

PATRIOT LEAGUE SEMIFINALS POST-GAME QUOTES

NO. 1 ARMY VS. NO. 4 BUCKNELL

Bucknell Head Coach Frank Fedorjaka

(Ref.: opening statement)

“I couldn’t be more proud of this team. With the weather conditions, the heat and the way Army plays, the whole game is like thoroughbred race. For a while there, when it was 5-3 (Army), we had our backs against the wall. With five minutes to go in the second quarter we really needed to hold it on offense and score and both of those things happened. Then we won another key faceoff and we were able to tie it up 5-5 and I thought that was basically the defining moment of the game for us.”

(Ref.: the conservative play in the fourth quarter)

“We talked about it being a race and in the fourth quarter, fortunately for us, we were able to play at our pace. Our offense was able to control the ball and our defense was able to get the ball back without spending three or four minutes on defense.”

(Ref.: looking at the statistics)

“We had a lot of failed clears today. If I look at the stats, we lost ground balls, we lost faceoffs, we got outshot, we got out-everything and we still won the game.”

(Ref.: outstanding performers on the team)

“I thought Perry Menzies two shots from the outside were really big towards the end and Austin Winter having five assists today was special.”

(Ref.: making a goalie change in the first quarter)

“Well, we have two really fantastic goalies and Antonelli is one of them. What we don’t want to do is flip-flop goalies all the time. Nick Sciubba has been our starter and some days he is great and other days he is human. We have the opportunity to make a change but we don’t like to do it too often. I think won’t effect Nick’s confidence for the next game, but when they stuck on outside shot on him you start to worry about the confidence over the next few minutes. I thought Army was pushing the ball at that point and they were going to get some more good shots in the next five minutes so if anything we wanted to put Antonelli in and see if he could give us a spark.”

(Ref.: Austin Winter’s one goal, five assist performance)

“Austin is a guy that we ask to do a lot for us. Not too many players can actually draw a double and still find the open man, but Austin has the ability to do that, so we allow him to do whatever he wants out there on the field. He doesn’t take advantage of that privilege and he makes great decisions. If you look at his assists, I bet it’s a lot more than his turnovers.”

(Ref.: the last three weeks)

“The last two weeks have been a rollercoaster ride for us. Three weeks ago we beat Army and Lehigh and we were riding high and ranked ninth in the nation. Then we lost to Penn State in a one goal game where we blew the lead in the fourth quarter. Then we have a chance to host the whole Patriot League Tournament if we beat Colgate and we have a lead in the fourth quarter and we didn’t finish it off. I think the biggest thing we did today as a team is we played loose.”

Bucknell Goalie Matt Antonelli

(Ref.: coming in off the bench)

“I think coming in off the bench is never an easy position to be in. I was just glad to get a chance. I know that when coach calls my number, he wants me to get on the field and try to get our guys fired up and give a spark. I was just glad I was able to do that, but coming in off the bench is always hard.”

(Ref.: his performance)

“I thought I did pretty well. I think there were a couple shots that I should have made and could have made, but I’m glad that we won the game.”

(Ref.: thoughts on how the team handled its emotions this week)

“Well it was a tough week for us emotionally and we really had to get up after losing those games to Penn State and Colgate. I’m just glad we were able to come in here and get our first Patriot League Tournament win for Bucknell.”

Bucknell Attackman Austin Winter

(Ref.: his assist on the game winning goal)

“The whole game we were dodging from the corner and it turned out they did a poor job of covering that so we just tried to exploit it. I think one time I hit the post and then the other I came around and Perry was wide open and when he is open from 12 feet with time and space, no goalie is going to make that save.”

(Ref.: what it means to beat Army in West Point)

“Anytime you play one of the service academies, especially Army because I grew up 40 minutes away from here in New Jersey and I remember coming to West Point to watch Bucknell play when I was little, its special to be able to get a win because you always know you’re going to get a good game.”

Army Head Coach Joe Alberici

(Ref.: opening statement)

“It’s a very disappointing loss for us. Give a lot of credit to Bucknell and how they played. They played very hard and we opportunistic and made some plays. I’m disappointed because I felt like we did a lot of things we needed to do to win and just came out on the wrong side of it.”

(Ref.: talking about the close rivalry between Army and Bucknell)

“We are two evenly matched teams for sure. They have outstanding players on their team. They do a lot of things with their ride and their defense that makes you prepare. They are well coached on both sides of the ball. Once again it came down to a one goal game. I felt like there is a couple things we could have done a bit better, but that’s how it is.”

(Ref.: challenges of covering Austin Winter)

“Jay Larson had covered him the previous two years. In our last meeting he held Winters to just one assist. A couple of his assists, one came off an extra man and two others came off an unsettled, but he did a great job finding the open guy. I felt like we overreacted to him in a couple situations. He is very good to the goal, but he’s a bit better of a feeder.”

(Ref.: any changes in the plan after the goalie change for Bucknell)

“It changed it a little bit in the riding game. Antonelli is a little better at clearing the ball, so that changed there. But our shooting attack didn’t change. We had seen Antonelli once before in a similar situation against Navy. We felt like good shots were going to go for us, but to his credit he did a good job.”

(Ref.: “Did you feel like the fourth quarter was conservative?”)

“I wouldn’t say that. I don’t feel that way at all. I think we were pretty loose. We were very confident in our conditioning and our play. We had plenty of opportunities the whole game. I felt like the key for us was that we didn’t reward ourselves for the outstanding hustle in our riding game.”

(Ref.: final thoughts)

“We’ve been shooting the ball almost 31 percent this year, which is outstanding. Looking at it, 7-of-28 is less than 20 percent. Some of it goes to them. They are a good team. But I think some of it falls to us too.”

Army Goalie Adam Fullerton

(Ref.: “Could you see the game winning goal or were you blocked?”)

“They did have some action going on in the crease and Menzies did a good job of shooting off our defenders hip and hiding his stick. It was a real nice shot, but it was a shot I think I need to make a save on though.”

(Ref.: chances on making the NCAA Tournament)

“Obviously we need to win Saturday against the University of Pennsylvania if we want any chance to make the tournament. With a win, I’m not sure how everything works out. Without that win, there is no shot we make it. We need to prepare this week like every other week and come out ready to play.”

(Ref.: final thoughts)

“It hurts. Like coach said, we did play well. I think that makes it hurt a little bit more. When you play a pretty good game and you still come up short in the end, that really hurts.”

Army Attackman Jason Peyer

(Ref.: his performance in the game)

“I mean I was feeling good, but it’s hard to bask in two goals and two assists, they don’t mean anything when we don’t win the game. We played hard. We just didn’t hit the shots we needed to hit.”