



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

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WEEKEND PREVIEW #14

NO. 12 BC AND UMASS-LOWELL SQUARE OFF ON NESN'S "HOCKEY EAST FRIDAY NIGHT" ~BC-BU rivalry re-ignited on Saturday at Agganis Arena~

WAKEFIELD, Mass. – Hockey East teams return to action this weekend, highlighted by a top-10 series between No. 7 Vermont and No. 3 Northeastern. Cross-town rivals No. 2 Boston University and No. 12 Boston College will meet on Saturday at Agganis Arena, while Providence hopes to continue building momentum from its three consecutive wins.

Vermont heads to Boston for an important two-game set at Matthews Arena, beginning Friday night. Northeastern will attempt to silence the Catamounts' offense, as the Huskies are averaging a league-best, 2.00 goals allowed per game. The feat won't be easy, though, as UVM's Viktor Stalberg (Gothenburg, Sweden) will look to extend his career-best, nine-game point streak and Captain Dean Strong (Mississauga, Ont.) just tallied his 100th career point last weekend. The Huskies have won their last five consecutive league games and seven of their last nine overall.

Comm. Ave. rivals BC and BU will meet again on Saturday at Agganis Arena. The teams last met on Dec. 6 at Conte Forum, when BU topped the Eagles 3-1. The BC will look to even the season series, which the Terriers own, 1-0-1. BC's Brock Bradford (Burnaby, B.C.) is currently tied for eighth in the nation with 1.33 points per game. The Terriers are coming off a loss to Providence, but had previously won eight straight and are leading the league with 3.65 goals per game on offense. Before hosting BC, they will travel to North Andover to take on Merrimack on Friday at Lawler Arena. The teams met earlier this year, on Oct. 17, when the Terriers defeated Merrimack 5-2. Sophomore Chris Barton (Calgary, Alb.) scored twice for the Warriors in the loss.

The Eagles will host the River Hawks of UMass-Lowell on Friday evening at Conte Forum. BC currently ranks third in the league with 3.22 goals per game, while UML is allowing an average of 2.26. The River Hawks will then host Massachusetts at Conte Forum on Saturday at Tsongas Arena. The Minutemen brought both of their games against New Hampshire to overtime last weekend, earning a tie and a loss in the series.

The Minutemen will first host Providence on Friday night at the Mullins Center. The Friars are enjoying a three-game win streak and most recently upset Boston University on the road, Tuesday. Rookie netminder Alex Beaudry (Cumberland, Ont.) has been a backstop for PC, earning wins in his first two collegiate appearances, including a 38-save showing on Tuesday. UMass' Dan Meyers (Voorhees, N.J.) is coming off a 41-save performance on Saturday at New Hampshire.

The Friars will then head north to Orono, taking on the Black Bears on Sunday afternoon. PC freshman Matt Bergland (Fairbault, Minn.) is riding a five-game point streak and leads his team with 19 points on the year. Maine's rookie netminder Scott Darling (Lemont, Ill.) ranks fourth in the league, with a 1.97 GAA. Outside of league play, Maine will also host Bentley on Friday evening. The Black Bears finish out their non-conference schedule, looking to add to their 5-2-1 mark outside of league play.

Rounding out non-league action for the weekend, No. 13 UNH will take on Dartmouth in New Hampshire's Battle for the Riverstone Cup VIII, in Manchester, N.H. The Wildcats own the 30-17-2 series advantage all-time against the Big Green, and also the 4-2-1 advantage in the Battle. UNH's Mike Sislo (Superior, Wis.) has tallied seven goals in the last three games, while sophomore James van Riemsdyk (Middletown, N.J.) is tied for third in the nation with 1.37 points per game.

RECENT RESULTS
Friday, January 9
 at No. 4 Northeastern 2, Merrimack 1 *
 No. 9 BC 3 at No. 10 Vermont 3 OT*
 No. 13 UNH 2 at UMass 2 OT *

Saturday, January 10
 at No. 2 Boston University 4, Maine 1 *
 at No. 10 Vermont 4, No. 9 Boston College 2 *
 at Providence 4, UMass-Lowell 2 *
 at No. 13 UNH 3, UMass 2 OT*
 No. 4 Northeastern 2 at Merrimack 1 *

Tuesday, January 13
 Providence 4 at No. 2 Boston University 2*

UPCOMING GAMES
Friday, January 16
 No. 7 Vermont at No. 3 Northeastern *
 No. 2 Boston University at Merrimack *
 Providence at UMass *
 UMass-Lowell at No. 12 BC * (7:30pm, NESN)
 Bentley at Maine

Saturday, January 17
 No. 12 Boston College at No. 2 Boston University *
 No. 7 Vermont at No. 3 Northeastern *
 UMass at UMass-Lowell *
 Dartmouth at No. 13 UNH
 (at Verizon Wireless Arena)

Sunday, January 18
 Providence at Maine * (2pm)

* Hockey East game
 All game times are EST, 7pm unless noted
 (Rankings in composite schedule are from USA Today/USA Hockey Magazine Poll)

2008-2009 HEA STANDINGS

Rk.	Team	GP	W	L	T	Pts	Overall	Conf. Off.	Conf. Def.
1.	Northeastern	13	10	2	1	21	14-4-2	2.92 (38)	1.92 (25)
2.	New Hampshire	14	7	4	3	17	10-6-4	3.00 (42)	3.00 (42)
3.	Vermont	12	7	3	2	16	12-4-3	2.92 (62)	2.83 (51)
4.	Boston University	12	7	4	1	15	14-4-1	3.33 (40)	2.33 (28)
5.	Boston College	13	5	5	3	13	9-6-3	3.08 (40)	2.92 (38)
6.	Maine	12	5	6	1	11	10-8-2	2.00 (24)	2.42 (29)
7.	Massachusetts	11	4	5	2	10	9-9-2	2.82 (31)	2.27 (25)
	UMass-Lowell	12	5	7	0	10	8-11-0	3.08 (37)	2.58 (31)
9.	Merrimack	13	2	9	2	6	5-11-3	2.00 (26)	2.85 (37)
10.	Providence	10	1	8	1	3	4-12-1	1.80 (18)	4.20 (42)

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2008-2009 HOCKEY EAST REGULAR-SEASON SUPERLATIVES

SHUTOUTS

Date	Goalie	Team	Opp.	Svs	Result
10/16	Carter Hutton	UML	at Michigan State	16	W, 3-0
10/17	Brad Thiessen	NU	at Providence	35	W, 4-0
10/17	Brian Foster	UNH	Rensselaer	17	W, 1-0
10/18	Scott Darling !	Maine	at Alaska-Fairbanks	24	W, 2-0
10/18	Joe Cannata !	Merrimack	at Army	44	W, 6-0
10/21	Dan Meyers	UMass	at Rensselaer	25	W, 1-0
10/24	Brad Thiessen	NU	at Maine	29	W, 6-0
11/15	Scott Darling	Maine	at Providence	24	W, 3-0
11/15	Nevin Hamilton	UML	at UMass	22	W, 2-0
11/16	Kieran Millan !	BU	Northeastern	18	W, 3-0
11/21	John Muse	BC	UMass	27	W, 2-0
12/5	Brian Foster	UNH	at UML	29	W, 2-0
12/14	Paul Dainton	UMass	vs. AIC	17	W, 4-0
1/3	Rob Madore !	Vermont	St. Lawrence	29	W, 4-0

40+ SAVES

Date	Goalie	Team	Opp.	Svs	Result
10/11	Dan Meyers	UMass	North Dakota	40	W, 3-2
10/18	Joe Cannata !	Merrimack	at Army	44	W, 1-0
11/1	Brad Thiessen	Northeastern	UNH	43	T, 2-2
1/10	Dan Meyers	UMass	at UNH	41	L, 3-2 OT

INDIVIDUAL HIGHS

Goals:	4	Mike Sislo, UNH, 12/11/08 vs. Holy Cross
Assists:	4	Mike Potacco, UML, 11/29/08 vs. RIT James vanRiemsdyk, UNH, 12/11/08 vs. Holy Cross
Points:	6	Mike Sislo, UNH, 12/11/08 vs. Holy Cross (4g,2a)
Point Streak:	10	James van Riemsdyk, UNH (11/7-12/11) 18 points (5g,14a)
In league play:	7	James van Riemsdyk, UNH (11/7-12/6) 11 points (3g,8a)
Saves:	44	Joe Cannata !, Merrimack, 10/18/08 at Army

TEAM HIGHS

Goals:	9	Massachusetts, 10/31/08 vs. Providence New Hampshire, 11/11/08 vs. Holy Cross
In league play:	9	Massachusetts, 10/31/08 vs. Providence
Shots on Goal:	45	New Hampshire, 11/1/08 at Northeastern
Consecutive Wins:	3	New Hampshire (11/12/06 to 12/8/06)
In league play:	9	New Hampshire (12/16/07 to 2/9/08)
Unbeaten Streak:	12	New Hampshire (11/3/06 to 12/8/06)
In league play:	16	New Hampshire (1/25/08 to 3/7/08)

THE ROAD TO 100 CAREER POINTS IN 2008-2009

Chris Higgins, BU	106 points (11/29 vs. SLU)
Dean Strong, UVM	100 points (1/10 vs. BC)
Cory Quirk, UMass	93 points
Brock Bradford, BC	92 points
Jerry Pollastrone, UNH	85 points
Peter Lenes, UVM	84 points
Brandon Yip, BU	81 points
Joe Vitale, NU	78 points
Ben Smith, BC	77 points

HAT TRICKS

Date	Player	Team	Opponent	Result
11/14	Brock Bradford	BC	at Merrimack	T, 5-5
11/14	Kory Falite	UML	vs. UNH	W, 8-3
11/15	Jimmy Hayes	BC	vs. UNH	W, 8-6
11/22	Greg Costa	NU	at UML	W, 4-3
11/29	Scott Campbell	UML	vs. RIT	W, 6-3
12/11	Mike Sislo	UNH	vs. Holy Cross	W, 9-4

OVERTIME GOALS

Date	Player	Team	Opponent	Result
10/31	Brock Bradford	BC	at Merrimack	W, 4-3
11/2	Justin Milo	UVM	at Dartmouth	W, 3-2
11/22	Casey Wellman	UMass	vs. BC	W, 4-3
11/25	Peter Lenes	UVM	at UMass	W, 3-2
11/30	Barry Almeida !	BC	at Dartmouth	W, 2-1
12/5	Louis Liotti	NU	vs. Maine	W, 3-2
1/10	Bobby Butler	UNH	vs. UMass	W, 3-2

THE LAST TIME

A player had four goals:

Mike Sislo, UNH, 12/11/08 vs. Holy Cross

A rookie had a hat trick:

Jimmy Hayes, BC, 11/15/08 vs. New Hampshire
In league play: Jimmy Hayes, BC, 11/15/08 vs. New Hampshire

A defenseman had a hat trick:

Marvin Degon, UMass, 1/7/06 at Merrimack

A goaltender recorded 50 saves:

Andrew Brathwaite, Merrimack, 2/2/08 vs. Providence
In league play: Andrew Brathwaite, Merrimack, 2/2/08 vs. PC (50 saves)

A team won five games in a row:

Vermont, 11/16/08 to 11/29/08, 5 in a row
In league play: Northeastern, 11/21/08 to present, 5 in a row

A team won 10 games in a row:

Boston University, 1/7/06 to 2/13/06, 11 in a row
In league play: New Hampshire, 11/12/06 to 1/19/07, 11 in a row

A team was unbeaten in 10 straight games:

New Hampshire, 1/25/08 to 3/7/08, 10-0-2, 12 games
In league play: UNH, 12/16/07 to 3/7/08, 16 games (14-0-2)

A team recorded 50 shots-on-goal:

Providence, 2/15/08 vs. New Hampshire (53 shots)
In league play: Providence, 2/15/08 vs. New Hampshire (53 shots)

* - defenseman ! - rookie * neutral site game