

Missouri vs. Alabama - 2/5/23
Venue - Mizzou Arena - Columbia, Mo.
Final Score: Alabama 76, Mizzou 69
Attendance: 3,698

Head Coach Robin Pingeton
Opening Statement...
"Really appreciate you guys coming out, a special crowd tonight, Alumni day means a lot to us and it just makes me sick we weren't able to get it done for all of them and it's a very unsettling feeling. We talked a lot about the defensive intensity that we had to have in that second half and they came out and scored 49. A lot of people probably think well we need to go zone. We did a couple possessions of that and had a hard time rebounding out of the zone. They've got a lot of kids that shoot the three ball really well. Every time they get a box out, it came back to kick us and they were able to score a lot of paint points. You know, the first time we played it, we dominated paint points and today they got and sprinkled in hours and got to the free throw line way too many times. We've talked about not bailing them out and they finished 18-for-18 from the free throw line. Tough night, our backs are against the wall. There's no other way you can put it you want to go the NCAA Tournament and it's definitely one game at a time. But the big picture is if you want to go the NCAA Tournament, you're probably going to win out and so we'll see how we respond to that."

On having an off-week to prepare for the next game...
"I think really important, every game in the SEC is so challenging and we're getting ready to go to Arkansas. Obviously, that'll be a tough place to play and against a really good team. I think it's been a little bit of a tough week and obviously this one cuts pretty deep and if it doesn't, there's another problem but I know it does. I know these girls care. We just got to figure some things out this week. Like coach or like Coach Troup. She's going to be a coach someday she's going to be a heck of a coach. Like Troup said I mean just that grittiness. I just hate it when you can't check that box. I absolutely hate it when you can't check that box and then we can't do that again tonight. We saw that in the Georgia game, the Kentucky game, and not just because the end result. But anytime you allow 50 points and a half you can't tell me that's the level that we need to play out."

On Hayley Frank's performance...
"Yeah, she's just a warrior. You talk about a competitor and given every fiber of her body to this team and trying to figure out ways to win. One of the qualities about her that's really special that you guys don't get a chance to see is the energy that she comes into every single huddle when trying to pour into other people. She just battles, she's got great maturity and had a huge night for us tonight. For her to get to the free throw line 11 times was big for us but she commands so much attention and she's going against, sometimes a double team sometimes there's three people on her and she continues to play at a really high level for us."

Senior Guard Haley Troup
On having their backs against the wall...
"I think the locker room knows that I think we need to control what we can control and that's watching film and getting better in practice. We haven't bye week and we just really have to buy into what the coaches tell us and buy into the fact that our backs are against the wall. We have to have a chip on our shoulder and we have to go into games and be grittier, more physical and that has to be 40 minutes. It can't be 35 minutes. And I feel like we didn't do that tonight consistently for 40 minutes, but from here on out like that has to be the difference."

On starting the last couple games hot...
"I think just being confident. You know, I think for myself, I was kind of getting in the mindset that I only have seven games left. I was putting that pressure on myself and it's just something that you feel in all aspects of the game when you do that, and you're not playing free. I think I told myself, you just have to go out there play basketball. You've done this your whole life and just don't feel that pressure and I felt a lot better the last couple of games just being myself and being assertive and doing what I need for the team.

Freshman Guard Ashton Judd
On her perfect shooting night...
"I was just trying to get stuff going for the team and make plays happen, whether that was an extra pass or just whatever I needed to do"