Penn State Women's Basketball Vs. La Salle– Head Coach Carolyn Kieger Quotes November 17, 2019

Opening Statement

"Hi everyone, thanks for coming out. We are learning some very, very hard lessons right now and I hope that's what they'll be. I hope they'll be lessons and they need to be. We need to learn how to be winners and that's what I came here to do, and I came here to change the culture. I'll give Mountain [MacGillivray] a lot of credit. He's had a year to get their team to be winners and he did a phenomenal job changing that culture in one year. You could tell his players really wanted to win at the end of that game. We've got to get there. We cannot give up thirty-three points in the fourth quarter and expect to win a game...It's on me. I'm the head coach of that team. I got to coach a better game, I got to get my players ready to play ball and we've got a lot to fix."

Q: What do you think was kind of the difference there in the second quarter there, trying to build that lead that you guys had?

A: Effort, no other thing, effort.

Q: You ran a lot of up-tempo in the first half, do you think that the second half collapse would be attributed to the players getting gassed and tired?

A: No. That would be an excuse and we don't make those around here, absolutely not. It's mental, it's not physical. We need to learn how to be disciplined and learn how to find the best players and lock down on defense. I mean, they wanted it more. So, it has nothing to do with conserving energy. We subbed quite a bit and we've just got to learn; we have to learn how to have the heart and the discipline to pull out a win. I think that's the hardest thing about this turnaround, this change of culture is going to be teaching them how to be winners and they should expect to win and not fear losing. Right now, we fear losing. We're so used to it and it's got to change. I'm going to figure out ways and I'm going to get creative and I think what's hard is they shifted to that two-three zone and we've been trying to learn our man offense. Obviously, we can't win a game when you have six assists and 20 turnovers and it's going to take time for us to get there. We need to draw two and kick and we need to learn how to make the extra pass and learn how to take uncontested shots. I mean, how many in that second half of our shots were contested and ill-advised? That's youth, that's also pressure, and that's also fearing losing. When you get tight, you cannot play basketball, you can't think, and I think that's what happened.