

2014 America East Men's & Women's Basketball Championship Presented by SEFCU Men's Quarterfinal No.1: #1 Vermont 77, #8 New Hampshire 60 Postgame Quotes

Vermont Coach John Becker's opening statement:

I am really happy with the win today. I thought UNH played a really good game and mixed up their defense. It was physical and it took us a little while to get our footing. They had a lot of threes, which is one thing that we talked about in how they could beat us. We are happy with the win, but again congratulations to Brian Voelkel as he continues to rewrite the record books of Vermont. Also, congratulations to the team. It was really a team effort.

Vermont's Brian Voelkel on their slow start:

I think anytime in the tournament there is a little bit of an adjustment period. With all our jitters we have been waiting for this for a long time. I think it just took a little while to get into the groove, but once we did we started making some shots, started up locking up and we started playing better. It took a little time, but the end result is what we wanted.

Vermont's Clancy Rugg on their rebounds:

We pride ourselves on our defense and rebounding. Rebounding is the cornerstone of our program. Brian and myself were able to get in there and mix it up on the glass tonight. That's why we had the margin tonight.

Vermont Coach John Becker on their adjustments in the game:

We just had to start playing better defense and at that point we started to put more pressure on their guards, eliminating their three point attempts. Once we did that the game turned around in our favor and we were able to play better offensively. You know teams are going to make runs, but you have to stick with it and we did that well tonight. We knew that eventually things would come back to us and fortunately they did.



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New Hampshire Coach Bill Herrion opening statement:

I want to congratulate Vermont. I have been in this league for a long time and this is one of the best basketball teams that I have seen for many years. When you have a combination of older veteran experience, maturity and basketball IQ you have a great combination. We are predominantly a man-to-man defensive team, but we had to play a lot of zone. However, I want to give our kids a lot of credit. Our kids have fought through a year full of injuries, so we have had to recreate our team many times this year. I am really proud of these guys.

New Hampshire's Jordan Bronner on the game plan going in to today's game:

We just wanted to win. We started the game off well, but we knew Vermont was going to make a run. They are an experienced team with five seniors. Despite all that, I felt we played well.

New Hampshire's Coach Bill Herrion with a summary of their season:

Everyone looks at our record and says bad year. In this business, yes we are judged by our record and I understand that. This group of kids has unfortunately had a lot of injuries. You never want players to get hurt. When your key guys get hurt it makes it tough. Chris Pelcher, during the first six games of the year, was off to an unbelievable start. He dominated. Despite all the injuries, what has come out of this season are five freshmen who have all proven that they can play at this level and are going to be great players at the University of New Hampshire down the road. I have really enjoyed coaching this team, which may seem crazy with only six wins. Our future is very bright; we have great young players.