



**2013 America East Men's & Women's Basketball Championship Presented SEFCU
Women's Quarterfinal #2: #6 Vermont 47, #3 UMBC 43
Postgame Quotes**

Vermont Coach Lori Gear McBride opening remarks:

Well what can I say I'm thrilled, thrilled for my team I think we worked really hard all season and we haven't always shown how good we can be and I am just thrilled for our seniors because they have been through so much over the past four years and they are both great players and great people and I think they played their guts out today and really earned this victory.

Vermont's Lauren Wheeler on missing the lay-up and then making the important three pointer:

Well it's always that next play mentality, it was obviously a great moment and I couldn't dwell on it and when it came to hitting the three it was honestly in the heat of the moment, I wasn't really thinking about it, I just let it go and it worked. I am just so proud on how hard my team has been working the entire season and moving forward is such a treat. We are really excited to face Hartford again, it is definitely a winnable game but it is going to be hard after just losing from them recently.

Vermont's Lauren Buschmann on the playing another game for the Catamounts:

Yes, it is very exciting, we knew we could come in and make an impact on this tournament and we had a solid game plan against UMBC and I am just really excited to advance to the semis, one more game for our seniors. Just the fact that we were able to fight back, there was a point in the season where teams would take a run on us, times where we couldn't fight back so this is just proof that we worked hard and I am really proud of the girls keeping their composure. We have been here for three years now, lost in the quarterfinals two straight years so honestly that extra step is a huge step for our program. We are getting better every day.

Coach McBride on Raven Harris (UMBC) and the game overall:

She is so talented and so good in going north south and getting to the rim and she really hurt us in games we played against her so it was a big focus on her not getting the ball and just to really frustrate her. All week we just focused on next play, don't worry about it and shake it off, we are not going to get through it if you don't shake it off. And that is what really defined us today. Both Laurens (Buschmann, Wheeler) helped in that, we made mistakes but we moved on. Our defense is what really kept us going today. I think Gracia Hutson and Annie Wheeler have both been playing better, Annie had some injuries, Gracia stepped up so I feel like we are able to play a lot of post players. If we can put up 40 minutes of really hard defense, we can definitely compete with Hartford and give them a run. It is a huge win for the program and that was our goal the entire year, to be

in that top half of the conference. This is great for our seniors to feel like they helped in rebuilding our program and for our freshmen to understand what they need to do to be a winning program and bring Vermont back where it belongs.

UMBC Head coach Phil Stern's opening statement:

I'm not really even that upset, we played with heart, but you can't win a basketball game if you shoot 24% from the floor and you don't make a three, 51% from the foul line, we missed 14 foul shots. I'm proud of our girls, if we didn't give a good effort, I'd be upset, but the effort was there, we just can't make a shot – we haven't made a shot in 2 weeks. One thing is, we went to line 21 times, we probably should have gone 49 times."

UMBC guard Raven Harris Vermont's double teams:

"The double team was a good strategy by their coaching staff and it was pretty exhausting, but we found a way around it. I mean the fatigue, both teams were fatigued, so we can't use that as a reason for our shooting percentage overall. It was a long game, it's been a long season for everybody so, that's just how it works out."

Harris on why shots weren't falling:

Yeah, 4-23, that's a tough game for anybody. It just wasn't the night that our shots were falling in the paint from any of us, open layups, but we kept fighting with the amount of open shots that we missed and my shooting percentage and it was still a close game so we did something right, but that's just how the game went tonight."

Harris on being 5th ever in steals in conference history:

"I mean, individually, breaking records is always something nice to have and it's something nice to say about yourself but our goal wasn't for me to break a record tonight, it was for us to win. Right now looking at it, it doesn't mean much..."