HADLEY, Mass. – Bowdoin senior Abby Kelly has been selected as the NESCAC Women’s Basketball Player of the Year as voted by the league’s coaches. She is the second straight Polar Bear to earn the honor as former teammate Kate Kerrigan was recognized in 2018. Kelly’s accolade also marks the sixth time a Bowdoin player has been honored overall, joining Lora Trenkle (2002 & 2004), Eileen Flaherty (2007), Shanon Brady (2016) and Kerrigan.

Kelly leads Bowdoin in scoring averaging 14.7 points per game and ranks among the NESCAC leaders in points, 3-pointers, field goal percentage, and steals. A 1,000-point scorer, she helped the Polar Bears earn the No. 1 seed in the NESCAC Championship behind a 10-0 record in league play. Bowdoin advanced to the title game for the first time since 2015 and was an at-large selection for the NCAA Tournament. Bowdoin carries a 26-1 record into the NCAAs and will host first and second round games.

Kelly’s teammate Taylor Choate was voted as the NESCAC Defensive Player of the Year marking the second straight season a Polar Bear has won the honor. Kerrigan was honored in 2018 and also earned the accolade in 2015 and 2016. Choate, a senior, is the fourth player from Bowdoin to be recognized, joining Justine Pouravelis, (2004, 2005, 2006), Katie Cummings (2007) and Kerrigan. Choate has started all 27 games for the Polar Bears and is chipping in 12.1 points per game, while dishing out 3.4 assists, and collecting 2.1 steals per game.

Wesleyan’s Caleigh Ryan was named the NESCAC Rookie of the Year and is the second Cardinal to earn the award, joining Ali Fourney (2006). Ryan nearly averaged a double-double with 10.6 points and 7.2 rebounds per game. The rookie started all 25 games and totaled a team-high 39 steals as she helped Wesleyan earn a berth to the NESCAC Tournament for the second straight season.

Bowdoin head coach Adrienne Shibles was selected as the NESCAC Coach of the Year by her peers. She wins the honor for the second time in her 11-year career at the helm. Shibies guided the Polar Bears to an unbeaten record in NESCAC play (10-0), the top seed in the NESCAC Championship, and became the winningest coach in program history earlier this season. The Polar Bears earned an NCAA bid for the 10th time in Shibies 11 years at Bowdoin.

Junior guard Madeline Eck represented Amherst on the All-NESCAC First Team. The 2017 NESCAC Rookie of the Year earns First Team honors for the second consecutive season. Eck helped the Mammoths earn the No. 2 seed in the NESCAC Championship and a spot in the NCAA Tournament field as an at-large selection. Eck has started every game for Amherst and ranks third among the NESCAC scoring leaders at 16.0 points per game. She also ranks among the league leaders in field goal percentage, shooting 50.9 percent from the floor while collecting 5.9 rebounds and dishing out 2.2 assists per game.

Maddie Hasson is the third Bowdoin player to be honored on the All-NESCAC team and earns her first conference accolade in her career. Hasson, a junior, leads the NESCAC in field goal percentage, shooting 60.8 percent from the floor while averaging 14.6 points and 5.4 rebounds per game for the NCAA-bound Polar Bears.

Senior Jac Knapp and junior Erica DeCandido earn their first conference honors representing Tufts on the All-NESCAC First Team. The duo helped the Jumbos win the NESCAC title for the third time in program history. Knapp, who reached the 1,000-career point milestone in the championship game is the scoring leader for the Jumbos, averaging 13.6 points per game. DeCandido is chipping in 12.6 points, 5.4 rebounds, and 3.6 assists per game. The Jumbos earned an automatic berth to the NCAA Tournament and will host first and second round games.