



MEN'S WEEKEND PREVIEW

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WEEKEND PREVIEW #24

Celebrating 25 Years of Success

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VERMONT OPENS REGIONAL PLAY FRIDAY NIGHT IN BRIDGEPORT ~Boston U, New Hampshire, Northeastern begin play Saturday~

WAKEFIELD, Mass. – Four Hockey East schools begin NCAA Regional play this weekend, beginning with No. 3 seed Vermont taking on No. 2 seed Yale in the East Regional in Bridgeport, Conn. on Friday. Saturday marks the start of the Northeast Regional in Manchester, N.H., where No. 1 overall seed Boston University is paired against No. 4 seed Ohio State and host school, No. 3 seed New Hampshire will play No. 2 seed North Dakota. Finally, in Grand Rapids' Midwest Regional, No. 2 seed Northeastern plays No. 3 seed Cornell Saturday afternoon.

Hockey East, which has been averaging 3.12 NCAA bids annually during its 25 year history, boasts four teams in the quest for the National Championship this year. The last HEA team to win the national title was last year's squad from Boston College.

BU makes its 16th appearance in the NCAA tournament since its induction into Hockey East, last qualifying for the tournament in 2007. The Terriers are 2-0 lifetime against The Ohio State University, most recently on December 27, 1998 in the Mariucci Classic. BU most recently earned its seventh Hockey East Tournament title after posting a 1-0 victory over UMass-Lowell in Saturday's championship game, while rookie netminder Kieran Millan (Edmonton, Alb.) earned the 32-save shutout en route to being named MVP of the tournament. BU looks to improve on its perfect 9-0-0 non-conference record earned this year, as it enters the national tournament. The Terriers are the 12th Hockey East team in league history to enter the NCAA Tournament with 30+ wins.

Hosting the Manchester regional, the Wildcats are making their 15th appearance in the NCAA tournament since 1985, their eighth consecutive berth. UNH faces a North Dakota team it has never before seen in the NCAA tournament, at 2pm on Saturday. The Wildcats have gone 3-10-2 against UND in program history, while senior Jerry Pollastrone (Revere, Mass.) leads UNH with two goals in four games against the Fighting Sioux. The teams last met on Dec. 29, 2007, when UNH skated away with a 7-4 victory. Wildcat James van Riemsdyk (Middletown, N.J.) is averaging 1.15 points per game, ranked 16th nationally, while netminder Brian Foster (Pembroke, N.H.) has amassed a 2.63 GAA in 33 games this season.

Vermont's bid to the East Regional at Bridgeport Arena at Harbor Yard marks the fourth trip to the NCAA tournament in school history, the first as a member of Hockey East. The Catamounts last played in the tournament in 1997, when they suffered a first-round loss to Denver. UVM takes on Yale Friday evening at 6:30 pm at the Bridgeport Arena at Harvard Yard. The Bulldogs own the slight 27-24-4 advantage in the all-time series between the schools, but the programs have never met in the NCAA tournament. The Catamounts look to improve on their 5-3-1 non-league mark, entering the tournament. UVM will look to junior Viktor Stålberg (Gothenburg, Sweden), the team leader in goals (23) and points (43), who ranks 13th in the nation with 1.19 points per game.

Northeastern heads west to Van Andel Arena in Grand Rapids, Mich. for its fourth ever NCAA Tournament appearance, the first since 1994. The Huskies will take on the Cornell Big Red on Saturday, a team they have only played five times in the 25-year history of Hockey East. The teams last met on Dec. 27, 2005, when Cornell skated away with a 3-0 victory during Bob Kullen/CCM Hockey East Coach of the Year Greg Cronin's first season behind the Northeastern bench. The Huskies will look for consistency from Reebok/Hockey East Player of the Year, Brad Thiessen (Aldergrove, B.C.). The NU netminder has earned a .932 save percentage and 2.09 GAA while playing every minute between the pipes for the Huskies.

RECENT RESULTS
Friday, March 20
 Hockey East Semifinals
 at the TD Banknorth Garden
 No. 5 UMass-Lowell 3 vs. No. 2 Northeastern 2 OT
 No. 1 Boston U. 3 vs. No. 6 Boston College 2

Saturday, March 21
 Hockey East Championship Game
 at the TD Banknorth Garden
 No. 1 Boston U. 1 vs. UMass-Lowell 0

UPCOMING GAMES
Friday, March 27
East Regional Semifinals
Bridgeport Arena at Harbor Yard
(Bridgeport, Conn.)
 No. 3 Vermont vs. No. 2 Yale (6:30, ESPN2)

Saturday, March 28
Northeast Regional Semifinals
Verizon Wireless Arena
(Manchester, N.H.)
 No. 3 UNH vs. No. 2 North Dakota (2pm, ESPN2)
 No. 1 Boston U. vs. No. 4 Ohio St. (5:30, ESPN2)

Midwest Regional Semifinals
Van Andel Arena
(Grand Rapids, Mich.)
 No. 2 Northeastern vs. No. 3 Cornell (4pm, ESPN2)

East Regional Finals
 (TBA, 6:30pm, ESPN2)

Sunday, March 29
Northeast Regional Finals
 (TBA, 5:30pm, ESPN2)

Midwest Regional Finals
 (TBA, 8pm, ESPN2)

2008-2009 HEA STANDINGS

Rk.	Team	GP	W	L	T	Pts	Overall	Conf. Off.	Conf. Def.
1.	Boston University * !	27	18	5	4	40	31-6-4	3.81 (103)	2.00 (54)
2.	Northeastern * !	27	18	6	3	39	25-11-4	2.89 (78)	2.19 (59)
3.	New Hampshire * !	27	15	8	4	34	19-12-5	2.96 (80)	2.89 (78)
	Vermont * !	27	15	8	4	34	20-11-5	2.89 (78)	2.56 (69)
5.	UMass-Lowell *	27	14	11	2	30	20-16-2	3.11 (84)	2.44 (66)
6.	Boston College *	27	11	11	5	27	18-14-5	3.00 (81)	2.85 (77)
7.	Massachusetts *	27	10	14	3	23	16-20-3	2.85 (75)	2.78 (75)
8.	Maine *	27	7	16	4	17	13-22-4	1.93 (52)	3.04 (82)
9.	Merrimack	27	5	19	3	13	9-21-4	2.11 (57)	2.96 (80)
	Providence	27	4	18	5	13	7-22-5	2.07 (56)	3.93 (106)

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

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
3/7	Carter Hutton	UML	vs. Maine	21	W, 6-0
3/8	Grant Rollheiser !	BU	vs. PC	16	W, 3-0
3/14	John Muse	BC	at UNH	31	W, 1-0
3/21	Kieran Millan !	BU	UML	32	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
3/20	Brad Thiessen	NU	UML	41	L, 3-2

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:	45	Brad Thiessen, Northeastern, 2/2/09 vs. BC (BP)

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:	17	Boston University (1/16/09 to 3/13/09) 14-0-3
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	125 points (11/29 vs. SLU)
Brock Bradford, BC	110 points (2/14 vs. UML)
Dean Strong, UVM	107 points (1/10 vs. BC)
Brandon Yip, BU	104 points (3/6 at PC)
Cory Quirk, UMass	103 points (3/7 vs. MC)
Jerry Pollastrone, UNH	94
Joe Vitale, NU	94
Jason Lawrence, BU	92
Peter Lenos, UVM	91

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
3/6	Brian Roloff	UVM	vs. UNH	W, 6-4
3/6	Brandon Yip	BU	at PC	W, 8-2

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
2/28	Benn Ferriero	BC	at PC	W, 4-3
3/6	Karl Stollery	MC	vs. UMass	W, 3-2
3/6	Steve Quailer	NU	vs. BC	W, 2-1
3/7	Greg Collins	UNH	at Vermont	W, 6-5
3/13	Maury Edwards	UML	at Vermont	W, 4-3
3/15	Alex Tuckerman	NU	vs. UMass	W, 3-2
3/20	Chris Auger	UML	NU	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:

A team won five games in a row
New Hampshire, 2/14/09 to 2/28/09
In League Play: New Hampshire, 2/14/09 to 2/28/09

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 3/13/09, 17 games (14-0-3)
In league play: Boston U. (1/16/09 to 3/8/09, 14 games (11-0-3))

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