MEN'S HOCKEY EAST ROUNDUP: WEEK 16

by Jack Yadlon
CAMPUS CORRESPONDENT
HE/HIM/HIS
Ptf24003@uconn.edu

Author's Note: Due to the scheduling of the Beanpot causing this issue to come out a day sooner, yesterday's matchup will not be covered, and the rankings will be that of last week.

After a chaotic few weeks following the winter break, Hockey East's schedule saw a dip in number of games for this past weekend, with only eight games being played.

Due to the scheduling of the Beanpot causing this issue to come out a day sooner, yesterday's matchup will not be covered, and the rankings will be that of last week.

Kicking off the week was the Battle of Comm Ave between No. 13 Boston College and Boston University.

BU's struggles with goaltender Mikhail Yegorov continued, going down 3-0 after two to eventually lose 4-1.

Yegorov has not been able to replicate his dominant 24-25 campaign, sitting at a flat .900 save percentage. His struggles in net have exposed flaws elsewhere that could be ignored last year due to him covering for them.

On the other side of things, BC's resume continues to grow, jumping over the inactive UConn Huskies in conference standings with the win.

Northeastern also played a lone game this weekend, coming against the Massachusetts Minutemen.

The Huskies jumped out to an early 1-0 lead but were unable to maintain it, allowing two goals before eventually tying the game in the third to send it to overtime.

An unlikely hero won it for UMass, as freshman Justin Kerr scored just his second goal of the year to give the Minutemen their sixth straight win. Sitting just outside the top 20, UMass will have a chance to reenter the rankings this week.

Northeastern's situation has been the opposite, now falling to 2-8 in their last ten games. What felt like a dream to begin the season has proven to be just that, as the incredible start hasn't amounted to any sustained success since.

The lone full intraconference series featured a home-and-home between New Hampshire and Merrimack.

Merrimack's two-goal first was enough to win the game, eventually taking it 2-1 in a low-event match. Caden Cranston recorded a point on both scores for the Warriors.

Game two looked like a similar finish until Nick Ring tied it up for the Wildcats, with just 17 seconds left in regulation. The game reached a shootout, with Ring ultimately scoring the shootout winner as well.

The weekend's only non-conference matchup featured Vermont hosting Stonehill for two games.

Stonehill led 2-1 entering the final minutes of regulation, but an early goalie pull led to a Vermont extra attacker goal with under three in regulation. In the ensuing overtime, Colin Kessler didn't take long to find the back of the next and win it for the Catamounts.

Vermont had a much stronger showing on day two, shutting out Stonehill in a 2-0 victory.

Only one ranked matchup took place, a lone game between No. 9 Providence and No. 17 Maine. The Black Bears were swept a few weeks ago by the Friars and looked to salvage a part of the season series.

In what would end up being one of the best games in the conference so far this year, Maine held on to a 2-1 lead late in regulation. The Black Bears finally looked like they might get over the hump that was the Friars.

Providence had other plans, pestering goaltending Mathis Rousseau with the extra attacker as the defense struggled to clear the puck. With just five seconds to go Roger McQueen found Andrew Centrella wide open after a rebound, and Centrella took the opportunity to tie things up.

Providence continued their strong finish to the game in overtime, with Jack Sawyer eventually scoring to complete the season sweep of Hockey East's reigning champions.

UMass Lowell and Merrimack remain the only Hockey East teams Providence has lost to in regulation. The only teams they haven't beaten in regulation are Vermont and New Hampshire, both of which they have yet to play. Until further notice, Providence looks like the cream of the crop in the conference.

Meanwhile, time is running out for Maine. The Black Bears haven't been able to win like they did last year, and the hopes of an at-large bid to the NCAA tournament is dwindling fast.

The once unclear top of Hockey East has now become much more obvious, as Providence, BC and UConn have spaced themselves out from the rest. Providence is en route to an at-large bid, with the other two looking to find that as well.

The week opens with round one of the Beanpot tournament, starting with Boston College against Harvard followed by Boston University and Northeastern.

Tuesday will have Merrimack travelling to Stonehill for a lone game.

Friday features all three of Hockey East's beanpot teams, with Maine taking on BU, UConn against Northeastern and Vermont playing BC.

Providence travels to New Hampshire on Friday before heading home to host Vermont Saturday, while UMass takes on UMass Lowell in a home-and-home set.



Boston University's men hockey team facing off against Boston College. Boston University lost 4-1. PHOTO COURTESY OF FLICKR

UCONN SPLITS TWO-GAME SERIES WITH NEW HAMPSHIRE

by Kaden Knapp
CAMPUS CORRESPONDENT
HE/HIM/HIS
lwr25002@uconn.edu

Last week, the seventh-ranked Huskies women's hockey team defeated New Hampshire on the road before falling in overtime at home.

The loss marks Connecticut's first loss to the Wildcats in seven meetings.

On Friday, graduate student goaltender Tia Chan pitched a shutout to help the Huskies secure a 1-0 victory. The following day, junior forward Julia Cabral netted the game winner to overtime to hand UConn a 3-2 loss.

Connecticut now possesses a 19-7-2 overall record and a 12-5-1 conference record. New Hampshire is 13-12-3 overall and 7-9-2 in the Hockey East.

Game 1: Connecticut 1, New Hampshire 0 – Friday, Jan. 30

The only goal of Friday's contest came midway through the second period. With the Huskies on a power play following a Wildcat penalty, senior forward Megan Woodworth scored on an assist from junior Ashley Allard.

In the first period, Allard nearly scored three minutes into the game, but junior goaltender Noemi Martinez made a great save for New Hampshire.

Later in the period, the Wildcats had a series of three consecutive shots. Two were blocked and another was saved by Chan.

In the waning moments of the opening 20 minutes, New Hampshire had additional scoring chances after UConn freshman defender Camryn Grimley was sent to the box for interference. However, one minute into the power play, freshman forward Nina Rossi was called for interference, making it four-on-four.

Following sporadic shots by both teams through the first nine minutes of the second period, junior defenseman Lucie Legro was called for holding, providing the spark the Huskies needed. Then, 43 seconds into the power play, Allard missed a slap shot but collected the rebound and fed the puck to Woodworth, whose shot found the back of the net to make it 1-0.

Throughout the remaining 10 minutes of the period, New Hampshire had a multitude of scoring opportunities, but Connecticut's defense held their ground.

In the final 10 minutes of the period, UConn blocked five Wildcat shots. Junior defender Julia Stephen was responsible for two of those blocks.

The Husky blocks continued into the third period. In the first three minutes, Stephen recorded two more blocks, and Woodworth had another.

From that point, Connecticut's defense continued to stifle New Hampshire's offense despite committing numerous penalties.

The Wildcats started to gain momentum as the period went on, but their comeback effort was ultimately held off thanks to two crucial penalties committed by New Hampshire forwards Courtney Lilley and Danika Botterill.

Chan ended the game with 16 saves and recorded her fourth shutout. Connecticut outshot New Hampshire 34 to 18 in the contest.

Game 2: Connecticut 2, New Hampshire 3 – Saturday, Jan. 31

Nearly two minutes into overtime, Cabral was set up by senior forward Alyson Hush to score the game-winning goal after a Botterill missed shot.

Since November, Chan has only allowed three or more goals in the contest three times.

Connecticut came rushing out of the gates, forcing New Hampshire into playing defense for a majority of the period. In the first five minutes, UConn attempted three shots, including two that bounced off the post.

Throughout the next few minutes, UConn added four more shots to their total. Two of those shots were rejected by Legro.

By the end of the period, UC attempted 12 shots to UNH's six.

The Huskies stayed on the attack into the second period. Their attack efforts broke through 10 minutes into the second when sophomore forward Claire Murdoch found the back of the net for the seventh time this season to make the score 1-0.

It wasn't until freshman defender True Thompson committed a penalty nearly 19 minutes into the period that New Hampshire was given life. As a team, they rattled off seven consecutive shots before the expiration of the second period clock.

The Wildcats carried their positive momentum into the final 20 minutes of regulation. Nearly four minutes in, Botterill evened the ledger at one after a Cabral assist.

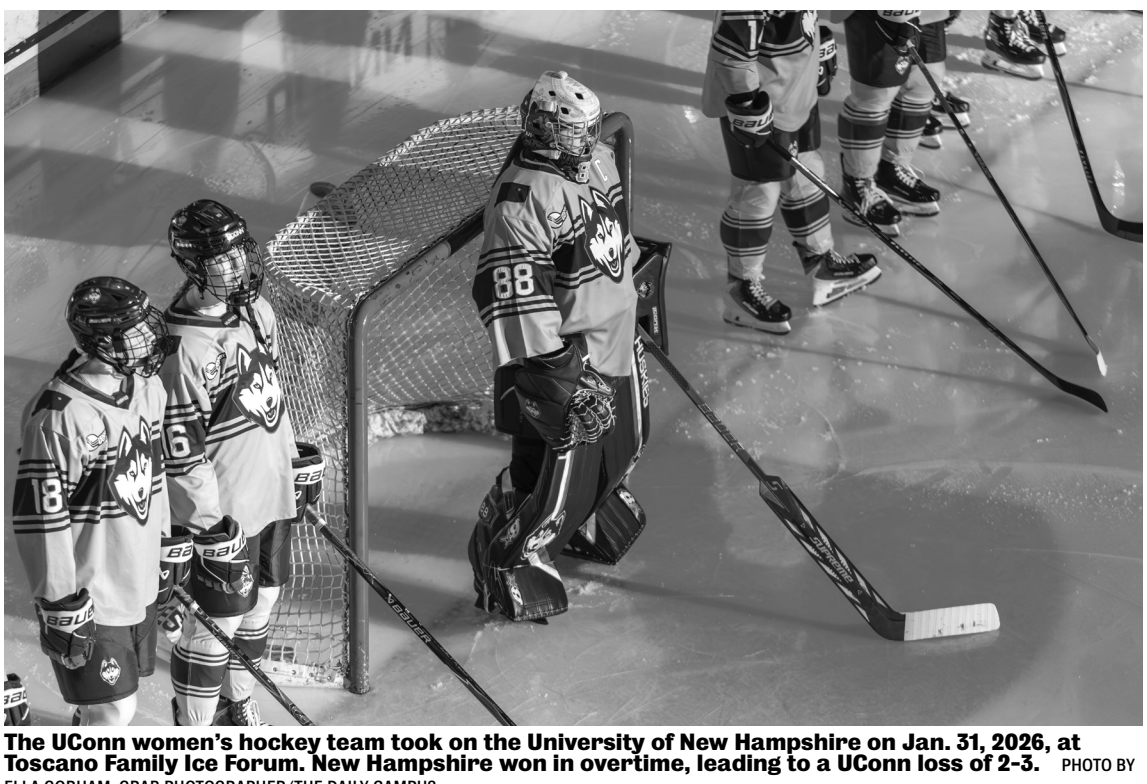
Following that goal, both teams traded missed shots until sophomore defender Addison Finn broke the deadlock with just under seven minutes remaining, 2-1.

However, this lead was short-lived, as just over three minutes later, Thompson powered the puck into the net to level the game at two.

Despite winning the opening face-off of overtime, Connecticut failed to keep possession of the puck. New Hampshire strung together two consecutive shots before Hush was set up to score the game winner.

In the game, UConn outshot the Wildcats 51-41 and three of the game's goals came in the final ten minutes of regulation and overtime.

Connecticut's next duel will take place on Feb. 6 when they travel to Providence to take on the Friars.



The UConn women's hockey team took on the University of New Hampshire on Jan. 31, 2026, at Toscano Family Ice Forum. New Hampshire won in overtime, leading to a UConn loss of 2-3. PHOTO BY ELLA GORHAM, GRAB PHOTOGRAPHER/THE DAILY CAMPUS