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# PRESS RELEASE

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WEEKLY RELEASE #12

## MERRIMACK SCORES MAJOR VICTORY AT UNH NU's Keni Gibson posts second straight shutout

The longest stretch of dominance by any one Hockey East team over any other ended Saturday night, when the Merrimack Warriors finally claimed victory in their series vs. UNH. After going 0-26-3 vs. UNH over the past eight years, Merrimack was due for a win, and got it in a big way with a convincing 7-2 triumph, on the road no less. Six different skaters struck for the Warriors with only junior forward Steve Crusco scoring twice. Casey Guenther was solid in net, turning aside 34 of 36 UNH attempts and surrendering just two goals, both to Wildcat rookie Brett Hemingway.

The win was significant not only for breaking the streak, but also for catapulting Merrimack ahead of both BU and Providence in the Hockey East standings and turning up the pressure significantly on ninth-place Northeastern. But though still winless in league play, the Huskies have now recorded back-to-back non-league victories, both via shutout. Junior goaltender Keni Gibson was perfect once again this Saturday, thwarting Princeton by a 4-0 final score at Matthews Arena.

BC stretched its unbeaten streak to 10 games on Wednesday, picking up a 3-2 win vs. Harvard as the top line of Tony Voce, Ben Eaves and Patrick Eaves contributed all three goals as well as five assists. Ryan Shannon got the other assist to extend his point streak to 10 games. Harvard rebounded with a 5-3 win over UMass, despite squandering a 3-0 lead. Minuteman Tim Warner came on in relief of starter Gabe Winer and stopped 15 of 16 shots to inspire the squad to tie the game, but the Crimson emerged victorious in the end.

UNH and UMass skated to a 2-2 tie Thursday in their first meeting since the 2003 Hockey East semifinal and head into the holiday break tied for third in the standings. Second-place Maine faced a challenge in the form of 12th-ranked Dartmouth Saturday. The Black Bears jumped out to a 3-0 lead and held on for a 3-2 win.

In other non-conference action, BU had little trouble with Niagara, recording a 5-1 win on Saturday. Niagara seemed to be en route to suffering a similar fate Sunday at Lowell before scoring six unanswered goals and heading home with a 6-5 win.

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2003-04 STANDINGS										
<u>Team</u>	<u>GP</u>	w	L	Τ	<u>Pts</u>	<u>Overall</u>	HE Offense	HE Defense		
Boston College	8	6	0	2	14	11-2-3	4.12 GPG	2.00 GAPG		
Maine	9	6	2	1	13	11-2-1	3.11 GPG	2.11 GAPG		
Massachusetts	9	5	2	2	12	9-4-3	2.56 GPG	2.44 GAPG		
New Hampshire	10	5	3	2	12	10-5-2	3.60 GPG	3.10 GAPG		
UMass Lowell	8	4	3	1	9	7-7-3	3.00 GPG	2.88 GAPG		
Merrimack	11	2	6	3	7	5-10-3	2.18 GPG	3.18 GAPG		
Boston University	8	2	4	2	6	5-5-4	2.62 GPG	3.00 GAPG		
Providence	9	2	5	2	6	6-5-3	3.22 GPG	3.44 GAPG		
Northeastern	8	0	7	1	1	2-9-2	2.00 GPG	4.12 GAPG		

#### CCM HOCKEY PLAYERS OF THE WEEK

**Steve Crusco, MC** *Jr. F; Waltham, MA* Had two goals and one assist to pace an offensive explosion in a 7-2 win at UNH.

**Bryan Schmidt, MC** So. *D; Bloomington, MN* Had a goal and an assist and was +3 with five shots on goal in a 7-2 win at UNH.

#### SUPERSKILLS HOCKEY ROOKIE OF THE WEEK

THOMAS MORROW – Boston Univ. Freshman Defenseman, Minneapolis, MN

Rookie blueliner set up two of BU's five goals and finished +3 in a 5-1 win over Niagara on Saturday.

#### **RECENT RESULTS**

Wednesday, December 10 at Boston College 3, Harvard 2

*Thursday, December 11* UNH 2, at Massachusetts 2 (OT) \*

#### Saturday, December 13

Merrimack 7, at New Hampshire 2 \* at Harvard 5, Massachusetts 3 at Northeastern 4, Princeton 0 at Maine 3, Dartmouth 2 at Boston University 5, Niagara 1

Sunday, December 14 Niagara 6, at UMass Lowell 5

#### **UPCOMING GAMES**

#### Saturday, December 20 Dodge Holiday Classic at Minnesota

New Hampshire vs. Miami (5pm) Princeton at Minnesota (8pm)

Sunday, December 21 Dodge Holiday Classic (5/8pm)

\* Hockey East game Games start at 7pm unless indicated All times Eastern

#### DEFENSIVE PLAYER OF THE WEEK

KENI GIBSON – Northeastern Junior Goaltender; Stittsville, ON

Notched his second consecutive shutout by stopping all 28 shots vs. Princeton. Winless through 11 games, NU has now won two in a row, both by shutout.

## HOCKEY EAST HONOR ROLL

- Marvin Degon, UMass (So. D; Milbury, MA) Scored two of UMass' five goals on the week, one in each game.
- Ben Eaves, BC (Sr. F; Faribault, MN) Second consecutive three-assist game, setting up all three BC goals vs. Harvard.
- Patrick Eaves, BC (So. F; Faribault, MN) Had a goal and two assists in BC's 3-2 win over Harvard on Wednesday.
- Casey Guenther, MC (Jr. G; Boissevain, MB) Stopped 34 of 36 shots to lead Merrimack to a 7-2 win at UNH.
- Mike Hamilton, Maine (Fr. F; Victoria, BC) Was +1 with his first career goal in Saturday's 3-2 win over Dartmouth.
- Brett Hemingway, UNH (Fr. F; Surrey, BC) Provided the only highlight for UNH in Saturday's 7-2 loss vs. Merrimack, scoring twice and finishing with a +2.
- Tim Judy, NU (Jr. D; Bowie, MD) Had two assists and helped NU record a shutout vs. Princeton.
- Niklas Storm, UML (Jr. F; Stockholm, Sweden) Notched his first collegiate goal in his 68th career game on Sunday and also added one assist in the game.
- Tony Voce, BC (Sr. F; Philadelphia, PA) NCAA's leading goal-scorer added two more in a slim 3-2 win over Harvard.

#### SCORING (Hockey East Games)

	Player, School	CI	GP	G	Α	Pts	
1.		Jr	8	3	10	13	
	Justin Aikins, UNH	Jr	10	1	12	13	
3.	Thomas Pöck, UMass *	Sr	9	7	5	12	
	Brian Yandle, UNH *	So	10	6	6	12	
5.	Tony Voce, BC	Sr	8	8	2	10	
	Ben Walter, UML	So	8	5	5	10	
	Ben Eaves, BC	Sr	8	1	9	10	
8.	Elias Godoy, UML	So	8	4	5	9	
	Colin Shields, Maine	Sr	9	4	5	9	
10.	Patrick Eaves, BC	So	5	3	5	8	
	Andrew Alberts, BC *	Jr	8	2	6	8	
	Andrew Martin, UML	So	8	2	6	8	
	Danny O'Brien, UML	So	8	2	6	8	
	Peter Zingoni, PC	Sr	8	2	6	8	
	Chris Chaput, PC	Jr	9	2	6	8	
	Bryan Schmidt, MC *	So	11	2	6	8	
	* defenseman						

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### SCORING (All Games)

	Player, School	CI	GP	G	Α	Pts
1.	Steve Saviano, UNH	Sr	17	12	10	22
2.	Ben Eaves, BC	Sr	15	3	18	21
	Justin Aikins, UNH	Jr	17	5	16	21
4.	Tony Voce, BC	Sr	16	14	6	20
	Thomas Pöck, UMass *	Sr	16	10	10	20
	Ben Walter, UML	So	17	11	9	20
	Elias Godoy, UML	So	17	10	10	20
8.	Sean Collins, UNH	Jr	17	9	10	19
9.	Ryan Shannon, BC	Jr	16	5	13	18
10.	Brian Yandle, UNH *	So	17	8	9	17
11.	Patrick Eaves, BC	So	11	5	10	15
	Nathan Martz, UNH	Sr	11	3	12	15
	Chris Capraro, UMass	So	15	3	12	15
	Andrew Martin, UML	So	17	3	12	15
	Brent Gough, MC	So	18	7	8	15
	* defenseman					

#### GOALTENDING (Hockey East Games)

Player, School	СІ	GP	Min	w	L	т	GAA	SP
1. Matti Kaltiainen, BC	Jr	8	463	6	0	2	1.68	.900
2. David Cacciola, PC	Jr	4	221	0	3	1	1.90	.941
3. Jim Howard, Maine	So	5	305	3	1	1	1.97	.921
4. Frank Doyle, Maine	So	4	240	3	1	0	2.25	.908
5. Gabe Winer, UMass	So	9	541	5	2	2	2.33	.890
6. Chris Davidson, UML	Jr	8	483	4	3	1	2.85	.900
7. Casey Guenther, MC	Jr	10	534	2	5	3	3.03	.908
8. Sean Fields, BU	Sr	7	426	1	4	2	3.09	.898
9. Mike Ayers, UNH	Sr	9	509	4	3	2	3.18	.900
10. Keni Gibson, NU	Jr	7	421	0	6	1	3.70	.877

GOAL	GOALTENDING (All Games)									
OUAL			0  71	100		5)				
Player, School	CI	GP	Min	W	L	Т	GAA	SP		
1. David Cacciola, PC	Jr	5	286	0	3	2	1.68	.945		
2. Jim Howard, Maine	So	8	425	5	1	1	1.69	.932		
3. Frank Doyle, Maine	So	8	480	7	1	0	1.88	.919		
<ol><li>Matti Kaltianen, BC</li></ol>	Jr	16	946	11	2	3	1.90	.895		
5. Gabe Winer, UMass	So	16	918	9	3	3	2.48	.888.		
<ol><li>Sean Fields, BU</li></ol>	Sr	12	721	4	5	3	2.83	.897		
7. Chris Davidson, UML	Jr	15	911	6	6	3	2.90	.889		
8. Casey Guenther, MC	Jr	15	831	4	8	3	2.96	.900		
<ol><li>Mike Ayers, UNH</li></ol>	Sr	14	802	7	5	2	2.99	.897		
10.Keni Gibson, NU	Jr	11	666	2	7	2	3.06	.891		

## TEAM STATS (Hockey East Games)

#### **TEAM OFFENSE**

Team	GP	G	GPG
<ol> <li>Boston College</li> <li>New Hampshire</li> <li>Providence</li> <li>Maine</li> <li>UMass Lowell</li> <li>Boston University</li> <li>Massachusetts</li> <li>Merrimack</li> </ol>	8 10 9 8 8 9 11	33 36 29 28 24 21 23 24	4.12 3.60 3.22 3.11 3.00 2.62 2.56 2.18
9.Northeastern	8	16	2.00
Team	GP	GA	GAPG

1.Boston College	8	16	2.00
2.Maine	9	19	2.11
3.Massachusetts	9	22	2.44
4.UMass Lowell	8	23	2.88
5.Boston University	8	24	3.00
6.New Hampshire	10	31	3.10
7.Merrimack	11	35	3.18
8.Providence	9	31	3.44
9.Northeastern	8	33	4.12

#### POWER PLAY

Team	GP	PPG	Att	SHGA	Pct
<pre>1.New Hampshire 2.Boston College 3.Providence 4.Merrimack 5.UMass Lowell 6.Massachusetts 7.Northeastern 8.Boston University 9.Maine</pre>	8 9	14 9 8 10 6 7 5 5 4	60 39 40 51 40 48 35 47 42	2 0 3 2 1 2 1 2	.233 .231 .200 .196 .150 .146 .143 .106 .095

#### PENALTY KILL

GP	OPPG	Att	SHG	Pct
9 8 11 8 9 8 10	4 4 8 6 7 9 10	42 37 59 40 42 46 48	1 3 1 1 2 2 0	.905 .892 .864 .850 .833 .804 .792 .784
9	12	51	2	.765
	9 8 11 8 9 8 10 8	9 4 8 4 11 8 8 6 9 7 8 9 10 10 8 8	9       4       42         8       4       37         11       8       59         8       6       40         9       7       42         8       9       46         10       10       48         8       8       37	8       4       37       3         11       8       59       1         8       6       40       1         9       7       42       2         8       9       46       2         10       10       48       0         8       8       37       1

<b>PENALTY MINUTES</b> Team	GP	Р	PiM	PMPG
1.UMass Lowell	8	49	101	12.62
2.Northeastern	8	47	113	14.12
3.Massachusetts	9	63	134	14.89
4.New Hampshire	10	73	157	15.70
5.Boston University	8	61	133	16.62
6.Merrimack	11	84	193	17.55
7.Providence	9	70	162	18.00
8.Boston College	8	61	149	18.62
9.Maine	9	75	174	19.33

## TEAM STATS (All Games)

#### TEAM OFFENSE

TEAM OFFENSE Team	GP	G	GPG
<ol> <li>New Hampshire</li> <li>Maine</li> <li>Boston College</li> <li>Providence</li> <li>UMass Lowell</li> <li>Boston University</li> <li>Massachusetts</li> <li>Merrimack</li> <li>Northeastern</li> </ol>	17	68	4.00
	15	58	3.87
	16	57	3.56
	14	49	3.50
	17	55	3.24
	14	44	3.14
	16	46	2.88
	18	44	2.44
	13	29	2.23
TEAM DEFENSE Team	GP	GA	GAPG
<ol> <li>Maine</li> <li>Boston College</li> <li>Massachusetts</li> <li>Boston University</li> <li>UMass Lowell</li> <li>Providence</li> <li>New Hampshire</li> </ol>	15	27	1.80
	16	33	2.06
	16	42	2.62
	14	38	2.71
	17	48	2.82
	14	40	2.86
	17	49	2.88

## 8.Merrimack...... 18 54 3.00 9.Northeastern..... 13 47 3.62

#### **POWER PLAY**

Team	GP	PPG	Att	SHGA	Pct
1.New Hampshire	17	24	103	3	.233
2.Merrimack		20	91	4	.220
3.Boston College	16	19	88	0	.216
4.Providence	14	13	61	0	.213
5.UMass Lowell	17	19	91	2	.209
6.Massachusetts	16	15	79	2	.190
7.Northeastern	13	11	63	4	.175
8.Maine	15	13	76	2	.171
9.Boston University	14	11	74	2	.149

#### PENALTY KILL

GP	OPPG	Att	SHG	Pct
16	7	74	5	.905
15	9	72	5	.875
18	13	94	2	.862
16	13	77	4	.831
17	14	77	1	.818
14	13	71	2	.817
17	16	85	3	.812
14	18	81	4	.778
13	15	64	2	.766
	GP 16 15 18 16 17 14 17 14 13	16         7           15         9           18         13           16         13           17         14           14         13           17         16           14         13           17         16           14         18	16         7         74           15         9         72           18         13         94           16         13         77           17         14         77           14         13         71           17         16         85           14         18         81	$\begin{array}{cccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc$

PENALTY MINUTES Team	GP	Ρ	PiM	PMPG
1.UMass Lowell	17	98	226	13.29
2.Northeastern	13	80	179	13.77
3.Boston University	14	96	203	14.50
4.Merrimack	18	123	271	15.06
5.Boston College	16	112	251	15.69
Massachusetts	16	116	251	15.69
7.Maine	15	119	262	17.47
8.New Hampshire	17	133	312	18.35
9.Providence	14	110	264	18.86

### TEAM NOTES

**Boston College:** The Eagles have played the last two games with no injured players, something that has not happened since the season opener at Vermont ... BC is outscoring its opponents 23-8 in the first period.

**Boston University:** Both Frantisek Skladany and Bryan Miller each scored their first goals of the season in a 5-1 win over Niagara. Skladany was the Terriers' leading goal-scorer last year (13). Miller, normally a defenseman, was playing right wing ... Jekabs Redlihs, who has missed the entire season thus far with a broken left collarbone, hopes to be ready to play for the Minnesota series on January 2-3. Mark Mullen, who had a string of 118 consecutive games played snapped due to arthroscopic surgery, is also expected back.

University of Maine: Maine recorded its third sellout of the season Saturday vs. Dartmouth ... Jimmy Howard and Greg Moore will be out of the lineup until January 10 as they compete in the World Junior Championships as members of Team USA.

University of Massachusetts: Defensemen have scored 17 of the 46 UMass goals and 25 of the 76 assists ... UMass saw a seven-game winning streak against ECAC opponents snapped in Saturday's game against Harvard ... UMass allowed a season-high 36 shots against Harvard. It was the first time since Feb. 22, 2003, (a span of 21 games) that an opponent has managed more than 30 shots against UMass.

UMass Lowell: UML has scored four or more goals in each of its last three outings, but only has one win to show for it ... UML did not take a single penalty Sunday vs. Niagara, just the second time that has happened in the program's history ... The line of Mark Pandolfo, Brad King and Elias Godoy has connected for 10 goals in the last five games, while the rest of the River Hawks only have nine in the same span.

**Merrimack College:** On Saturday, Merrimack snapped a 29-game (0-26-3) winless streak against UNH dating back to Nov. 18, 1995 ... The seven goals vs. UNH marked the most for the Warriors since defeating Colgate 9-5 on Nov. 23, 2001. It was also Merrimack's highest scoring total in Hockey East play since Feb. 22, 1997, a 7-6 win over North-eastern ... Defenseman Bryan Schmidt has recorded a point in six of the last seven games.

University of New Hampshire: Seven of the next 12 games for the Wildcats are against ranked opponents. Senior goaltender Mike Ayers owns a 2-0-2 record vs. nationally ranked opponents with a .950 save percentage and a 1.68 GAA ... Senior Steve Saviano (90 career points) and junior Sean Collins (94) are in a tight race to become the 59th Wildcat in school history to reach the 100-point mark.

**Northeastern University:** Keni Gibson has recorded backto-back shutouts, marking the first consecutive blankings for Northeastern since the 1956-57 season, when Ed Kerr was in the Husky net ... The NU penalty-kill unit has stopped 13 straight and 22 of the last 24 ... An NU player has scored his first collegiate goal in each of the last four games (Jonathan Koop, Brian Deeth, Ray Ortiz, Steve Sanders).

Scheduling Note:The games below were postponed dueto inclement weather and have been rescheduled as listed.Maine at MerrimackTue., Jan. 6, 7:00 p.m.Massachusetts at Boston Univ.Wed. Jan. 7, 7:00 p.m.Boston College at ProvidenceTue., Jan. 20, 7:00 p.m.

## WHO'S HOT

• Mark Pandolfo, UML (So. F; North Andover, MA) – Has scored six goals over the last seven games.

• Ryan Shannon, BC (Jr. F; Darien, CT) – Has a 10game point streak, the longest by a Hockey East player this season. BC is undefeated in that span.

• BC's Top Forward Line – Tony Voce, Ben Eaves and Patrick Eaves have each posted six points over the last two games. Voce has five goals and one assist, Patrick Eaves has three goals and three assists, and Ben Eaves has six assists. Both Voce and Ben Eaves are riding five-game point-scoring streaks.

• Merrimack Special Teams – Over the past seven games, Merrimack has gone 10-for-31 (.322) on the power play and 25-for-28 (.893) on the penalty kill.

#### **ITECH THREE STARS**

As part of a long-term agreement between Hockey East and ITECH, SIDs and media will designate ITECH "Three Stars of The Game" in each of the 108 Hockey East league games. The player earning the most points over the course of the season will be recognized at the Hockey East champion-ship banquet at season's end. The leaders to date:

<u>Name</u> Luciano Aquino	<u>Cl</u> Fr	Pos F	<u>Schoo</u> l Maine	
Mike Ayers	Sr	G	UNH	
Preston Callander	Jr	F	UNH	
Chris Davidson	Jr	G	UML	
Marvin Degon	So	D	UMass	
Casey Guenther	Jr	G	MC	
Thomas Pöck	Sr	D	UMass	
Bryan Schmidt	So	D	MC	
Ryan Shannon	Jr	F	BC	
Tony Voce	Sr	F	BC	
Ben Walter	So	F	UML	
Brian Yandle	So	D	UNH	

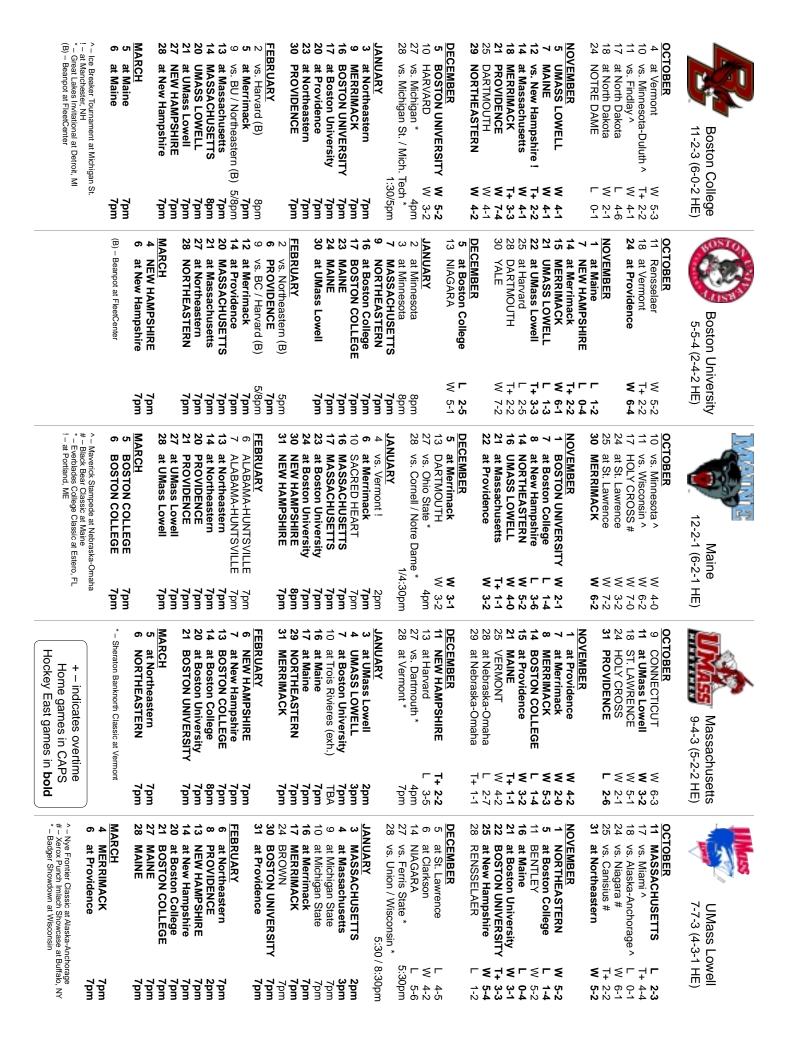
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March 19-20, 2004 at the FleetCenter



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		MARCH 4 at UMass Lowell 7pm	at Providence PROVIDENCE	20 NORTHEASTERN 7pm		24 NORTHEASTERN 7pm 31 at Massachusetts 7pm	at Brown NEW HAMPSHIRE	at UMass Lowell	at Boston College	at Princeton	<u>JANUARY</u> 2 at Princeton 7pm	v Hampshire W	Ö	29 QUINNIPIAC L 2-3	23 BEMIDJI STATE W+3-2 28 QUINNIPIAC W 4-1	at Boston College BEMIDJI STATE	at Boston University L	at Massachusetts		over manne en	24 at Northeastern W 4-2 25 PROVIDENCE T+ 0-0 30 at Maine I 2-6	ED HEART / <b>Hampshire</b> m	OCTOBER	Merrimack 5-10-3 (2-6-3 HE)
i – at Manchester, NH i – at Manchester, NH ∗ – Dodge Holiday Classic at Minnesota	4 at Boston University / pm 6 BOSTON UNIVERSITY 7pm	ARCH	NORTHEASTERN at Boston College	13 at UMass Lowell 7pm		31 at Maine 7pm		17 BROWN 7pm	PROVIDENCE	3 YALE 7pm 9 at Providence 7pm	JANUARY	20 vs. Miami * 5pm 21 vs. Princeton/Minnesota * 5/8pm	at Massachusetts T- MERRIMACK L	at Clarkson at St. Lawrence	DECEMBER	25 UMASS LOWELL L 4-5 29 RENSSELAER W 4-3	AT NORTHEASTERN W	at Providence L			₹г	11         VERMONT         W 3-0           16         MERRIMACK         W 4-1           24         vs. Canisius #         W 8-2	OCTOBER	New Hampshire 10-5-2 (5-3-2 HE)
	* – Rensselaer Holiday Tournament (B) – Beanpot at FleetCenter	6 at Massachusetts 7pm	at Boston University	22 at New Hampshire 4pm 27 BOSTON UNIVERSITY 7pm	MAINE MAINE	UMASS LOWELL vs. BC / Harvard (B) 5	vs. Boston University (B)		at Merrimack	at Providence BOSTON COLLEGE	10 HOLY CROSS 7pm		ANUARY		6 VERMONT W 1-0 13 PRINCETON W 4-0		22 at New Hampshire L 2-3 29 at Boston College L 2-4	NEW HAMPSHIRE				11         COLGATE         T+ 3-3           17         at Denver         L         2-5           18         at Denver         L         3-6	OCTOBER	Northeastern 2-9-2 (0-7-1 HE)
+ – indicates overtime Home games in CAPS Hockey East games in <b>bold</b>	! – Mayor's Cup * – Dunkin' Donuts Coffee Pot at Providence, RI	MARCH 6 UMASS LOWELL 7pm	MERRIMACK at Merrimack	20 at Maine 7pm 21 at Maine 7pm	at Boston University at UMass Lowell	Ξ.	30 at Boston College 7pm 31 UMASS LOWELL 7pm		BOSTON COLLEGE		9 NEW HAMPSHIRE 7pm 10 at New Hampshire 7pm	ź	rvard / St. Cloud * 5/	CEMBER vs. Clarkson *	25 BROWN ! T+ 1-1	at Boston College L MAINE L	MASSACHUSETTS L	at Northeastern T+	NOVEMBER 1 MASSACHUSETTS I 2-4	31 at Massachusetts W 6-2	at Minnesota State W BOSTON UNIVERSITY L	11SACRED HEARTW 7-212RENSSELAERW 5-217at Minnesota StateW 2-1	OCTOBER	Providence 6-5-3 (2-5-2 HE)



# **RECENT RESULTS**

at Boston College 3, Harvard 2 Wednesday, December 10

Thursday, December 11

UNH 2, at Massachusetts 2 (OT) \*

at Northeastern 4, Princeton 0 at Maine 3, Dartmouth 2

at Boston University 5, Niagara 1

Niagara 6, at UMass Lowell 5

Sunday, December 14

UPCOMING GAMES

Dodge Holiday Classic at Minnesota

Saturday, December 20

New Hampshire vs. Miami (5pm)

Princeton at Minnesota (8pm)

Games start at 7pm unless indicated

All times Eastern

\* Hockey East game

Dodge Holiday Classic (5/8pm)

Sunday, December 21

at Harvard 5, Massachusetts 3

Merrimack 7, at New Hampshire 2 \*

Saturday, December 13