

NEW HAMPSHIRE HEAD COACH DICK UMILE QUOTES

Opening comments:

“Obviously we are in another season. The other season, we were a little disappointed with our performance in the quarterfinal round, we got through last weekend and now all of our focus is on North Dakota Saturday afternoon. We are excited to be involved in the NCAA Tournament and we are looking forward to our match up with North Dakota. They are obviously a rich program of winning tradition, Dave Hakstol has done a great job with the program, he has got them back to the NCAA tournament, I think he has gotten them to three consecutive Frozen Fours or something like that. They are a good team, lots of skill, big, strong and we are anxious to play.”

What about the time off, how did the team approach that period:

“We took a couple days off, right after the quarterfinal series, we tried to have as much of a game like situation as possible last Saturday, a blue/white scrimmage, as much as we could. We got through that weekend and this week we are preparing like a typical week. We have done this before in the past and we have used this time for some guys that are banged up to get healthy. We are going to look at it as a positive.”

Thoughts on building momentum at the end of the regular-season:

“There is no question that we played well down the end of the season and we came in third in Hockey East and we know how competitive it was. We felt good with our confidence. We lost to Boston College, you have to give them credit, they beat us in our own building, we were disappointed.”

On Practicing in smaller rinks this week:

“It’s a combination of both. The Whittemore Center ice is coming out today. We would do this anyway, we will go over to Dover and Exeter and have our practices and preparation for that size arena.”

Comments about James van Riemsdyk:

“James brings a lot, not just scoring goals. He is a kid that works real hard for us. Some nights he might look like he is quiet out there, but he is doing a lot of good things defensively and all of a sudden he will make a great pass or he’ll make a great play, but we are very satisfied with James’ play. Obviously this is a weekend you want everyone playing their best games, especially the seniors, this is their last shot.”