



MEN'S WEEKEND PREVIEW

Celebrating 25 Years of Success

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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 #21

BC AND NO. 4 NU FACEOFF IN REGULAR SEASON NESN FINALE

~No. 9 UNH heads to No. 7 UVM; No. 1 BU plays PC; Maine plays two at UML; UMass faces Merrimack~

WAKEFIELD, Mass. – In the final weekend of Hockey East play, teams are still looking to cement their place in the standings for the upcoming Hockey East Tournament. Boston College will play a home and home series with No. 4 Northeastern, while No. 1 Boston University does the same with Providence. In an exciting top-10 matchup, No. 9 New Hampshire heads to Gutterson Fieldhouse to square off against No. 7 Vermont. Maine heads south to UMass-Lowell for a two-game set, while Massachusetts and Merrimack play in a home and home series.

Northeastern is riding a four-game unbeaten streak, while the Eagles swept Providence last weekend. The first game of the series will be featured as NESN's Hockey East Friday Night match up. The teams last met in the first round of the Beanpot, when the Huskies downed BC 6-1 behind a 45-save performance by Brad Thiessen (Aldergrove, B.C.). Teammate Chris Donovan (Fairfax Station, Va.) tallied for points in the victory. Thiessen's .932 save percentage currently ranks atop Hockey East. The Huskies and Terriers both remain in the hunt for the regular-season title.

BU heads to Schneider Arena on Friday night before the teams meet again for a Sunday matinee in Boston. BU is riding a nation-best 14-game unbeaten streak, but the Terriers' last loss was at the hands of the Friars in a 4-2 game on Jan. 13. BU sophomore Nick Bonino (Unionville, Conn.) was named Reebok Player of the Month for notching 14 points in nine undefeated games in February. He currently ranks third in the league with 37 points. PC's Matt Bergland (Fairbault, Minn.) is tied for second among league rookies, with 26 points.

UNH and Vermont are currently tied for third in league standings, so this weekend's two-game set at Gutterson Fieldhouse could have a tremendous impact on their placement in the tournament. The Wildcats are riding a six-game unbeaten streak, while the Catamounts are coming off a weekend sweep at Maine. The teams last met on Jan. 30, when UNH topped UVM 3-2, thanks to some late-game heroics by Blake Kessel (Verona, Wisc.), by way of a tie-breaking power play goal with just over two minutes remaining in regulation. The series will be a showdown between goalies between Pro Ambitions Rookie of the Month Rob Madore (Venetia, Pa.) and ITECH Goaltender of the Month Brian Foster (Pembroke, N.H.). Offensively, UNH's James van Riemsdyk (Middletown, N.J.) and UVM's Viktor Stalberg (Gothenburg, Sweden) lead their teams with 35 and 36 points, respectively, tied for fourth and sixth in the league.

Maine heads to Tsongas Arena for a pair against the River Hawks beginning Friday night. UML most recently dropped a pair of close games to Northeastern, while the Black Bears were swept by Vermont at home. UML's Kory Falite (Billerica, Mass.) is tied for fourth in the league with six power play goals on the year. The teams last met on Jan. 30, when UML came away with a 3-2 victory. Maine netminder Dave Wilson (Caledon East, Ont.) stopped 35 shots in the losing effort.

Massachusetts was enjoying a three-game win-streak before they dropped a pair to BU last weekend, while the Warriors are coming off a 1-0 loss to UNH on Saturday. The teams last met on Nov. 8, when Merrimack defeated the Minutemen 3-1. Andrew Braithwaite (Kingston, Ont.) had a 34-save performance in the victory. UMass' James Marcou (King Park, N.Y.) currently ranks second in the league with 41 points.

RECENT RESULTS
Friday, February 27
 No. 2 Boston U. 6 at UMass 3 *
 No. 10 UNH 4 at Merrimack 3 *
 No. 8 Vermont 3 at Maine 2 *
 at No. 4 Northeastern 3, UMass-Lowell 2 *
 at Boston College 5, Providence 1 *

Saturday, February 28
 at No. 2 Boston U. 7, UMass 2 *
 at No. 10 UNH 1, Merrimack 0 *
 No. 8 Vermont 2 at Maine 1 *
 No. 4 Northeastern 3 at UMass-Lowell 1 *
 Boston College 4 at Providence 3 OT *

UPCOMING GAMES
Friday, March 6
 No. 9 UNH at No. 7 Vermont *
 Maine at UMass-Lowell * (7:30)
 Boston College at No. 4 Northeastern * (7:30pm, NESN)
 UMass at Merrimack *
 No. 1 Boston University at Providence *

Saturday, March 7
 No. 9 UNH at No. 7 Vermont *
 Maine at UMass-Lowell *
 No. 4 Northeastern at Boston College *
 Merrimack at UMass *

Sunday, March 8
 Providence at No. 1 Boston University * (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 * !	25	17	5	3	37	22-8-4	3.00 (75)	2.16 (54)
2.	Boston University * !	25	16	5	4	36	25-5-4	3.68 (92)	2.08 (52)
3.	New Hampshire * !	25	14	7	4	32	18-9-5	2.80 (70)	2.68 (67)
	Vermont * !	25	14	7	4	32	19-8-5	2.68 (67)	2.36 (59)
5.	UMass-Lowell *	25	12	11	2	26	15-15-2	2.92 (73)	2.52 (63)
6.	Boston College *	25	10	10	5	25	15-12-5	3.04 (76)	2.96 (74)
7.	Massachusetts *	25	9	13	3	21	14-17-3	2.76 (69)	2.84 (71)
8.	Maine *	25	7	15	3	17	12-19-4	1.96 (49)	2.84 (71)
9.	Providence	25	4	16	5	13	7-20-5	2.16 (54)	3.80 (95)
10.	Merrimack	25	4	18	3	11	8-20-4	2.12 (53)	2.88 (72)

* clinched playoff berth; ! clinched home ice in quarterfinal round

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MARCH 20-21, 2009



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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
2/27	Brad Thiessen	NU	vs. UML	24	W, 3-0
2/28	Brian Foster	UNH	vs. MC	26	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:	14	Boston University (1/16/09 to present)
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	120 points (11/29 vs. SLU)
Dean Strong, UVM	105 points (1/10 vs. BC)
Brock Bradford, BC	104 points (2/14 vs. UML)
Cory Quirk, UMass	98 points
Brandon Yip, BU	96 points
Jerry Pollastrone, UNH	92 points
Joe Vitale, NU	91 points
Peter Lenes, UVM	89 points
Jason Lawrence, BU	88 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
2/27	Jason Lawrence	BU	at UMass	W, 6-3

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
2/20	Brian Keane	UMass	Maine	W, 4-3
2/28	Benn Ferriero	BC	at PC	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:

A team won five games in a row
New Hampshire, 2/14/09 to present, 5 games in a row
In League Play: New Hampshire, 2/14/09 to present, 5 games

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, 14 games (11-0-3)
In league play: Boston U. (1/16/09 to present, 12 games (9-0-3))

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