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Weekend Preview

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LOWELL TAKES OUT UNH, LOOKS FOR MORE VS. RPI *Plenty of non-conference tests on tap over Thanksgiving weekend*

Making quite a statement headed into Thanksgiving weekend, the UMass Lowell River Hawks jumped out to a 3-0 lead Tuesday night at UNH and held on for a 5-4 win. Three goals from sophomore Elias Godoy powered the UML offense. After a modest 2-3 start, the Hawks have earned five points over the last three games, all against ranked opponents. They are now just two points off the pace set by the league leaders.

It was a mixed evening for Hockey East in non-league play. No. 2 Boston College dealt No. 11 Dartmouth its first loss of the season by a final score of 4-1. The University of Massachusetts, recently reaching another rankings pinnacle at No. 7, registered the first four goals of the game in a 4-2 win over Vermont. Eleventh-ranked Boston University was not as lucky, dropping a 5-2 decision at Harvard despite two goals from the stick of senior Ken Magowan. At Providence, the Friars put 40 shots on net against Brown but

only scored once, salvaging a 1-1 tie.

Providence will have the rest of the holiday weekend off, as will Maine, but all of the other teams will see action, primarily in their home rinks.

Having lost to Boston College, the Big Green of Dartmouth will travel just across town in search of more favorable fortunes at Boston University. BU will also host Yale, on Sunday. In search of consistent offense, the Terriers hope to find it at home against their one-time ECAC brethren.

The Engineers of RPI skate in for two games, hoping to disappoint their Hockey East hosts at Lowell and UNH, as they have done already at Merrimack. Rensselaer recorded a 5-4 win over the Warriors on Nov. 1, so confidence should not be an issue. But if confidence is the deciding factor, the River Hawks have the decided edge coming off their most recent triumphs. The Engineers, however, have extra motivation to avenge an 8-4 loss at home last year to the Hawks.

At 3-8-3, the Merrimack Warriors will take wins whatever way they come. This weekend, they'll host Quinnipiac for two while the Minutemen of UMass have the biggest set of the weekend, facing off for two at Nebraska-Omaha. It will be a tough task for UMass in a tough building. At stake is their highest ranking ever, definitely at risk if they don't come home with at least one win. Game One will be televised live nationally Friday at 8:00 p.m. on CSTV. In its first season, CSTV's coverage of college hockey has offered an unprecedented opportunity for fans across all regions to get their fix.

IN THE POLLS

Team	AHCA Poll	USCHO Poll
Boston College	2	2
New Hampshire	3	4
Maine	4	3
Massachusetts	7	7
Boston University	12	12

TICKETS ON SALE MONDAY

Tickets for the 20th anniversary Hockey East championship tournament will go on sale Monday at the FleetCenter and through all Ticketmaster outlets (617-931-2000 or www.Ticketmaster.com). The 2004 tourney will take place on March 19-20 at the FleetCenter, perhaps offering a preview of the 2004 NCAA Frozen Four, which will also be hosted by the FleetCenter. The 2003 Hockey East tournament was an instant classic, featuring UMass' first-ever trip to the semifinals and a 6-5 2OT marathon between Boston University and Boston College.

ON THE RADIO

The New England Hockey Journal Radio Show will have UMass Lowell head coach Blaise MacDonald as its guest this Saturday from 11:20 to 11:50 a.m. Listeners can catch the show at 1510 AM (or online at 1510thezone.com) and can call in to talk to coach MacDonald on the air at (866) 337-9663.

RESULTS / SCHEDULE

Tuesday, November 25

UMass Lowell 5, at New Hampshire 4 *
 at Harvard 5, Boston University 2
 at Providence 1, Brown 1 (*Mayor's Cup*)
 at Massachusetts 4, Vermont 2
 at Boston College 4, Dartmouth 1

Friday, November 28

Rensselaer at UMass Lowell
 Dartmouth at Boston University
 Quinnipiac at Merrimack
 UMass at Nebraska-Omaha (8pm - CSTV)

Saturday, November 29

Northeastern at Boston College (8pm) *
 Rensselaer at New Hampshire
 Quinnipiac at Merrimack
 Massachusetts at Nebraska-Omaha (8pm)

Sunday, November 30

Yale at Boston University (*FSNE*)

* Hockey East game

Games start at 7pm unless indicated
 All times Eastern

2003-04 STANDINGS

Team	GP	W	L	T	Pts	Overall	HE Offense	HE Defense
New Hampshire	8	5	2	1	11	8-3-1	4.00 GPG	2.75 GAPG
Maine	8	5	2	1	11	10-2-1	3.12 GPG	2.25 GAPG
Massachusetts	8	5	2	1	11	9-2-1	2.62 GPG	2.50 GAPG
Boston College	6	4	0	2	10	8-2-3	4.00 GPG	2.00 GAPG
UMass Lowell	8	4	3	1	9	6-4-3	3.00 GPG	2.88 GAPG
Boston University	7	2	3	2	6	3-4-3	2.71 GPG	2.71 GAPG
Providence	9	2	5	2	6	6-5-3	3.22 GPG	3.44 GAPG
Merrimack	9	1	5	3	5	3-8-3	1.78 GPG	3.33 GAPG
Northeastern	7	0	6	1	1	0-8-2	2.00 GPG	4.14 GAPG