



POSTGAME PRESS CONFERENCE QUOTES MINNESOTA DULUTH

No. 3/3 Minnesota Duluth 4 , No. 11/11 North Dakota 3
NCHC Championship Game
March 18, 2017 - Target Center, Minneapolis, Minn.

UMD Head Coach Scott Sandelin Opening Statement:

I'm really excited for our team, we certainly earned that, it wasn't easy for sure. This group has shown that all year long, a lot of character and resiliency. First period getting down and having to kill off the multiple 5-on-3 (penalties) gave us a huge lift and we came out and really won the game in the second period with a good start. We knew they were going to continue to battle which good teams do, fortunately we got a bounce at the end but it was certainly a battle for sure. Really excited for our team, certainly our seniors, and the guys who experienced defeat last year, to have an opportunity to win a league championship or a playoff championship and move forward.

Senior Forward Alex Iafallo on winning championship as seniors:

It means a lot, not only for the seniors but for the whole team, the whole city of Duluth, it's pretty special. We came up just a little short last year, so to get back down here and have another chance at it, we were fortunate enough to win it this year.

UMD Head Coach Scott Sandelin on Goaltender Hunter Miska:

It (his poise) was pretty good. I think we all saw the save right in the slot towards the end of the game. He's got a lot of confidence, he's had a great year for us. He's a big reason we are where we are. These kinds of games are good confidence boosters for him moving forward and good experiences for him being only a freshman being in these types of games. He's won a lot of hockey games prior to coming here too, he's won championships with junior teams so some of that pays off too.

UMD Head Coach Scott Sandelin on message to locker room after first period:

I was fired up. I thought they did a hell of a job. I tried to make sure they understood that and to take that and let's move forward and build off of that and our guys did that. That's why I was really excited about how they responded because it was a great job. Not an easy situation, because you start going down two or three, they had the opportunity to do that and they're a tough team to battle back from, and keeping it at one was huge and getting to the period, regrouping and using it as a little of a momentum builder, our guys fed off that. I just tried getting them excited about what they did.



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UND Head Coach Brad Berry on exiting the first period only up one goal:

I wouldn't call it a missed opportunity, I thought we had momentum in the first period. If you think about it quantitatively, not scoring maybe a goal or two than maybe, but I thought we played the right way and we continue on with that the rest of the game.

Junior Forward Trevor Olson on going from game tying goal to 5-on-3 penalty kill:

There were kind of those up and downs for the whole game, there were penalties on both sides, and obviously losing those two men late in the game there is a kill that we need to have but we're not going to hold that against our guys. We kill off the penalties we need to kill of and they got a lucky bounce up front.

UND Head Coach Brad Berry on Duluth changing the momentum at start of second period:

They entered our zone and they got a couple pucks in a similar spot, low stick side and they capitalized. Again, after that 3-minute borage I thought that we came back and played pretty strong, and we had some power plays and we were able to capitalize on those, but for the most part I thought we played a very, very strong game and we didn't win this weekend as far as this championship game but it made our group a lot stronger. We're going to reset. We were in this predicament last year and made the regional, and we went back, we worked hard and reset and you know what that ending was, so again we feel very confident within our group of what we accomplished down here this weekend. We had a goal, our goal was to make the national tournament, we needed to win one game, we did that, and we're going to reset and be even stronger next weekend.

UND Head Coach Brad Berry on Cam Johnson playing best hockey of season:

Cam has been playing consistently most of the year here, he's a battler, a competitor. He won us a national championship last year, and he makes big saves at key times and I feel that not only him but ... the rest of the guys have been playing extremely hard, competitive, and we're absolutely looking forward to next weekend.