

For Immediate Release: Thursday, October 8, 2009

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 #1

UMASS OPENS SEASON SCHEDULE VS. RPI THURSDAY; VERMONT HEADS TO DENVER ~No. 10 UML plays in Ice Breaker; NU travels to CC; Merrimack to North Dakota~

WAKEFIELD, Mass. – Eight Hockey East teams officially take the ice for their regular season openers this weekend, which includes three series at WCHA opponents.

The Massachusetts Minutemen will open their season on Thursday night at the Mullins Center in Amherst against Rensselaer. The Minutemen squared off with Rensselaer last October 21 in Troy, N.Y., with UMass blanking the Engineers 6-0. This game is one of two Thursday night games that mark the official start of the NCAA Hockey season.

No. 15 Vermont will travel west to Colorado for a two-game set with No. 2 Denver, beginning on Friday night at Magness Arena. The Catamounts are the only Hockey East team to return all of their defensemen and goalies from 2008-09.

No. 10 UMass-Lowell will compete in the 13th annual Ice Breaker Tournament at Nebraska-Omaha's Quest Center, beginning on Friday night vs. St. Lawrence. Seven Hockey East teams have won the tournament in its 12-year history. It marks the first time the River Hawks have participated in the tournament.

Northeastern will also make a trip to Colorado for a series at Colorado College. The Huskies are coming off their first 25-win campaign in 27 years (1981-82). The Huskies welcome back five 20-point scorers in junior Wade MacLeod (Coquitlam, B.C.), sophomore Steve Quailer (Arvada, Col.), sophomore Alex Tuckerman (Orleans, Mass.), junior Steve Silva (Tyngsboro, Mass.) and Tyler McNeely (Burnaby, B.C.). They are one of three Hockey East teams to earn that distinction.

New Hampshire will open at Rensselaer on Saturday night at Houston Fieldhouse. The Wildcats posted a 5-2-1 record in non-conference play last season, with a 2-1 record against the ECAC.

Maine will travel to Union for a pair of games in Schenectady, beginning on Friday. The Black Bears won both meetings last year by a combined score of 8-2, back on Dec. 12 and 13, 2008.

Providence College will host Atlantic Hockey foe Holy Cross on Saturday at Schneider Arena beginning its 59th season of Friars hockey. The Friars will look to senior co-captains John Cavanagh (Warwick, R.I.) and Mark Fayne (Sagamore Beach, Mass.) to lead them to their first season opening win since 2004. The Friars will also host New Brunswick for an exhibition game on Friday night.

The Merrimack Warriors will travel cross country to open their season in a two games series against No. 8 North Dakota Friday and Saturday night. It marks the first all-time meeting between the two schools. Hockey East schools owned a 7-4-2 record vs. WCHA opponents in the 08-09 season.

The defending National Champion Boston University Terriers will also face off against the U.S Under-18 Team Saturday night at Agganis Arena. The Terriers will raise their 2009 National Championship banner in a special pre-game ceremony on Friday night, while the No. 12 Boston College Eagles will play the U.S. Under-18 Team on Friday night at Conte Forum.

		ົດທີ່	0 0	പ	7.0.	ПГ Л	0777	ההתוח	
	ZU	JUE	<u>-Z</u>			<u>i G</u> ul	SIAD	DINGS	
Rk.	Team	GP	W	L	Т	Pts	Overall	Conf. Off.	Conf. Def.
1.	Boston College	0	0	0	0	0	0-0-0	0.00 (0)	0.00 (0)
	Boston University	0	0	0	0	0	0-0-0	0.00 (0)	0.00 (0)
	Maine	0	0	0	0	0	0-0-0	0.00 (0)	0.00 (0)
	Massachusetts	0	0	0	0	0	0-0-0	0.00 (0)	0.00 (0)
	UMass-Lowell	0	0	0	0	0	0-0-0	0.00 (0)	0.00 (0)
	Merrimack	0	0	0	0	0	0-0-0	0.00 (0)	0.00 (0)
	New Hampshire	0	0	0	0	0	0-0-0	0.00 (0)	0.00 (0)
	Northeastern	0	0	0	0	0	0-0-0	0.00 (0)	0.00 (0)
	Providence	0	0	0	0	0	0-0-0	0.00 (0)	0.00 (0)
	Vermont	0	0	0	0	0	0-0-0	0.00 (0)	0.00 (0)

HOCKEY EAST WEEKLY NOTES: Four Hockey East student-athletes were among the 20 finalists named for the Lowe's Senior Class Award, which was announced on Oct. 7. The list includes: Andrew Braithwaite (Merrimack), Barry Goers (UMass-Lowell), Martin Nolet and Brett Watson (UMass)...UMass' James Marcou returns as Hockey East active leading scorer in league play with 60 points and he also was the first UMass player in school history to lead the conference in scoring in 08-09 (35 pts)...UMass-Lowell returns a league-high 25 letterwinners from last year's team, which includes 84% of its offensive output from 08-09...46 Hockey East alums have made 09-10 NHL opening rosters, including six athletes who competed in the league in the 08-09 season.

MEN'S

RECENT RESULTS Saturday, October 3 at New Hampshire 8, Acadia 1 at Northeastern 7, St. Thomas 5 St. Francis Xavier 2 at No. 3 Boston U. 2 OT

New Brunswick 3 at Massachusetts 2

Sunday, October 4 at No. 10 UMass-Lowell 3, Acadia 0 New Brunswick 3 at No. 15 Vermont 2 OT at No. 12 Boston College 4, St. Francis Xavier 1

> **UPCOMING GAMES** Thursday, October 8

Rensselaer at Massachusetts

Friday, October 9 Maine at Union

No. 15 Vermont at No. 2 Denver (9:30pm, FSRM) Merrimack at No. 8 North Dakota (8pm, FCS) Northeastern at Colorado College (9pm) IceBreaker at Qwest Center (at Omaha, Neb.) No. 10 UMass-Lowell vs. St. Lawrence (5pm) U.S. Under-18 Team at No. 12 Boston College (Exh.) New Brunswick at Providence (Exh.)

Saturday, October 10

IceBreaker at Owest Center (at Omaha, Neb.) No. 10 UMass-Lowell vs. Army/UNO (5/8pm) Merrimack at No. 8 North Dakota (8pm, FCS) UNH at Rensselaer No. 15 Vermont at No. 2 Denver (9pm) Maine at Union

Northeastern at Colorado College (9:30pm) Holy Cross at Providence (COX-TV) U.S. Under-18 Team at No. 3 Boston U. (Exh.)

> * denotes Hockey East Game All Games are EST

The 26th ANNUAL HOCKEY EAST **CHAMPIONSHIP TOURNAMENT** MARCH 19-20, 2010



Tickets go onsale the first Saturday in December at the TD Garden Box Office or by calling 617-931-2000 or at www.ticketmaster.com

BOSTON COLLEGE • BOSTON UNIVERSITY • UNIVERSITY of MAINE • UNIVERSITY of MASSACHUSETTS • UMASS-LOWELL MERRIMACK COLLEGE • UNIVERSITY of NEW HAMPSHIRE • NORTHEASTERN UNIVERSITY • PROVIDENCE COLLEGE • UNIVERSITY of VERMONT