

2007-08

MEN'S HOCKEY



2007-08 Preview

Entering its 28th season, the Western New England College ice hockey team will begin the 2007-08 season with renewed optimism and fortitude. Looking to improve on an 8-15 mark from last season, Head Coach **Chris Bernard** and the Golden Bears believe that they are improving on a tough six-year stretch for the program. Last year's record doubled the previous season's wins and almost surpassed both the 2005 and 2006 seasons combined for victories.

"It is paramount for us to remain committed to the ideals and values that we have chosen to shape and identify our team, as it is our primary intention to work to the fullest of our respective capacities to build this program into a winner," said Bernard.



Phil Lamy



Matt Haddock

With the return of several key players from last season, including nine of the 10 top scorers, the Golden Bears have reason to believe that they can achieve their goal.

Leading the Golden Bears this season include 2006-07 leading scorer junior forward **Phil Lamy** (28 points) who scored 12 goals and also led in assists with 16. Lamy was named the squad's Most Valuable Player. Fellow forwards, sophomore **Matt Haddock** (17 points), junior **Hank Levin** (17 points), and junior **Mike Majesty** (14 points) will also be relied upon to put some numbers up for the Golden Bears. Haddock was the ECAC Rookie-of-the-Week for December 13.

Anchoring the team, senior **Nick Klassen** will be looked upon to guide the defense. Klassen was the only defender to start all 23 games last season. Fellow senior **Nick Sampson** should also play the role of team leader helping the squad excel both on and off the ice.

Other key players include junior forward **Jason Remsbecker** and sophomore **Justin Graziano**. These returners should help balance a strong core of seasoned veterans and promising newcomers.

"We will be looking to our entire team for contributions," explained Bernard. "We believe, with the experience and investment of our upperclassmen and the addition of a sound recruiting class, that we have greatly enhanced our overall depth."



Hank Levin



Nick Sampson

Schedule

This season with the Golden Bears playing their home contests closer to campus, at the Smead Arena, only a five minute drive, they look to take on one of the program's toughest schedules. Western New England College will play 25 games this season, with 15 of the contests on the road.

In addition to the high caliber teams within the ECAC Northeast, the Golden Bears take on several out-of-conference foes that boast high accolades. Perennial powers such as Utica College, Elmira, Hobart, and SUNY Potsdam are among the challenges.

Academics

Western New England College excels both on the ice and off with a strong commitment to academic excellence. The 2006-07 team was committed to achievement in the classroom with 13 student-athletes earning 3.0 or better grade point averages for the academic season. Like any winter sport these student-athletes must work hard both semesters because their season overlaps both the fall and spring.

Klassen and graduate **Zach O'Steen** were honored by being named to the 2006-07 ECAC Northeast All Academic Team.

Community Outreach

Another hallmark of the Western New England College hockey program is its commitment to enhancing community development through outreach projects and volunteerism.

Last season, the Golden Bears lent a hand to the Boys and Girls Club of Springfield, the Make-a-Wish Foundation, Habitat for Humanity, Alzheimer's Association, the YMCA, Faith in Action, Duggan Middle School, The United Way, Red Cross, Springfield Rescue Mission, Amelia Park Sled Hockey tournament, and the Springfield Falcons charities, among others.



Jason Remsbecker



Justin Graziano

Coach Chris Bernard

Head Coach **Chris Bernard** is Western New England College's first full-time hire in the program's history. Bernard will look to improve on his inaugural 8-15 campaign. Despite the record, the program took major steps forward last season by doubling its win total from the previous year. The 2006-07 Golden Bears nearly eclipsed the win total for the previous two seasons combined, an accomplishment that Bernard sees as a reason for optimism.



Chris Bernard

Proudly hailing from Brasher Falls, NY, Bernard played his collegiate hockey at Division I powerhouse Clarkson University (class of '98). As part of that success, the Golden Knights recorded two regular season championships while earning four consecutive NCAA Tournament bids.

In his senior campaign, while posting a goals against average and save percentage in the top 10 in the country, his record of 13-0-1 in 1998 led all NCAA goalies and remains the fourth best all-time single season mark, behind the likes of **Ken Dryden**, **Brian Cropper** and **Garth Snow**. Bernard's career winning percentage of .964 is the NCAA's all-time highest among goaltenders with a 15 game minimum.

Following his time with the Golden Knights, Bernard embarked on a four-year professional playing career spanning several leagues throughout North America. He began his coaching career as an assistant with Division I Canisius College. While at Canisius, Bernard earned a master's degree in Sports Administration before moving on to Western New England College.

When not in season with the Golden Bears, Bernard remains active in the coaching community serving as the Director of Coaching for Can/Am Hockey School in Lake Placid, NY. He also continues to serve as the president and chief consultant for Goaltender Enhancement Programs LLC, a business venture that he founded in 2001. Bernard resides in Springfield with his wife, **Tracy**, and their son, **Jaxon**, age two.

2006-07 Men's Hockey Awards

- **Zach O'Steen**, Senior, Chelmsford, MA
ECAC Northeast Academic Team
- **Nick Klassen**, Junior, Parker, CO
ECAC Northeast Academic Team
Western New England College Unsung Hero Award
- **Shawn Longley**, Junior, Lewiston, ME
Western New England College Male Athlete-of-the-Week (Jan. 24)
- **Joe Balog**, Sophomore, Ludlow, MA
ECAC Northeast weekly honor roll (Feb. 6)
- **Phil Lamy**, Sophomore, Manchester, NH
Western New England College Male Athlete-of-the-Week (Dec. 13)
Western New England College Most Valuable Player
- **Kyle Sagnella**, Sophomore,
East Haven, CT
ECAC Northeast weekly
honor roll (Dec. 13)
- **Matt Haddock**, Freshman,
Hillard, OH
ECAC Northeast
Rookie-of-the-Week (Dec. 13)
Western New England College
Rookie-of-the-Year





Team Celebration

Western New England College Facts

From academics to athletics, **Western New England College** can help you **exceed your expectations**. To learn more about the 19 varsity programs and two non-NCAA sponsored programs for student-athletes or our nearly 40 academic majors, visit www.wnec.edu.

2007-08 Men's Hockey Quick Facts

Location: Springfield, MA

Enrollment: 2,500 full-time undergraduates

Nickname: Golden Bears

Colors: Blue and Gold

Home Facility: Smead Arena

Affiliations: NCAA Division III, ECAC

President: Dr. Anthony S. Caprio

Vice President for Student Affairs and Dean

of Students: Dr. Richard S. DiRuzza

Athletic Director: Dr. Michael D. Theulen

Head Coach: Chris Bernard (second season)

Head Coach's Record: 8-15

(.349 winning percentage)

All-Time Program Record: 199-342-28

(.374 winning percentage)-27 years

First Year of Program: 1980-81

Athletics Department Phone: 413-782-1202

Men's Hockey Phone: 413-796-2283

Email: cbernard@wnec.edu

For up to date scores, schedules, statistics along with player information and latest news on Men's Hockey visit our website.

www.wnec.edu/athletics

Cover: Nick Klassen

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2007-08 Men's Hockey Schedule

November

Date	Day	Opponent	Site	Time
Friday	2	Utica	Utica, NY	7:00 p.m.
Saturday	3	Morrisville	Morrisville, NY	5:00 p.m.
Tuesday	6	Fitchburg State	Fitchburg, MA	7:00 p.m.
Thursday	8	Wentworth Institute of Technology	Boston, MA	7:00 p.m.
Saturday	10	Hobart	Smead Arena	7:40 p.m.
Tuesday	13	Southern New Hampshire	Hooksett, NH	7:30 p.m.
Thursday	15	Worcester State	Smead Arena	7:10 p.m.
Saturday	17	Curry	Milton, MA	4:35 p.m.
Thursday	27	Assumption	Worcester, MA	7:30 p.m.

December

Tuesday	4	Framingham State	Smead Arena	7:10 p.m.
Wednesday	5	Becker	Leicester, MA	8:35 p.m.

January

Saturday	5	Elmira	Elmira, NY	7:00 p.m.
Wednesday	9	Plymouth State	Plymouth, NH	6:00 p.m.
Saturday	12	Potsdam State	Smead Arena	7:40 p.m.
Wednesday	16	Franklin Pierce	Rindge, NH	7:00 p.m.
Saturday	19	UMass Dartmouth	Smead Arena	2:40 p.m.
Thursday	24	Worcester State	Worcester, MA	5:30 p.m.
Saturday	26	Fitchburg State	Smead Arena	2:40 p.m.
Thursday	31	Stonehill	Smead Arena	7:20 p.m.

February

Wednesday	6	Suffolk	Boston, MA	7:00 p.m.
Thursday	14	Framingham State	Framingham, MA	7:20 p.m.
Saturday	16	Salve Regina	Newport, RI	7:00 p.m.
Tuesday	19	Nichols	Smead Arena	7:10 p.m.
Thursday	21	Becker	Smead Arena	7:20 p.m.
Tuesday	26	Johnson & Wales	Smead Arena	7:10 p.m.

March

Saturday	1	ECAC Northeast Quarterfinals	TBA	TBA
Wednesday	5	ECAC Northeast Semifinals	TBA	TBA
Saturday	8	ECAC Northeast Finals	TBA	TBA

Home Games (Bold)



2006-07 Men's Hockey Team