



# MEN'S WEEKEND PREVIEW

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WEEKEND PREVIEW #14

## NO. 11 EAGLES AND NO. 15 RIVER HAWKS TAKE CENTER STAGE ON NESN ~Eight league games on tap for the weekend~

**WAKEFIELD, MASS.** – No. 11 Boston College (10-5-5, 7-3-4 HEA) and No. 15 UMass-Lowell (10-5-4, 5-5-4 HEA) will meet in this week's NESN "Hockey East Game of the Week" on Friday night at Tsongas Arena. The game features BC's offense, which ranks third in the country, scoring 3.75 goals per game, while UMass-Lowell's scoring defense owns the 12th best average, allowing 2.21 goals per contest.

Eagles' junior forward Nathan Gerbe's (Oxford, Mich.) 1.79 points per game leads the nation. He comes into Friday's game with a eight-game point streak with 25 points (13g,12a) in that time. Gerbe (54g,45a) needs one point to reach the 100 career point mark at BC, joining BU's Pete MacArthur (Clifton, Park, N.Y.) as the only other 100-point scorer in the league. The River hawks have received solid play all season from both Carter Hutton (Thunder Bay, Ont.) and Nevin Hamilton (Ashland, Mass.) in between the pipes. Hutton owns the best GAA (1.53) and save percentage (.943) in the nation to date, while Hamilton has posted six victories on the season with a 2.50 GAA and a .920 save percentage. In nine games this season at Tsongas Arena, the River Hawks boast a 7-1-1 home record, which is the best home record of any team in Hockey East. The two teams meet for the first time this year, BC swept the season series last year, 3-0 and scored 11 goals in those victories. On Saturday, the River Hawks will host No. 9 Massachusetts (9-5-5, 4-4-4 HEA) and BC will return to Conte Forum to face arch rival Boston University on Saturday, in the third meeting of the season between the two teams. The Eagles won the first two meetings by a combined score of 10 to 5.

**HOCKEY EAST WEEKLY NOTES:** Boston University's scoring offense ranks seventh in the nation at 3.40 goal per game...BU senior co-captain Pete MacArthur's is the active career leading scorer in Hockey East with 126 points in 139 career games for the Terriers. His point total is the eighth highest total among active career scorers in Division I. Boston College's power play ranks second in the nation at 25.7% (27-105)...UMass' scoring defense is the 14th best in the nation (2.42 gavg)...BC's Joe Whitney and UNH's James vanRiemsdyk rank second and third respectively in the nation among rookie scorers at 1.35 and 1.27 points per game.

The Minutemen will look to bounce back from a pair of losses to UNH on Friday night at Providence College. Freshman Paul Dainton (Genelle, B.C.) has started 16 of the UMass' 19 games this season. At this point last season through 19 games, the Minutemen owned a 9-7-3 record and they finished the year and then went 9-4-2 to finish the regular season.

No. 10 Northeastern (11-5-2, 8-4-1 HEA) will travel north for the weekend for a two-game set at Vermont beginning on Friday night at Gutterson Fieldhouse. The Catamounts will look to snap a five-game winless streak, while the Huskies enter the game with a 10-1-2 record in their last 13 games. Head coach Kevin Sneddon owns a 6-2-2 record in his career at UVM against NU. Senior goalie Joe Fallon (Bemidji, Minn.) has had the Huskies' number in eight career starts, owning a 1.22 GAA and four shutouts against them. NU's Brad Thiessen (Aldergrove, B.C.) is one of two Hockey East goalies to make every start for his team this year, along with BC's John Muse (East Falmouth, Mass.). Thiessen has started 18 games with a 2.35 GAA and a career-high 11 wins, after posting 10 in his freshman season. Northeastern has posted a 6-1-1 mark away from Matthews Arena this season.

The Terriers will start the weekend on Friday night at Merrimack, while Maine heads south for a single game against Providence on Saturday night at Schneider Arena. Maine enters Saturday's game having killed off 28 straight power plays by its opponents. Junior Ben Bishop (Des Peres, Mo.) needs only one victory to become the fifth goaltender in school history to accomplish that feat. The Friars have been victorious in five of their last seven games. Senior captain Jon Rheault (Deering, N.H.) has registered 12 points (8g,4a) in his last seven games for Providence College.

No. 5 New Hampshire will face off vs. intrastate rival Dartmouth on Saturday night at the Verizon Wireless Arena in the seventh annual "Battle for the RiverStone Cup". On Sunday afternoon, Merrimack will play at Brown to close out the weekend schedule. UNH owns a 4-1-1 in six all-time meetings vs. the Big Green in Manchester. Senior goalie Kevin Regan (South Boston, Mass.) needs one victory to break Mike Ayers' career school record of 58 wins. The Warriors own a 4-0-1 non-league record this season.

### RECENT RESULTS

Wednesday, January 9  
at No. 12 Boston College 4, Vermont 1 \*

Friday, January 11  
No. 8 New Hampshire 3 at No. 5 Massachusetts 2 \*  
at No. 12 Boston College 5, Vermont 2 \*  
at Providence 4, No. 13 UMass Lowell 3 OT \*  
at Merrimack 4, No. 7 Northeastern 2 \*

Saturday, January 12  
at No. 8 New Hampshire 5, No. 5 Massachusetts 3 \*  
at No. 7 Northeastern 3, Merrimack 0 \*  
Boston University 3 at Maine 1 \*  
at No. 13 UMass Lowell 3, Providence 2 OT \*

Tuesday, January 15  
Dartmouth 3 at Boston University 2

### UPCOMING GAMES

Friday, January 18  
No. 11 Boston College at UMass-Lowell (7:30, NESN) \*  
No. 9 Massachusetts at Providence \*  
No. 10 Northeastern at Vermont \*  
Boston University at Merrimack \*

Saturday, January 19  
No. 9 Massachusetts at UMass-Lowell \*  
No. 10 Northeastern at Vermont \*  
Maine at Providence (COX-TV) \*  
Boston University at No. 11 Boston College \*  
No. 5 New Hampshire vs. Dartmouth (WMUR-TV)  
(at the Verizon Wireless Arena, Manchester, N.H.)

Sunday, January 20  
Merrimack at Brown (1pm)

\* 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.	New Hampshire	14	9	4	1	19	13-6-1	69 (3.45)	53 (2.65)
2.	Northeastern	13	8	4	1	17	11-5-2	53 (2.94)	44 (2.44)
3.	Boston College	13	6	3	4	16	10-5-5	75 (3.75)	44 (2.20)
4.	UMass-Lowell	14	5	5	4	14	10-5-4	59 (3.11)	42 (2.21)
5.	Providence	11	5	4	2	12	8-8-2	56 (3.11)	50 (2.78)
	Massachusetts	12	4	4	4	12	9-5-5	56 (2.95)	46 (2.42)
	Boston University	13	5	6	2	12	6-11-3	68 (3.40)	67 (3.35)
8.	Vermont	11	3	5	3	9	4-9-5	39 (2.16)	63 (3.50)
	Merrimack	15	4	10	1	9	8-10-2	42 (2.10)	55 (2.75)
10.	Maine	12	3	7	2	8	7-10-2	42 (2.21)	57 (3.00)

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