

Coach Schafer's Notes for March 27, 2018

NCAA Northeast Regional, Worcester, MA

Boston University 3, CORNELL 1

In the NCAA playoffs, only one team finishes the season with a win and unfortunately, this year it won't be us. While we were the NCAA Northeast Region No. 1 seed, records shows the seeding has little to do with the results. Since 2007, the No. 4 seed has toppled the No. 1 seed in the opening round 41 percent of the time.

It was an even battle from start to finish and the scoreless first period was an early indicator of how the game was going to be played. We took a 1-0 lead at 7:27 of the first period on a great goal by senior forward Trevor Yates, who had his second score in consecutive outings, and his 13th goal of the season, which tied for the most goals on our team with junior forward Anthony Angello. The play started when freshman forward Morgan Barron won a battle in the right corner and then pushed the puck back to frosh lineman Cam Donaldson near the outside hash mark. Cam fired a pass to Yates in the slot and he rifled a shot over the goaltender's blocker. It was a great goal by Trevor.

Our lead was short-lived, when BU tied the game 36 seconds later. I believe that goal was the turning point because BU was fortunate that their player deflected the puck out of midair, whiffed at it, and it ended up in the back of the net. I thought this was a real momentum changer. The game was tied at 1-1 after 40 minutes of play.

The backbreaker came early in the third period, at 4:39 to be exact. We had a miscommunication between our right wing and our center who was behind the net. We turned the puck over and BU capitalized as freshman goaltender Matt Galajda was screened on the play. The goal ended up being the game-winner.

BU played it tight to the vest after going ahead 2-1, although we outshot the Terriers 31-24. They had been averaging 36 shots on goal per game and we held their top line scoreless. In the final minutes, we really put on the pressure to tie the game, but BU ended up scoring an empty-net goal with 17 seconds remaining.

Galajda turned in his usual game as one of the top netminders in the country making 21 saves, while their goalie stopped 30 shots. In a free-flowing game without much stoppage of play both teams were 0-for-1 on the power play.

We did a lot of things we wanted to do. Though we lost the last two games we've played, statistically we did a lot of things we wanted to do that usually lead to victory. That's the way the game is. I'm so proud of this team. We achieved 25 wins, won the Ivy League and the ECAC regular-season title, and played in the NCAA tournament. We have a great group of seniors who provided tremendous leadership throughout the year. Although we have to say good-bye to

them, we also have an outstanding group of underclassmen returning next season. We had the youngest team in the country and the maturity and experience they gained this year should make the future bright.

A special thank you to all who supported us during the year. Your presence in the oppositions' rinks made a big difference and the team fed off your cheers. The Lynah Faithful did their job and made it extremely tough to play in Ithaca. With the addition of our newcomers, we look forward to the 2018-19 season.