

**Penn State Women's Basketball**  
**Head Coach Carolyn Kieger Postgame Press Conference**  
**Vs. Rutgers – January 16, 2020**

***Opening Statement***

Thanks for coming. We just talked in the locker room. That close doesn't cut it, you know. We're getting there, we're getting better, but at the end of the day we got to approach these games with some confidence that we can get the W. I'm proud of the progress we've made this year, but now we got to expect to win and not play to not lose. We got to come in the game ready to take some of these W's because we can play. Rutgers is at the top of the league and I thought we played them pretty well on the defensive end, but we got to have a little bit more confidence and a little bit more grit and come away with some big plays at the end.

***Q: Heading into the 4th quarter, you guys were down by nine and were able to cut it to a one-point game. What were some of the adjustments that you and the rest of the coaching staff made?***

**A:** When we made the comeback we were rebounding and getting stops. They were shooting the same shots, but we were able to be tough and come away with those rebounds. When we rebound, we can run with pace and our offense can flow.

***Q: It seemed like when Lauren Ebo took that charge, it sparked a bit of a comeback. How much do you like it when players make that kind of play?***

**A:** That's huge, and that's who we're trying to be. We're trying to make hustle plays, we call them 'PRIDE plays.' That's the second one she's had this year, and we're really instilling that in practice. I thought all night she did a good job of containing penetration and building a wall. For Lauren to be able to make that play it means we're getting there, but we need to make quicker strides than we are.

***Q: Throughout the game there were a few times with multiple minute scoring droughts. What do you tell the team when you're going through them?***

**A:** We have to stop trying to do it by ourselves, we have to stop over-dribbling and reverse the ball. We have to get more post touches and inside/outside looks. There's several different problems that result in scoring droughts, and that's my job to fix it.

***Q: Pretty early in the first half you switched to full-court press. Was there a reason for doing that so soon?***

**A:** It was part of our game plan to play up-tempo. I thought if we could get the game in to the 60s or 70s, that pace favored Penn State. That was a way for us to be able to get that pace up a little bit without Rutgers running time off the clock.