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# WOMEN'S LEAGUE

## PRESS RELEASE



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### NEW HAMPSHIRE, MAINE IN MIDWEST METTLE TESTS *Vermont, Connecticut launch Hockey East slate with Friday tilt*

Forgive the UNH Wildcats if they start looking past their Friday date with Bemidji State in Minneapolis, MN. True, Coach Brian McCloskey's crew knows the dangers of taking an opponent lightly, having escaped last Saturday's game against Niagara with a 4-3 overtime win after soundly defeating the Purple Eagles 5-0 the night before. But Wildcats returning from last year's squad must be anticipating Saturday's showdown with the Minnesota Golden Gophers, the same team that derailed the UNH express in the 2006 NCAA semifinals.

After running up a school record 33 wins, UNH fell a goal short to Minnesota, 5-4, in a devastating loss. In fact, the Golden Gophers appear to have the the Wildcats' number of late, going 6-0-1 against New Hampshire in their last seven meetings. Clearly, nothing would make the 2nd-ranked Wildcats happier than to reverse that trend, especially on Minnesota's home ice. Look for the 3rd-ranked Gophers to keep close tabs on UNH's high-powered forwards, including Samantha Faber (Mount Sinai, NY), Sadie Wright-Ward (Durham, NH), and Jennifer Hitchcock (LaSalle, ON), and offensive-minded blueliners Martine

Garland (Toronto, ON) and Kacey Bellamy (Westfield, MA). Expect the Wildcats to return the favor, shadowing Minnesota's junior forward Bobbi Ross, who lit up the Wildcats for four goals in that semifinal loss last spring.

Meanwhile, Maine Interim Coach Lauren Steblen must be wondering when the early season schedule will give her Black Bears a chance to catch their breath. On Friday, Steblen's squad takes on Minnesota in the second act of the Easton Shootout. The game is Maine's first action since a pair of rugged setbacks last weekend to nationally ranked Mercyhurst. The Bears played Mercyhurst tough in the first game, eventually losing 5-2, and then appeared to run out of steam, as the Lakers took the second match, 8-1. Steblen, though, had to be encouraged by the play of freshman Taryn Peacock (Calgary, AB), who pocketed a pair of goals for the Black Bears during the weekend.

The Midwest match-ups aren't the only intriguing games on the Hockey East docket. The UConn Huskies and Vermont Catamounts rub elbows in the first games between league

opponents on Friday and Saturday in Storrs, CT. The Catamounts had their hands full against Clarkson last weekend, though junior goaltender Jenilee Roy (Sanborn, NH) showed promise, holding the Golden Knights to seven goals over the last five periods of the back-to-back losses. UConn looked strong in an exhibition win over Etobicoke, dominating the Dolphins, 6-0, with sophomore Brittany Wilson (Nepean, ON) recording the shutout. Also close to home, Boston College, fresh off a testy 2-1 win over RPI, will host Quinnipiac at The Heights on Saturday afternoon.

In other non-league matches, Coach Brian Durocher's Boston University Terriers are on the road, traveling to Pittsburgh for a pair of contests against Robert Morris on Friday and Saturday, while Coach Laura Schuler's Northeastern Huskies face off against Ohio State for back-to-back games in Columbus, OH.

#### UPCOMING GAMES

##### Friday, October 6

Vermont at Connecticut (7pm) \*  
 UNH vs. Bemidji State (5pm) !  
 Northeastern at Ohio State (7pm)  
 Boston Univ. at Robert Morris (7:30pm)  
 Maine at Minnesota (8pm) !

##### Saturday, October 7

Vermont at Connecticut (4pm) \*  
 Quinnipiac at Boston College (2pm)  
 Boston Univ. at Robert Morris (2pm)  
 Maine vs. Bemidji State (5pm) !  
 Northeastern at Ohio State (7pm)  
 New Hampshire at Minnesota (8pm) !

\* Hockey East game

! Easton Shootout, Minneapolis, MN

All game times are Eastern Time

### 2006-07 STANDINGS

Team	GP	W	L	T	Pts	Overall	Offense	Defense
Boston College	0	0	0	0	0	1-0-0	-	-
Boston University	0	0	0	0	0	0-0-0	-	-
Connecticut	0	0	0	0	0	0-0-0	-	-
Maine	0	0	0	0	0	0-2-0	-	-
New Hampshire	0	0	0	0	0	2-0-0	-	-
Northeastern	0	0	0	0	0	0-0-0	-	-
Providence	0	0	0	0	0	0-0-0	-	-
Vermont	0	0	0	0	0	0-2-0	-	-