

MEN'S PREVIEW

For Immediate Release: Thursday, February 19, 2015

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

League Standings Undecided Entering Final Two Weekends of Regular Season No. 10 BC Looks for Payback Against No. 16 UML; UConn Seeks First Win All-Time Versus UNH

No. 3 Boston University vs. Notre Dame/vs. Northeastern-Fri. 2/20, Sat. 2/21 at BU; Mon. 2/23 at TD Garden

 No. 3 Boston University welcomes the Irish to Agganis Arena for a weekend series with a chance to clinch the Hockey East regular-season title on home ice before taking on Warrior Hockey Player of the Week Kevin Roy and Northeastern in the Beanpot Championship Monday night.

Notre Dame freshman goaltender Cal Petersen received Hockey East Defensive Player of the Week honors for the second week in a row Feb. 16, marking the first time the award has been bestowed to a repeat solo recipient since UMass Lowell's Connor Hellebuyck did it in Dec. 2012.

· Northeastern will look to end the longest drought of any team in the Beanpot Tournament, its last championship coming Feb. 8, 1988. Since that game, the Huskies have gone to the championship game eight times, including three consecutive trips (2013-15). A win would give NU their fifth Beanpot title, while a win for the Terriers would be good for their 30th title.

No. 10 Boston College vs. No. 16 UMass Lowell/vs. No. 14 Harvard-Fri. 2/20 at BC; Mon. 2/23 at TD Garden
• Pro Ambitions Rookie of the Week Alex Tuch and No. 10 Boston College will look to exact revenge on Senior Night against No. 16 UMass Lowell after the River Hawks defeated the Eagles, 5-2, in the 2014-15 season opener at the Tsongas Center.

 Norm Bazin's UML program has scored a rapid pace since potting six against BC Oct. 10, tallying over three goals per game (3.42). That number is second most in Hockey East and eighth nationally.

No. 12 Providence vs. UMass - Fri. 2/20 at PC; Sat. 2/21 at UMass

- No. 12 Providence and Massachusetts face each other for the second and third times this season, as the Friars handed the Minutemen a 4-1 loss in game one of the 2014 Catamount Cup Classic Dec. 28 at Gutterson
- · Since teams returned to action after the winter break Dec. 27, UMass and Providence are tied for the national lead with four shorthanded goals apiece. The Friars also rank sixth nationally and first in Hockey East in scoring defense with a 2.03 goals against average.

No. 18 Vermont vs. Merrimack - Fri. 2/20, Sat. 2/21 at UVM

· Merrimack kicks off a four-game road trip Friday to end the regular season at No. 18 Vermont, as the Warriors look to squash a five-game losing skid dating back to Jan. 31.

• With four games remaining on their schedule, the Catamounts are just three wins away from earning backto-back 20 win seasons. UVM is coming off of a series split last weekend on the road against No. 10 Boston College despite scoring three third period goals in a 6-5 loss on Saturday.

UConn vs. New Hampshire - Fri. 2/20 at UConn; Sat. 2/21 at UNH

• UConn and New Hampshire will face off for the first time since Nov. 30, 2002 when the Wildcats defeated the Huskies, 3-1. UNH carries an 11-0-0 record all-time against UConn.

• Nine of New Hampshire's 11 wins this season have come when the team scores five goals or more, three of which have been against ranked teams (No. 10 Michigan, No. 12 Nebraska-Omaha, No. 17 Vermont).

Maine vs. Northeastern - Fri. 2/20, Sat. 2/21 at Maine

 Maine and Northeastern will meet for the 114th and 115th time Friday and Saturday with the Black Bears commanding a 55-39-19 edge in the all-time series. Last season, however, the Huskies earned three of a possible four points against Maine, including a win that helped NU lock up a first-round bye in the Hockey East Tournament.

 The Black Bears hope to continue their success against Northeastern at Alfond Arena. The Huskies have not won a game in Orono since Oct. 25, 2008, for a record of 0-5-1 during that span.

Rk.	Team	GP	W	L	Т	Pts	Overall	Conf. Off.	Conf. Def.
1.	Boston University	18	13	3	2	28	19-5-4	4.06(1)	2.39(3)
2.	Boston College	19	11	6	2	24	18-10-2	2.89 (6)	2.37 (2)
3.	UMass Lowell	19	10	7	2	22	17-10-4	3.26(2)	2.47 (4)
4.	Providence	18	10	7	1	21	18-10-2	2.61 (10)	1.61(1)
5.	Northeastern	18	9	7	2	20	14-11-4	3.00(5)	2.67 (8)
	Notre Dame	18	8	6	4	20	13-15-4	3.11(4)	2.61(7)
7.	Vermont	18	9	8	1	19	17-11-2	3.17(3)	2.56(5)
8.	Maine	18	7	9	2	16	12-17-3	2.78 (8)	3.06 (9)
	UConn	19	6	9	4	16	9-15-7	1.89 (12)	3.42 (10)
10.	New Hampshire	18	6	11	1	13	11-17-2	2.78(8)	3.61 (11)
11.	Merrimack	18	5	11	2	12	14-13-3	2.00(11)	2.61 (7)
12.	Massachusetts	19	4	14	1	9	9-19-2	2.89(6)	4.95 (12)

Upcoming Games

Friday, February 20 Massachusetts at No. 12 Providence - 7 p.m.* (OSN)

New Hampshire at UConn - 7:05 p.m. * Merrimack at No. 18 Vermont - 7:05 p.m. * Notre Dame at No. 3 Boston Univ. - 7:30 p.m. * Northeastern at Maine - 7:30 p.m. * (FCS, WVII, WFVX, WPME)

No. 16 UMass Lowell at No. 10 Boston College - 7:30 p.m.

Saturday, February 21

Notre Dame at No. 3 Boston Univ. - 7 p.m. * Northeastern at Maine - 7 p.m. * No. 12 Providence at Massachusetts - 7 p.m. * UConn at New Hampshire - 7 p.m. * (NESN)

Merrimack at No. 18 Vermont - 7:05 p.m. *

Monday, February 23

No. 10 Boston College vs. No. 14 Harvard - 4:30 p.m. \$ No. 3 Boston Univ. vs. Northeastern - 7:30 p.m. \$

\$ The Beanpot (TD Garden)

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, 448 19-5-4 11. Boston College, 160 18-10-2 12. Providence, 132 18-10-2

Others receiving votes: UMass Lowell, 25; Vermont, 12: Northeastern, 3

USCHO.com Div. I Men's Poll

Rk. School, Pts. (FPV)	Record	LW
3. Boston University, 902	19-5-4	3
10. Boston College, 528	18-10-2	10
12. Providence, 466	18-10-2	11
16. UMass Lowell, 248	17-10-4	16
18. Vermont, 183	17-11-2	17

Others receiving votes: Northeastern, 29; Merrimack, 6; Notre Dame, 2