

MAINE HEAD COACH TIM WHITEHEAD QUOTES

General Comments:

Talk about season to this point and your quarterfinal series with Boston University:

The season to this point has been disappointing, obviously. The first half was surprising in a good way, and the second half has been disappointing. We are not exactly going into the playoffs with a bang here. Having said that we have had some success in the past bouncing back in playoff time, and that is what our objective is right now.

Talk about the mental approach when you are facing a team that does not have a lot of weaknesses:

It is always a tough challenge. Every season is different. Although we did have several of those upsets when I was at Lowell, every year is unique. The challenge this season in particular is quite formidable because BU has no obvious weaknesses. They are very strong at all three positions; goaltending, defense and forward. They are pretty healthy right now, and their special teams are so strong; power play, penalty kill and four-on-four situations. They are a great team. But we have to clear the slate. It is a new season; and it might be a short one if we can't clear the slate quickly. BU soundly defeated us in our first two games this season 4-1 and 7-2. Fortunately, in our last game with BU we were able to have some success in a 2-2 tie at home in which we played very well, but so did they. It could have gone either way. It ended up in a tie, which is something to build on there. It is a new season and a fresh start on Friday and anything can happen if we work hard and stay focused. Crazy things do tend to happen in the playoffs and that is going to be our mindset.

Comments on the Play of Freshmen:

Brian Flynn and Gustav Nyquist have been tremendous as our top two scorers, and playing in all situations. I could not have asked for more. Tanner House has done a great job centering that line. He has been a strong veteran as a sophomore. He has been a great leader for us, great defensively contributing 20 points himself. That has clearly been our top trio upfront. We are very excited about Will O'Neill and Ryan Hegarty as freshman defensemen. Unfortunately, Ryan got hurt recently. He was having a great second half of the season, so it was bad timing for him. But Ryan and Will have been tremendous for us. And we have already talked about Scott Darling, so we really like our freshman class. Bodes well for the future. We are certainly very excited about next season, but we have a big challenge this weekend, and we are looking forward to it.