



Weekend Preview

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FULL FRIDAY SLATE FEATURES THREE TELEVISED GAMES Championship ticket sale date announced as December 4

A big story out of Hockey East this season is the increased live television coverage the league is enjoying – no fewer than 70 games will be televised throughout the year, including nearly one half of the 108 league contests.

Three of those will be aired this Friday night, including Massachusetts at Maine. Locally broadcast on WABI-TV in Maine, the game will also be available live over the internet at watchmainesports.com. WABI-TV game broadcasts are normally available on a pay-per-view basis, but this particular game will be available at no charge.

And what a game it is. This will be the first meeting of the season between the 2004 Hockey East tournament champ (Maine) and runner-up (UMass). The two teams battled into the middle of the third overtime before the title was finally decided on a goal by Ben Murphy

that gave the Black Bears a 2-1 victory, marking their fifth Hockey East championship. Gabe Winer, who last Friday stopped 51 shots in a 3-3 tie at top-ranked BC, totalled 59 saves in the title game. At the other end, superman Jimmy Howard rang up 63 saves, including 19 in the first overtime, en route to Tournament MVP honors.

Fittingly, Hockey East announced today that tickets for the 2005 Hockey East tournament will go on sale on December 4. See related release for more information.

Maine was 17-1-1 at home last year, its only loss coming at the hands of the Minutemen. In 2002-03, Maine was 14-3-3 at home entering the postseason, only to surrender two straight contests to the visiting Minutemen in the Hockey East quarterfinals. UMass-Maine has quickly become one of the hottest rivalries in the league.

But there are plenty of others. New Hampshire and Northeastern, two of the original members of Hockey East, also face off for the first time this season as well, trading a home-and-home series starting Friday at UNH. Home ice advantage has been huge in this series recently, as the host school has a 9-1-4 record over the last 14 meetings. A 7-0-4 run for the home team was snapped last year when UNH recorded its first win at NU's Matthews Arena since January of 1999. Northeastern has a 1-11-2 record all-time at the Whittemore Center, the only victory coming at

the end of its Cinderella season of 1997-98. That trend could put NU's current five-game unbeaten streak in jeopardy.

Boston University and UMass Lowell are also slated for a home-and-home series. Their early season fortunes have gone in different directions. Lowell, thought by many to be a great dark horse pick to rise in the league ranks, is 0-3 in Hockey East this season despite boasting a perfect 4-0 non-conference record. BU, on the other hand, has rebounded from an eighth-place finish in Hockey East last year to quickly rise to the top of the standings with a strong 4-1 start in Hockey East. That followed a rough opening for the Terriers, who were outscored 12-3 over their first two games.

Providence is also in action this weekend, and the Friars have plenty of work cut out for them. On Friday, they host the top-ranked BC Eagles, who are likely still fuming from a 3-1 loss at Harvard on Tuesday. Sunday afternoon, the Friars take on Maine at Portland.

RESULTS / SCHEDULE

Tuesday, November 16

New Hampshire 4, at Merrimack 1 *
 at Harvard 3, Boston College 1

Friday, November 19

Massachusetts at Maine (WABI) *
 Boston Univ. at UMass Lowell (NESN) *
 Boston College at Providence *
 Northeastern at UNH (NHPTV) *

Saturday, November 20

UMass Lowell at Boston University *
 New Hampshire at Northeastern *

Sunday, November 21

Maine vs. Providence *
 (2pm - at Portland, ME)

* Hockey East game

Games start at 7pm unless indicated.

All game times are Eastern Time.

IN THE POLLS

Team	USAT	USCHO
Boston College	1	1
New Hampshire	6	6
Maine	12	12
Boston University	15	15

Others receiving votes:
 Massachusetts, UMass Lowell, Northeastern

HOCKEY EAST STANDINGS

Team	GP	W	L	T	Pts	Overall	HE Offense	HE Defense
Boston University	5	4	1	0	8	5-3-0	3.40 GPG	2.40 GAPG
Massachusetts	6	3	2	1	7	6-4-1	3.33 GPG	3.00 GAPG
New Hampshire	4	3	1	0	6	6-2-1	2.75 GPG	2.25 GAPG
Maine	6	3	3	0	6	7-6-0	2.50 GPG	2.17 GAPG
Boston College	3	2	0	1	5	4-2-1	3.00 GPG	2.00 GAPG
Northeastern	2	2	0	0	4	5-3-1	3.50 GPG	1.50 GAPG
Providence	6	2	4	0	4	4-5-0	2.67 GPG	2.83 GAPG
Merrimack	7	1	6	0	2	3-8-0	2.43 GPG	4.43 GAPG
UMass Lowell	3	0	3	0	0	4-3-0	2.67 GPG	3.67 GAPG