



MEN'S PREVIEW

31.18

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

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Hockey East Matchups in Full Swing as Regular Season Winds Down Rivals UMass, UMass Lowell Face Off in Home-and-Home; UConn and NU Look to Lock Up Home Ice

No. 3 Boston University vs. New Hampshire - Fri. 2/13 at BU; Sat. 2/14 at UNH

• No. 3 Boston University and New Hampshire meet this weekend for the 173rd and 174th time in a home-and-home series. The Terriers command a 102-51-9 record all-time dating back to Feb. 5, 1925, but the Wildcats got the best of BU last season after sweeping **David Quinn's** squad.

• Senior Terrier forward **Evan Rodrigues** earned Warrior Hockey Player of the Week accolades for the second week in a row after recording his first career hat trick and an assist for his 100th career point in a 5-2 win last weekend at No. 16 UMass Lowell.

• UNH freshman forward **Andrew Poturalski** was recognized as the Pro Ambitions Rookie of the Week after registering four points (2g, 2a) in a weekend split at No. 17 Vermont. He tallied a pair of assists in a losing effort Friday, but scored twice in the Wildcats 6-3 come-from-behind win Saturday.

No. 10 Boston College vs. No. 17 Vermont - Fri. 2/13, Sat. 2/14 at BC

• No. 10 Boston College will go head-to-head with No. 17 Vermont, one of only two teams (Notre Dame) BC has not faced yet in Hockey East play, as the Catamounts travel to Kelley Rink for a weekend series. UVM has not earned a victory on The Heights since Nov. 15, 2009, marking their only victory at in Chestnut Hill since joining Hockey East in 2005.

• Vermont has gone just 2-7-1 since Dec. 29 and won just one game in their last five outings, while Boston College is 8-2-1 since the start of the new year.

No. 11 Providence vs. Notre Dame - Fri. 2/13, Sat. 2/14 at UND

• No. 11 Providence will make just its second trip to Notre Dame in a weekend Hockey East series that carries playoff implications, as the Friars and Irish are separated by one point in the league standings. PC is currently fourth with 19 points, while Notre Dame sits fifth with 18 points.

• Irish netminder **Cal Petersen** is fresh off of two performances at Maine that earned the freshman Hockey East Defensive Player of the Week honors. Petersen came through in relief to preserve a 4-4 tie for the Irish Friday, and stopped 33 of 34 shots the following night in a 5-1 victory over the Black Bears.

No. 16 UMass Lowell vs. Massachusetts - Fri. 2/13 at UMass, Sat. 2/14 at UML

• UMass put together a three-goal second period last Saturday night in a 5-2 home win over No. 16 UMass Lowell in game one of a three-game season series. Game two will be a non-league game at UMass Friday before the action moves to the Tsongas Center for a Hockey East contest.

• The Minutemen (3.00) and River Hawks (3.06) are two of only five teams in Hockey East scoring an average of three goals or more per game.

No. 18 Merrimack vs. Maine - Fri. 2/13, Sat. 2/14 at MC

• The Hockey East standings continue to get tighter as February rolls on as Maine and No. 18 Merrimack who will square off for a weekend series in North Andover. The Black Bears and Warriors are both tied for ninth place with 12 points, and sit just four points and one place in the standings away from earning home ice advantage in the opening round of the Hockey East playoffs.

• Maine leads the all-time series over Merrimack with a record of 65-19-8 and won the last meeting between the two teams, 2-0, March 8, 2014 in the Hockey East tournament.

UConn vs. Northeastern - Fri. 2/13 at NU; Sat. 2/14 at UConn

• UConn and Northeastern look to secure home ice in the Hockey East playoffs as the two teams kick off a home-and-home series Friday night at Matthews Arena. The Huskies are currently tied for seventh place in the league standings with 16 points and are just three points behind fourth-place No. 11 Providence.

• UConn downed No. 18 Merrimack, 1-0, Tuesday thanks in part to a 32-save performance from sophomore goaltender **Rob Nichols**, who recorded his third shutout of the season. Northeastern enters the weekend as winners of four straight, and are unbeaten in their last six games after a 5-3 road win over UMass last Friday.

Upcoming Games

Friday, February 13

New Hampshire at No. 3 Boston Univ. - 7:00 p.m. *
 (NESN)

Maine at No. 18 Merrimack - 7:00 p.m. *

UConn at Northeastern - 7:00 p.m. *

No. 17 Vermont at No. 10 Boston College - 7:30 p.m. *

No. 11 Providence at Notre Dame - 7:35 p.m. *
 (NBCSN)

No. 16 UMass Lowell at UMass - 7:00 p.m.

Saturday, February 14

Northeastern at UConn - 3:35 p.m. *

No. 17 Vermont at No. 10 Boston College - 4:30 p.m. *

Maine at No. 18 Merrimack - 4:00 p.m. *

UMass at No. 16 UMass Lowell - 4:00 p.m. *

No. 3 Boston Univ. at New Hampshire - 4 p.m.
 (WBIN, FCS)

No. 11 Providence at Notre Dame - 8:05 p.m.
 (NBCSN)

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. (FPV)	Record	LR
2.	Boston University	477	18-4-4	2
10.	Providence	152	17-9-2	13
11.	Boston College	146	17-9-2	12
15.	UMass Lowell	53	16-10-3	11

Others receiving votes: Vermont, 13; Northeastern, 1

USCHO.com Div. I Men's Poll

Rk.	School	Pts. (FPV)	Record	LW
3.	Boston University	934	18-4-4	3
10.	Boston College	499	17-9-2	11
11.	Providence	480	17-9-2	13
16.	UMass Lowell	246	16-10-1	12
17.	Vermont	166	16-10-2	17

Others receiving votes: Merrimack, 42

2014-2015 HOCKEY EAST STANDINGS

Rk.	Team	GP	W	L	T	Pts	Overall	Conf. Off.	Conf. Def.
1.	Boston University	16	12	2	2	26	18-4-4	4.00 (1)	2.25 (3)
2.	Boston College	17	10	5	2	22	17-9-2	2.76 (6)	2.18 (2)
3.	UMass Lowell	18	9	7	2	20	16-10-3	3.06 (3)	2.56 (6)
4.	Providence	16	9	6	1	19	17-9-2	2.75 (7)	1.56 (1)
5.	Notre Dame	16	7	5	4	18	12-14-4	3.25 (2)	2.75 (7)
6.	Vermont	16	8	7	1	17	16-10-2	3.06 (3)	2.38 (4)
7.	Northeastern	16	7	7	2	16	12-11-4	2.44 (10)	2.94 (8)
	Connecticut	17	6	7	4	16	9-13-7	2.06 (11)	2.94 (8)
9.	Maine	16	5	9	2	12	10-17-3	2.56 (9)	3.06 (10)
	Merrimack	16	5	9	2	12	14-11-3	1.88 (12)	2.38 (4)
11.	New Hampshire	16	5	10	1	11	10-16-2	2.69 (8)	3.50 (11)
12.	Massachusetts	18	4	13	1	9	9-18-1	3.00 (5)	4.83 (12)