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MEN'S WEEKEND PREVIEW

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

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Weekend Preview #15

BC, BU MEET FRIDAY ON NESN; UMASS AND VERMONT FACEOFF SUNDAY ON ESPNU

~Merrimack faces UML, PC; UNH travels to Boston U. and Providence; Maine hosts Under-18 Team~

WAKEFIELD, Mass. – Massachusetts and Vermont will renew their long-standing rivalry for a two-game set at the Mullins Center beginning on Saturday night in Amherst. The two teams will conclude their season series on Sunday in front of a national audience on ESPNU at 3pm.

No. 10 Boston College and Boston University will close out their season series on Friday night from Conte Forum live on NESN, while Merrimack will make the short trip to Tsongas Arena for a Friday night matchup with UMass-Lowell. UNH will heads south for a single-game at Providence Friday and then will square off with Boston University at Agganis Arena on Saturday.

The Minutemen were victorious in the first meeting of the season series vs. UVM back on Nov. 24 (6-2) in Burlington. UMass enters the series on a three-game win streak, as they swept UMass-Lowell in a pair of one-goal contests last weekend. Vermont is coming off a weekend split with Northeastern at Gutterson Fieldhouse. The 'Cats scored nine goals in their victory on Saturday night to get the series split. Vermont has scored 4+ goals in four of the last five games, owning a 4-0 record in those games. UMass junior James Marcou (Kings Park, N.Y.) continues to lead the conference in scoring with 37 points (7g,30a). Marcou has recorded at least one point in 13 of UMass' last 14 games and has notched 24 points in that time frame. He also leads the nation with 1.68 points per game.

The Eagles and Terriers will meet for the 249th time in the history of their rivalry. Both teams have taken a game in the series, most recently the Terriers came out victorious (3-2) on Jan. 8 in front of 38,472 fans at Fenway Park, a new eastern college hockey attendance record. Sophomore forward Cam Atkinson (Greenwich, Conn.) has scored a goal in six of the last seven games for the Eagles.

The Wildcats enter the game at Providence with a nine-game (7-0-2) unbeaten streak in league play. The Friars took four points in conference play last weekend for the first time this season, as they defeated Boston U. and Maine. Senior forward Bobby Butler (Marlboro, Mass.) has scored six points (3g,3a) in his last three games for the Wildcats. PC sophomore Matt Bergland (Faribault, Minn.) has registered a point in five of his last six games played. UNH won the season series last year, 2-0-1, and scored at least four goals in all three meetings. The Friars will travel to North Andover on Saturday night for a 7pm game with Merrimack College. The teams will meet for the first time this year, after they split the season series a year ago.

The River Hawks won the first meeting on the season series with the Warriors by a 6-3 score on Nov. 21 in Lowell. Stephane Da Costa (Paris, France), who ranks first on the Merrimack team in scoring, leads the conference among rookie scorers with 23 points (11g,12a). UML senior goalie Carter Hutton (Thunder Bay, Ont.) ranks first among league netminders with a 2.15 GAA and his .924 save percentage ranks second in Hockey East. UML and BC will faceoff on Saturday night in Lowell for the first time this season. The River Hawks won the season series last year vs. BC, 2-0-1 and scored at least four goals in every meeting against the Eagles in 08-09.

Maine will also host its second exhibition game of the week on Saturday at Alfond Arena vs. the U.S. Under-18 Team. The Black Bears picked up a 4-1 exhibition win vs. New Brunswick on Tuesday night in Orono.

RECENT RESULTS

Tuesday, January 12
*at No. 12 Boston College 4, Providence 1 **

Friday, January 15
*at No. 12 Boston College 6, Maine 1 **
*Northeastern 3 at Vermont 1 **
*at Providence 3, Boston U. 1 **
*at Massachusetts 3, No. 14 UMass-Lowell 2 **

Saturday, January 16
*at Providence 3, Maine 2 **
*at Vermont 9, Northeastern 2 **
*at Boston University 6, Merrimack 4 **
*Massachusetts 2 at No. 14 UMass-Lowell 1 **
UNH 5 vs. Dartmouth 2
(Verizon Wireless Arena, Manchester, N.H.)

Tuesday, January 19
*at Northeastern 3, Providence 1 **
at Maine 4, New Brunswick 1 (Exh.)

UPCOMING GAMES

Friday, January 22
*Boston U. at No. 10 Boston College * (7:30, NESN)*
*Merrimack at UMass-Lowell **
*UNH at Providence **

Saturday, January 23
*Vermont at No. 15 Massachusetts **
*No. 10 Boston College at UMass-Lowell **
*UNH at Boston University * (NESN)*
*Providence at Merrimack **
U.S. Under-18 Team at Maine (Exh.)

Sunday, January 24
*Vermont at No. 15 Massachusetts * (3pm, ESPNU)*

***** denotes Hockey East Game**
All Games are EST

2009-2010 HEA STANDINGS

Rk.	Team	GP	W	L	T	Pts	Overall	Conf. Off.	Conf. Def.
1.	New Hampshire	14	9	2	3	21	10-7-4	3.93 (55)	2.79 (39)
2.	Boston College	15	9	4	2	20	12-6-2	3.46 (55)	2.54 (35)
3.	Massachusetts	15	9	6	0	18	14-8-0	3.31 (48)	3.31 (46)
4.	Maine	15	8	6	1	17	11-9-2	3.38 (47)	2.54 (42)
5.	UMass-Lowell	14	6	6	2	14	12-9-2	3.50 (45)	3.00 (41)
6.	Northeastern	17	6	10	1	13	10-11-1	2.29 (39)	3.35 (57)
7.	Vermont	13	5	6	2	12	11-7-2	2.45 (37)	3.45 (43)
	Boston University	15	5	8	2	12	7-10-3	3.00 (46)	3.31 (50)
9.	Providence	14	4	9	1	9	9-11-1	1.93 (27)	2.93 (41)
10.	Merrimack	12	4	8	0	8	7-12-0	3.36 (41)	3.64 (46)

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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, 3-0
1/2	Carter Hutton	UML	Holy Cross	32	W, 3-0
1/2	Chris Rawlings	NU	at Dartmouth	32	W, 7-0

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
1/12	Alex Beaudry	PC	at Boston College	41	L, 1-4

INDIVIDUAL HIGHS

Goals:	5	Stephane Da Costa, MC (10/17 vs. Army)
Assists:	5	James Marcou, UMass (11/24 at Vermont)
Points:	5	Stephane Da Costa, MC (10/17 vs. Army)
		James Marcou, UMass (11/24 at Vermont)
		Brian Flynn, Maine (11/28 vs. St. Lawrence)
		Chris Auger, UML (11/21 vs. Merrimack)
Point Streak:	11	Stephane Da Costa, MC (10/25 to 1/2; 17 pts.)
(active)	8	Colin Vock, UVM (12/4 to present; 13 pts.)
In League Play:	9	Stephane Da Costa, MC (10/30 to 12/12; 13 pts.)
Saves:	47	Brian Foster, UNH (10/30/09 vs. Wisconsin)
	47	Alex Beaudry, PC (10/31/09 vs. Massachusetts)

TEAM HIGHS

Goals:	10	Maine (11/28 vs. St. Lawrence)
In league play:	9	Vermont (1/16/10 vs. Northeastern)
Shots on Goal:	49	Boston U. (11/24/09 at Harvard)
Consecutive Wins:	5	Boston College (11/27/09 to 12/12/09)
		Maine (11/27/09 to 12/12/09)
In league play:	4	Maine (11/27/09 to 12/12/09)
		New Hampshire (11/28/09 to 12/11/09)
Unbeaten Streak:	9	Maine (11/21/09 to 1/9/10; 7-0-2)
In league play:	9	New Hampshire (11/14/09 to present; 7-0-2)

100+ POINTS

Date	Player	Opponent	Current Points
11/24	James Marcou, UMass	at Vermont	116
1/1	Ben Smith, BC	at Denver	101

THE ROAD TO 100 CAREER POINTS IN 2009-10

Bobby Butler, UNH	98 pts.
Kory Falite, UML	92 pts.
Nick Bonino, BU	95 pts.
Brian Gibbons, BC	87 pts.
Joe Whitney, BC	83 pts.
Wade MacLeod, NU	79 pts.
Justin Braun, UMass	78 pts.
Ben Holmstrom, UML	74 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
12/5	David Vallorani	UML	vs. UMass	W, 5-3
1/16	Brayden Irwin	Vermont	vs. Northeastern	W, 9-2

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
1/9	Michael Scheu	UML	at Northeastern	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:
Boston College, (11/27 to 12/12); Maine, (11/27 to 12/12)
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**