Penn State Women's Basketball Student-Athlete Postgame Press Conference vs. LIU – November 9, 2021

Ali Brigham | Forward | So.

Q: Ali, I know it's your first game here at Penn State. You know how great did it feel to be able to go out there and produce the way that you did in your first matchup?

A: It felt good. I think we all had the date circled on the calendar for a long time. So, we were all anticipating this and then to be able to play in front of all the fans, we are so grateful for them showing up. It was just a fun environment.

Q: How were you looking to contribute to your first game here at Penn State?

A: I have a big presence, so I wanted to use that, I expected to use that. On defense, like being that last line of defense, that block, that's my goal. I mean, every single time I should be able to do that. So that is something that I am going to work on but using my size both on the offensive and defensive side is going to be something that I make my goal for every game.

Q: What did you see from that depth of the team?

A: If we go hard for two to three minutes and we know that someone else is going to come in like Leilani came in and got great defensive stops and she came in and got the defensive spark going for us. That just makes it easier for us to make shots on the offensive. Being able to go hard for two three minutes and know that you have teammates coming in that are ready to have your back and do more is special.

Makenna Marisa | Guard | Jr.

Q: What kind of things were you looking for out of this team? How close did you come to achieving what you wanted today?

A: Personally, you know, I am always hard on myself, and I try to be hard on the team too, because we are really good and have a lot of potential. I think we did a lot of good things, but there is a lot to work on. Coming out of this, we need to have a good defensive practice. We need to work on rebounding. I think they got too many rebounds against us. We need to just fix the mistakes that we made today, but overall, a win is a win.

Q: How important is it to be able to rely on so many other players on your team that can score and score in a number of different ways?

A: Yes, like Coach Kieger said, we have a lot of different scorers on our team. I am going to set them up however I need to. We have been trying to play into our roles. So, whoever is hot, we try to get them the ball. I just try to make the right play and be a playmaker overall.

Q: What did you see from that depth of the team?

A: I was really proud. Tonight, I thought we did hit a lot of threes. And we do have a lot of shooters. I think everyone can really shoot the three. I know you have not seen it yet, but so can Ali over here. We are going to find the hot hands, whoever it is, and it is going to be someone different each night. Maybe five of us, maybe four or maybe one, but we are going to find the hot hands.