



MEN'S WEEKEND PREVIEW

Celebrating 25 Years of Success

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WEEKEND PREVIEW #17

MAINE AND NO. 11 UNH RENEW BORDER WAR ON NESN FRIDAY NIGHT

~Vermont hosts PC for two games; No. 1 BU/No. 3 NU meet in Beanpot Finals on Monday~

WAKEFIELD, Mass. – Kicking off the last full month of league play, Maine heads to No. 11 New Hampshire for a weekend series, headlining NESN's Hockey East Friday Night. Boston will be buzzing, as three match ups are scattered throughout the city on Friday. No. 1 Boston University will host UMass-Lowell, while No. 12 Boston College hosts Massachusetts down the street and Merrimack heads to No. 3 Northeastern across town. No. 7 Vermont hosts Providence for a two-game set in Burlington at Gutterson Fieldhouse.

The weekend series between UNH and Maine will begin at the Whittemore Center on Friday night before heading to the Verizon Wireless Arena in Manchester on Saturday. The Black Bears are coming off a 2-1 victory over UMass last Sunday, while the Wildcats enjoyed a 3-2 win over Vermont on Friday. Dave Wilson (Caledon East, Ont.) made a career-high 35 saves in Maine's 3-2 loss to UML last Friday. UNH is 8-2-0 in its last ten meetings with Maine, including five straight victories. The Wildcats have also enjoyed a 7-6-2 record at Verizon Wireless since 2001.

BU hopes to continue its six-game win-streak, while UML attempts to extend its three in a row, when the teams meet at Agganis Arena on Friday. The Terriers sit atop the league in both goals per game (3.73) and GAA (1.92), so far this season. Rookie netminder Kieran Millan (Edmonton, Alb.) was named ITECH Co-Goaltender of the Month for January, as he went undefeated in seven games and amassed an impressive .957 save percentage. The River Hawks rank third in scoring offense, tallying 3.12 goals per game in league play.

The Huskies host Merrimack on Friday, looking for the same outcome as the teams' last meetings. On Jan. 9 and 10, NU swept its weekend series with the Warriors, enjoying 2-1 victories both nights. Northeastern is coming off a convincing 6-1 victory over BC in the first round of Beanpot play. In the victory, ITECH Co-Goaltender of the Month Brad Thiessen (Aldergrove, B.C.) stopped 45 shots. NU offense is averaging 3.27 goals per game, while Ryan Ginand (Milford, Mass.) leads the league in goals scored, with 18. Merrimack will then look to improve on its 3-2-1 non-league record, as the Warriors host Brown on Saturday. The only other HE team Brown has taken on this season was Providence, when the Friars earned a 4-3 victory on Dec. 9, claiming the coveted Mayor's Cup. Hockey East schools have enjoyed an impressive 44-23-5 record in non-conference play this year.

Vermont hosts the Friars in Burlington for a weekend series, beginning Friday evening. PC is coming off a 5-3 win over Merrimack and also tied BC 2-2 last weekend. The Catamounts are unbeaten in three of their last four. Viktor Stålberg (Gothenburg, Sweden) was named Reebok Player of the Month for his 12 points in nine games in January. Providence has certainly turned its season around, enjoying a 5-2-2 record in its last nine games, after starting the season 2-12-1.

UMass heads to Conte Forum on Friday night for a contest against BC. The teams have split their season series, having played two games on Nov. 21 and 22, resulting in a 2-0 shutout for BC and 4-3 overtime victory for UMass. The Eagles hope to keep their offense alive, as they have tallied 13 goals in their last four games. UMass is led by sophomore James Marcou (King Park, N.Y.), who is second in the league with 31 points on the year, including ten assists in his last seven games. Pro Ambitions Rookie of the Month Casey Wellman's (Brentwood, Calif.) 24 points rank second on the team in offense and lead all league rookies. UMass will go on to host UML on Saturday at the Mullins Center.

2008-2009 HEA STANDINGS

Rk.	Team	GP	W	L	T	Pts	Overall	Conf. Off.	Conf. Def.
1.	Northeastern	18	13	4	1	27	18-6-2	3.11 (56)	2.22 (40)
2.	Boston University	18	12	5	1	25	20-5-1	3.44 (62)	2.06 (37)
3.	Vermont	17	9	5	3	21	14-6-4	2.65 (45)	2.59 (44)
4.	New Hampshire	17	8	6	3	19	12-8-4	2.71 (46)	3.06 (52)
5.	UMass-Lowell	17	9	8	0	18	12-12-0	3.12 (53)	2.59 (44)
	Boston College	18	7	7	4	18	11-9-4	3.17 (57)	2.94 (53)
7.	Massachusetts	17	6	8	3	15	11-12-3	2.82 (48)	2.47 (42)
8.	Maine	17	6	9	2	14	11-12-3	2.00 (34)	2.65 (45)
9.	Providence	17	4	10	3	11	7-14-3	2.35 (40)	3.76 (64)
10.	Merrimack	18	2	14	2	6	5-16-3	1.94 (35)	3.06 (55)

RECENT RESULTS

Friday, January 30

No. 2 Boston University 3 at Merrimack 1 *
 at UMass 6, No. 3 Northeastern 4 *
 UMass-Lowell 3 at Maine 2 *
 at No. 14 UNH 3, No. 6 Vermont 2 *
 No. 11 BC 2 at Providence 2 OT *

Saturday, January 31

at Providence 5, Merrimack 3 *

Sunday, February 1

at Maine 2, UMass 1 *

Monday, February 2

Beanpot Tournament (at TD Banknorth Garden)
 No. 2 Boston University 4 vs. Harvard 3
 No. 3 Northeastern 6 vs. No. 11 BC 1

UPCOMING GAMES

Friday, February 6

Maine at No. 11 UNH * (7:30, NESN)
 Providence at No. 7 Vermont *
 UMass at No. 12 Boston College *
 UMass-Lowell at No. 1 Boston University *
 Merrimack at No. 3 Northeastern *

Saturday, February 7

Maine at No. 11 UNH * (at Verizon Wireless Arena)
 Providence at No. 7 Vermont *
 UMass-Lowell at UMass *
 Brown at Merrimack

* Hockey East game

All game times are EST, 7pm unless noted

(Rankings in composite schedule are from USA Today/USA Hockey Magazine Poll)

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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, 1-0
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
1/23	Kieran Millan !	BU	UNH	22	W, 5-0

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
1/16	Alex Beaudry !	PC	at UMass	42	W, 5-4
1/17	John Muse	BC	at BU	41	L, 5-2
1/18	Alex Beaudry !	Providence	at Maine	40	T, 2-2
2/2	Brad Thiessen	NU	vs. BC	45	W, 6-1

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 James Marcou, UMass, 1/30/09 vs. Northeastern
Points:	6	Mike Sislo, UNH, 12/11/08 vs. Holy Cross (4g, 2a)
Point Streak:	11	Viktor Stalberg, UVM (11/21/08-1/17/09) 16 points (8g, 8a)
In League Play:	7	Viktor Stalberg, UVM (11/21/08-1/17/09) 11 points (6g, 5a)
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:	46	Providence, 1/16/08 at Massachusetts Boston U., 1/17/09 vs. Boston College Boston College, 2/2/09 vs. 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	111 points (11/29 vs. SLU)
Dean Strong, UVM	101 points (1/10 vs. BC)
Brock Bradford, BC	97 points
Cory Quirk, UMass	95 points
Jerry Pollastrone, UNH	87 points
Joe Vitale, NU	86 points
Peter Lenes, UVM	85 points
Brandon Yip, BU	85 points
Ben Smith, BC	80 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
1/24	Ryan Ginand	NU	vs. Providence	W, 6-2

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
1/16	Nick Schaus	UML	at BC	W, 4-3

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:

Boston University, 1/16/09 to present, 6 in a row
In league play: Boston University, 1/16/09 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