



MEN'S WEEKEND PREVIEW

Celebrating 25 Years of Success

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WEEKEND PREVIEW #20

NO. 2 BOSTON U. AND UMASS SQUARE OFF ON NESN FRIDAY NIGHT

~No. 4 NU plays two vs. UML; No. 8 Vermont heads to Maine; No. 10 UNH faces Merrimack; BC/PC play two~

WAKEFIELD, Mass. – In the second to last weekend of regular season play, Hockey East teams look firm up their place in the logjammed league standings. No. 2 Boston University and Massachusetts will face off in a home and home series, with Friday's tilt at the Mullins Center featured on NESN's Hockey East Friday Night. No. 10 New Hampshire battles in a home and home series with Merrimack, the Saturday game will be aired live on NESN. No. 8 Vermont heads to Maine for a pair, while No. 4 Northeastern and UMass-Lowell will also battle in a home and home, as will Providence and Boston College.

The Terriers look to continue their 13-game unbeaten streak this weekend, taking on UMass in a home and home series. BU is coming off a pair of ties to Northeastern last weekend, while the Minutemen swept Maine at home. The teams last met on Nov. 14, when UMass upended BU 5-1, behind Alex Berry's (Danvers, Mass.) two-goal night. The Terriers are scoring a league-best 3.72 goals per game, while the Minutemen are only allowing 2.44. This series will pit the league's top two scorers against each other, in BU's Colin Wilson (Winnipeg, Man.) and Reebok Player of the Week James Marcou (King Park, N.Y.).

UNH will first head to Merrimack on Friday and then host the Warriors Saturday. Merrimack took three points from Providence last weekend, while the Wildcats swept BC. Pure Hockey Defensive Player of the Week Joe Cannata (Wakefield, Mass.), who stopped 70 of 72 shots on the weekend, will be up against the league's fourth best scorer in James van Riemsdyk (Middletown, N.J.), who has tallied 34 points so far this year. The teams last met on Nov. 29, when the Warriors came away with a 4-3 win at the Whittemore Center. Jesse Todd (Calgary, Alb.) netted the game winner for Merrimack.

Northeastern and UMass-Lowell begin their home and home series at Matthews Arena on Friday night. The River Hawks took three points from Vermont last weekend, proving they can hold their own against nationally ranked teams. The teams last met on Nov. 22, when the Huskies earned a 4-3 victory. Netminder Brad Thiessen (Aldergrove, B.C.) has amassed a .929 save percentage this season, ranking him second in the league. UML's Maury Edwards (Rocky Rapids, Alb.) leads all blue liners with 24 points.

Vermont heads to Orono for a pair of games against the Black Bears this weekend. The teams last met on Nov. 29, when the Catamounts were victorious, 3-2. UVM's Josh Burrows (Prairie Grove, Ill.) and Maine's Brian Flynn (Lynnfield, Mass.) each notched two points in the game. Maine was swept by UMass last weekend, while Vermont was shut out for the first time all season on Saturday, by UMass-Lowell. The Catamounts hope to jumpstart their offense again, led by junior Viktor Stalberg (Gothenburg, Sweden), who leads the league in goals with 20.

Providence and BC will play home and home this weekend, hoping for a more decisive outcome than their last meeting, on Jan. 30, which resulted in a 2-2 tie. The Eagles were swept by UNH last weekend, while Providence took one point from Merrimack. The Eagles are led offensively senior captain Brock Bradford (Burnaby, B.C.), who has amassed 33 points in 30 games, while the Friars look to rookie Matt Bergland (Fairbault, Minn.) who leads the team with 24 points.

RECENT RESULTS
Friday, February 20
 No. 5 Northeastern 2 at No. 1 Boston U. 2 OT*
 at No. 12 UNH 3, Boston College 2*
 at UMass 4, Maine 3 OT*
 UMass-Lowell 3 at No. 6 Vermont 3 OT*

Saturday, February 21
 UMass-Lowell 1 at No. 6 Vermont 0*
 at UMass 4, Maine 3*
 No. 1 Boston University 1 at No. 5 Northeastern 1 OT*
 No. 12 UNH 4 at Boston College 2*
 Providence 1 at Merrimack 1 OT*

Sunday, February 22
 Merrimack 5 at Providence 1*

UPCOMING GAMES
Friday, February 27
 No. 2 Boston U. at UMass* (7:30pm, NESN)
 No. 10 UNH at Merrimack*
 No. 8 Vermont at Maine*
 UMass-Lowell at No. 4 Northeastern*
 Providence at Boston College*

Saturday, February 28
 UMass at No. 2 Boston U.* (8pm)
 Merrimack at No. 10 UNH* (7:30pm, NESN)
 No. 8 Vermont at Maine* (WABI-TV)
 No. 4 Northeastern at UMass-Lowell*
 Boston College at Providence* (COX)

* 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*	23	15	5	3	33	20-8-4	3.00 (69)	2.30 (53)
2.	Boston University*	23	14	5	4	32	23-5-4	3.43 (79)	2.04 (47)
3.	New Hampshire*	23	12	7	4	28	16-9-5	2.83 (65)	2.78 (64)
	Vermont*	23	12	7	4	28	17-8-5	2.70 (62)	2.43 (56)
5.	UMass-Lowell*	23	12	9	2	26	15-13-2	3.13 (72)	2.48 (57)
6.	Boston College	23	8	10	5	21	13-12-5	2.91 (67)	3.04 (70)
	Massachusetts	23	9	11	3	21	14-15-3	2.78 (64)	2.52 (58)
8.	Maine	23	7	13	3	17	12-16-4	2.00 (46)	2.87 (66)
9.	Providence	23	4	14	5	13	7-18-5	2.17 (50)	3.74 (86)
10.	Merrimack	23	4	16	3	11	8-18-4	2.17 (50)	2.91 (67)

* clinched playoff berth

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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
2/6	John Muse	BC	UMass	24	W, 2-0
2/7	Scott Darling !	Maine	at UNH	31	W, 1-0
2/7	Joe Cannata !	Merrimack	Brown	18	W, 2-0
2/13	Nevin Hamilton	UML	BC	27	W, 6-0
2/21	Carter Hutton	UML	at Vermont	21	W, 1-0

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:	9	Boston University (1/16/09 to 2/13/09)
In league play:	9	New Hampshire (12/16/07 to 2/9/08) Boston University (1/16/09 to present)
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	116 points (11/29 vs. SLU)
Dean Strong, UVM	104 points (1/10 vs. BC)
Brock Bradford, BC	101 points (2/14 vs. UML)
Cory Quirk, UMass	97 points
Brandon Yip, BU	93 points
Jerry Pollastrone, UNH	91 points
Joe Vitale, NU	90 points
Peter Lenos, UVM	89 points
Jason Lawrence	83 points
Ben Smith, BC	83 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
2/13	Colin Wilson	BU	at Maine	W, 7-2

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 Lenos	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
2/20	Brian Keane	UMass	Maine	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 2/13/09, 9 in a row
In league play: Boston University, 1/16/09 to 2/13/09, 7 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:

Boston University (1/16/09 to present), 12 games (9-0-3)
In league play: Boston U. (1/16/09 to present), 10 games (7-0-3)

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