



MEN'S PREVIEW

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WEEKEND PREVIEW #11

MAINE TRAVELS SOUTH TO COMPETE IN FLORIDA COLLEGE CLASSIC ~Massachusetts makes short trip to Storrs for UConn Toyota Classic~

WAKEFIELD, Mass. – Maine and Massachusetts will resume the Hockey East schedule on Tuesday and Wednesday at holiday tournaments after a nine-day break. The Minutemen will compete at the UConn Toyota Classic at Freitas Ice Forum in Storrs, Conn., while Maine will play at Germain Arena in Estero, Fla. for the Florida College Classic.

The Black Bears will have had a 16 day break before facing Princeton in the first game of the Florida College Classic. Maine will either face No. 3 Colorado College or No. 4 Cornell in the second day of the tournament. This will mark the 10th straight season the Black Bears will play in Florida over the semester break. The Tournament is hosted by the Florida Everblades, a member of the ECHL. Maine has won the tournament three times, in 2000, 2002 and 2006. The Black Bears have played in the championship game five years.

Maine has a 9-7-2 record in the Tournament. The Black Bears have won a league-high five games headed into the Florida Tournament and they have outscored their opponents, 24 to 5 during the win streak. Sophomore goalie Scott Darling (Lemont, Ill.) has been the league's hottest goalie as of late with a .954 save percentage in five straight victories.

The Black Bears team defense ranks fifth in the league, allowing 2.94 goals per game. Maine has 30 power play goals which is currently tops in the nation. The Black Bears are scoring at a 28.8 percent clip on the power play, which ranks second in the nation. Three of the nation's top power plays will be on display in the Florida College Classic.

The Minutemen will face Union on Tuesday afternoon (4pm) before facing either host UConn or Bentley on Wednesday. UMass last took part in the Toyota Classic on Dec. 29-30, 2005 as UMass fell to Bowling Green (2-3) before defeating Army (2-1) in the consolation game. UMass is 5-2-1 all-time against Union after the Minutemen won the last meeting 5-2 on Nov. 25, 2007 in Amherst. Will Ortiz scored a pair of goals and Paul Dainton made 33 saves as UMass took a 4-1 win over Merrimack on Dec. 12 ending a three-game losing skid.

UMass' 4-1 win over Merrimack on Dec. 12 gave the Minutemen their 10th win of the season and tied the program's fastest date to reach double-digits in the win column. The quickest calendar date which UMass reached double-digit wins was on Dec. 12 of the 2002-03 season, the same date UMass reach 10 this year, just seven seasons later.

The Minutemen own a 4-1-0 record in non-conference play this year, including a 2-1-0 record vs. ECAC opponents with wins over Rensselaer and Yale.

Five Hockey East student-athletes rank in the Top-10 nationally in scoring, including UMass' James Marcou (Kings Park, N.Y.), who ranks first and Casey Wellman (Brentwood, Calif.), who ranks tied for fifth (1.47), along with Maine's Gustav Nyquist (Malmo, Sweden). Merrimack's Stephane Da Costa (Paris, France) ranks seventh in the nation at 1.46, while UNH's Bobby Butler (Marlboro, Mass.) is tied for 10th at 1.41 points per game.

2009-2010 HEA STANDINGS

| Rk. | Team | GP | W | L | T | Pts | Overall | Conf. Off. | Conf. Def. |
|-----|-------------------|----|---|---|---|-----|---------|------------|------------|
| 1. | New Hampshire | 12 | 8 | 2 | 2 | 18 | 8-6-3 | 3.83 (46) | 2.92 (35) |
| 2. | Boston College | 12 | 7 | 3 | 2 | 16 | 10-3-2 | 3.58 (43) | 2.50 (30) |
| 3. | Maine | 12 | 7 | 4 | 1 | 15 | 9-7-1 | 3.33 (40) | 2.58 (31) |
| 4. | Massachusetts | 10 | 6 | 4 | 0 | 12 | 10-5-0 | 3.40 (34) | 2.80 (28) |
| 5. | UMass-Lowell | 10 | 5 | 4 | 1 | 11 | 10-6-1 | 3.40 (34) | 2.90 (29) |
| 6. | Vermont | 11 | 4 | 5 | 2 | 10 | 8-6-2 | 2.45 (27) | 3.45 (38) |
| 7. | Northeastern | 12 | 4 | 7 | 1 | 9 | 6-8-1 | 2.08 (25) | 3.00 (36) |
| 8. | Merrimack | 10 | 4 | 6 | 0 | 8 | 7-8-0 | 3.50 (35) | 3.60 (36) |
| 9. | Boston University | 11 | 2 | 7 | 2 | 6 | 4-9-3 | 2.64 (25) | 3.45 (31) |
| 10. | Providence | 10 | 2 | 7 | 1 | 5 | 7-9-1 | 1.90 (19) | 3.10 (31) |

RECENT RESULTS

Wednesday, December 9

No. 10 Boston College 3 at Harvard 2

Friday, December 11

UNH 4 at Providence 3 *

at No. 9 UMass-Lowell 4, Princeton 1
 Rensselaer 5 at Boston University 3

Saturday, December 12

at Maine 5, Northeastern 1 *

at No. 15 Massachusetts 4, Merrimack 1 *
 No. 10 Boston College 3 at Providence 1 *
 at Vermont 3, St. Lawrence 0
 Princeton 3 at UMass-Lowell 2

Saturday, December 19

at Vermont 4, Dartmouth 3

UPCOMING GAMES

Tuesday, December 29

Florida College Classic (Estero, Fla.)

Maine vs. Princeton (4pm)

UConn Tournament (at Storrs, Conn.)

No. 15 Massachusetts vs. No. 18 Union (4pm)

Wednesday, December 30

Florida College Classic at Germain Arena

Maine vs. No. 3 Colorado Coll./No. 4 Cornell
 (4/7:30pm)

UConn Tournament (at Storrs, Conn.)

No. 15 UMass vs. Bentley/UConn (4/7pm)

Friday, January 1

Denver Cup at Magness Arena (Denver, Col.)

No. 5 Boston College vs. St. Lawrence (6:30pm)

Saturday, January 2

No. 15 UMass at Boston U. * (3pm, ESPN/UNH)

Denver Cup at Magness Arena (Denver, Col.)

No. 5 Boston College vs. No. 2 Denver (9pm)

Badger Classic at Kohl Center (Madison, Wis.)

Merrimack vs. No. 7 Wisconsin (8pm)

Dartmouth Tournament

Northeastern vs. Dartmouth

No. 12 UMass-Lowell vs. Holy Cross (4pm)

Catamount Cup (at Burlington, Vt.)

Alabama Huntsville at Vermont

New Brunswick at Maine (Exh.)

* denotes Hockey East Game
 All Games are EST

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2009-10 HOCKEY EAST SEASON SUPERLATIVES

SHUTOUTS

| Date | Goalie | Team | Opp. | Svs | Result |
|-------|----------------|------|--------------------|-----|--------|
| 10/9 | Carter Hutton | UML | St. Lawrence | 24 | W, 3-0 |
| 11/6 | Chris Rawlings | NU | Boston U. | 43 | W, 1-0 |
| 11/8 | Mike Spillane | UVM | Providence | 33 | W, 3-0 |
| 11/14 | Carter Hutton | UML | Alabama-Huntsville | 19 | W, 4-0 |
| 11/30 | Mike Spillane | UVM | Yale | 26 | W, 1-0 |
| 12/12 | Rob Madore | UVM | St. Lawrence | 21 | W, 1-0 |

40+ SAVES

| Date | Goalie | Team | Opp. | Svs | Result |
|-------|----------------|-------|--------------|-----|--------|
| 10/30 | Brian Foster | UNH | at Wisconsin | 47 | L, 1-4 |
| 10/31 | Alex Beaudry | PC | at UMass | 47 | W, 2-1 |
| 11/6 | Chris Rawlings | NU | Boston U. | 43 | W, 1-0 |
| 11/13 | Paul Dainton | UMass | UNH | 42 | W, 4-3 |

INDIVIDUAL HIGHS

| | | |
|-----------------|----|--|
| Goals: | 5 | Stephane Da Costa, MC (10/17/09 vs. Army) |
| Assists: | 5 | James Marcou, UMass (11/24/09 at Vermont) |
| Points: | 5 | Stephane Da Costa, MC (10/17/09 vs. Army) James Marcou, UMass (11/24/09 at Vermont) |
| Point Streak: | 10 | Stephane Da Costa, Merrimack (15 pts.; 4g, 11a) |
| In League Play: | 9 | Stephane Da Costa, Merrimack (13 pts.; 4g, 9a) |
| Saves: | 47 | Brian Foster, UNH (10/30/09 vs. Wisconsin) |
| | 47 | Alex Beaudry, PC (10/31/09 vs. Massachusetts) |

TEAM HIGHS

| | | |
|-------------------|----|---|
| Goals: | 8 | Providence (10/23/09 at BGSU) |
| In league play: | 7 | Boston College (11/14/09 vs. Vermont) |
| Shots on Goal: | 49 | Boston U. (11/24/09 at Harvard) |
| Consecutive Wins: | 5 | Maine (11/27/09 to present) |
| In league play: | 4 | Maine (11/27/09 to present); UNH (11/28/09 to present) |
| Unbeaten Streak: | 7 | New Hampshire (11/14/09 to present; 6-0-1) |
| In league play: | 7 | New Hampshire (11/14/09 to present; 6-0-1) |

100+ POINTS

| Date | Player | Opponent | Current Points |
|-------|---------------------|------------|----------------|
| 11/24 | James Marcou, UMass | at Vermont | 105 |

THE ROAD TO 100 CAREER POINTS IN 2009-10

| | |
|---------------------|---------|
| Ben Smith, BC | 99 pts. |
| Bobby Butler, UNH | 92 pts. |
| Nick Bonino, BU | 89 pts. |
| Kory Falite, UML | 85 pts. |
| Brian Gibbons, BC | 79 pts. |
| Joe Whitney, BC | 76 pts. |
| Ben Holstrom, UML | 72 pts. |
| Wade MacLeod, NU | 71 pts. |
| Justin Braun, UMass | 70 pts. |

HAT TRICKS

| Date | Player | Team | Opponent | Result |
|-------|-------------------|------|----------|--------|
| 10/17 | Stephane Da Costa | MC | vs. Army | W, 6-3 |
| 10/23 | Matt Bergland | PC | at BGSU | W, 8-2 |

OVERTIME GOALS

| Date | Player | Team | Opponent | Result |
|-------|----------------|-------|------------|--------|
| 10/30 | Colby Cohen | BU | at UML | W, 5-4 |
| 11/13 | David Boehm | UMass | UNH | W, 4-3 |
| 11/24 | Chris Connolly | BU | at Harvard | W, 6-5 |

THE LAST TIME

A player had four goals:

Stephane Da Costa, Merrimack (10/17/09 vs. Army)

A rookie had a hat trick:

Stephane Da Costa, Merrimack (10/17/09 vs. Army)
In league play: Jimmy Hayes, BC, 11/15/08 vs. UNH

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:

Maine (11/27/09 to present); 5 games
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 games)
In league play: New Hampshire, 11/12/06 to 1/19/07 (11 games)

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. UNH (53 shots)
In league play: Providence, 2/15/08 vs. UNH (53 shots)

* – defenseman ! – rookie * neutral site game