

## **BOSTON UNIVERSITY HEAD COACH JACK PARKER QUOTES**

### ***General Thoughts:***

“We were obviously pleased that we came off a long break and played pretty well out there (Denver). We were a little sluggish early on against RPI, but played better as the game progressed. Surprisingly, we had our legs and physically felt pretty good the second night, which is not the usual case in high altitude like that. We played a very smart game. I was real pleased with how we played against Denver. They’re a real good club and it was a packed house. To win a tournament is nice – it gives you some instant gratification, and the kids felt pretty good about that.”

### ***On what the team can improve on in the second half:***

“Everybody can improve no matter what you’re doing or how it looks on paper. An example is we have one of the best power-play rates in the league, but it’s been deceiving in the fact that we’ve been inconsistent on it. One night we go 0-for-8 and the next night we go 4-for-8. We haven’t been game-to-game as consistent as we’d like. This past weekend we got some big power-play goals. It was a 2-2 game against RPI and we got two power-play goals to go ahead, and then we got a power-play goal for our second goal against Denver. We only had about five minutes of power play against Denver – we went 1-for-5 with a couple of abbreviated power plays – but I was real pleased both nights with our power-play efforts. We’ve got to establish that every game, not just a few games.”

“We’ve been terrific lately killing penalties, but it was the opposite situation in the first half of the semester. We did a real good job this weekend - we didn’t have a power-play goal scored on us this weekend. It remains to be seen if we can continue that. One of the reasons why we’re killing penalties well is we’re getting very good goaltending, and we’ve had some good puck luck. Denver could have had some goals on their power play. The puck was just bouncing around the crease and they didn’t put it in the net. Sometimes that goes with the streak and then all of a sudden you give up three out of five.”

“It will be interesting to see if we can keep that as part of our winning formula, because if you can’t kill penalties, you’re not going to win too many games.”

### ***On gaining confidence from playing well without Colin Wilson and Kevin Shattenkirk:***

“It gives our team a little bit of confidence that we’ve got people that can easily jump in a void. Steve Smolinsky played extremely well for us on defense in Shattenkirk’s spot. Chris Connolly went up and centered the first line and did a real nice job. Kevin Gilroy took Connolly’s spot on the third line and got a goal the first night against RPI. Andrew Glass played the second night in that spot and did a nice job.”

“We’ve got enough depth here that if somebody’s not here, we can fill in. More importantly, they realize it doesn’t have to be one guy or another. We got 10 goals this weekend without our leading scorer, so that helps with our confidence as well. All that being said, we want to keep everybody healthy and keep everybody in the lineup, and Wilson and Shattenkirk are so important to us that we’re a better team with them, no question about it.”