

**HOCKEY EAST COACHES  
CHAMPIONSHIP MEDIA TELECONFERENCE  
(MARCH 16, 2010)**

**VERMONT HEAD COACH KEVIN SNEDDON QUOTES**

**On UNH series:**

“It was a great series and we feel very fortunate, we felt very fortunate to get into the Hockey East Playoffs to begin with and then obviously to get by the No. 1 seed; I’m just so proud of our team for battling through adversity this year and having an opportunity to achieve success in the second season if you will. So, we’re very proud to be a part of the four teams going to the TD Garden and again we’re looking forward to a real tough challenge in front of us in Boston College. I think they’re playing extremely well right now and it doesn’t get any easier for us despite knocking off the No. 1, we’re now faced with another incredible challenge with Boston College. But we’ve played the underdog role well this year and we’re certainly in that role this weekend and I think we’re a team that’s had our backs up against the wall most of the season and fought through so much adversity that I’m just so pleased with the fact that our team’s come together and trying to beat the odds. We’re looking forward to the challenge and the opportunity this weekend against Boston College.”

**On regular season series against Boston College:**

“Yeah we can’t use those games, I think they were obviously a completely different team back then. I remember playing them, we obviously had a little bit of success winning the season series against Boston College, but I remember saying how good I thought they were going to become with all their young freshmen defensemen that obviously were top-end players but needed to gain experience in big games and obviously they’ve achieved that going into the second half and having success. They’re extremely talented at all positions now, so the youth is not hurting them in any way, shape, or form now. So, we have to throw those games out, we can’t look at films on BC back then, they are just a different team now, we’ll use much more recent games just knowing that they’re a completely different team, they’re a great team. We’re really excited about the opportunity to play them this Friday.”

**On challenging Rob Madore:**

“I think he (Rob Madore) was a little bit shocked and had a ton of different emotions going on after Game 1 and what was said in the locker room. There was no yelling or screaming, I was just very matter of fact about the way I thought he played, I mean the team played pretty hard; I thought we had every chance to win that game, but unfortunately some goals went in that just aren’t typical for him and I guess I looked at it and said, ‘hey, I’ve got to spark something in this team.’ We were pretty down in the locker room and knew it was going to be a long series, obviously if we were going to stay alive it was going to go three games and you have to take some calculated risks. We all obviously know that Rob’s probably the most mentally tough student-athlete we have on our team, so as much as it was about trying to spark Rob, it was to spark our team to play better defensively in front of him and I think the team kind of rallied around him and no credit needs to be pointed at the coaching staff by any means, it was all on Rob and the

way he prepared to do what he needed to do to come back from a very tough outing, and he did. So, I think a lot can be said about being 'called out', but the bottom line is he did the job to turn things around and especially the overtime period where New Hampshire looked like they were one of the Olympic teams and just had so many chances to win it. I remember a couple of times almost stepping down from the bench and thinking, it's over, and he made saves out of nowhere and that allowed us to kind of crawl back and gain some confidence in overtime because we were kind of back on our heels for a few minutes and again he gave us an opportunity to stay in that game when it didn't look promising."

**On the matchup with Boston College:**

"Well you know every matchup is going to be different, BC's got such a great blend of having tremendous talent and the ability to score goals, but I also think they have a great ability to play team defense. They use their speed in a very good way on back pressure, they're very good on transition and they're layers of defense are very solid. Again I talk about the experience they have on the blue line versus maybe their inexperience the first couple months of the season; their guys are not playing like young freshman back there on the blue line, I watched them in zone on film and they're very solid, they make very few mistakes so I think they can play either game and be successful, and that's the challenge. They have moments where they can open it up and make you look foolish because of their skills and their ability to finish, and then there's other moments when they know to shut it down and play tight team defense, so that's what's made them successful; there's been a great blend I think for them."

**On how to approach the game:**

"Well I think we've got to play our game. If we play as well as we did against New Hampshire I think we're a tough team; we forechecked well, we took offensive chances when we had the chances, but at the same time we were very solid defensively and I think it's about us finding our blend. I think you can get wrapped up now in thinking about what BC's going to do, but I think we've really got to focus on what makes us a good hockey team. I think we've proven that we can beat a lot of good teams when we can play to the best of our ability. So, our challenge is obviously to focus on the things that are going to give us a chance to have success against BC, but mainly focus on what we need to do to be successful and play Catamount hockey, and that's be aggressive, use our size to our advantage, play well defensively, cycle well, don't turn away from looking for a shot and a rebound, I think that's what gave us opportunities against New Hampshire this weekend."