

**HOCKEY EAST QUATERFINALS
COACHES MEDIA TELECONFERENCE
(MARCH 9, 2010)**

MERRIMACK COLLEGE HEAD COACH MARK DENNEHY QUOTES

General Comments:

“I don’t know if I’ve ever been a part of a final weekend in Hockey East as exciting as this one; exciting and stressful. Our guys worked awfully hard. It would’ve been disappointing if it didn’t go in our favor.”

“We’ve been in playoff mode for nine games. We looked at it and were on the outside looking in and divided it up by three three-game playoff series and thought if we could win all three, we could play in an actual playoff series. It’s no different now. As excited as our guys were, you get a sense to their satisfaction level. They’re proud of what they accomplished, but they feel there is still more work to do.”

On Playing BU:

“We haven’t been able to figure BU out in their building. We’re a resilient group. In the past, we’ve been intimidated to play at their place. Last year’s team could intimidate a lot of schools especially at Agganis, but we’ve stuck with it. I expect a pretty hard fought series. They’re big and physical, but we have those characteristics in our locker room as well. I’m sure Coach Parker is going to have everyone believe that we are the favorites, but everyone is 0-0 again. We have to take the positives that we can play with anyone in the league. But we have to notice the negatives. We laid a few eggs in the final stretch. You have to control what you can control and playing hard is one thing you can control. Hopefully, we bring confidence into the series. We haven’t broken through at Agganis yet unfortunately.”

Special Teams:

“We got off to a pretty good start with the power play, and it has just snowballed from there. We have more depth in the skilled areas and can put two units out there. Just outworking the penalty kill can be successful. The fact that we can go two units deep has helped. There’s no secret that we have a pretty special player in Stephane. He’s someone that most teams realize that they have to keep an eye on.”

“We’re trying to simplify it more and just get pucks to grade “A” and to the net. With the penalty kill, it begins and ends with your goaltender. Both Cannata and Braithwaite have played well over the last quarter of the season.”

On Stephane Da Costa:

“If Da Costa would’ve come a couple years ago, it wouldn’t have had as much of an effect because we weren’t good enough yet. Now with Barton, Stollery, and Todd just to name a few, we’re a much better hockey team. What he gives us is the ability to take a game into his hands and do some special things. He’s made some plays at this level that not many are capable of making.”