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PRESS RELEASE

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WEEKLY RELEASE #5

GUENTHER LEADS MERRIMACK TO WIN, TIE IN LEAGUE PLAY Maine goes to 5-0 with sweep at St. Lawrence

One of the biggest questions for any Hockey East team in the offseason came at Merrimack. Many wondered how anyone could fill the dominating pads of goaltender Joe Exter, who kept the Warriors in plenty of games they otherwise shouldn't have been over the past three seasons.

Junior Casey Guenther has silenced those concerns for the time being, coming off a superior weekend in which he allowed just two goals on 61 shots. He turned aside 19 of 20 shots in the third period to preserve a 4-2 win at Northeastern Friday and followed that up with a 24-save showing at home, a scoreless tie vs. Providence.

At the other end of the rink was David Cacciola, who made 26 saves including six in overtime alone. Cacciola was as brilliant as Guenther on the weekend, having stopped 23 of 24 BU shots Friday after he came on in relief of starter Bobby Goepfert. Goepfert was the victim of four BU goals, including two by sophomore defenseman Dan Spang, as PC fell 6-4.

Maine has yet to play in a league contest but is a perfect 5-0 outside of league play. This past weekend, the Black Bears made quick work of a 7-2 win at St. Lawrence on Saturday after outlasting the Saints 3-2 on Friday. BC has also not faced league competition yet, and dropped a close 1-0 decision to Notre Dame Friday.

UMass upped its record to 4-0 with a 2-1 victory at home over Holy Cross on Friday. Gabe Winer posted his second straight game allowing just one goal and Chris Capraro converted the third-period game-winner. UMass is off to its best start since 1971-72.

It was mixed results for UNH and UMass Lowell at the Xerox Punch Imlach Showcase in Buffalo over the weekend. The two teams dominated Friday's contests. Ben Walter continued a scorching start to his sophomore season with a power play hat trick to lead UML to an easy 6-1 win over Niagara. In the nightcap, Steve Saviano pitched in four goals to the Wildcats' 8-2 win over Canisius. The upstate teams struck back Saturday, however, as Niagara downed UNH, 5-2, and Canisius battled to a 2-2 tie against Lowell.

RECENT RESULTS

Friday, October 24

Boston University 6, at Providence 4 *
 Merrimack 4, at Northeastern 2 *
 Maine 3, at St. Lawrence 2
 at Massachusetts 2, Holy Cross 1
 Notre Dame 1, at Boston College 0
Punch Imlach Showcase at Buffalo, NY
 UMass Lowell 6, Niagara 1
 New Hampshire 8, Canisius 2

Saturday, October 25

at Merrimack 0, Providence 0 (OT) *
 Maine 7, at St. Lawrence 2
Xerox Punch Imlach Showcase
 Niagara 5, New Hampshire 2
 UMass Lowell 2, Canisius 2 (OT)

UPCOMING GAMES

Thursday, October 30

Merrimack at Maine *

Friday, October 31

Providence at Massachusetts *
 UMass Lowell at Northeastern *
 Union at New Hampshire

Saturday, November 1

Boston University at Maine (WABI) *
 Massachusetts at Providence *
 Northeastern at UMass Lowell *
 Rensselaer at Merrimack

* Hockey East game

Games start at 7pm EST unless indicated.
 All game times are Eastern Standard Time.

2003-04 STANDINGS

Team	GP	W	L	T	Pts	Overall	Offense	Defense
Merrimack	3	1	1	1	3	2-2-1	2.00 GPG	2.20 GAPG
Boston University	1	1	0	0	2	2-0-1	4.33 GPG	2.67 GAPG
Massachusetts	1	1	0	0	2	4-0-0	4.00 GPG	1.75 GAPG
New Hampshire	1	1	0	0	2	3-1-0	4.25 GPG	2.00 GAPG
Providence	2	0	1	1	1	4-1-1	3.83 GPG	2.33 GAPG
Boston College	0	0	0	0	0	3-2-1	2.83 GPG	2.33 GAPG
Maine	0	0	0	0	0	5-0-0	5.40 GPG	1.20 GAPG
UMass Lowell	1	0	1	0	0	1-2-2	2.80 GPG	2.20 GAPG
Northeastern	1	0	1	0	0	0-3-1	2.50 GPG	4.50 GAPG

CCM HOCKEY PLAYER OF THE WEEK

CASEY GUENTHER – Merrimack
 Junior Goaltender; Boissevain, MB

Stopped 35 of 37 shots, 19 of 20 in the third period, to preserve a 4-2 win at NU. Followed that by stopping all 24 shots faced in a scoreless tie vs. Providence.

SUPERSKILLS HOCKEY ROOKIE OF THE WEEK

KEITH JOHNSON – Maine
 Freshman Forward; Windsor, CT

Scored the game-winning goal of a 3-2 win at St. Lawrence Friday night at the 15:03 mark of the third period and added another goal in Saturday's 7-2 win.

DEFENSIVE PLAYER OF THE WEEK

DAVID CACCIOLA – Providence
 Junior Goaltender; Burlington, MA

Stopped 49 of 50 shots faced on the weekend, 23 of 24 in a relief appearance against BU and all 26 (six in overtime) in a scoreless tie at Merrimack.

HOCKEY EAST HONOR ROLL

- **Chris Capraro, UMass** (So. F; Medford, MA) – Scored the game-winning goal for the second straight game, 12 minutes into the third period of a 2-1 victory against Holy Cross.
- **Derek Damon, Maine** (Jr. F; Bangor, ME) – Scored two power play goals in a 7-2 win at St. Lawrence Saturday.
- **Bryan Esner, NU** (Fr. F; Paradise Valley, AZ) – Registered the first two points of his career with the primary assist on each of two Northeastern goals vs. Merrimack Friday.
- **Elias Godoy, UML** (So. F; W. Vancouver, BC) – Scored two goals and added two assists over a 1-0-1 weekend for Lowell.
- **Jacob Micflikier, UNH** (Fr. F; Winnipeg, MB) – Went 2-1-3 with a +3 in an 8-2 win over Canisius on Friday.
- **Steve Saviano, UNH** (Sr. F; Reading, MA) – Recorded five goals on the weekend, including a career-high four goals in an 8-2 win over Canisius on Friday.
- **Dan Spang, BU** (So. D; Winchester, MA) – Scored two goals and was a +3 in a 6-4 victory at Providence Friday.
- **Ben Walter, UML** (So. F; Langley, BC) – Picked up four power play goals and one assist over two games on the weekend, including his first career hat trick in Friday's 6-1 win vs. Niagara in the River Hawks 6-1 win.
- **Gabe Winer, UMass** (So. G; Stoughton, MA) – Second straight game allowing just one goal in a 2-1 defeat of Holy Cross.

LEADING SCORERS (All Games)

Player, School	Cl	GP	G	A	Pts
1. Ben Walter, UML	So	5	8	1	9
2. Peter Zingoni, PC	Sr	6	5	3	8
3. Steve Saviano, UNH	Sr	4	5	2	7
Chris Capraro, UMass	So	4	3	4	7
Thomas Pöck, UMass *	Sr	4	3	4	7
Todd Jackson, Maine	Sr	5	5	2	7
Cody Loughlean, PC	Sr	5	3	4	7
Michel Leveille, Maine	So	5	0	7	7
Chase Watson, PC	Fr	6	4	3	7
Torry Gajda, PC	So	6	3	4	7
11. Elias Godoy, UML	So	5	3	3	6
Greg Moore, Maine	So	5	3	3	6
Ben Eaves, BC	Sr	5	2	4	6
Troy Barnes, Maine *	Jr	5	1	5	6
Tony Voce, BC	Sr	6	4	2	6
Chris Chaput, PC	Jr	6	2	4	6
Jonathan Goodwin, PC	Sr	6	2	4	6

* defenseman

WHO'S HOT

- **Ben Walter, UML** (So. F; Langley, BC) – Leading the nation in goals with eight in just five games this season. He scored just five in 35 games last year.
- **Gabe Winer, UMass** (So. G; Stoughton, MA) – Has nine wins against just two losses in his last 11 games.
- **Chris Capraro's Magic Touch** – The UMass sophomore has three goals on just three shots this season. He has 10 career goals and four have been game-winners.
- **BC penalty kill** – Has killed off 16 straight opposing power plays and 29 of 31 on the season.
- **Maine defense and goaltending** – Two shutouts and only six total goals allowed over five games this season.
- **Maine short-handed unit** – Has four short-handed goals and allowed just three opposing power play goals in just five games so far.
- **UNH power play** – Already has 10 goals on just 29 opportunities, a percentage of 34.5, best in the nation.
- **Hockey East power play units** – Six Hockey East teams have a power play clicking at 20 percent or better.

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LEADING GOALTENDERS (All Games)

Player, School	Cl	GP	Min	W	L	T	GAA	SP
1. Jim Howard, Maine	So	2	120	2	0	0	1.00	.959
2. Frank Doyle, Maine	So	3	180	3	0	0	1.33	.942
3. Gabe Winer, UMass	So	4	240	4	0	0	1.75	.916
4. Mike Ayers, UNH	Sr	3	179	2	1	0	2.01	.910
5. Chris Davidson, UML	Jr	5	308	1	2	1	2.14	.909
6. Casey Guenther, MC	Jr	5	304	2	2	0	2.17	.921
7. Matti Kaltianen, BC	Jr	6	362	3	2	1	2.32	.887
8. Sean Fields, BU	Sr	3	180	2	0	1	2.67	.879
9. Bobby Goepfert, PC	So	5	261	3	0	0	2.75	.902
10. Keni Gibson, NU	Jr	3	182	0	2	1	3.93	.836

FIRST COLLEGIATE GOAL

- Chris Fontas, UML** (Fr. F; Nashua, NH) – vs. Niagara
- Colin McDonald, PC** (Fr. F; Wethersfield, CT) – vs. Boston Univ.
- Jacob Micflikier, UNH** (Fr. F; Winnipeg, MB) – vs. Canisius

TEAM STATISTICS (All Games)

TEAM OFFENSE

Team	GP	G	GPG
1. Maine.....	5	27	5.40
2. Boston University...	3	13	4.33
3. New Hampshire.....	4	17	4.25
4. Massachusetts.....	4	16	4.00
5. Providence.....	6	23	3.83
6. Boston College.....	6	17	2.83
7. UMass Lowell.....	5	14	2.80
8. Northeastern.....	4	10	2.50
9. Merrimack.....	5	10	2.00

TEAM DEFENSE

Team	GP	GA	GAPG
1. Maine.....	5	6	1.20
2. Massachusetts.....	4	7	1.75
3. New Hampshire.....	4	8	2.00
4. UMass Lowell.....	5	11	2.20
Merrimack.....	5	11	2.20
6. Boston College.....	6	14	2.33
Providence.....	6	14	2.33
8. Boston University...	3	8	2.67
9. Northeastern.....	4	18	4.50

POWER PLAY

Team	GP	PPG	Att	SHGA	Pct
1. New Hampshire.....	4	10	29	0	.345
2. UMass Lowell.....	5	9	32	1	.281
3. Maine.....	5	7	26	0	.269
4. Massachusetts.....	4	4	18	0	.222
Providence.....	6	6	27	0	.222
6. Merrimack.....	5	5	23	1	.217
7. Boston College.....	6	7	38	0	.184
8. Northeastern.....	4	4	25	2	.160
9. Boston University...	3	2	13	1	.154

PENALTY KILL

Team	GP	OPPG	Att	SHG	Pct
1. Massachusetts.....	4	1	17	2	.941
2. Boston College.....	6	2	31	2	.935
3. Maine.....	5	3	24	4	.875
4. Merrimack.....	5	4	30	0	.867
5. New Hampshire.....	4	4	25	2	.840
6. Providence.....	6	6	35	3	.829
7. UMass Lowell.....	5	5	27	0	.815
8. Boston University...	3	3	16	0	.812
9. Northeastern.....	4	9	24	1	.625

PENALTY MINUTES

Team	GP	P	PiM	PMPG
1. Boston College.....	6	38	76	12.67
2. Maine.....	5	33	66	13.20
3. Boston University...	3	21	42	14.00
Massachusetts.....	4	28	56	14.00
Northeastern.....	4	28	56	14.00
6. UMass Lowell.....	5	35	81	16.20
Merrimack.....	5	35	81	16.20
8. New Hampshire.....	4	32	75	18.75
9. Providence.....	6	47	116	19.33

TEAM NOTES

Boston College: BC is outshooting opponents by an average of 10 shots per game ... Friday's shutout was the first BC has suffered since Feb. 18, 2001, at New Hampshire, and the first suffered at home since Jan. 22, 1999, against Providence ... Captain Ben Eaves missed Friday's game vs. Notre Dame, a 1-0 loss for BC. He has missed 23 games in his career and the Eagles are only 10-12-1 (.457) in those games. They are 68-27-8 (.699) in games he has played.

Boston University: Senior goalie Sean Fields played in his 32nd straight game in the Terriers' 6-4 win over Providence on Friday night. His record during the streak is 20-10-2.

University of Maine: Down 2-1 after two periods at St. Lawrence Friday, the Black Bears rallied for a 3-2 win. Last season, Maine was just 1-9-1 when trailing after two ... Maine converted 3 of 8 power plays on Saturday night at St. Lawrence while killing all nine of the Saints opportunities ... Todd Jackson has scored three of his four goals this season short-handed.

University of Massachusetts: The Minutemen are 4-0 for the first time since the 1971-72 season, when they started 6-0 ... UMass ran its non-conference unbeaten streak to 10 games (9-0-1) with a 2-1 win over Holy Cross on Friday. Its last non-conference loss came a year ago (Oct. 27) against Nebraska-Omaha ... UMass has held seven of its last eight opponents to three goals or less and has held eight straight foes to under 30 shots.

UMass Lowell: The UML roster features four skaters from British Columbia. The quartet has combined for 11 goals and 17 total points in the first five games, representing 78.6% of the Lowell goals scored so far this season and 43.6% of the points.

Merrimack College: Merrimack held a dedication ceremony on Saturday night to name its rink the J. Thom Lawler Arena after the legendary coach who led the Warriors to the 1978 Division II National Championship ... Merrimack is 6-1-1 at home against Providence under head coach Chris Serino. The Warriors have not lost to the Friars in North Andover since Feb. 5, 2000, a 4-3 overtime defeat.

University of New Hampshire: UNH has scored eight of its 17 goals in the third stanza this season and have allowed only one goal in the opening period of four games so far ... Eleven of UNH's 18 skaters over the weekend were freshmen and sophomores ... UNH's top two forwards lines have accounted for 29 of UNH's 39 points on the year (74.3%).

Northeastern University: Freshmen Ray Ortiz (assist) and Bryan Esner (two assists) each registered his first collegiate point against Merrimack Friday. Junior goalie Keni Gibson recorded his second career assist in the same game ... An NU freshman has had a point in every game this season ... The Huskies have outshot their opponents in three out of four games this year, but have started 0-3-1.

Providence College: The Friars played to the first scoreless tie in their history against Merrimack Saturday ... Freshmen Colin McDonald and Tony Zancanaro each collected his first collegiate point on Friday versus Boston University. McDonald scored a short-handed goal ... David Cacciola's start at Merrimack Saturday was his first since March 1, 2001.