



**FAIRLEIGH
DICKINSON
UNIVERSITY**

A Message from the President

Dear Students, Faculty and Staff,

What an amazing run! As Head Coach Tobin Anderson said in his post-game press conference, we were one 6-0 run away from making it to the NCAA Sweet 16. In spite of the disappointment that this run has ended, for the past week FDU captured the hearts of a nation. The players, coaches and staff are an absolute inspiration, and they represent the very essence of our story, which is one we had the opportunity to tell the world. When you give FDU students an opportunity, they can change the world.

It was like our team was playing home games in Columbus, Ohio, with hundreds of our own fans in attendance and thousands more rooting for this amazing run to continue. That speaks volumes about how we became the most compelling story during this year's March Madness. You can see just a small collection of the incredible media coverage on our [tournament web page](#).

Congratulations to Coach Anderson, our amazing players and coaching staff, and to our dedicated athletics staff, led by Athletics Director Brad Hurlbut. Their work on and off the court this week was a thing worth witnessing! And congratulations and thank you to all those within the University who supported the squad and showed off their FDU pride. It was incredible to see the excitement and enthusiasm as we united together to cheer them on.

Call it fate, divine intervention or whatever you choose ... it seems that amidst many struggles to try and find our identity and break free from being a well-kept secret, the world now knows and understands FDU. Our identity was present there on the court for 40 minutes each game, and it is the same story that has played out since 1942 in the lives of our students, who when given a chance have the capability to transform their lives and the world around them. That is FDU ... it always has been and always will be, and now the world finally knows!

Michael J. Avaltroni, Ph.D.
Interim President