at the highest level. She’s going to make anyone she plays with better. She has all the different passes and deliveries. She knows where the other four people on the ice are.

Jenn Wakefield is the consummate power forward. She has had two years as one of the top two or three for Hockey East Player of the Year. She was one of the top two scorers freshman and sophomore year at the University of New Hampshire. She’s fearless, a strong kid with fast and adept hands.

How did you recruit them?
Very candidly, two of the three did a pretty good job of recruiting us. It probably started two years ago with Catherine Ward, who wanted to be part of the graduate business program here. She connected with me, and we went back and forth for the better part of a year. Then she ended up in the Olympic program, and it was maybe another year to finish the conversation.

Jenn Wakefield decided she wanted to transfer last summer. We had had a little bit of a relationship in recruiting her a couple years before, when she chose UNH. Maybe they weren’t ready for someone of her ability.

The third part was a little bit of luck, an offshoot of a friendship between Catherine Ward and Marie-Philip Poulin. They played a lot of Quebec Hockey together. To get Marie-Philip at the end was fantastic and brought us a trifecta that is tough to match.

What’s the biggest misconception about women’s hockey?
I think a lot of people don’t know how fast the game is. There have been multiple times when our girls will play against the guys. And I might be in the stands watching, being proud, standing off to the side. And I’ll overhear people saying, “Is that what I think it is? Those are young ladies?” These players are highly talented.