



MEN'S WEEKEND PREVIEW

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NO. 7 UNH AND NO. 10 UMASS MEET SATURDAY

WEEKEND PREVIEW #9

~UMass-Lowell host BU Friday; Maine hosts Merrimack Saturday~

WAKEFIELD, Mass. – In the first meeting of the season between the top two nationally ranked teams in the league, the No. 10 ranked University of Massachusetts Minutemen will host No. 7 ranked University of New Hampshire on Saturday night, December 8 at the Mullins Center in Amherst. In other conference matchups, UMass-Lowell will play the lone Hockey East game on Friday night hosting Boston University at Tsongas Arena. Maine will also host Merrimack for a single game on Saturday night at Alford Arena in Orono.

UMass (6-3-5, 3-2-4 HEA) and UNH (8-3-1, 5-3-1 HEA) will meet for the first time since the 3-2 double overtime thriller in last year's Hockey East semifinal at the TD Banknorth Garden. UNH's Bobby Butler (Marlboro, Mass.) gave the Wildcats the win just 1:30 into the second overtime session. The Minutemen won the season series last year with the Wildcats for the first time in school history. The two teams have met 91 times in the all-time series with UNH holding the advantage at 70-16-5. The Minutemen have won three of the last five meetings against UNH.

The River Hawks (5-4-4, 3-4-4 HEA) will look to build upon their 3-2 win over UNH last Saturday night, as they host Boston University. UMass-Lowell won the season series last year with one win and two ties.

Boston University is led by Hockey East Player of the Month Pete MacArthur (Clifton Park, N.Y.), who posted 15 points in the month and has a point in seven of his last eight games with 13 points during that time. Sophomore goaltender Nevin Hamilton (Ashland, Mass.) has started the last three games for the River Hawks and he has posted a 2-1-0 record with a 2.34 GAA and a .926 save percentage, which included two starts against No. 6 New Hampshire.

Maine will attempt to pickup its third league win of the season and its first league win at home on Saturday. Merrimack enters the game with a 2-2-1 record in its last five games. Junior goaltender Ben Bishop (Des Peres, Mo.) has started all 12 games for the Black Bears this season, posting a 2.48 GAA and a .916 save percentage. Sophomore forward Matt Jones (Kentwood, Mich.) leads Warriors team in scoring with nine goals, after more than doubling the four goals that he scored last year in his freshman campaign.

In non-league play, four games will be played over the weekend and the Terriers will also host an exhibition game with the U.S. Under-18 Team on Sunday at Agganis Arena. Providence College will host Union College on Friday night, while Northeastern will travel to Union for a Saturday night match up. UMass-Lowell will host Bentley on Saturday at 4 p.m., while Vermont will play host to No. 12 Harvard at Gutterson Fieldhouse in Burlington.

The Friars (5-6-2, 4-3-2 HEA) will look for their second non-conference win of the year on Friday. PC has scored 16 goals in its last three games, two of which were victories. Providence has scored four or more goals six times this season in 13 games.

The Catamounts will go for their first non-conference win of the season on Saturday night. Sophomore goalie Mike Spillane (Bow, N.H.) will make his second start of the season on Saturday. Spillane is 1-3-2 with a 2.74 goals against average in his career. Last season he earned his first career win against Harvard by turning away 25 shots in a 2-1 overtime victory for the Catamounts on November 28, 2006.

HOCKEY EAST WEEKLY NOTES: In Hockey East alumni news, former UMass goalie Jon Quick was called up to the Los Angeles Kings on Sunday. He has not appeared for LA yet, but has dressed in the last two games...UVM's Martin St. Louis leads all Hockey East alumni with 34 points for the Tampa Bay Lightning in 27 games, which ranks ninth among NHL players...Former Catamount goalie Tim Thomas leads all Hockey East alumni with a league-leading .936 save percentage...Former Terrier Tom Poti averages 26:25 minutes per game, which ranks seventh in the NHL...Torrey Mitchell (UVM) and Daniel Winnik (UNH) are the leading NHL rookies among HEA alumni with eight and seven points respectively...Former Black Bear Teddy Purcell, the 2007 HEA Rookie of the Year, was named AHL Rookie of the Month for November playing for the Manchester Monarchs.

RECENT RESULTS

Friday, November 30
at No. 6 New Hampshire 3, UMass Lowell 2 *
at Boston College 6, Boston University 2 *
at No. 12 Northeastern 4, Brown 3
No. 11 Massachusetts 0 at Cornell 0 OT

Saturday, December 1
at UMass Lowell 3, No. 6 New Hampshire 2 *
Providence 4 at Vermont 0 *
Boston College 4 at Boston University 3 *
New Brunswick 2 at Maine 1 (exh)

Sunday, December 2
at No. 11 Massachusetts 5, U.S. Under-18 Team 2

Tuesday, December 4
at Providence 8, Brown 0 (Mayor's Cup)
Merrimack at Holy Cross

UPCOMING GAMES

Friday, December 7
Boston University at UMass-Lowell *
Union at Providence (COX-TV)

Saturday, December 8
No. 7 New Hampshire at No. 10 Massachusetts *
Merrimack at Maine * (WABI-TV)
Bentley at UMass-Lowell (4pm)
No. 12 Harvard at Vermont (CN8)
Northeastern at Union
US Under-18 at Boston University (exh)

* Hockey East game
Games start at 7pm EST unless indicated
(Rankings in composite schedule and release are from the USA Today/USA Hockey Magazine Poll)

2007-08 STANDINGS

Rk.	Team	GP	W	L	T	Pts	Overall	Offense	Defense
1.	Northeastern	10	6	3	1	13	7-4-1	34 (2.83)	32 (2.66)
2.	Boston College	11	4	3	4	12	5-4-5	43 (3.07)	33 (2.36)
3.	New Hampshire	9	5	3	1	11	8-3-1	44 (3.66)	31 (2.58)
4.	Providence	9	4	3	2	10	5-6-2	40 (3.08)	33 (2.54)
	Massachusetts	9	3	2	4	10	6-3-5	38 (2.71)	30 (2.14)
	UMass-Lowell	11	3	4	4	10	5-4-4	36 (2.77)	30 (2.31)
7.	Vermont	8	3	3	2	8	3-6-2	26 (2.36)	42 (3.82)
8.	Boston University	9	3	5	1	7	4-9-2	53 (3.53)	55 (3.67)
	Merrimack	10	3	6	1	7	6-6-2	31 (2.21)	40 (2.86)
10.	Maine	8	2	4	2	6	4-6-2	26 (2.17)	33 (2.75)

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

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