

Northeastern men hold off UMaine 5-3

The Northeastern University Huskies took a two-goal lead at the end of the second period and then held off the University of Maine Black Bears for a 5-3 men's hockey victory Friday night at Matthews Arena in Boston, Massachusetts.

COLLEGE HOCKEY

The Huskies improved to 15-13-5 overall and 9-8-4 in Hockey East, and the Black

Bears slipped to 8-21-6 and 5-14-2, respectively. The two teams meet again at 7 p.m. Saturday.

The Black Bears outshot the Huskies 37-26, but Northeastern's Ryan Ruck came up with 34 saves, and UMaine's Rob McGovern had 21.

UMaine cut Northeastern's lead to 4-3 4 minutes, 36 seconds into the third period when Cedric Lacroix scored his fourth goal of the

season off assists from Daniel Perez and Nolan Vesev.

The Black Bears kept up the pressure in the third period, outshooting the Huskies 15-6, but they couldn't convert again. UMaine also couldn't respond on its one power-play opportunity in the period.

UMaine pulled McGovern with 1:23 left in the game, and Northeastern's Adam Gaudette secured the win with an empty-net goal with 39 seconds remaining.

Andrew Tegeler and Will Merchant also scored goals for UMaine, and Eric Williams paced the Huskies with two goals. Zach Aston-Reese and Patrick Schule each added a goal for Northeastern.

After the teams battled to a 2-2 tie at the end of the first period, the Huskies took a 4-2 lead after two periods.

Williams and Schule scored about a minute apart to give the Huskies the two-goal cushion. Williams

scored with assists from Nolan Stevens and John Stevens at the 12:56 mark, and Schule came back at 13:54 to convert off assists from Dylan Sikura and Gaudette.

The Black Bears actually outshot the Huskies in the period 11-7, while each team was zero for one on the power play.

The Huskies jumped out to a 2-0 lead in the first period, but the Black Bears equalized on goals by Tegeler

at 14:38 and then by Merchant with just 32 seconds left in the period. Blaine Byron and Cam Brown picked up assists on Tegeler's third goal of the season, and Brendan Robbins and Mark Hamilton notched assists on Merchant's 13 goal of the season.

Northeastern outshot UMaine 13-11 in the first period, and each team was zero for one on the power play.



JAMES GUILLORY | USA TODAY

Boston Bruins goalie Tuukka Rask (right) make a save against the Carolina Hurricanes during the second period at PNC Arena. Boston won 4-1.

Bruins' Rask shuts down Hurricanes

THE SPORTS XCHANGE

RALEIGH, North Carolina — Left winger Matt Beleskey scored two goals and the Boston Bruins added to their road success by defeating the Carolina Hurricanes 4-1 on Friday night at PNC Arena.

NHL

Goalie Tuukka Rask made 39 saves for the Bruins, who have won three of their past four games.

Center Patrice Bergeron and Beleskey scored 2:12 apart in the first period. Beleskey responded to Carolina's goal, restoring the two-goal cushion with a third-period score. Center Brad Marchand added an empty-netter with 13 seconds to play.

The Bruins (34-22-6) improved to 22-7-3 in road games.

Carolina's goal came from Boston native Noah Hanifin, a rookie defenseman who scored three minutes into the third period.

Goalie Cam Ward stopped 18 shots for the Hurricanes. Ward was 3-0-2 in his first five starts this month, but since then he's 2-3-0.

The Hurricanes (28-25-10) have lost three of their last four games, scoring a total

of seven goals during that stretch.

Hanifin's power-play goal came in the first of three meetings between the teams this season. It was an unusual goal, with his blast from near the blue line coming off the boards behind the net and the puck hitting at least one player near the crease before ending up in the net.

Otherwise, Rask had a number of clutch saves, including handling defenseman Brad Pesce's rocket late in the second period.

Rask improved to 7-3-1 all time against Carolina.

The Bruins opened the scoring when Bergeron was rewarded when his shot from the right side resulted in a goal. It came after the Hurricanes failed to clear the puck.

Of Bergeron's 23 goals this season, his last six are in road games.

Beleskey's goal came when he retrieved his own pass off the boards as he bolted down the left side. He flung a tough-angle shot toward the net, with the puck bouncing off the far post and going in, giving him his fourth goal in a four-game span.

Beleskey's second goal came less than 3 1/2 minutes

after the Carolina goal. He has two two-goal games in the past three outings.

NOTES: Bruins C Patrice Bergeron played in his 800th career NHL game, all with the Bruins. ... Hurricanes C Andrej Nestrasil suffered a back injury Thursday night at the Toronto, ending up in the hospital amid reports that he might be out for the rest of the season. ... C Brad Malone of the Hurricanes cleared waivers then ended up in Friday's lineup. ... LW Nathan Gerbe was in the Carolina lineup for the first time in eight games. ... Fathers of Bruins players were on the trip, marking the second time in less than a week that a visiting team in Carolina had an organized outing for fathers. ... The Bruins played their only road game during a seven-game span. They are back home for Sunday's visit from the Tampa Bay Lightning. ... The Hurricanes stay home for Sunday's game against the St. Louis Blues.

Lightning 4, Devils 0

NEWARK, N.J. — Center Steven Stamkos and left winger Ondrej Palat each scored a goal and had an assist to lead the surging Tampa Bay Lightning to a 4-0 win over the New Jersey Devils at the Prudential

Center on Friday night.

Right winger Ryan Callahan recorded two assists, while left winger Alex Killorn and defenseman Matt Carle added goals for Tampa Bay, which has won five straight and improved to 35-22-4.

Goaltender Ben Bishop made 18 saves to record his third shutout of the season.

The Devils dropped to 30-26-7 with their second straight loss, and fifth in their last six overall.

Under siege for much of the game, Devils goaltender Cory Schneider stopped 31 of 35 shots.

The reigning Eastern Conference champions went into the first intermission with a 1-0 lead on the strength of Killorn's 11th of the season at 15:36. Essentially, Killorn had a half empty net to shoot at as the Devils were consumed with Stamkos in front.

Palat converted New Jersey right winger Lee Stempniak's defensive zone turnover into his seventh of the year to double Tampa's lead to 2-0 at 13:02. Then, 5 minutes, 52 seconds later, Stamkos pushed the advantage to 3-0 with his 27th of the season by redirecting a point shot from defenseman Anton Stralman.

Lincolnvile fighter loses New England Golden Gloves semi

BY ERNIE CLARK
BDN STAFF

Light welterweight Jack Simpkins of Lincolnvile reached the semifinals of the New England Golden Gloves novice

BOXING REPORT

championships this week before falling by decision to Jose Maysonet of Hartford, Connecticut, at the Lowell Memorial Auditorium in Massachusetts.

"Maysonet had a little more experience than Jack," said Simpkins' trainer, Ken "Skeet" Wyman of Wyman's Boxing Club in Stockton Springs. "Jack did a tremendous job though. He definitely belonged there, he just came up a little short."

The 24-year-old Simpkins, a former wrestling standout at Camden Hills Regional High School in Rockport, qualified for the semifinals by winning the Northern New England Golden Gloves title earlier this month in the 141-pound division. Simpkins was named outstanding novice boxer of the night at that show.

Simpkins (2-2) is expected to compete again on an amateur boxing card in April in Lewiston.

PBC's Morales falls in Golden Gloves final

Gabriel "Tito" Morales of Portland's bid to qualify for the national Golden Gloves championships in Salt Lake City, Utah, in May came up just short Thursday evening.

The Deering High School junior and Portland Boxing Club prospect dropped a unanimous decision to Jacob Marrero of Bridgeport, Connecticut, in the finals of the 70th annual New England Golden Gloves Tournament of Champions held at the Lowell Memorial Auditorium.

Morales qualified for the New England men's open 123-pound final two weeks earlier with a unanimous de-

cision over Jonathan Perez of Lowell, Massachusetts.

Morales, who moved up to the open division for the New England championships, won the New England novice featherweight title in his first Golden Gloves event earlier this winter. He was presented Thursday night with the Luis Ayala Memorial Award as the region's outstanding novice boxer regardless of weight class.

NEF sets two April bouts

Two boxing matches have been announced for New England Fights' NEF 22 boxing and mixed martial arts show on April 23 in Lewiston.

Brandon Berry (11-1, seven knockouts) of West Forks will face James Lester (10-9, four KOs) of Detroit, Michigan, in a six-round bout at 140 pounds.

Berry has won three straight fights but will be returning to the junior welterweight ranks after fighting recently in heavier weight classes.

Lester, a product of Detroit's world-famous Kronk Gym, returned to the ring in 2015 after a three-year absence but has lost his last two bouts, including a unanimous decision to undefeated Dimash Niyazov on Feb. 6 in Detroit.

Also scheduled is a four-round light heavyweight clash between Crowsneck Boutin (0-0-1) and Brandon Montella (3-2, four knockouts).

Boutin, a NEF MMA fixture since 2012 now based in Portland, battled Joel Bishop to a draw in his pro boxing debut at NEF 21 on Feb. 6 in Lewiston.

Montella, a 1998 graduate of Carrabec High School in North Anson, owns and operates a boxing gym in Woburn, Massachusetts. He went 14-7 as an amateur before turning professional in 2015 and was a 2012 New England Golden Gloves champion.

B Girls

Continued from Page B4

who is Houlton's only player taller than 5-9 at 5-10.

"She was the field general," said Andreasen. "I had an assistant coach once tell me that you are going to win more games than you lose if you have the best player on the court. She was the best player on the court tonight."

"She's a very, very talented player," said Gray-New Gloucester junior forward Isabelle DeTroy. "Whenever they needed a point or a foul shot, she came through for them."

Houlton took the lead for good by scoring the last six points of the first half to break a 13-13 tie.

Natalie Hill hit a 10-foot jumper off a Kristen Graham pass, Bouchard passed to Hill for a fast break layup and Bouchard grabbed a defensive rebound and went coast to coast and laid it in.

Houlton outscored Gray-New Gloucester 14-8 in the third quarter to build the lead to 33-21.

Bouchard's six third-quarter points were sandwiched by 3-pointers by Aspen Flewelling and Rylee



ASHLEY L. CONTI | BDN

Houlton celebrates after defeating Gray-New Gloucester in the Class B girls state championship game at the Cross Insurance Center in Bangor on Friday. Houlton won 48-35.

Warman. Warman also had a top-of-the-key jumper in the period.

The Patriots never gave up and closed the gap to 38-33 with three minutes left in regulation on a Skye Conley basket in the paint and seconds later a DeTroy steal and pass to Alicia Dumont for a layup.

But that's as close as the

Patriots would get.

Graham called a timeout and told his Shires "basketball is a game of buckets. They've had their run. Let's get a couple of buckets and put them away. We've been in that situation before and we used it to our advantage."

The Shires received a pair of foul shot from Warman

and, after a Gray-New Gloucester miss, Bouchard grabbed the rebound and was fouled.

She made both free throws to make it 42-33 with 1:45 left.

DeTroy converted a Dumont pass but two more free throws from Hill and Hill's basket off a rebound sewed it up.

Sox

Continued from Page B4

one another, that's the core and the center of us and I think one of the main ingredients to becoming a very tight-knit team."

Red Sox principal owner John Henry was satisfied with Farrell's speech.

"He had the right message, I think, to this team," Henry said. "And I'm looking forward to him being back."

Leave it to the rambunctious Dustin Pedroia to bring a dose of reality to the party.

Pedroia said talk is cheap. "Obviously we listened to every word that was said," Pedroia said. "The fact is you have to go out there as a team and come together and play well. You can only take words so far. You have to go out there and do it together, and that's what we plan on doing."

New X factor

Last year at this time, Xander Bogaerts was trying to prove his 2014 season was a fluke.

After he hit .320 last season, Bogaerts has carried himself with noticeable confidence this spring.

"In 2014, it was a tremen-

dous learning experience for him," Farrell said. "In 2015, he was a Silver Slugger winner. We're seeing a guy that's really gained comfort in his own skin. His confidence has caught up to his physical abilities here in the big leagues." ...

Jackie Bradley Jr. still has more to prove than Bogaerts, but after the outfielder posted an .832 OPS in 255 plate appearances last year, Farrell sees a similar breed of confidence.

"He's more sure of himself, he's more confident, he's more relaxed around his teammates," Farrell said. "Ask anybody who's seen him come through the minor leagues, a relaxed and confident Jackie Bradley is a very good player."

More than numbers

Though Henry believes the Red Sox front office has relied too heavily on analytics and should use fewer numbers in their evaluations going forward, Farrell offered a different view.

"I don't see it changing at field level," Farrell said. "If anything, it may continue to grow. . . . But it's not paint by numbers. It's your preparation. Your game plan is a starting point, but you have to be fluid enough to see the game as it's unfolding and react accordingly."

GET CREATIVE store.bangordailynews.com