

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: Wednesday, December 21, 2016



Coach Painter / Postgame Quotes

[15] PURDUE 91, Norfolk State 45 / Mackey Arena (11,376)

QUESTION: On the play of Caleb Swanigan...

Coach Painter: "Obviously it is pretty impressive in back to back games getting 20 rebounds, 20 and 20, and then tonight getting 30 and 20. I am just impressed with his effort and also just letting things come to him. I know he took 15 shots but three of them were threes and he got the ball in the high post against the zone and was in the low post so he is getting it in variety of ways. He is also being unselfish and passing the basketball and it is very important to make the right play and keep things simple. It is also one of those things when you have skill around you and you have size, they have to make a decision at some point unless they just take you out of what you want to do with their overall athleticism. If somebody doesn't do that then we are in a pretty good position when you have him in the high post and Isaac in the low post with guys that can shoot around him."

QUESTION: On the presence of Caleb Swanigan on this team...

Coach Painter: "Leadership is an action -- anyone can say the right things. It is important to say the right things and then do them. As a leader it is your job to be able to do things when coaches are not around. At times your players don't need to fill that role when coaches are present because that is what you do, you can't play, your career is up. It is so important for those guys to be the coaches on the floor and be able to handle things when you are not around."

QUESTION: On the evaluation of the team after the non-conference...

Coach Painter: "I thought we had a couple games where we handled adversity and we were able to still win. Georgia State and Notre Dame, I thought those were two games that really tested our character as a team and our guys responded and played well. The most disappointing was the way we played in the first half of the Louisville game. I just didn't think we had our main guys be very productive and against a team that is good as Louisville, a top-five team in the country, we have to be able to come out. We missed shots and we turned the basketball over, missed point-blank layups, we just didn't play very well. Hopefully we can learn from that and when you get an opportunity to play someone like that down the road you play a lot better."

QUESTION: On the team cutting down the turnovers...

Coach Painter: "I don't think we are doing anything differently besides concentration. We are not giving away turnovers, throwing 16 turnovers with 12 of them being bad passes, it is a little bit of everything, it is kind of a grab bag. For us, I think it is overall concentration and just being a little bit more fundamentally sound and taking care of the basketball."

QUESTION: On Caleb Swanigan bringing energy every single game...

Coach Painter: "I think he is actually a little bit better at times in these settings because he is so excited in the other settings. He was ready to play in this game but he is not jumping over the fight. I think sometimes like against Louisville or Villanova or Notre Dame or going to Madison Square Garden. *He* wants to go and he wants to play and then he has two to three turnovers

before the first media timeout. He is really excited and understands the moment and it means a lot to him.”

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Purdue Player / Postgame Quotes

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QUESTION: On playing hard...

Swanigan: "Just play hard every possession, play every team and respect them, play your hardest and give it your best effort, that's all I can do every game."

QUESTION: On being in the company of Blake Griffin...

Swanigan: "He played with a high motor and high intensity in college and I do too. It's not really trying to be in his company it was just me focusing on my path. Just trying to work hard every day, in every game on every play, trying to get better."

QUESTION: Thompson on Swanigan...

Thompson: "He puts in the hard work so he definitely deserves the success he's been having. He's getting 30 and 20 and the thing is he's not doing it in a selfish way. He's yelling at me when I'm not shooting open shots"

QUESTION: On his improvement...

Thompson: "I had 7 assists, but the credit goes to my teammates, they make shots. If I throw it in the post they're going to score. If I kick it out they're going to knock down shots. Once I kick it I have confidence in my guys that they're going to knock it down."

QUESTION: On going into the Big Ten season...

Haas: "Coach Painter was telling us it's going to be a war every single game. And we're really looking forward to that."

QUESTION: On Swanigan...

Haas: "It's unbelievable. It's cool to be in the presence of somebody that can go after all those rebounds and score almost every time he gets the ball. It's good to have that counterpart down on the block. I look forward to seeing him in practice on the 26th"

QUESTION: On Thompson...

Haas: "Going into the B1G season were going to need guys that don't turn it over. To have somebody like PJ, we're going to need that going into the Conference season, he's a major difference maker."