

## **MAINE HEAD COACH TIM WHITEHEAD QUOTES**

### ***General Comments:***

We had a tough stretch in January, so it was great to bounce back with a couple of wins against UMass and New Hampshire. That has helped our confidence and kind of recharged our batteries. We are looking forward to building off those games.

### ***How does a game like Saturday's against UNH help the team's confidence:***

Anytime you have had a tough stretch and then you can get a win, it gives you a big boost, especially when it is not a false win. We played hard. The game against UNH obviously could have gone either way, but at the same time, we were right in it and were able to gut out a win there. I think that it gave Scott a lot of confidence and gave our team confidence that we could win on the road like that.

### ***Talk about the job that Gustav Nyquist and Brian Flynn have done this year:***

Gustav and Brian have really been a great addition. They have contributed in so many ways. They play in all situations: first and last minute of the game, power play, penalty kill, four-on-fours. The big thing is that they both compete so hard and neither one is a high penalty minute guy. They both are great competitors and are tough, they take hits and win lose pucks in addition to their skill and poise with the puck. They are very well rounded players and have a surprising amount of composure and poise for freshman players. We are very pleased with them both.

### ***Talk about Overall Youth:***

We saw some of that inexperience in January where we had games that we were in position where we could have won or tied, and some of the nerves came out. We were holding our sticks a little tightly. Again, I was not that surprised. Obviously, it was a little frustrating, but at the same time they just need to play games and gain that experience and be in those situations that bring success in the future. We have been fortunate to win a couple of those tight games recently. We had a couple of those in the fall, the one against Boston College in particular, that was a good victory at home. We have had some success in those tense moments. I think that is what it is going to take. More opportunities to be in those key situations to learn from your mistakes and gain confidence from your successes. It is just going to take time, probably more time than I would like. At the same time, we are going to have to be patient, but continue to push them. It has been fun. They are a very coachable group and they certainly want to learn. They are working hard and their attitudes are good, so as long as those things are there, they will keep getting better.