Quinnipiac basketball highlighted in Metro basketball tip-off show

By COOPER WOODWARD
Sports Editor

With less than a month until the start of the 2026-27 NCAA basketball schedule, conferences around the country are beginning to hype up their respective teams. For the Metro conference, their kick off started in Atlantic City, New Jersey as the conference hosted the Metro conference tip-off show Oct. 6.

Four representatives from the Quinnipiac basketball programs were showcased as voices for the direction of their respective squads. Head coach Tom Pecora and sophomore forward Keith McKnight represented men's basketball, while head coach Roman Owen and senior guard Ava Sollene represented women's basketball..



Despite the fact that both are representing the same school, both programs couldn't be in more different positions.

Pecora will be heading into year four as head coach of a team he brought its first ever regular season conference championship while Owen will be heading into his first year as head coach of the women's program. Regardless of their differences, both are excited to hit the ground running.

"I'm really fortunate to be able to lead the program," Owen said. "It's been a great transition, I've had great support from the administration and the players have been great to work with."

Owen would go on to further compliment the buy-in of his athletes heading into the new season. One of those athletes was sitting to his right in Sollenne, who is approaching this new season with optimism.

"It's been amazing to get back and be back out there," she said. "We have a different group obviously but change is exciting."

The change Sollene is talking about? A roster filled with 11 new faces, leaving her and fellow senior guards Paige Girardi and Maria Kealy as the only returners to the roster. The men's team has experienced similar turnover, losing eight of its 15 man roster.

McKnight was one of those men, but decided to stay in Hamden after a stellar debut year.

"I'm really excited," McKnight said when asked about preparations for his sophomore season. "I've been in the gym constantly getting prepared for the league."

Having been a coach at the Division I level for a decade, Pecora knows the reality of roster turnover and complimented McKnight for going against the grain and calling Quinnipiac home for another season.

"He made a phenomenal choice in coming to Quinnipiac and he made an even better choice to stay for his sophomore year," Pecora said.

Sollenne saw her teammates follow that trend but decided to stay put. Why? For one simple reason: community. Both with the new and returning faces on her team and with Quinnipiac at large.

"I love Quinnipiac, the people there are like no other," Sollenne said. "It's been great spending time with (the returners) and getting to know everyone else who's new to the program as well"

McKnight's reason for staying was also simple: love and trust.

"I've built a lot of love here at Quinnipiac," he said. "I see that (Pecora) trusts me and I trust him and his staff to develop me into the player I want to be."

When everyone on the panel was asked what they want people to know about their teams with a little over 100 days until tournament time, the answer was unviersial.

"We're gonna compete."

That's the motto of Quinnipaic basketball heading into a time of uncertainty. No matter what happens results wise, they will give 100% all the time.

Both teams will begin its seasons on Monday, Nov. 2. Men's basketball will travel to east Lansing, Michigan to battle against Michigan State, while women's basketball will battle against St. Joseph's (Long Island) in Hamden.



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Injunction for former Bobcat Amarri Monroe raises eligibility questions

By EMILY MARQUIS
Associate Sports Editor

A New York judge granted former Quinnipiac men's basketball forward Amarri Monroe a preliminary injunction in his case against the NCAA, allowing him to continue playing basketball for the Syracuse Orange this upcoming season.

Onondaga County Supreme Court Judge Jean Marie Westlake oversaw Monroe's case, issuing the injunction Oct. 6.

Monroe and his lawyers filed a temporary restraining order and preliminary injunction against the NCAA Aug. 31 in an attempt to allow the former Bobcat to take the court again, despite the Tenth Circuit Court of Appeals granting the NCAA a stay of the preliminary injunction in Wisne v. NCAA that allowes athletes from the enrollment class of 2022 a fifth season of athletic eligibility.

Despite the positive eligibility news for Monroe, there is no update if Quinnipiac guard Asim Jones, who committed to return to Quinnipiac Aug. 6, will return for his graduate year. The former All-MAAC Third Team guard spent his senior year in Hamden following stints with Florida International University and the College of Southern Idaho, averaging 12.5 points per game as a member of the Bobcats.

In an article from Daly Dose of Hoops, Quinnipiac men's basketball head coach Tom Pecora was candid regarding Jones' status with the squad-team if he was given eligibility.

"If he's eligible, he's back," Pecora said. "It's huge."

As of the time of publication, Jones has deleted his commitment post from his Instagram, and is not listed on the Quinnipiac men's basketball 2026-27 roster.

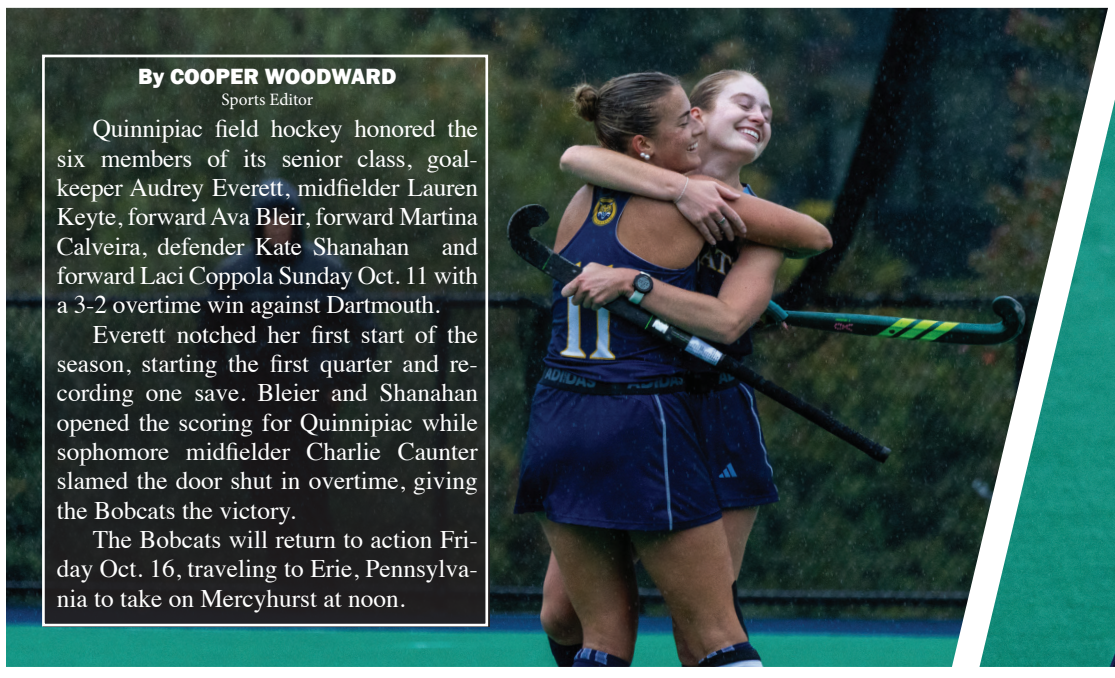
Photo: Field hockey takes down Dartmouth 3-2 in overtime thriller on Senior Day

By COOPER WOODWARD
Sports Editor

Quinnipiac field hockey honored the six members of its senior class, goalkeeper Audrey Everett, midfielder Lauren Keyte, forward Ava Bleir, forward Martina Calveira, defender Kate Shanahan and forward Laci Coppola Sunday Oct. 11 with a 3-2 overtime win against Dartmouth.

Everett notched her first start of the season, starting the first quarter and recording one save. Bleier and Shanahan opened the scoring for Quinnipiac while sophomore midfielder Charlie Caunter slamed the door shut in overtime, giving the Bobcats the victory.

The Bobcats will return to action Friday Oct. 16, traveling to Erie, Pennsylvania to take on Mercyhurst at noon.





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