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PROVIDENCE WINS HOLIDAY CLASSIC AT HOME Five more tourneys on tap this week

The Providence College Friars tacked on two more wins to their impressive first-half total last week, scoring victories over Colgate and Sacred Heart en route to the Providence College Holiday Classic title. Several players had big offensive numbers, including Tournament MVP Torry Gajda, who led the way with a goal and four assists in the tourney. With 24 points this season, Gadja now ranks second only to UNH's Daniel Winnik among Hockey East players and has passed his single-season high, which he set with 22 in his sophomore season. Fellow Friar Chase Watson also had five points in the tourney, all assists. Both Gadja and Watson were selected to the All-Tournament team, alongside teammates Cody Wild and Tyler Sims, who posted his fifth straight win between the PC pipes. The five consecutive victories is the most for Providence since the start of the 2002-03 season, when the team opened with seven straight.

Vermont surrendered a 2-1 decision to St. Lawrence last Saturday despite hosting its 27th consecutive sellout crowd. The Catamounts fell to fifth in the national rankings after reaching No. 3 the previous week, which included two first-place votes. UVM will next host the Catamount Cup, one of five tournaments this week involving Hockey East teams and possibly the strongest field. Clarkson is ranked 15th in both polls while Bemidji State and Dartmouth both received votes in the most recent USCHO poll.

The first of this week's tournaments starts tomorrow in Florida and involves both Northeastern and Maine. The Huskies open against Top 10 opponent Cornell while the Black Bears take on fellow 2004 Frozen Four participant Minnesota Duluth. BC, UMass and UMass Lowell are also competing in tourney play, while UNH hosts Niagara and Merrimack plays at BU in the final league game of 2005.

CCM / RBK HOCKEY
PLAYER OF THE WEEK

TORRY GAJDA – Providence Senior Forward; Westfield, MA

Named MVP of the Providence College Holiday Classic contributing a goal and two assists in the opener vs. Colgate and adding two more assists vs. Sacred Heart.

Rankings								
<u>Team</u>	USAT	<u>USCHO</u>						
Boston College	4	4						
Vermont	5	5						
Maine	8	9						
New Hampshire	14	14						
Providence	ORV	17						
Boston University	_	20						
ORV – o	others receiv	ring votes						

HOCKEY EAST STANDINGS

<u>Team</u>	<u>GP</u>	W	L	Τ	<u>Pts</u>	<u>Overall</u>	HE Offense	HE Defense
Boston College	11	8	2	1	17	9-4-1	3.00 GPG	1.73 GAPG
Providence	11	8	2	1	17	11-6-1	3.18 GPG	1.82 GAPG
New Hampshire	12	7	3	2	16	9-6-3	3.17 GPG	2.33 GAPG
Vermont	9	5	3	1	11	11-4-1	3.11 GPG	2.11 GAPG
Maine	9	5	4	0	10	11-5-0	3.22 GPG	2.00 GAPG
Boston University	10	4	5	1	9	6-7-2	2.70 GPG	2.80 GAPG
Massachusetts	10	3	7	0	6	5-10-0	1.60 GPG	3.20 GAPG
UMass Lowell	10	3	7	0	6	5-10-0	2.40 GPG	3.90 GAPG
Northeastern	11	1	6	4	6	1-9-4	2.36 GPG	3.36 GAPG
Merrimack	9	1	6	2	4	4-10-2	1.33 GPG	3.11 GAPG

RECENT RESULTS

Saturday, December 17 St. Lawrence 2, at Vermont 1

Wednesday, December 21 <u>Providence College Holiday Classic</u> at Providence 7, Colgate 1

Thursday, December 22 <u>Providence College Holiday Classic</u> at Providence 5, Sacred Heart 2

UPCOMING GAMES

Tuesday, December 27 <u>Florida College Classic at Estero, FL</u> Northeastern vs. Cornell (4pm) Maine vs. Minnesota Duluth (7:30pm)

Wednesday, December 28 Florida College Classic (4/7:30pm)

Thursday, December 29 <u>Toyota UConn Hockey Classic at Connecticut</u> Massachusetts vs. Bowling Green (4pm) Army at Connecticut (7:15pm) <u>Dodge Mariucci Classic at Minnesota</u> UMass Lowell vs. Canisius (5pm) Union at Minnesota (8pm)

Friday, December 30 Merrimack at Boston University * Niagara at New Hampshire (NHPTV) # <u>Wells Fargo Denver Cup</u> Boston College vs. Ferris State (6pm) Princeton at Denver (9pm) Catamount Cup at Vermont Clarkson vs. Bemidji State (4pm) Dartmouth at Vermont (Adelphia - 7pm) Toyota UConn Hockey Classic (4/7:15pm)

<u>Dodge Mariucci Classic</u> (5/8pm)

Saturday, December 31 Wells Fargo Denver Cup (6/9pm) Catamount Cup (4/7pm)

* Hockey East game # Commissioners' Cup series Games start at 7pm EST unless indicated All times Eastern

BOSTON COLLEGE • BOSTON UNIVERSITY • UNIVERSITY of MAINE • UNIVERSITY of MASSACHUSETTS • UMASS LOWELL MERRIMACK COLLEGE • UNIVERSITY of NEW HAMPSHIRE • NORTHEASTERN UNIVERSITY • PROVIDENCE COLLEGE • UNIVERSITY of VERMONT