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U17s fall to the Madison Capitols, 5-3

Team USA returns tomorrow night at USA Hockey Arena.

PLYMOUTH, MI - Rocco Pelosi (Sewell, N.J.), **Carter Meyer** (Winchester, Mass.), and Brayden Willis each tallied a goal but fell to the Madison Capitols 5-3, Friday night at USA Hockey Arena.

The opening 20 minutes of the game got off to a quick start, with both teams seeing multiple scoring opportunities. The U17s got on the board first with a power play goal from **Rocco Pelosi** (Sewell, N.J.) 10:24 into the frame. Working the puck around, Brayden Willis fed Pelosi across the ice, who tried to pass it in the middle, but got the puck back off a deflection and fired it into the net for the 1-0 lead.

Madison got a quick equaliser 30 seconds later off the stick of Max Rider.

After some back and forth, **Carson Scott** (Dayton, Minn.) picked up the puck in the neutral zone and found **Alexander Milojevic** (Chicago, Ill.). A quick pass over to **Carter Meyer** (Winchester, Mass.), who walked into the slot and sniped a shot past the Madison goaltender to give Team USA the lead going into the first intermission.

The Capitols came into the second period strong on offense, getting two scores from Stephen Cover and Gavin Uhlenkamp to take the lead in the second period.

Despite Team USA being outshot in the middle frame, **Nate Chizik** (Warrington, Pa.) kept the U17s at a one-goal deficit with excellent saves throughout the period.

The U17s came into the third period trying to tie the game. After stealing possession from Madison, **Brayden Willis** (Gilbert, Ariz.) sent a quick shot to the back of the net to tie it up just 22 seconds into the period. The Capitols answered quickly, taking back the lead 30 seconds later.

Team USA played a hard-fought third frame, but fell two short as Madison took the 5-3 win with an empty netter.

Chizik started in net for Team USA and turned aside 19 shots.

The U17s are back home tomorrow against the Madison Capitols. Puck drop is set for 7:00 p.m. ET and tickets are available at USAHockeyNTDP.com/tix or by calling the box office at **734-453-8400**.