

**Penn State Basketball
Student-Athlete Postgame Press Conference
vs. Ohio State - December 5, 2021**

John Harrar | Forward | Sr.+

Q: Coach Shrewsberry was talking a lot about how you exemplify what he wants to see at Penn State, and he was telling us how he wants to see a complete 40 minutes. As the fifth-year guy, the leader, how do you bring everybody along with you in that situation?

A: I think it's our mindset. This isn't an easy task that we tell everyone to do, every day. We are going to go practice hard, balls to the wall tomorrow, and it's not going to be easy. What we're trying to accomplish as a team is going to be hard. So, you better show up every day and take care of whatever else is going on in your life and just the buy in and the sacrifices. It's hard to play hard. It's not easy. It's a dogfight, so you have to take care of your body like Jalen was saying. You gave to know, coming into this, it's going to be a dog fight. I heard a great quote one time, like winning is hard. But then losing, it's hard to lose. It's hard because you just keep losing. This isn't fun talking to you guys. If we won, we would be smiling, right? But, winning is hard to because it's doing the little things every day, it's taking care of yourself every day. But we get to pick our hard. Let's pick let's pick the right hard.

Q: You guys had a strong start to the game, but then Ohio State was able to gap you guys a little bit. How do you duplicate that energy from the start of the game?

A: I think it's a maturity thing. Never too high, never too low. Whatever happens you respond in the same way. Don't even look at the scoreboard, just play the right way. The basketball that Coach Shrewsberry is trying to get us to play.

Q: You seem pretty fired up about the loss. Coach seemed the same way when he was in here. What was said after the game and how do you guys think you'll respond?

A: Coach's message is that we have to get back after it. We don't have an off day tomorrow. He was telling us how hard Wagner is going to play. They are going to punch us in the face just like any Big Ten team. So, we have to come out and show up the next day, get after it, watch film with him, get better. Again, just keep buying in. It's not easy. You can make that your headline.

Jalen Pickett | Guard | Sr.

Q: What is the biggest difference from nonconference play to Big Ten play?

A: I think the physicality. The way Ohio State came in and how they played against us. They have really good forwards, and their guards play well, so definitely how physical the game is. It's definitely up from not conference.

Q: You mentioned that Big Ten play is more physical. Do you like that more? Do you feel like it fits your style of play?

A: I think I just come out and try and play the right way every time. I think that's what our team does, too. And what we're trying to get everybody to do, just take what the defense gives us. Whether that's being more physical or having a little bit of finesse. We have to play the right way and play our way every time.