

St. Cloud Times | MONDAY, MARCH 25, 2019 | B1

USA TODAY SPORTS

Sports

Williamson, Duke survive on 2 late UCF near-misses

Pete Jacobelli
ASSOCIATED PRESS

COLUMBIA, S.C. — Zion Williamson took on 7-foot-6 Tackles Fall at the end and won. So did top-seeded Duke — barely — when two last-ditch shots by UCF rolled off the rim.

Aubrey Dawkins finished with 32 points, but his tip-in try just missed Sunday, and Duke advanced with a 77-76 victory to reach the Sweet 16.

Williamson had 32 points, including a layup over Fall with 34.4 seconds left and his team trailing 76-73. Fall fouled out on the play and the 6-foot-7 Williamson missed the free throw, but RJ Barrett scored on a

putback to put the Blue Devils (11-5) ahead.

Ninth-seeded UCF (24-9) had a final chance. Two of them, actually, from its close.

B.J. Taylor missed a short jumper and Dawkins failed on his tip attempt with less than 2 seconds left, the ball spinning off the rim. Duke got the rebound, ran out the clock and moved on to the Sweet 16 for 27th time and fourth time in the past five years.

Dawkins cringed at the miss. His father, Johnny, is the UCF coach and was a former Duke star and long-time assistant under coach Mike Krzyzewski. The two coaches shared a long embrace at midcourt after it was

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Duke's Zion Williamson shoots over Central Florida's Tackles Fall during the second half on Sunday in Columbia, S.C. RICHARD SHRODAP



Patrick Newell of St. Cloud State and Jesse Jacques of Minnesota-Duluth battle for control of the puck Saturday. DAVE SCHWARZ/DSCHWARZ@STCLOUDTIMES.COM

SETTLING FOR SECOND

SCSU falls to UMD in double OT, finishes as NCHC Frozen Faceoff runner-up

Heather Rule
Special to St. Cloud Times
USA TODAY NETWORK

ST. PAUL — The St. Cloud State men's hockey team will head into the NCAA tournament as the NCHC Frozen Faceoff runner-up for the second year in a row.

The No. 1-ranked Huskies fell short Saturday night in a double-overtime thriller to Minnesota-Duluth, losing 3-2 on a Nick Swaney goal scored off a 2-on-1 play at the 7:29 mark of the second extra session at

Novel Energy Center.

It was the first NCHC championship game that needed overtime to find a winner. SCSU is 3-2 against No. 4-ranked UMD this season.

"For me, being around college hockey for a long time, that was one helluva hockey game," said SCSU coach Brett Larson. "I mean, two unbelievable teams getting after it."

"Obviously we're disappointed right now." Despite the rough ending, Larson praised his team's play in the title game against the Bulldogs. He said he's

not going to re-do anything in preparation for the NCAA Tournament.

"Because I loved our team tonight," Larson said. "I did. I loved how they played. It was a great hockey game. Tell me there's going to be a better game than that all year, to be honest."

The Huskies (30-5-3) controlled the puck early in the game, creating scoring chances before senior Robby Jackson put them up 1-0 at 7 minutes, 43 seconds of

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Keselowski dominates the field for win at Martinsville Speedway

Jenna Frye
ASSOCIATED PRESS

MARTINSVILLE, Va. — Brad Keselowski routed the field at Martinsville Speedway to give Team Penske its third Cup victory through the first six races of the NASCAR season.

Keselowski led 44 of the 500 laps around the short-track oval on the NASCAR schedule, but was challenged a handful of times by Chase Elliott — the only driver to pass Keselowski on the track Sunday.

Although Elliott led 49 laps, a late caution sent the field to pit road and Keselowski beat Elliott back to the track. Elliott could never get close enough to challenge Keselowski for the win again.

"The car was really good. Just a great day for a team," Keselowski said. "Just one of those days you dream of as a race car driver."

The win was the third this season for the new Ford Mustang. Toyota has won the other three races.

Keselowski started third behind teammate Joey Logano, who led the first five laps of the race. Keselowski briefly nudged Logano out of the groove on the sixth lap and took off for the rest that earned him his second Martinsville grandfather clock.

Elliott finished second in a Chevrolet from Hendrick Motorsports, while Kyle Busch was third in a Toyota for Joe Gibbs Racing. Busch had won two consecutive

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Brad Keselowski celebrates in Victory Lane after winning the NASCAR Cup Series race at Martinsville Speedway in Martinsville, Va., Sunday. STEVE HILBERMAN