



**America East Women's Basketball Championship
Semifinal No. 2: No. 2 Albany vs. No. 6 UMBC
Postgame Quotes**

ALBANY

Albany Head Coach Katie Abrahamson-Henderson

Opening Statement:

It's March Madness... defense wins games this time of the year. They scored 9 points in the first half. It's all seemed to finally come together this time of year for us. It is especially hard to work on in one day because nobody else presses and traps but I'm really proud of how my players handled the pressure and nerves this weekend.

Albany Guard Margarita Rosario

On Getting Off to a Strong Start:

My teammates always tell me to shoot the ball when I'm open. They all believe in me so it was a natural instinct. They drove inside to draw the defenders and kicked it to me to make those plays happen.

On Home Court Advantage Friday:

We weren't thinking about playing again back at home today. We were only thinking about what was in front of us and just took it one game at a time for both Vermont and UMBC. It will be great playing at home but now we have to get ready for Hartford.

Albany Forward Sarah Royals

On Strong Defensive Performance:

Our offense only comes because of our defense. I think everyone could tell with the effort we put in how hard we played on defense this weekend.

Experience Playing a Role in Championship:

I definitely think experience plays a role but it doesn't determine anything. Hartford has a great group of seniors and supporting players like us but in the end it all comes down to which team plays harder that day.

UMBC

UMBC Head Coach Phil Stern

Opening Statement:

Congratulations to Albany. They were great tonight. We didn't play very well but they had an answer to everything we wanted to do. This was a great learning experience for our team.

On Championship Game:

Hartford's team is playing really well right now; they've clearly found something this weekend. Albany is who they are every night and they have the best player in the league. I look forward to watching, it should be a great game.