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**WOMEN'S LEAGUE**  
**WEEKEND**  
**PREVIEW**



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**EAGLES, 'CATS BATTLE FOR TOP SPOT**

**UNH downs Terriers; BU-NU in Beanpot preview; UConn visits Maine**

The playoffs are fast approaching and the scramble for the top four spots in Hockey East is as tight as ever. At the top of the standings, 9<sup>th</sup>-ranked Boston College and 5<sup>th</sup>-ranked New Hampshire will settled a score in Durham on Saturday afternoon. Providence and Connecticut sit in a tie for third place and are each eyeing the leaders above them, but must be aware of Boston University, nipping at their heels from the fifth spot.

The rubber match between BC and UNH promises to be a great one as the two squads split their earlier meetings this season. UNH took the first game before the Eagles struck back, handing the Wildcats their first loss of the season at Conte Forum. Each has relied heavily on its freshman class throughout the year and this weekend should be no different. BC's rookies have helped the Eagles soar to the top of the league standings as Player of the Week Kelli Stack (Brooklyn Heights, OH) recently took over the league lead in points while classmate Allie Thunstrom (Maplewood, MN) has found the back of the net repeatedly, leading Hockey East with 21 goals. On the Wildcat bench, freshman Kelly Paton (Woodstock, ON) has emerged as a catalyst in an upperclassmen-laden lineup, registering 25 points in the first 26 games of her career.

Paton recorded a goal and an assist in UNH's 4-1 win over Boston University on Wednesday, while fellow frosh Micaela Long (South Boston, MA) continued her strong performance in recent weeks with another multi-point outing. Terrier forward Erin Seman (Ramsey, MN) briefly gave BU a 1-0

lead before Jennifer Hitchcock (LaSalle, ON) evened things up for the Wildcats with her 19<sup>th</sup> tally of the season. Paton and Long followed that up by scoring goals of their own less than three minutes apart to break open the tight contest. UNH goalie Melissa Bourdon (Ile Bizard, QC) picked up her 78<sup>th</sup> career win while BU netminder Allyse Wilcox (Grand Blanc, MI) turned in a 37-save effort in the loss. With the win, the Wildcats snuck to within a point of the Eagles as they head into the showdown in Durham this weekend.

Boston University will look to rebound Saturday as they make a quick trip to Matthews Arena to take on the Northeastern Huskies. Not only does the game carry significant meaning in the standings as the Terriers try to climb into the final playoff spot, but it will serve as a Beanpot preview with the teams matching up again on Tuesday in the first round of the tournament. Saturday's tilt on Huntington Avenue has also been designated as a Hannaford Hockey East Kids' Club event, and members are invited to an autograph session after the game.

The two teams the Terriers are trying to catch in the standings, Providence and UConn, find themselves locked in a tie for third, but each has a pair of games on the weekend docket with a chance to distance themselves from BU. The Friars are coming off of a 2-2 tie with UNH last Sunday thanks to a 40-save performance from sophomore Danielle Ciarletta (Blaine, MN). PC will try to parlay that momentum into twin victories this weekend as they host Vermont for a double-header at Schneider Arena. Senior Sonny

Watrous (Albuquerque, NM) had a huge day in the first meeting with the Catamounts, tallying six points in a 7-0 victory in Burlington, while junior Sarah Feldman (Fall River, MA) registered a hat trick.

UConn will make the long trek up I-95 to Orono to face-off with the Black Bears. The Huskies are in the midst of a season-high five-game road trip that began last Sunday with a 2-0 victory at Northeastern. Earlier this season, the Huskies scored an 8-3 victory on home ice against Maine as junior Jaclyn Hawkins (Manotick, ON) recorded her second hat trick in October.

-Scott Donnelly

**RECENT RESULTS**

**Saturday, January 27**

at Connecticut 4, Northeastern 1 \*  
 at Boston College 4, Vermont 1 \*  
 New Hampshire 3, at Providence 1 \*  
 at Boston University 3, Maine 0 \*

**Sunday, January 28**

at Boston College 6, Maine 0 \*  
 Connecticut 2, at Northeastern 0 \*  
 Providence 2, at New Hampshire 2 OT \*

**Tuesday, January 31**

New Hampshire 4, at Boston University 1 \*

**UPCOMING GAMES**

**Saturday, February 3**

Connecticut at Maine (12noon) \*  
 Boston College at UNH (2pm) \*  
 Boston Univ. at Northeastern (2pm) \*  
 Vermont at Providence (2pm) \*

**Sunday, February 4**

Connecticut at Maine (12noon) \*  
 Vermont at Providence (2pm) \*

**Tuesday, February 6**

*Beanpot Tournament at Boston College*  
 Boston Univ. vs. Northeastern (5pm)  
 Harvard at Boston College (8pm)

**Wednesday, February 7**

Connecticut at Brown (7pm)

\* Hockey East game

% Hannaford/Kraft Kids' Club event

**2006-07 HOCKEY EAST STANDINGS**

| Team              | GP | W  | L  | T | Pts | Overall | Goals For | Goals Against |
|-------------------|----|----|----|---|-----|---------|-----------|---------------|
| Boston College    | 16 | 12 | 4  | 0 | 24  | 18-6-2  | 74 (105)  | 27 (47)       |
| New Hampshire     | 13 | 11 | 1  | 1 | 23  | 19-3-4  | 54 (103)  | 18 (41)       |
| Providence        | 13 | 8  | 2  | 3 | 19  | 11-11-4 | 41 (62)   | 19 (54)       |
| Connecticut       | 14 | 9  | 4  | 1 | 19  | 14-10-2 | 44 (66)   | 29 (62)       |
| Boston University | 15 | 7  | 7  | 1 | 15  | 15-9-2  | 33 (69)   | 37 (58)       |
| Maine             | 14 | 2  | 10 | 2 | 6   | 7-15-2  | 28 (69)   | 55 (95)       |
| Northeastern      | 16 | 2  | 13 | 1 | 5   | 3-22-1  | 33 (52)   | 74 (121)      |
| Vermont           | 13 | 1  | 11 | 1 | 3   | 3-19-2  | 9 (23)    | 57 (106)      |