

NEW ENGLAND COLLEGE



2020-21 ATHLETIC YEAR

Official Title: New England College
 Location: Henniker, New Hampshire
 Enrollment: 1,060 Undergraduate
 Affiliation: NCAA Division III
 Nickname: Pilgrims
 Colors: Navy, Red, and White
 President: Dr. Michelle Perkins
 Athletic Director: Dave DeCew
 Assistant Athletic Director: Lauren Mackey
 Assistant Athletic Director: William Platt
 Athletic Communications: Kenneth Swain
 Head Athletic Trainer: Heather Jones

Conferences

New England Collegiate Conference (NECC)
 New England Hockey Conference (NEHC)
 New England Wrestlers Association (NEWA)
 United States Collegiate Ski Association (USCSA)
 National Intercollegiate Rugby Association (NIRA)

Coaches

Alpine Skiing: Robert Millard '14
 Baseball: Terry Doyle
 Cross Country: Steve Kraytenberg
 Golf: Travis Banga '04
 Field Hockey: Carly Sweeney
 Men's Basketball: Charlie Mason
 Men's Ice Hockey: Tom Carroll
 Men's Lacrosse: Jedd Brown
 Men's Soccer: Brad Campion
 Women's Basketball: Erica Ledy
 Women's Ice Hockey: Mackenzie Meegan '17
 Women's Lacrosse: Meg Leo '04
 Women's Rugby: Stephen Annino
 Women's Soccer: Paul Vazquez
 Softball: Ben Master
 Women's Volleyball: Kirsten Morrison
 Wrestling: Robert Watson-Powell

Overview

Due to the pandemic, the fall and winter seasons had their postseason play was canceled. The Athletics Staff was collectively able to enhance the student-athlete in the fall semester through various means. Each program was allowed eight weeks to train and practice within the limitations and strict COVID protocols in place to ensure safety. Extra voluntary strength & conditioning sessions were coordinated by Cole Buschmann. Leadership training was offered to a select group of underclassmen student-athletes by ATC Rebecca Gregoire and coach Bob Millard. Health & Wellness activities were also promoted to ensure balance for everyone navigating through a tough climate.

Despite the NCAA and conference not having postseason tournaments, New England College was able to compete in 134 contests during the 2020-21 academic year. Winter teams were able to create a 10-12 game slate, fall teams managed to provide a 4-6 game non-traditional season, and our spring sports found ways to reach as normal a cadence with their game schedules as possible. Men's Lacrosse was the NECC regular-season champion, while the softball, baseball, and women's lacrosse teams all made it to at least the conference semifinals.



Message From The AD

"I was tremendously proud to see our entire Athletics community come together and vault all our programs forward during such a trying time. To see the ability of all our coaches, athletic trainers, administrators, sports communication staff, graduate assistants, faculty mentors, and talented student-athletes to work together to provide a safe environment was humbling. The selflessness of all was necessary, so we could get the opportunity to see our student-athletes thriving during competition as we know they are capable. We laid great groundwork for the future, and I know everyone's efforts will continue to provide dividends in the future as we contend for championships in all of our sponsored sports."

- Dave DeCew

Table of Contents

Men's and Women's Soccer.....	(3)
Field Hockey and Volleyball.....	(4)
Cross Country, Golf, and Women's Rugby.....	(5)
Men's and Women's Basketball.....	(6)
Men's and Women's Ice Hockey.....	(7)
Wrestling and Alpine Skiing.....	(8)
Baseball/Softball.....	(9)
Men's and Women's Lacrosse.....	(10)
Senior Salute.....	(11)



MEN'S SOCCER

Head Coach: Brad Campion



The Men's Soccer team competed in four matches this year. After dropping an exhibition to Bridgton Academy, the Pilgrims rattled off three straight wins over Castleton, Keene State, and Anna Maria. In those three games, NEC outscored the opposition 11-4, including a 2-1 win over in-state foe Keene State. This was the first time that New England College has defeated Keene State College in Men's Soccer.

The 'Grims used a balanced scoring attack to win their three games, as 10 different players registered a point. Logan Cassin, Wiskens Flavil, Panagiotis Galatas, and Cameron Rivard each tallied two goals.

DID YOU KNOW

The New England College men's soccer coaching staff was named the 2020-21 Regional Staff of the Year, according to the United Soccer Coaches Association, for the first time in program history.

The NEC Women's Soccer program went 4-0 in the Spring of 2021, with wins coming over Norwich, Northern Vermont - Johnson, Eastern Nazarene, and Rivier. In those four games, the Pilgrims outscored their opposition 13-0, with Emily Sashko recording four shutouts in goal for NEC. Sophomore Sofia Gómez-Pedreira led the way for the New England College offense, as she scored three goals and added one assist.

DID YOU KNOW

Twelve different players recorded a point, while Gómez-Pedreira scored three times in the abbreviated spring, nine others scored a goal.

WOMEN'S SOCCER

Head Coach: Paul Vazquez



FIELD HOCKEY

Head Coach: Carly Sweeney



In four games played in the spring semester, the New England College Women's Volleyball team went 4-0, while only dropping one set. The Pilgrims dropped a closely contested second set against Northern Vermont Johnson, in their first match of the year, but then rattled off wins in 11 straight sets. NEC defeated the Badgers 3-1 on the road but then swept Mitchell and Gordon twice to close out the season. New England College was led offensively by two freshmen, Amber Thi (43) and Tatiana Sampson (29), as they were one and two for the Pilgrims in kills. Sampson helped solidify the middle, as she led the team with 11 blocks.

DID YOU KNOW

On March 15th, at Northern Vermont Johnson, Amber Thi recorded nine service aces against the Badgers. This performance was the second-most aces in a single match in program history.

The New England College Field Hockey team had the opportunity in the spring to try athletes in different positions and give them significant time on the field. They played four competitive contests in the spring, which allowed our athletes to finally put their training from the fall and the spring into use. They tested the boundaries of stamina and agility during those four games. They felt that they were lucky as we had the opportunity to practice and play in the spring season. The NEC field hockey team was extremely adaptable and tenacious in training hard despite the challenges of COVID-19. They excelled on the field and in the classroom claiming the National Field Hockey Coaches Association National Academic Squad Award for the fourth year in a row with a team GPA over 3.0.

DID YOU KNOW

Dual sport student-athlete, Giuliana Kevlin was named as the New England College and the New England Collegiate Conference's nominee for the NCAA Women of the Year. Established in 1991, the NCAA Woman of the Year program honors the academic achievements, athletics excellence, community service, and leadership of graduating female college athletes from all three divisions.

WOMEN'S VOLLEYBALL

Head Coach: Kirsten Morrison



CROSS COUNTRY

Head Coach: Steve Kraytenberg



Steve Kraytenberg was named as the new head coach of both the Men's and Women's Cross Country program in April of 2020.

"I stayed behind at New England College this past summer and got busy. I would run on the John Stark track, Henniker Fitness Center, and the backroads of Pats Peak. Furthermore, I even spent some days lifting with a fellow peer leader wrestler, Maxwell Ross. I was guided by a former runner, Torey Vater, to improve my running this summer."

-John Hickey
Frederick, MD

GOLF

Head Coach: Travis Banga

"We spent a lot of good time out on the course learning course management and we put a big emphasis on the short game which is always important. The team has already come such a long way from where we started. The guys have been putting time in. It was unfortunate that we couldn't play any other schools, but we competed against ourselves every week. We're looking forward to getting some tournament play under our belts."

-Connor Dun
Tri-Cities, Wash.



WOMEN'S RUGBY

Head Coach: Tom Campbell

"Last year was a tough year for us women's rugby players, not being able to tackle or ruck which, is very important in rugby. Throughout last year, we all played a part in motivating and reminding each other that this game is called rugby and is all about teamwork and support. To go forward, we must go back and continue to build our team stronger and better for the future."

-Malika Alexander
East Orange, N.J.



MEN'S BASKETBALL

Head Coach: Charlie Mason



After coming off their second conference championship in three years, the NEC Men's Basketball Team started their 2020-21 campaign off slow, as they lost three games to begin the year. The 'Grims turned it around against Northern Vermont Lyndon as they downed the Hornets 121-93. New England College carried their momentum as they rattled off six straight games, with wins over the University of New England, Norwich, and Eastern Nazarene. Jamal Allen and Calvin Cheek each surpassed 1,000 career points, as Allen did it at home in a 94-89 win over Norwich University, while Cheek did it in the last game of the year against Eastern Nazarene.

DID YOU KNOW

Calvin Cheek finished the year with 444 career steals, ranks him second all-time in the NCAA, trailing only Tennyson Whitted of Ramapo (2000-03) with 448. Cheek also was named to the d3hoops.com Second Team All-East/Northeast Region Team.

Looking for their third-straight New England Collegiate Conference Championship, but due to the pandemic, the Pilgrims were limited to just seven games this past year. With only three players who have played college basketball before 2020, NEC went 1-6 on the year.

Ericka Pratt led the way for the 'Grims in points (12.4), rebounds (5.3), and steals (2.9) in her junior year. Asia Jones was the only other Pilgrim to score 10+ points per game, with 10.9.

DID YOU KNOW

The combination of Pratt, Jones and Mariah Thomas were the lone NEC Women's Basketball players to come into the 2020-21 season with collegiate experience prior to that year. All three, set new career-highs in scoring and rebounds per game.

WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

Head Coach: Erica Ledy



MEN'S ICE HOCKEY

Head Coach: Tom Carroll



The 2020-21 campaign was shortened due to COVID, but the New England College Men's Ice Hockey team was able to play ten games. NEC struggled in the early part of the season, as they dropped the first three games of the season to Babson (4-2, 2-1) and Anna Maria (2-1). The Pilgrims picked up their first win of the season, following a 3-2 road win against Anna Maria. Against Castleton, the 'Grims picked up back-to-back wins over the Spartans (5-4, 8-3). In March, NEC dropped four games, two to Babson and two to Norwich.

Connor Inger led the way for the New England College offense. The junior forward paced NEC in goals (6), assists (5), and points (11).

DID YOU KNOW

Alex LaPlante had a breakout season for his sophomore campaign. In the first six games, the Londonderry, N.H. native scored three goals and four assists to begin the year. Against Castleton on February 27th, LaPlante scored one goal and added a pair of assists in NEC's 8-3 win over the Spartans.

Under first-year head coach Mackenzie Meegan, the New England College Women's Ice Hockey Team competed in 10 games in 2020-21. Despite a 1-7-2 record, NEC showed promise with a young roster. On March 5th, the Pilgrims skated to a 0-0 tie at Plymouth State, but the two teams had an 18 round shootout, which the Panthers came out victorious (5-4), but this was the longest shootout in NCAA Division III history.

Cassie Kelly led the way for New England College with six assists and seven points. Freshmen Emily Lenzen (three goals, two assists) and AK Fuentes (two goals, three assists) shined in their first year in Henniker.

DID YOU KNOW

New England College's 3-2 overtime win over Plymouth State is the first time that NEC has beaten the Panthers since November 21, 2015, when Coach Meegan scored the game-tying goal.

WOMEN'S ICE HOCKEY

Head Coach: Mackenzie Meegan



WRESTLING

Head Coach: Robert Watson-Powell



Despite the lack of competition during the 20-21 season, the pilgrims wrestling team stayed true to themselves as student-athletes. Four Pilgrims were honored as National Wrestling Coaches Association Scholar All-Americans this past year, including first-timers Damon Wright, Chris Ludwig, Man-nash Carlson, and Diego Santiago, who received his fourth honor in four years.

On the mat, New England College hosted two scrimmages in Henniker, matching up with the Huskies of Southern Maine and Spartans of Castleton. NEC was led by Chris DeRosa, who took full advantage of his opportunities on the mat finishes the two scrimmages with a 4-1 overall match record.

DID YOU KNOW

Coach Powell is entering his third season as a collegiate head coach (2019-20 was spent out at Iowa Wesleyan), but has yet to coach an official dual meet.

“Unfortunately, the MacConnell Division was unable to compete this past year. However, we took advantage of our home hill, Pats Peak, to train every day of the week and spend time working on the skills to make us compete at a higher level this coming season.”

-Robert Millard
Head Alpine Ski Coach

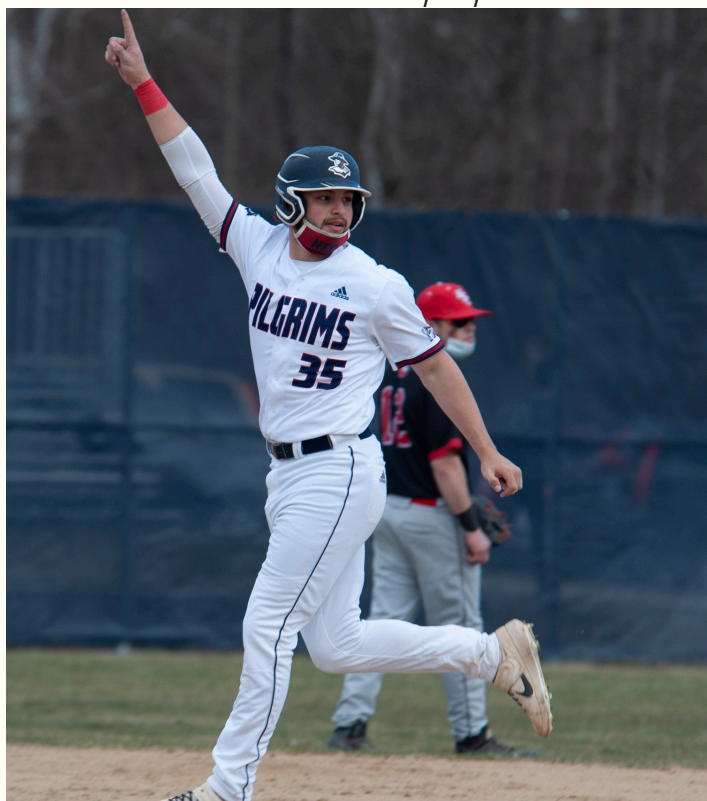
ALPINE SKIING

Head Coach: Robert Millard



BASEBALL

Head Coach: Terry Doyle



After starting the year 1-11, the NEC Baseball team found their rhythm when they came home and beat Keene State 11-4 in their home opener. They closed out the rest of April 9-3 and outscoring the opposition 118-68. After finishing the regular season, the Pilgrims clinched the number two seed in the NECC Baseball Tournament.

The Pilgrims were led offensively by Garrett Langis, who was named the New England Collegiate Conference Rookie of the Year. Langis also was selected as an American Baseball Coaches Association Third Team All-New England. In 30 games, the freshman from Rochester, N.H., batted .343 with seven homeruns and 28 RBI. Shaun Cormier, Connor Morin and Michael Ciccotelli joined Langis on the NECC First Team, while Tim Krol and BJ Minarcin were selected to the Second Team.

DID YOU KNOW

New England College was solid at home, as the Pilgrims went 7-2 and outscored their opponents 89-49. Tyler Gendron batted .444 with four homeruns and 14 RBI at Laurie Cox Memorial Field in 2021.

The 2021 NEC Softball team started the year strong and fast, as they won their first seven games of the year, as they outscored their opponents 63-19. Chanel Welch and Destiny Helmedach surpassed the 100 career hit milestone during the year. Welch did it on March 24th against Northern Vermont University-Lyndon, while Helmedach did it on the road at Eastern Nazarene on April 20th.

Taylor Barbour and Destiny Cardona were both named to the NECC First Team, while Cameron LeClaire, Emily Gagne, Destiny Helmedach, and Kaitlyn Simpson were selected to the second team.

DID YOU KNOW

In the second inning against Eastern Nazarene on April 20th, Taylor Barbour surpassed 400 career strikeouts, as the Pilgrims went on to win the game 5-1.

SOFTBALL

Head Coach: Ben Master



MEN'S LACROSSE

Head Coach: Jedd Brown



Without a conference tournament this year, the NEC Men's Lacrosse team went 5-4 on the year. The Pilgrims picked up wins over Norwich, Saint Joseph's of Maine, Eastern Connecticut State, Mitchell, and Castleton University. NEC went 3-1 at home, as they only lost to Keene State on Don Melander Field. Reed Foster and Patrick Storie were selected to represent NEC at the NEILA East-West All-Star Game. Connor Smith and Patrick Storie picked up academic awards, as the duo were both named to the NEILA All-Academic Team, while Smith was named as a USILA Scholar All-American.

Connor Smith paved the way for the New England College offense with 33 goals, while Patrick Storie led the team with 27 assists and 46 points. Reed Foster tied Storie with 12 caused turnovers, while Quint Bartush paced the team with 57 ground balls and winning 60.5 percent of the faceoffs.

DID YOU KNOW

Patrick Storie and Connor Smith both surpassed 100 career goals on the year. Storie did it on the road in an 11-9 win over Eastern Connecticut State University, while Smith eclipsed the milestone the next day as NEC downed Mitchell College 18-6.

After coming off a shortened season, where they only played three games in 2020, the 2021 New England College Women's Lacrosse Team went 6-6 on the year. The Pilgrims picked up wins over Norwich, Elms, Colby-Sawyer, and Mitchell. Lauren Rich, Alexandria Safford, and Nathalie Antigua paced the NEC's offense as the trio each recorded 30+ goals on the year. Rich, Safford, Antigua joined Ally Freeman, Giuliana Kevlin, and McKenzie Gallasso on the New England Collegiate Conference First-Team All-Conference.

DID YOU KNOW

In their home opener against Norwich University, Alexandria Safford registered her 100th career goal. Safford tallied her milestone goal with her fifth goal of the contest, coming right before halftime.

WOMEN'S LACROSSE

Head Coach: Meg Leo



NEW ENGLAND COLLEGE

CLASS OF 2021

Jamal Allen (Men's Basketball)	Connor Morin (Baseball)
Taylor Barbour (Softball)	Adam Morin (Men's Lacrosse)
Emilia Battista (Field Hockey and Women's Lacrosse)	Cassandra Nelson (Women's Lacrosse)
David Benjamin (Men's Lacrosse)	Tatian Njei (Women's Rugby)
Charisma Bispham (Women's Rugby)	Isac Nordstrom (Golf and Men's Ice Hockey)
Francis Boahen (Wrestling)	Kareem Octavien (Men's Basketball)
Mannash Carlson (Wrestling)	Madeline Olivares-Thompson (Women's Soccer)
Calvin Cheek (Men's Basketball)	Meghan Oliver (Women's Soccer and Women's lacrosse)
Michael Ciccotelli (Baseball)	Robert Pagliuca (Baseball)
Shaun Cormier (Baseball)	Joseph Pascucci (Baseball)
Leeann Demirjian (Women's Soccer)	Mark Pasquariello (Men's Lacrosse)
Sam Duchesneau (Men's Soccer)	Kayla Ramsay (Women's Rugby and Women's Basketball)
Stephen Fama (Men's Basketball And Baseball)	Nicholas Rein (Men's Ice Hockey)
Hans Fanfan (Men's Soccer)	Cortney Reyes (Women's Ice Hockey and Women's Lacrosse)
Emily Farone (Softbal)	Connor Richardson (Baseball)
Giovanni Fassina (Alpine Akiing and Golf)	Alexandria Safford (Women's Lacrosse)
Robbie Ferguson (Men's Soccer)	Akila Sansculotte (Women's rugby)
Reed Foster (Men's Lacrosse)	Diego Santiago (Wrestling)
McKenzie Gallasso (Women's Lacrosse)	Rachel Senechal (Softbal)
Lauren Gibson (Women's Soccer)	Connor Smith (Men's Lacrosse)
Channing Gorscak (Golf and Men's Ice Hockey)	Tucker Stenger (Men's Soccer)
Charles Hacking (Men's Lacrosse)	Patrick Storie (Men's Lacrosse)
Najee Hall (Wrestling)	Mike Tanguay (Wrestling)
Margeaux Hamel (Women's Rugby)	Tyler Tweedie (Wrestling)
Destiny Helmedach (Softball)	Louisa Valcin (Women's Rugby)
Alexis Hoelzel (Softball)	CJ Valerian (Men's Ice Hockey)
Giuliana Kevlin (Field Hockey and Women's Lacrosse)	Tucker Whitcomb (Men's Lacrosse)
Madison LaCharite (Women's Lacrosse)	Matthew White (Alpine Skiing and Baseball)
Drew Lambert (Men's Ice Hockey and Men's Lacrosse)	Emily Wightman (Women's Soccer)
Hunter Lane (Me's Lacrosse)	Caelin Worthington (Wreslting)
Cameron LeClaire (Softball)	Kasey Zaleski (Women's Volleyball)
Shanice Marotto-Potvin (Women's Rugby)	
Bernard Minarcin (Baseball)	



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