 14th goal of the year on an assist from sophomore **Sam Konopka (Hebron)** and senior **Kim Church (Farmington)** made six saves as second-seeded women's soccer won its third Little East Conference championship in seven years with a 1-0 win over top-seeded Keene State College Saturday.

With its fifth shutout victory in its last seven outings, Eastern (12-5-3) qualifies for its fourth NCAA tournament (third under tenth-year head coach **Chris D'Ambrosio**), which gets underway Thursday. Keene (14-6-2) had a three-game winning streak snapped and lost in the tourney final for the seventh time in nine appearances, falling to the Warriors for the third time in four tries. Eastern is 2-1 against Keene in finals played at Keene.

The title is the first for seniors Swann, Church, **Taylor MacDonald (Oak Bluffs, MA)**, **Christine Lemieux (South Windsor)**, who had lost in the title game to Western Connecticut the previous two years after being eliminated by Keene in the team's first conference tournament game in 2006.

Church, selected the tournament's Most Outstanding Player, made several game-saving saves among her six, with two coming in the first half and another in the second. In the first half, Church made hand saves on two consecutive Keene bids. First, she deflected a shot by Keene scoring leader Katie Bradford off the crossbar, then re-gained her feet to knock away the rebound.

Konopka, who played 67 minutes off the bench, set up Swann's game-winning goal in the 69th minute with a free kick for her second assist of the season -- both coming in the last three matches.

The Warriors pulled off their second championship game win on Keene's field in three tries despite getting little or not contributions from three injured players: sophomore back **Laura Violette (Wallingford)**, sophomore forward **Lauren Greeney (Bethel)** and freshman forward/midfielders **Kelly Wallace (South Windsor)** and **Taylor Buchanan (Enfield)**. The conference assist leader, Wallace was pulled from the starting lineup after

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only 23 minutes, while Greeney was limited to 33 minutes off the bench. Violette missed her sixth game of the season after re-injuring her ankle recently and Buchanan was scratched for the second straight match after sustaining an injury in the regular-season finale against Plymouth State.

Since losing 2-1 in overtime at Keene State Sept. 26, Eastern is 8-2-2 in its last 12 matches. The Owls had gone unbeaten (6-0-1) in the conference regular-season in winning third first LEC regular-season title since 2004

**Men's Soccer**

**Eastern Conn. 1, Massachusetts Dartmouth 0**

UMass Dartmouth (10-8-2)	0	0	--	0
Eastern Conn. (16-4-1)	0	1	--	1

**Scoring:** Nicholas Boretti (Jon DeCasanova, Cory Tobler) 65:21.  
**Shots:** MD-13, E-7; **Saves:** MD-Mike Phelan 1, E-Carl Appel 5.  
**Corner kicks:** MD-5, E-5.

**Women's Soccer**

**Eastern Conn. 1, Keene State College 0**

Eastern Conn. (12-5-3)	0	1	--	1
Keene State (14-6-2)	0	0	--	0

**Scoring:** E-Sarah Swann (Sam Konopka) 68:19.  
**Shots:** E-4, K-15; **Saves:** E-Kim Church 6, K-Meghan Dempsey 2.  
**Corner kicks:** E-1, K-3.

Saturday, Nov. 14, 2009

**RPI EDGES EASTERN M-SOCCER IN NCAA OPENER, 1-0**  
*Early second-half RPI goal ends season for No. 20-ranked Warriors*

TROY, N.Y. – Senior Jabel Prom netted the game's lone goal early in the second half as the 13th-ranked Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute (RPI) men's soccer team topped 20th-ranked Eastern Connecticut State University, 1-0, Saturday afternoon in a first-round game of the NCAA Division III tournament at Renwyck Field.

Ranked third in the NCAA East Region, RPI (14-2-2) advances to the regional final Sunday at 1 p.m. against No. 6 nationally-ranked Williams College, which scored all three of its goals in the second half to shut out Husson University. RPI is advancing to the second round for the first time in 12 years. Shut out for the first time in over a month, Eastern (16-5-1) had an eight-game winning streak halted and concludes the season having tied the program record for victories in a season. In its first NCAA appearance in 2007, the Warriors dropped a 2-0 decision to Williams.

Eastern was ranked ninth in the NCAA New England Region.

Prom redirected a pass from classmate Lincoln Field into the right side-netting in the 49th minute, to give the host Engineers all the offense they needed. Fellow senior Sean Fleury sent in the initial ball from the left flank to Field who fed Prom right in front of the net.

Rensselaer junior goaltender Alex Penny made a number of key saves to preserve the win, including a point-blank shot attempt by Eastern freshman **Jon DeCasanova (Glastonbury)**, in the 63rd minute and a header by freshman **Tyler Edwardson (Ledyard)** off a free kick from sophomore **Aaron Smiles (Bedford, MA)** in the 86<sup>th</sup> minute.

Field nearly made it a 2-0 game in the 79th minute, but his header off a Tom Kelly corner-kick was knocked down by Eastern sophomore goalie **Carl Appel (West Windsor, NJ)** and cleared. Minutes later, Engineers' junior midfielder Blake Adams got in behind Appel and the Warriors defense, before the ball was tackled off his foot at the last moment.

Eastern senior forward and top scorer **Maxim Fantl (West Hartford)** was limited to only one shot and was held without a shot on goal for the first time this year. Senior forward **Nicholas Boretti (Marshfield, MA)** was unable to get off a shot for Eastern, which actually put more shots on net (5-to-4) than the hosts.

(more)

For Eastern, nine of 11 starters played the entire match.

Penny, who has allowed only nine goals this season, finished with five saves to earn his tenth shutout of the season. Appel finished with three in having his personal eight-game winning streak snapped.

**Rensselaer 1, Eastern Conn. 0**

Eastern Conn. (16-5-1)	0	0	--	0
Rensselaer (14-2-2)	0	1	--	1

**Scoring:** Jabel Prom (Lincoln Field) 48:39.

**Shots:** E-9, R-11; **Saves:** E-Carl Appel 3, R-Alex Penny 5.

**Corner kicks:** E-5, R-8