

America East Men's Basketball Championship

Semifinals: #6 UMBC 64, #7 Albany 58

Postgame Quotes

UMBC Head Coach Randy Monroe

On Darryl Proctor and Jay Greene

"You talk about the heart and soul of the champion you're looking at two guys right here. When things were getting a little shaky in that game they just refused to lose, refused to let us down, and they just kept battling. Hopefully I'll be able to coach two more guys like these guys but it's going to be very hard."

On getting back the championship game

"Sometimes your record doesn't indicate those things your players go through and fight through but when you can see your players every day in practice, and they're bringing it, that's got to make you feel good as a coach, no matter what your record. Looking at those guys and watching them battle and compete and still remain positive, I think that is very important and has put us in this position to be in the America east championship game for the second year in a row."

On overcoming adversity

"It becomes a test of will, a test of will power, I thought our guys did a fantastic job of getting the ball in when we needed to get it in and knocking foul shots down the stretch. I think that was a very big key for us."

"Adversity strikes your team at some point at any particular time during the season.... It happens to 344 collegiate teams that play, I remind my guys those things happen, so how are we going to respond when certain things happens. Their will, they have a tremendous will to keep fighting, to keep playing, to not give up on each other. "

UMBC Senior Guard Jay Greene

On his performance

"I just stayed aggressive tonight and my shot felt a lot better. My teammates and coaches just give me that freedom and confidence and keep encouraging me. It's all about staying positive and being confident. I try to make plays for my teammates and do whatever it takes to win. Tonight I scored a little bit more and if that's what it takes then that's what I'll do."

UMBC Senior Forward Darryl Proctor

On his team's perseverance

"The experience comes from me and him (Jay Greene) because we've been there and we were put in the position of the top spot of the team, and they really feed off our energy so we prep them coming in. We tell them it's tournament time so it really doesn't matter what the regular season was."

Albany Head Coach Will Brown

On Jay Greene

"He took command of his team, he took command of this game. It's hard to deny him the ball. He keeps moving. He hit a couple of three's that broke our back and that's what good players do. He's a tremendous kid, tough as nails."

How rebounding factored into the outcome

"We did a poor job rebounding today, we only out-rebounded them by 5 and that's not good enough for Albany to go to a championship game."

On his seniors (Brian Connelly, Jimmie Covington, Jerel Hastings)

"The hardest part is to know that Jerel, Jimmie and Brian are never going to wear the uniform again. I think that's what bothers me about this loss."

Albany Senior Center Jimmie Covington

His feelings about the loss and his college experience

"Hurt, I've been here four years, been here a lot of time came all the way from Chicago, a new area, new people, but it was a great experience. I learned a lot. Made a lot of friends and everybody is like my family now so it definitely hurts. I've been a basketball player my whole life, it's time for the next chapter in my life."