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# WOMEN'S WEEKEND PREVIEW

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WEEKEND PREVIEW #15

## NO. 1 UNH FACES DARTMOUTH AND PROVIDENCE THIS WEEKEND

~Nine games over the weekend, highlighted by five league contests~

**WAKEFIELD, Mass.** – No. 1 New Hampshire, who holds the top national ranking for the third straight week, will face intrastate rival No. 9 Dartmouth at Thompson Arena on Thursday night and will host Providence on Saturday at the Whittemore Center. Vermont will make a tough trip to faceoff with No. 10 St. Cloud State in a two-game series, while No. 8 Connecticut will play at Boston University on Saturday afternoon.

The Wildcats (19-3-0, 10-0-0 WHEA) are off to their best start in league play in the six-year history of the conference. UNH heads into the weekend with the second ranked offense in the nation (4.00 gpg). The 'Cats own a 8-2-0 record against nationally ranked teams this season.

UNH will face Providence College (9-9-2, 4-2-1 HEA) in one of the oldest women's college hockey rivalries on Saturday in Durham. In the last seven meetings between the two teams, New Hampshire owns a seven-game unbeaten streak (6-0-1). Friars' junior goalie Danielle Ciarletta (Blaine, Minn.) has been solid all season for Providence, posting a 2.31 GAA and a .915 save percentage in 17 starts this season. In her last four starts, she owns a 3-1-0 record with a 1.25 GAA and a .960 save percentage. Senior defenseman Kathleen Smith (Waterloo, Ont.) has tallied 12 points (8g,4a) in her last 10 games for the Friars. Smith is one of only four Division I blueliners to average 1.00 points per game. The Friars will also host Boston University on Sunday afternoon at PC's Schneider Arena.

The Northeastern Huskies will also commence this weekend's action on Thursday night at Boston College (8-8-4, 4-5-1 (WHEA)). The Eagles are coming off a string of five straight games vs. nationally ranked opponents. The teams will meet for the third time this season, both teams took one game in the series so far. BC won the first meeting at Conte Forum on November 16, 4-2, and Northeastern took the second game, a 3-1 victory, at Matthews Arena on December 8. The Huskies will also travel to Maine for a Sunday afternoon contest at Alford Arena, while the Eagles will host the No. 9 Big Green on Sunday night at Conte Forum (8pm).

On Saturday afternoon, No. 8 Connecticut (15-4-3, 6-2-1) will play at Boston University (7-9-2, 4-3-0 WHEA), as the teams look to begin solidifying their spots in the league standings in the second half. The Huskies enter the game with a six-game unbeaten streak (4-0-2), which marks the third longest unbeaten streak in the nation. The Terriers have won their last four games by a combined score of 21-4. This marks the first meeting of the season between the two teams, after the teams split the season series in 2006-07.

Tim Bothwell's Catamounts will travel to St. Cloud for the weekend beginning on Friday night at the National Hockey Center. They are led by senior forward Kate Lesniak (Buffalo, N.Y.), who has tallied a team-leading nine points. UVM has allowed three goals or fewer in five of its last nine games. Sophomore goalie Kristen Olychuck (Kelowna, B.C.) owns a solid 2.81 GAA in her first season with the Catamounts.

### HOCKEY EAST WEEKLY NOTES:

UConn sophomore Dominique Thibault and UNH junior Sam Faber have both posted a league-high 31 points this season. In league play, Faber holds the scoring lead with 20 points...BU junior goalie Allyse Wilcox ranks eighth in the nation with a 1.77 GAA...The Terriers rank 11th in the nation in team offense, scoring 3.17 goals per game...Northeastern freshman netminder Leah Sulyma has record 30+ saves in six straight for the Huskies. Terrier freshman Jillian Kirschner had registered nine points (1g,8a) in her last five games.

### RECENT RESULTS

Thursday, January 10

No. 1 New Hampshire 6 at Northeastern 0 \*

Friday, January 11

No. 9 Connecticut 5 at Vermont 1 \*  
 at Wayne State 5, Maine 0

Saturday, January 12

No. 9 Connecticut 6 at Vermont 0 \*  
 at Providence 7, No. 4 Mercyhurst 3  
 No. 10 Boston College 2 at No. 5 Minnesota 2 OT  
 at Wayne State 4, Maine 3

Sunday, January 13

Boston University 3 at Northeastern 1 \*  
 No. 4 Mercyhurst 3 at Providence 0  
 at No. 5 Minnesota 2, No. 10 Boston College 1

### UPCOMING GAMES

Thursday, January 17

Northeastern at Boston College \* (7pm)  
 No. 1 New Hampshire at No. 9 Dartmouth (7pm)

Friday, January 18

Vermont at No. 10 St. Cloud State (7:07pm)

Saturday, January 19

Providence at No. 1 New Hampshire \* (2pm)  
 No. 8 Connecticut at Boston University \* (3pm)  
 Vermont at No. 10 St. Cloud State (7:07pm)

Sunday, January 20

Northeastern at Maine \* (3pm)  
 Boston University at Providence \* (2pm)  
 No. 9 Dartmouth at Boston College (8pm)

\* Hockey East game  
 All Games Eastern Standard Time (EST)

(Rankings in composite schedule and release are from the USA Today/USA Hockey Magazine Poll)

## 2007-08 STANDINGS

Rk.	Team	GP	W	L	T	Pts	Overall	Offense	Defense
1.	New Hampshire	10	10	0	0	20	19-3-0	88 (4.00)	28 (1.27)
2.	Connecticut	9	6	2	1	13	15-4-3	65 (2.95)	43 (1.95)
3.	Providence	7	4	2	1	9	9-9-2	60 (3.00)	54 (2.70)
	Boston College	10	4	5	1	9	8-8-4	47 (2.35)	50 (2.50)
5.	Boston University	7	4	3	0	8	7-9-2	57 (3.17)	50 (2.77)
6.	Northeastern	8	3	5	0	6	4-13-2	40 (2.11)	73 (3.84)
7.	Maine	8	0	6	2	2	1-18-2	26 (1.24)	76 (3.62)
8.	Vermont	9	0	8	1	1	4-15-1	37 (1.85)	62 (3.10)

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