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## ***A Record 79 Alumni Named to NHL Rosters***

*League Boasts Most Skaters on Opening Night Rosters For Ninth Straight Year*

**WAKEFIELD, Mass.** - A record 79 alumni of the Hockey East Association will have begun the 2021 season on National Hockey League rosters, setting the bar for the most alumni on NHL rosters on opening night for the ninth season in a row. The number also nearly doubles the 44 league alumni who suited up in the NHL on opening night in 2011, showing the steady growth of the league's talent over the last decade.

Each Hockey East member institution is represented on at least one NHL roster as the season began, led by Boston University's 17 players, Boston College's 15, and Massachusetts' 10. Three schools boast six alumni on club rosters, including Maine, Northeastern, and Providence, while New Hampshire sends five, UMass Lowell claims four, and UConn, Merrimack, and Vermont all are represented by one player. Additionally, seven players from Notre Dame who competed in Hockey East began the year on NHL teams.

The record opening night follows a 2020 NHL Entry Draft that saw 25 current players and recruits selected, representing nine of the 11 Hockey East member schools. Hockey East's 25 selections were the most of any college hockey conference and represent nearly 40% of the 65 NCAA players and recruits chosen.

Of the 25 players, four spent the 2019-20 season in Hockey East, including UConn defenseman **Yan Kuznetsov** (Murman-sk, Russia/Calgary), Massachusetts defenseman **Matthew Kessel** (Bloomfield Hills, Mich./St. Louis), Merrimack defenseman **Zach Uens** (Belleville, Ont./Florida), and New Hampshire forward **Filip Engaras** (Stockholm, Sweden/Edmonton.) In total, Hockey East had 16 forwards, seven defensemen, and two goaltenders chosen. Massachusetts and Northeastern led all member schools with four players chosen each, while Boston College, Boston University, UConn, and Providence each boast three, Merrimack and New Hampshire claimed two, and one UMass Lowell player was picked.

In total, 20 of the current 31 NHL clubs chose at least one current or future Hockey East player. The selections were highlighted by four second round choices and seven of the 10 NCAA players picked in the sixth round.

The impressive showing at the 2020 NHL Entry Draft follows a record-breaking 2019 Draft that saw 27 Hockey East selections. The draft concludes a 2019-20 season for Hockey East that saw 94 alumni play in the NHL, once again more than any other college hockey conference.

Last season, two Hockey East alumni captured the Stanley Cup with Tampa Bay, represented by former Boston University defenseman **Kevin Shattenkirk** (2007-10) and Boston College's **Stephen Gionta** (2002-06), a pro scout in its front office. The 2017 Pittsburgh Penguins had a record seven Hockey East players on their Stanley Cup Championship team.

In the NHL's Return to Play this summer, 23 of the 24 returning teams boasted a Hockey East alumnus on their Stanley Cup Playoff roster, totaling 71 former Hockey East players in the playoffs. Boston University led the way with 16 former players, good for second most of any NCAA program this year, followed by Boston College with 14, Northeastern with seven, Providence and UMass with six apiece, New Hampshire with five, Maine with four, UMass Lowell with three, and Merrimack with one.

**## HOCKEY EAST ##**



## Hockey East Alumni on 2020-21 NHL Opening Night Rosters

Name	Pos.	School	NHL Team	Name	Pos.	School	NHL Team
Noel Acciari	F	Providence	FLA	Clayton Keller	F	Boston University	ARI
Zach Aston-Reese	F	Northeastern	PIT	Chris Kreider	F	Boston College	NYR
Cam Atkinson	F	Boston College	CBJ	William Lagesson	F	Massachusetts	EDM
Matt Benning	D	Northeastern	NSH	Anders Lee	F	Notre Dame	NYI
Kieffer Bellows	F	Boston University	NYI	John Leonard	F	Massachusetts	SJS
Ben Bishop	G	Maine	DAL	Ryan Lomberg	F	Maine	FLA
Anthony Bitetto	D	Northeastern	NYR	Cale Makar	D	Massachusetts	COL
Anders Bjork	F	Notre Dame	BOS	Josh Manson	D	Northeastern	ANA
Nick Bonino	F	Boston University	MIN	Mike Matheson	D	Boston College	PIT
Kevin Boyle	G	UMass/UMass Lowell	DET	Charlie McAvoy	D	Boston University	BOS
Justin Braun	D	Massachusetts	PHI	Kevan Miller	D	Vermont	BOS
Alex Chiasson	F	Boston University	EDM	Brandon Montour	D	Massachusetts	BUF
Adam Clendening	D	Boston University	CBJ	Matt Nieto	F	Boston University	SJS
Ian Cole	D	Notre Dame	MIN	Gustav Nyquist	F	Maine	CBJ
Charlie Coyle	F	Boston University	BOS	Jamie Oleksiak	D	Northeastern	DAL
Collin Delia	G	Merrimack	CHI	Jake Oettinger	G	Boston University	DAL
Thatcher Demko	G	Boston College	VAN	Kyle Palmieri	F	Notre Dame	NJD
Casey DeSmith	G	New Hampshire	PIT	Brett Pesce	D	New Hampshire	CAR
Brian Dumoulin	D	Boston College	PIT	Cal Petersen	G	Notre Dame	LAK
Jack Eichel	F	Boston University	BUF	Brian Pinho	F	Providence	WSH
Jake Evans	F	Notre Dame	MTL	Jonathan Quick	G	Massachusetts	LAK
Dante Fabbro	D	Boston University	NSH	Evan Rodrigues	F	Boston University	PIT
Joel Farabee	F	Boston University	PHI	Kevin Rooney	F	Providence	NYR
Mario Ferraro	D	Massachusetts	SJS	Chad Ruhwedel	D	UMass Lowell	PIT
Warren Foegele	F	New Hampshire	CAR	Bryan Rust	F	Notre Dame	PIT
Adam Gaudette	F	Northeastern	VAN	Zach Sanford	F	Boston College	STL
Johnny Gaudreau	F	Boston College	CGY	Cory Schneider	G	Boston College	NYI
Nathan Gerbe	F	Boston College	CBJ	Kevin Shattenkirk	D	Boston University	ANA
Dennis Gilbert	D	Notre Dame	COL	Riley Sheahan	F	Notre Dame	BUF
Jordan Greenway	F	Boston University	MIN	Conor Sheary	F	Massachusetts	WSH
Matt Grzelcyk	D	Boston University	BOS	Devin Shore	F	Maine	EDM
Noah Hanifin	D	Boston College	CGY	Brandon Tanev	F	Providence	PIT
Kevin Hayes	F	Boston College	PHI	Tage Thompson	F	UConn	BUF
Connor Hellebuyck	G	UMass Lowell	WPG	Brady Tkachuk	F	Boston University	OTT
Vinnie Hinostroza	F	Notre Dame	FLA	Alex Tuch	F	Boston College	VGK
Ben Hutton	D	Maine	ANA	Trevor van Riemsdyk	D	New Hampshire	WSH
Carter Hutton	G	UMass Lowell	BUF	James van Riemsdyk	F	New Hampshire	PHI
Matt Irwin	D	Massachusetts	BUF	Frank Vatrano	F	Massachusetts	FLA
Mark Jankowski	F	Providence	PIT	Oliver Wahlstrom	F	Boston College	NYI
Stephen Johns	D	Notre Dame	DAL	Jake Walman	D	Providence	STL
Brady Keeper	D	Maine	FLA	Colin White	F	Boston College	OTT
				Miles Wood	F	Boston College	NJD

