

**Rutgers Women's Basketball
Head Coach Press Conference
Vs. Penn State – January 27, 2019**

C. Vivian Stringer | Head Coach

Q: Teniya Page is approaching a big career milestone of 2,000 points and you've seen her play multiple times over the past four years. What do you think her legacy looks like in the big ten and what do you think has made her such a successful player in her time here?

A: I think she's a great player. Somebody that coach has done a great job of relying on, she's just big time. We're concerned always about who we have on her. The good thing about the Penn State program always is that there's always one player that's just cut above everybody else. Teniya is that and I suspect that she is going to be drafted. She's probably working hard and if anybody knows how to prepare her for that then it's going to be coach.

Q: Stasha Carey. What makes her so difficult to defend down low after she had such a monstrous day in and around the rim? What makes her tough to guard in those situations.

A: With this young lady, you have to be on top side from the beginning and take your chance on that pass being thrown to her from high post position. She does a nice job of sealing so she's going to be effective. She's a big girl, she does a nice job of sealing and she moves around.

Q: Penn State was very active on the offensive boards tonight, they actually pulled down 15. How were you able to hold them off in the fourth quarter despite that?

A: We tried a couple different junk things. For example, one time we showed it and it looked like it was a man, and suddenly we switched into a zone press. Those kinds of things, things that would take them off. I know that for us, it creates problems. If a team is consistently playing man then we can adjust to that, but when they're changing, that is what's going to happen. We thought that we would just throw them off a little bit. At times when it looked like they could break it below ten, we would switch the defense up and disrupt things, isolate, and get the hit that we needed. Then as time wanes down, it makes them a little more anxious to get the ball back and there's bound to be mistakes there. At the beginning, I was frustrated with it because I thought that we played lackadaisical. We weren't pushing the ball down the floor, the ball was being taken out of our hands, we were halfway going after passes. As a coach you can warn against that, but foolishness creeps into the minds of young people who have not been there before. That is what was happening to us. It has been sometime since we have been in the top 20. So now you can be foolish and think that you deserve that without realizing that the great teams, i.e. Notre Dame, Connecticut. In addition to having great talent, they have to be mentally tough, and that means you don't get carried away with what you think you have. If you haven't been there before, then you can either take the advice of people that have been there and do it that way, or you can learn the hard way and what we were trying to do was prevent that because we were out of sync with everything that we were doing.