

2018 NCAA FROZEN FOUR



Game Notes – Semifinal No. 2 – Michigan vs. Notre Dame Thursday, April 5, 2018

- Notre Dame advances to play Minnesota Duluth in the NCAA Championship Game. It is just the second time that the two programs will meet in NCAA Tournament history, the previous match up coming in the 2011 national semifinals here in St. Paul. The Bulldogs won that contest, 4-3.
- Notre Dame's goal with 5.2 seconds remaining is the latest game-winning goal in a national semifinal since Minnesota scored with 0.6 seconds left against North Dakota in 2014.
- The Irish will skate in just their second national championship game, seeking their first crown in school history. In the 2008 title game, Notre Dame fell to Boston College, 4-1.
- This is the seventh straight year that a No. 1 seed has advanced to the national championship game. The last time no No. 1 seeds appeared in the title game came in 2011, also at the Xcel Energy center, when No. 2 Michigan played No. 3 Minnesota Duluth.
- There have been eight one-goal games in the 2018 NCAA Tournament. Since 2003 when the current 16-team format was adopted, the record for one-goal games in a single NCAA Tournament is nine (2017).
- This marks Notre Dame's sixth consecutive one-goal game and fifth consecutive one-goal win. After falling 4-3 to Michigan State in the final contest of the regular season on Feb. 24, the Irish earned two 3-2 victories to claim the Big Ten Tournament championship. They then defeated Michigan Tech, 4-3 in overtime, and Providence, 2-1, to claim the NCAA East Regional crown. Overall on the year, Notre Dame is 14-3-0 in one-goal games.
- Since 2014, eight of the 14 Frozen Four games played have been decided by one goal, zero of which required overtime. The last overtime game in the Frozen Four game was a 3-2 Yale win over UMass Lowell in the 2013 semifinals.
- Jeff Jackson seeks to become the fourth coach to lead two different programs to become NCAA champions. He previously claimed the crown in 1992 and 1994 with Lake Superior State.
- In four previous meetings this season between Michigan and Notre Dame, the team that struck first won the contest. Notre Dame was 2-2-0 in those four prior outings.
- The Irish improve to 3-4-0 when trailing by a 2-0 score. One of those four losses came at the hands of Michigan in a 4-2 decision on Feb. 16.
- Notre Dame improves to 20-3-0 when scoring at least three goals this season.
- Notre Dame's Cal Burke scored his first goal since Feb. 3, a 2-2 tie at Penn State. Notre Dame is now 8-2-1 when Burke scores a goal this year and 17-2-1 when he records at least a point.
- Dexter Danc's goal at 0:17 of the second period is the fastest goal to open a period in a national semifinal since at least 2000.