

**Penn State Basketball**  
**Coquese Washington Postgame Press Conference**  
**vs. St. Bonaventure – December 9 2018**

**Opening Statement:** It was good for us to get Amari [Carter] back on the court. Even though she wasn't 100% just her presence gives us a steady influence on the court. It was an opportunity for us to come back and have our full team together and continue to develop our chemistry. I thought we did some good things and pleased to see Lauren Ebo have a breakout performance and show what she can do.

**Q: The first quarter was pretty ugly. You only shot three of 20 and the team looked out of sorts at times. But then in the second quarter and, especially in the second half, they had a new-found energy and determination. What did you say to them after the first quarter to get them going?**

A: It took a quarter to adjust to how St. Bonaventure was playing us and for us to get a feel for what the reads were, and I think we did that from the second quarter on and we kind of got into a rhythm. Offensively, we knew what we were looking for and were able to get going in transition. I think that once we got a couple baskets in a row it opened things up for us.

**Q: You had Lauren Ebo coming off the bench tonight. She put up arguably her best performance of the season as a freshman. Do you like her in that role coming off the bench providing that spark? Or can you speak to what she meant coming off the bench tonight.**

A: She meant a lot. She's continuing to get better every game. Having that post presence inside is important for us. For her it's going to be about matchups. There are some nights that matchups are better suited for what she can do on both ends of the floor. More so defensively than offensively. As she gets more comfortable with the speed of the game, with how she can get position offensively and impact us that way, that's the most important thing. She's a kid that doesn't care whether she starts or comes off the bench. She's going to play as hard as she can and give what she can when she's out there. Whether she starts or doesn't start and those type of decisions will go into the game plan depending on what team we play.

**Q: Obviously every loss is disappointing, but last week's games loss against Duquesne seemed more heartbreaking than usual. What did you say this week before this game to have them come out firing, especially like they did today in the second half today?**

A: We didn't have a "win one for the gipper" conversation or anything. I think this team understands that our basketball season is long. Sometimes you have disappointments, and certainly the game against Duquesne was disappointing but there is so much basketball left in the season. We just stay focused. We put that game behind us and focused on what we needed to do to get ready for St. Bonaventure. We won this game but there are a lot of areas that we got to get better at and we'll do the same thing. We'll take the lessons from every game and try to improve and try to get better. As our team starts to get healthy, as we get our young kids more experience, as we play together as a team more, we will continue to get better. The focus was just on improvement and what can we get better at this week, and what we can get better at next week as we prepare for American. That will be the focus going forward.