



MEN'S PREVIEW

31.12

Brian Smith
Director of Communications
Hockey East Association
 591 North Ave - #2
 Wakefield, MA 01880
 Office: (781) 245-2122
 Cell: (339) 227-2988
 bsmith@HockeyEastOnline.com

For Immediate Release: Friday, January 2, 2014

Mariucci Classic, Ledyard Bank Classic Highlight Start of 2015 UConn Travels to UMass for First Time; No. 1 BU, No. 16 PC, Maine, NU Host Non-League Games

No. 1 Boston University vs. Union - Sat. 1/3 at BU

• No. 1 Boston University will be without their leading point-getter **Jack Eichel**, playing on the U.S. National Junior Team, as the Terriers square off against defending NCAA champion Union Saturday at Agganis Arena.

No. 7 UMass vs. RIT vs. No. 18 Merrimack/No. 8 Minnesota - Fri. 1/2, Sat. 1/3 at Mariucci Classic

• No. 7 UMass Lowell won the Frozen Holiday Classic in Bridgeport, Conn., last Sunday with a 3-1 victory against Hockey East foe UConn.
 • UML is 4-1-1 all-time against RIT, and tied, 4-4, in their last meeting on Oct. 16, 2010. The River Hawks will then play either No. 18 Merrimack or No. 8 Minnesota.

No. 10 Vermont at Yale - Sat. 1/3 at Yale

• No. 10 Vermont, off to its best start through 19 games since the 1995-96 season, has won 10 of its last 13 games dating back to Nov. 7. The Catamounts sit in third place in the Hockey East standings.

No. 15 Boston College vs. Brown/at Dartmouth - Fri. 1/2, Sat. 1/3 at Ledyard Bank Classic

• No. 15 Boston College is slated to kick off the 2015 Ledyard Bank Classic at Dartmouth against Brown Friday afternoon. The Eagles will be without four players competing on the U.S. National Junior Team, including starting netminder **Thatcher Demko**.
 • BC will play a second Ivy League opponent on Saturday against host Dartmouth. This meeting marks the 92nd game in the all-time series and the Eagles own a 62-29 advantage.

No. 16 Providence vs. Colorado College - Sat. 1/3, Sun. 1/4 at PC

• Winners of three in a row, including the 2014 Catamount Cup last weekend, Hockey East Defensive Player of the Week **Jon Gillies** and No. 16 Providence return home for a weekend series against Colorado College. After starting the season with a 1-3-1 record, the Friars are 10-3-0 since Nov. 1.

No. 18 Merrimack vs. No. 8 Minnesota vs. No. 7 UML/RIT - Fri. 1/2, Sat. 1/3 at Mariucci Classic

• No. 18 Merrimack and No. 8 Minnesota are set to meet in the first round of the Mariucci Classic for only the second time in the Warriors' 58-year history. The last meeting occurred at the 2004 Dodge Holiday Classic in Minneapolis.

UConn at Massachusetts - Fri. 1/2 at UMass

• Massachusetts will host UConn for the very first time Friday night at the Mullins Center. The Minutemen earned a split at the Catamount Cup, falling, 4-1, to No. 16 Providence but downing Air Force, 5-1. Sophomore forward **Frank Vatrano** represented UMass on the Catamount Cup All-Tournament Team.
 • Massachusetts leads the all-time series against UConn, 26-9-2. Since the Huskies joined Division I hockey in 1998-99, they are 2-10-1 against the Minutemen. UConn is also coming off of a split last weekend, having beat Union, but lost to No. 9 UMass Lowell in the championship game of the Frozen Holiday Classic in Bridgeport, Connecticut.

Canisius at Maine - Fri. 1/2, Sat. 1/3 at Maine

• Maine and Canisius will square off for only the second and third times this weekend. Maine won the first meeting, 6-3, Oct. 23, 1999 at Alford Arena.

Northeastern vs. St. Lawrence - Fri. 1/2, Sat. 1/3 at NU

• Northeastern enters its weekend series with St. Lawrence as winners of five out of its last seven games. The Huskies hold a 15-14-2 edge in their all-time series with St. Lawrence and split a weekend series with the Saints last season.

2014-2015 HOCKEY EAST STANDINGS

Rk.	Team	GP	W	L	T	Pts	Overall	Conf. Off.	Conf. Def.
1.	UMass Lowell	9	7	0	2	16	12-3-3	4.11 (1)	1.78 (2)
	Boston University	10	7	1	2	16	11-3-2	3.80 (2)	1.90 (4)
3.	Vermont	11	7	3	1	15	14-4-1	3.36 (3)	1.82 (3)
4.	Providence	10	6	4	0	12	11-6-1	1.80 (11)	1.30 (1)
5.	Notre Dame	8	4	2	2	10	9-9-2	2.88 (4)	2.50 (7)
6.	Boston College	9	4	4	1	9	9-7-1	2.67 (5)	2.33 (6)
	Merrimack	9	4	4	1	9	10-5-2	2.11 (9)	2.00 (5)
8.	Northeastern	10	3	6	1	7	5-10-1	2.00 (10)	3.40 (10)
9.	UConn	7	2	4	1	5	4-9-4	2.14 (8)	2.86 (8)
10.	Maine	8	2	6	0	4	4-13-1	2.38 (6)	3.50 (11)
11.	New Hampshire	7	1	5	1	3	6-11-1	1.71 (12)	3.14 (9)
12.	Massachusetts	10	1	9	0	2	5-13-0	2.20 (7)	5.30 (12)

Upcoming Games

Friday, January 2

UConn at Massachusetts - 7 p.m.*
 No. 15 Boston College vs. Brown - 4 p.m. %
 RIT vs. No. 9 UMass Lowell - 5 p.m. ^
 Canisius at Maine - 7 p.m.
 St. Lawrence at Northeastern - 7 p.m.
No. 18 Merrimack at No. 8 Minnesota - 8 p.m. ^
 (FSN+)

Saturday, January 3

No. 7 UML/RIT vs. No. 18 Merrimack - 5 p.m. ^
 No. 18 Merrimack/No. 8 Minnesota
 vs. No. 7 UML - 5 p.m./8 p.m. ^
Union at No. 1 Boston University - 7 p.m.
 (NBCSN)
 Canisius at Maine - 7 p.m.
 St. Lawrence at Northeastern - 7 p.m.
Colorado College at No. 16 Providence - 7 p.m.
 (OSN)
 No. 10 Vermont at Yale - 7 p.m.
 No. 15 Boston College at Dartmouth - 7 p.m. %

Sunday, January 4

Colorado College at No. 16 Providence - 4 p.m.
 (OSN)

^ Mariucci Classic (Minnesota)
 % Ledyard Bank Classic (Dartmouth)

All game times are EST
*** denotes league games**

HEA In The Polls

USA Today/USA Hockey Magazine Men's College Hockey Poll

Rk.	School, Pts.	Record	LR
1.	Boston University, 472	11-3-2	2
7.	UMass Lowell, 277	10-3-3	8
9.	Vermont, 261	13-3-1	10

Others receiving votes: Boston College, 27; Providence, 25; Merrimack, 20

USCHO.com Div. I Men's Poll

Rk.	School, Pts.	Record	LW
1.	Boston University, 930	11-3-2	2
9.	UMass Lowell, 643	10-3-3	8
10.	Vermont, 612	13-3-1	10
15.	Boston College, 233	9-7-1	16
16.	Providence, 229	9-6-1	18
18.	Merrimack, 158	10-5-2	19