

Penn State Women's Basketball
Postgame Press Conference – Lock Haven
October 28, 2018

Head Coach Coquese Washington

Opening Statement

It was good to get out here and play with folks in the stands and to play in a real game situation. Our previous attempts have been scrimmaging situations and closed practices and things of that nature. So, it was good to get out and have a live run-through. I thought that we got a lot of contributions from everybody. If you look, you see we have five people in double-figures and a sixth one at nine points. That is one of the things that we really wanted to stress this year was being able to share the ball and get contributions from a lot of people. I thought we started the game in that first quarter really strong. Second quarter clearly was not our best moment of the game, and I really thought that the official timeout to review the foul on Lauren Ebo took our momentum away and it took us the rest of the quarter to get our momentum and our connection back. I thought we came out the second half and turned it back up. It was good for us to be able to play a bunch of different lineups and get our freshmen a lot of playing time. So, all-in-all, I think this was a positive for us. There are certainly some things that we have to work on and get better at, but overall a lot of positives for us.

Q: Is it by design to run Alisa (Smith) down the court the way you do? Talking to a lot of people, she did very well in the Spain trip, what is so different about her now compared to last year? Is it confidence?

CW: I think some of it is confidence, a lot of it is confidence, but I also think she has a better feel for the college game. She is a very good athlete, and she has a lot of speed in the post, and we definitely want to take advantage of that. It's going to show up at different times of the game, it may not even show up in the first half. She is in tremendous shape, we saw in this game in the fourth quarter she got two or three run-out's. She is just in great shape. She put a lot of work in this summer to expand her game and I think you are seeing the work she did pay off.

Q: You guys seem to play most comfortable in transition, is that something that you preach to your players? Or is that something that they like to do? Is that their style? Take me through that.

CW: It is both. I think it suits our team and it suits our personnel. We have multiple players that are able to handle the ball and make decisions and make shots. So, we just want to try to put them in positions where they are able to showcase what they can do when they are in positions and where they can make plays that suit the team. They like playing that way and it suits our personnel. It is certainly by design and we will continue to add layers to it as we go throughout the season.