



www.HockeyEastOnline.com

MEN'S WEEKEND PREVIEW

Pete Souris
Director of Public Relations
Hockey East Association
 591 North Ave – #2
 Wakefield, MA 01880
 Office: (781) 245-2122
 Cell: (603) 512-1166
 psouris@HockeyEastOnline.com

WEEKEND PREVIEW #1

Celebrating 25 Years of Success

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: THURSDAY, OCTOBER 9, 2008

BU TO HOST ICEBREAKER AT AGGANIS TO KICKOFF 25TH SEASON ~BC raises National Championship banner in season opener vs. Wisco~

WAKEFIELD, Mass. – No. 9 ranked Boston University will host the 12th annual Ice Breaker Tournament this weekend at Agganis Arena in a star-studded four-team field.

Massachusetts will take on No. 11 ranked Michigan State in the first official game of Hockey East's 25th anniversary season at 4:30 p.m. on Friday, while the host Terriers will skate with No. 5 ranked North Dakota in the nightcap at 7:30 p.m. Sophomore forward Colin Wilson (Winnipeg, Man.) returns as the Terriers leading scorer from a season ago with 35 points. The Minutemen will be captained by Cory Quirk (Brockton, Mass.) and Brett Watson (Media, Pa.) in 08-09. Hockey East has had the most success in the Ice Breaker of any conference, having won 17 of its 22 contests in the tournament, claiming six of the previous 11 titles.

The Boston College Eagles will also begin their National Championship title defense on Friday night, as they entertain the WCHA's Wisconsin Badgers at Conte Forum. The Eagles will hoist their banner in a special pre-game ceremony. BC returns four of its top six scorers from its title run, along with sophomore goalie John Muse (East Falmouth, Mass.), who played every single minute for the Eagles last year.

Head coach Greg Cronin will take his Northeastern Huskies cross country to the Kendall Hockey Classic in Anchorage, Alaska. The Huskies open with Alaska on Friday (9 p.m.) and they will play the host Seawolves late Saturday night. NU returns its top seven scorers and loses only two players from last year's team that finished sixth in league play. Senior captain Joe Vitale (St. Louis, Mo.) is only one of four returning Hockey East All-Stars from 2007-08.

Vermont and Rensselaer will take the ice in Quebec City on Saturday (4 p.m.), renewing a rivalry from the Catamounts days in the ECAC. UVM returns 97% of its offense from the team that made its first Hockey East Championship Game in school history.

No. 7 ranked UNH will host Wisconsin on Saturday night at the Whittemore Center in Durham opening its 82nd season of Wildcat hockey. The last time the two teams met was in the 1998 NCAA East Regional, UNH won the game, 7-4, in Albany, N.Y.

Merrimack College will host Robert Morris on Saturday, while UMass-Lowell will travel to Colgate for a single-game. The Warriors went a perfect 6-0 last season in non-conference play, while UMass-Lowell returns all but two players from its 07-08 squad. Junior Kory Falite (Billerica, Mass.) had a breakout sophomore year with 32 points, en route to being named a Second-Team Hockey East All-Star. Hockey East commissioner Joe Bertagna has suspended UMass-Lowell assistant coach Shawn McEachern for one game stemming from an incident in the 2008 quarterfinals at Vermont. McEachern, who was on the Northeastern University staff at that time, will serve his suspension this Saturday.

Maine will play a pair of exhibition games at New Brunswick on Friday and Saturday night. The Black Bears officially open their season on Oct. 17 at Alaska-Anchorage. The Providence College Friars are idle this weekend, they open up on Oct. 17 in a league game at Northeastern.

2008-2009 HEA STANDINGS

Team	GP	W	L	T	Pts	Overall	Offense	Defense
Boston College	0	0	0	0	0	0-0-0	0.00 (0)	0.00 (0)
Boston University	0	0	0	0	0	0-0-0	0.00 (0)	0.00 (0)
Maine	0	0	0	0	0	0-0-0	0.00 (0)	0.00 (0)
Massachusetts	0	0	0	0	0	0-0-0	0.00 (0)	0.00 (0)
UMass-Lowell	0	0	0	0	0	0-0-0	0.00 (0)	0.00 (0)
Merrimack	0	0	0	0	0	0-0-0	0.00 (0)	0.00 (0)
New Hampshire	0	0	0	0	0	0-0-0	0.00 (0)	0.00 (0)
Northeastern	0	0	0	0	0	0-0-0	0.00 (0)	0.00 (0)
Providence	0	0	0	0	0	0-0-0	0.00 (0)	0.00 (0)
Vermont	0	0	0	0	0	0-0-0	0.00 (0)	0.00 (0)

RECENT RESULTS

Saturday, October 4

at UNH 8. St. Francis Xavier 4 (exh)
 at UMass 6, New Brunswick 0 (exh)
 McGill 2 at Merrimack 1 (exh)

Sunday, October 5

at Vermont 3, McGill 2 (exh)
 at UMass-Lowell 6, St. Francis Xavier 1 (exh)
 at Boston U. 4, New Brunswick 1 (exh)

UPCOMING GAMES

Friday, October 10

No. 14 Wisconsin at No. 1 Boston College
 Kendall Hockey Classic
 (at Anchorage, Alaska)
 Northeastern vs. Alaska (9pm)
 Ice Breaker Tournament at Agganis Arena
 No. 11 Michigan St. vs. UMass (4:30 pm)
 No. 5 North Dakota vs. No. 9 BU (7:30 pm)
 Maine at New Brunswick (exh, 6pm)

Saturday, October 11

Ice Breaker Tournament at Agganis Arena
 No. 5 North Dakota vs. UMass (4:30)
 No. 11 Michigan St. vs. No. 9 BU (7:30 pm)
 No. 14 Wisconsin at No. 7 UNH
 UMass-Lowell at Colgate
 Kendall Hockey Classic
 (at Anchorage, Alaska)
 Northeastern at Alaska-Anchorage (11pm)
 Rensselaer vs. Vermont
 (at Quebec City, 4pm)
 Robert Morris at Merrimack
 Maine at New Brunswick (exh, 6pm)

* 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)

**The 25th ANNUAL HOCKEY EAST
 CHAMPIONSHIP TOURNAMENT**



MARCH 20-21, 2009

**Tickets go on sale in early December
 by calling 617-931-2000 or via the internet
 at www.ticketmaster.com**

**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**