

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

NEW HAMPSHIRE HEAD COACH DICK UMILE QUOTES

General comments to this point in the season:

“It’s a whole new season right now, the regular season is over and we all saw what the league is like during the regular season so its anybody’s tournament and it all begins this weekend. There is some great match ups, pre-season poll picked UNH and Vermont tied, and here we are in the first round playoffs. We just played them a couple of weeks ago and we had two OT games so hopefully it will be a great weekend of hockey. We are just starting new, it’s a new season and we are looking forward to it.”

Thoughts on the matchup:

“Well I don’t think 1 vs 8 has anything to do with it to be quite honest. We can throw those numbers out. That’s what we discussed about the regular season. We played a tough weekend against Northeastern and they aren’t even in the tournament. We talk about parity all the time we say its from top to bottom, there is no question that this season was the best. So its going to come down to who wins the game. We are just playing on the fact that there are going to be games that are going to come right down to the wire. You have to put yourself in a position to win the game and that’s going to involve playing 60 minute games and making sure you do well with your specialty situations, power plays, penalty kills, its everything right now its play-off hockey.”

The year of living dangerously continues:

“It’s a jekyll and hyde team, we have good moments and then all of a sudden we sit back or loose the momentum. It’s partly us, it’s partly the teams that we are playing. The other night for example, Boston College is a good team there is an awful lot of skill out there. We have a good 3rd period, don’t have a very good 1st period so, it’s a little bit of both and we’ve been talking about it all season. But the fact of the matter is that they are a group that never quits and they hang in there and stay in there, and we’ve been fortunate and found ways to tie it up or win games.”

On the season that Bobby Butler’s had:

“He means a lot to our team. He’s a co-captain, he scores goals, but he does a lot more than that. He kills penalties, he is a threat every time he’s on the ice, and he can be quite in the game and then all of a sudden be explosive. He’s got a great shot, and he’s really worked at his game. He’s one of the first guys out there in pre-practice and he’s one of the last guys out there in post-practice. Off ice he’s trained real hard, and he was just committed to having a great senior season but he’s also developed each season and he’s a great guy to coach. He’s a real good leader, he’s great in the locker room, but he’s had a fabulous season and scored some tremendous goals. There is no question we wouldn’t be where we are at with out Bobby.”

On the Second half of schedule translating to play-off time and the consistency lever your looking for from the team:

“Well we got off to a terrible start on our non-league but we’ve been pretty consistent in hockey east, that’s why we ended up in 1st place at the end of the season. But at the beginning of the season, we had some holes to fill and some of the younger guys had to step into new roles. We had a very good senior class who graduated last year, so some of the younger guys had to step in. It took some time and we needed to be patient but we’ve gotten better with the second half. Right now its important to play with confidence. Even though we lost the other night at Boston College, the team feels good and they are looking forward to the weekend and our matchup against Vermont.