

# AE coaches pick UM baseball to finish 4th

The University of Maine baseball team was picked to finish fourth this season in an America East pre-season coaches poll released Tuesday.

## COLLEGE REPORT

Defending conference champion Stony Brook was picked first in the poll with four first-place votes and 34 total points. The University of Maryland Baltimore County finished second with 32 points and three first-place votes and was followed by Hartford with 25 points and UMaine with 20.

UMaine returns America East second-team selections, sophomore Justin Courtney of Bangor and senior tri-captain Logan

Fullmer, on the pitching staff.

Courtney had a 5-6 record with two complete games and had a 3.24 ERA last season. Fullmer appeared in 21 games and pitched 57.2 innings. Fullmer was tied for leading the team in saves with four and also 51 strikeouts to go along with a 3.75 ERA.

Senior Brett Chappell returns this season as last year's leader in RBIs with 38. He had a .316 average. Senior tri-captain Brendan Geary also returns after hitting .280 last season with 20 RBIs. Senior tri-captain Jonathan Salcedo, a catcher, returns after playing 28 games last season.

The team has 10 newcomers on this year's roster.

UMaine opens its season with a three-game series at Clemson on Feb. 19.

The Black Bears open America East play on March 26 with a three-game series against Binghamton at Mahaney Diamond in Orono.

## Husson football establishes 10-game schedule for 2016

The 2016 Husson University football schedule has been finalized, and the Eagles are set to play 10 contests with seven Eastern Collegiate Football Conference tilts and three non-league games.

"We are excited for having a 10-game schedule," Husson coach Gabby Price said in a news release.

The two-time defending ECFC regular-season champs will kick off their season on the road at Alfred (New York) University on Sept. 3. It will be the third straight season that the Saxons and the Eagles open against each other with Alfred leading the all-time series 4-0.

Husson's home opener takes place on Friday, Sept. 16, at the Winkin Sports Complex against Dean College in the Eagles first Friday night game since 2011. Husson is 1-3 in night games.

The Eagles will host the Pioneers of Alfred State (New York) on Sept. 24 on homecoming weekend to close out the nonconference portion of the 2016 schedule.

The team's ECFC opener is Oct. 1 when the Eagles travel to Throggs Neck, New York, to face the Privateers of SUNY Maritime before Husson returns home to face Gallaudet University on Oct. 8.

Husson also will host Anna Maria (Oct. 22) and defending ECFC champ Norwich University on Nov. 5. The Eagles also have road contests on Oct. 15 at Castleton (Vermont) University, on Oct. 29 at Becker in Worcester, Massachusetts, and on Nov. 12 at Mount Ida in Boston.

"The ECFC will be a great challenge," Price said.

The NCAA Division III playoffs begin on Nov. 19.



BDN FILE

Bangor High School's Katie Butler (left) looks to pass as Messalonskee High School's McKenna Brodeur defends during their game last week in Bangor. Butler will play a key role for Bangor when the Rams take on Lewiston in the first Class AA North tourney at 7 p.m. Wednesday at the Augusta Civic Center.

## Class AA

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resulted in an expansion of postseason play this winter — welcome to Tourney Week-and-a-Half.

Class AA, which qualifies six boys teams and six girls teams to the tournament in both the North and South, will hold its regional quarterfinals Wednesday (girls) and Thursday (boys) at the Augusta Civic Center (North) and Portland Exposition Building (South).

Semifinals are scheduled for next Tuesday at the ACC and Cross Insurance Arena in Portland, with the regional finals set for Friday, Feb. 19.

Through the regular season, at least, Durost has found that the changes have been well received.

"First of all, I think it's gone well and I don't think there's anything in the tournament that can happen that will cause major reassessment except for maybe two things," said Durost. "I think we'll want to get back to the AA schools and ask if they still like the idea of having two regions. After they experience it for a year or two, do they want to look at one state-wide tournament or do they want to leave it the way it is,

so I think that's out there for assessment.

"The other piece is going to be, particularly in Augusta where there are now four classes, is the potential impact of weather. We don't know what the answer is at this point, but we're certainly going to keep a close eye on it."

The Class AA boys field is led by the state's dominant large-school program of recent vintage not named Hampden Academy, which remained in the new Class A by enrollment.

Portland, which lost to Hampden by 20 points in last year's Class A state final, enters the inaugural Class AA tournament as its favorite after a 17-1 regular season good for first place in the North.

Coach Joe Russo's Bulldogs, state champions in 2014, are seeking their third straight regional title behind a lightning-quick lineup featuring brothers Amir and Terion Moss and Joe Esposito, the Fitzpatrick Trophy winner from the 2015 high school football season.

No. 2 Deering of Portland (16-2) defeated everyone on its schedule not named Portland, with the Rams now having dropped their last eight games to their intra-city rivals.

Quarterfinals on Thursday

have No. 6 Bangor (5-13) against No. 3 Oxford Hills of South Paris (14-4) and No. 5 Cheverus of Portland (9-9) against No. 4 Edward Little of Auburn (10-8).

Bangor already has defeated Oxford Hills once this winter, a 68-59 decision at South Paris on Jan. 26 that was part of a three-game winning streak that propelled coach Carl Parker's club into tournament position. The Rams did drop their last two contests to Messalonskee of Oakland and Lewiston.

Thornton Academy of Saco (16-2) leads Class AA South, with the only blemishes on its record a two-point loss to Portland and a four-point loss to Deering.

No. 2 Gorham and No. 3 Massabesic of Waterboro, both 14-4, are the only other teams in the South with winning records.

Class AA South quarterfinals have Massabesic against No. 6 Scarborough (6-12) and No. 4 South Portland (9-9) against No. 5 Sanford (6-12).

In the girls division for AA North, the consensus is that any one of the six teams is capable of winning it.

"There isn't one team that is head and shoulders above the others," said Edward Little coach Craig Jipson, whose Eddies are 14-4 and the second seed. "This is the

most even tournament I've seen in a long time. I wouldn't be shocked if any one of the six teams won it."

Oxford Hills coach Nate Pelletier said the tourney is wide open.

"It's going to come down to who can play well and make their shots down the stretch," said Pelletier, whose Viking girls are the top seed with a 15-3 record.

Oxford Hills and Edward Little will get first-round byes, but Pelletier said that is not necessarily beneficial.

"I'm not a big fan of having 12 days off. I wish we had a quarterfinal to keep the flow going," said Pelletier.

Bangor coach Joe Johnson, whose Rams are the third seed at 10-8, said it will "have a lot to do with matchups."

Johnson, whose team lost to eventual state champ Lawrence of Fairfield in the Class A East final a year ago, said his team is playing "some of our best basketball" heading into the tournament.

Inside presence Katie Butler and veteran guards Sarah Bragg and Emily Gilmore have been Bangor's catalysts all season. Bragg has been the perimeter scorer and Gilmore is a penetrator and one of the state's top rebounders from the guard position.

Tianna Sugars has been Oxford Hills' inside force and

Erin Morton has been their outside scorer and both are averaging in double figures.

Oxford Hills has two dominant inside players in Emily Jacques, who is averaging 15 points per game, and Jordyn Reynolds, who averages 11 points and 11 rebounds. Piper Norcross runs the offense at her point guard position.

Tasia Titherington and Amanda Brett have been Deering of Portland's catalysts, while Abby Cavallaro has led Cheverus of Portland's 3-point shooting brigade and Kristina Blais and Victoria Harris have been key players for Lewiston.

Bangor and 9-9 Lewiston meet in one quarterfinal with 11-7 Deering and 10-8 Cheverus colliding in the other.

In Class AA South, Emily Esposito has led Gorham to an 18-0 campaign and the top seed while Jess Willerson has sparked Catherine McAuley to a 16-2 season and Maddie Hasson has been 15-3 South Portland's star.

Gorham beat South Portland by two and McAuley by five and South Portland and McAuley split their regular season games.

South Portland and 7-11 Scarborough square off in one quarterfinal with 8-10 Bonny Eagle of Buxton and 11-7 Thornton Academy Saco in the other matchup.

## Mainer wins regional title in boxing

BURLINGTON, Vermont — Lincolville's Jack Simpkins was crowned the 2016 Northern New England Golden Gloves boxing champion in the 141-pound novice division at Memorial Auditorium on Saturday night.

Simpkins, 24, a former wrestling standout at Camden Hills Regional High School in Rockport who has trained for the last nine months at Wyman's Boxing Club in Stockton Springs, defeated Ethan Holmes of Springfield, Vermont, in the championship match.

Simpkins, a carpenter by trade, was named outstanding novice boxer of the night for his performance during the show, which included 13 bouts in the novice (two-minute rounds) and open (three-minute rounds) divisions.

Simpkins advances to the New England Golden Gloves Novice Championships to be held at Lowell, Massachusetts, beginning Thursday, Feb. 11, and continuing on Thursday, Feb. 18.

Another fighter from Wyman's Boxing Club, 17-year-old Christian Fisk of Rockport, advanced to the Northern New England Golden Gloves final in the 132-pound novice class before dropping a split decision to Tito Morales of the Portland Boxing Club.

Fisk is a senior at Camden Hills.

## Auction

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placed on the larger parcel in May 2015 for \$8,958 past due, the town clerk said.

"They've been making some payments on that," Carson said of the 2015 lien, adding the amount outstanding is currently \$5,962.

The past-due personal property taxes amount to \$1,916. The 2016 taxes are due in May.

"Hopefully somebody will pick that up and get it up and running again," White said Tuesday, saying he was saddened by the foreclosure. "It's been pretty good for Orrington."

The lot also includes "a revenue generating lease" for an approximately 1-acre parcel with a cellphone tower that is located on the Back 9 section, the listing states.

The auction preview is 10 a.m.-2 p.m. March 1 and the auction is scheduled for 11 a.m. March 15.

## Racing

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"You always want to run well at Daytona, and I think we have an excellent chance to do that with Austin," Sisco said in a news release. "He's a student of the game, and there are so many things you don't have to teach him. We've made changes here at BKR and feel like everything about our Ford F-150 trucks is even better than they were last year."

"Our teammates are running for the championship and won't take as many risks, but we can get outside the box a little bit and try some different things setup-wise to see if it pays any benefits," he added.

## Tourney

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years ago. They were willing to cover sports that normally don't get covered. They're also doing the hockey finals," said Durost. "The monthly rate is the best buy.

"You'll also be able to watch high school sports

from 35 or 36 other states," said Durost. "In addition to basketball, you could watch things like wrestling from Iowa and swimming from Florida."

Durost pointed out that they have extended their contract with the NFHS Network. There are two more years on the five-year deal, and they have agreed to another five-year contract after that.

The Northeast Sports Network does not charge because it sells advertising. It has a one-year deal with the Maine Principals' Association.

"We didn't want to lock ourselves in with them until we went through it one time to make sure it worked out well," said Durost.

The Maine Principals' Association also wanted to leave the door open for fu-

ture television contracts.

Durost said the streaming involves using announcers from the state, which is a positive.

"The announcers already know the Maine kids and the coaches. There will be a familiarity," he said.

Don Shields, who does radio play-by-play for the University of Maine women's basketball team along with doing high school

games, is one of the announcers employed by Northeast Sports Network.

Durost said he is pleased with the arrangement with the three organizations.

"It is certainly the best we could have hoped for. We would have liked to have more televised games like in the past with MPBN, but nobody else stepped forward," he said.

## PVC

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Ritchie Matthews (25.4), and Camden Holmes (22.6) extended to PVC and pool records at 1:38.7. Old Town touched at 1:47 and Hampden third at 1:51.5.

Hamilton kept up his record-setting pace in the next event, the 200 freestyle. Swimming aggressively, he turned the first 50 in a 23.2 and swam away from the field to a speedy eight-second win for a

PVC and pool-record finish of 1:42.4. Teammate Samuel Alvarado claimed second at 1:50.6. MDI's Pierce DiMauro placed third. (1:55.7).

The Bangor Rams' Colby Prouty, who led for each leg of the 200 individual medley, won the gold medal in 2:01.3, three seconds ahead of silver medalist Liam Sullivan of MDI. Ellsworth's Sam Pelletier nabbed the bronze.

After just four events the Eagles had totaled 117 points for a commanding 36-point lead over Old Town.

Bangor's talented senior

diver Kyle Adams tallied 504.45 points for 11 dives to win the Rams' second event by 157 points. DiMauro finished second and Bucksport's Anthony Wardwell was third.

Cooper Holmes collected another first place for the Eagles in a 54.1 finish in the 100 butterfly to open the meet's second half. Old Town's Nick Gould, at 55.6, scored second and Matthews added to the Eagles' medals with a bronze (56.6).

In a sizzling 100-free performance, Hamilton established state, pool, and PVC records

in the 100 free at 46.45, turning a 21.9 at the 50. Jake Ketch's 50.7 scored second for Old Town and DiMauro's 53.3 third for MDI.

Hamilton's teammates Alvarado (4:59) and Camden Holmes (5:15.3) followed Hamilton's swim with first- and second-place finishes in the 500 free.

Swimming the second half of the 100 backstroke in 29 strokes, Cooper Holmes (52.9) sprinted to PVC and pool records for the victory. MDI's Jacob Mitchell (60.5) placed second and

Nate St. Jean (61.2) third.

Prouty, a sophomore, won the 100 breaststroke for his second individual title with a PVC record of 58.7 after turning a quick 27.2 at the 50. MDI's Liam Sullivan (1:01) finished second while Ellsworth placed third, fourth, fifth and tied for sixth.

Alvarado (51.6), Camden Holmes (51.0), Cooper Holmes (48.0) and Hamilton (46.3) closed the meet with PVC record of 3:16.9 in the 400-free relay eclipsing the previous record of 3:22.2 set by Bangor in 1998.