



MEN'S PREVIEW

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Ranked Battles Highlight Games Around Hockey East

UConn Faces Two Top 20 Opponents in No. 13 PC, No. 18 MC; UND Travels to Maine for Weekend Series

No. 3 Boston University vs. No. 12 UMass Lowell vs. Northeastern - Fri. 2/6 at UML; Mon. 2/9 at TD Garden

• No. 12 UMass Lowell ended its four-game skid last Saturday night against No. 18 Merrimack, 4-1, and look to piece together back-to-back wins as they host Warrior Hockey Player of the Month **Evan Rodrigues** and No. 3 Boston University Friday at the Tsongas Center.

• BU won the longest game in Beanpot history Tuesday night against No. 6 Harvard, 4-3, thanks to a double overtime goal off the stick of junior forward **Danny O'Regan**. The Terriers will face Northeastern Monday night at the TD Garden to determine the winner of the 63rd Annual Beanpot Championship.

• The Terriers are appearing in their 50th Beanpot final and lead the pack with 29 Beanpot titles all-time, while the Huskies look to win the Beanpot for the fifth time in program history and first since 1988.

No. 11 Boston College vs. No. 18 Merrimack vs. No. 6 Harvard - Fri. 2/6 at MC; Mon. 2/9 at TD Garden

• Coming off a 3-2 loss Tuesday night in the Beanpot at the hands of Northeastern, No. 11 Boston College will have an opportunity to bounce back Friday night as they travel to North Andover to face No. 18 Merrimack.

• Monday night, BC will play in their first Beanpot consolation game since 2009 against No. 6 Harvard, ending their streak of five consecutive Beanpot championships dating back to 2010.

Massachusetts vs. Northeastern vs. No. 12 UMass Lowell - Fri. 2/6, Sat. 2/7 at UMass

• UMass and Pro Ambitions Rookie of the Month **Brandon Montour** welcome Northeastern Friday and No. 12 UMass Lowell Saturday to the Mullins Center. **Montour** led the Minutemen with 10 points (2g, 8a) and four multi-point outings in eight games in January, his first full month with the team.

• The Huskies captured victory in a close game Tuesday to reach their third consecutive Beanpot final, as defenseman **Dustin Darou** striking with just 1:34 remaining in regulation to defeat No. 11 Boston College.

UConn vs. No. 13 Providence vs. No. 18 Merrimack - Sat. 2/7 at PC; Tue. 2/10 at UConn

• After a 2-2 draw Wednesday night at the XL Center, the all-time series between UConn and No. 13 Providence sits at 1-1-2. Friar netminder **Jon Gillies** enters the weekend as the Hockey East leader in both goals against average and save percentage as he matches up against Hockey East Defensive Player of the Week in UConn goalie **Rob Nichols**.

• No. 18 Merrimack is coming off a series split last weekend against No. 12 UMass Lowell, backboned by a 51-save performance Friday night from Warrior goaltender **Rasmus Tirronen**. As of Feb. 5, the Warriors are just two points away from earning home ice advantage in the first round of the Hockey East Tournament.

No. 17 Vermont vs. New Hampshire - Fri. 2/6, Sat. 2/7 at UVM

• No. 17 Vermont and New Hampshire go head-to-head for the 106th meeting all-time between the two schools, with the Wildcats owning a 77-21-6 advantage. UNH senior **Grayson Downing**, who collected his 100th career point last weekend, enters the weekend as the active leading scorer against the Catamounts with five points on two goals and three assists.

• UVM has won only one game in their last eight games, going 1-6-1 during the span, but retains a 15-9-2 record and sits in fifth place in the league standings.

Notre Dame vs. Maine - Fri. 2/6, Sat. 2/7 at Maine

• Coming off of a weekend split against New Hampshire, Notre Dame travels to Alfond Arena for a weekend series against Maine for the first time as a Hockey East opponent. Friday night's tilt will be shown live on NESN, with **Tom Caron** and former Black Bear goalie **Mike Morrison** (1998-2002) on the call.

• Maine enters the weekend having allowed just two goals or less in eight of their last ten games. The only teams to score two-plus goals during that stretch was UMass, Jan. 9 in a 3-2 loss for the Black Bears, and UNH in a 6-4 Black Bears victory.

Upcoming Games

Friday, February 6

No. 11 Boston College at No. 18 Merrimack - 7:00 p.m. *
Notre Dame at Maine - 7:00 p.m. *

(NESN)

Northeastern at Massachusetts - 7:00 p.m. *
 New Hampshire at No. 17 Vermont - 7:05 p.m. *
 No. 3 Boston University at
 No. 12 UMass Lowell - 7:15 p.m. *

Saturday, February 7

Notre Dame at Maine - 7:00 p.m. *
(FCS, WVII, WFXV, WPME)

UConn at No. 13 Providence - 7:00 p.m. *
(OSN)

No. 12 UMass Lowell at Massachusetts - 7:00 p.m. *
 New Hampshire at No. 17 Vermont - 7:05 p.m. *

Monday, February 9

No. 6 Harvard vs. No. 11 Boston College - 4:30 p.m. \$
Northeastern vs. No. 3 Boston University - 7:30 p.m. \$
(NESN)

Tuesday, February 10

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

\$ Beanpot Tournament (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	473	16-4-4	2
11.	UMass Lowell	177	16-8-3	10
12.	Boston College	149	16-8-2	15
13.	Providence	102	16-9-1	11
15.	Boston College	57	15-8-2	NR

Others receiving votes: Merrimack, 9;
 Vermont, 7

USCHO.com Div. I Men's Poll

Rk.	School	Pts. (FPV)	Record	LW
3.	Boston University	945	16-4-4	2
11.	Boston College	488	16-8-2	14
12.	UMass Lowell	448	16-8-3	10
13.	Providence	405	16-9-1	19
17.	Vermont	196	15-9-2	15
18.	Merrimack	173	14-9-3	19

2014-2015 HOCKEY EAST STANDINGS

Rk.	Team	GP	W	L	T	Pts	Overall	Conf. Off.	Conf. Def.
1.	Boston University	15	11	2	2	24	17-4-4	3.93 (1)	2.27 (5)
2.	Boston College	16	9	5	2	20	16-9-2	2.69 (6)	2.19 (3)
	UMass Lowell	16	9	5	2	20	16-8-3	3.19 (2)	2.25 (4)
4.	Providence	15	8	6	1	17	16-9-1	2.27 (9)	1.60 (1)
5.	Vermont	14	7	6	1	15	15-9-2	2.93 (4)	2.14 (2)
	Notre Dame	14	6	5	3	15	11-14-3	3.07 (3)	2.79 (9)
7.	Northeastern	15	6	7	2	14	11-11-4	2.21 (10)	2.71 (8)
	Connecticut	15	5	6	4	14	8-12-7	2.20 (11)	2.67 (7)
9.	Merrimack	14	5	7	2	12	14-9-3	2.00 (12)	2.36 (6)
10.	Maine	14	5	8	1	11	10-16-2	2.57 (7)	2.86 (10)
11.	New Hampshire	14	4	9	1	9	9-15-2	2.50 (8)	3.43 (11)
12.	Massachusetts	16	3	12	1	7	8-17-1	2.88 (5)	5.00 (12)