

Penn State Lady Lion Basketball
Makenna Marisa Postgame Press Conference
vs. No. 23 Iowa- January 25, 2022

Makenna Marisa | G | Jr.

Q: Makenna, you guys are down kind of early in that second quarter and you seemed like you really lit a spark to get the score to 35 to 34. You just kept making shot after shot. How are you able to just kind of lead the team and take charge there?

A: Ali Brigham was setting some great screens, and that's what I was looking to do tonight. I knew the pick and roll game, the screens were going to be open, I was gonna get jump shots. So that was what I was looking to do. And my shot felt good, so I just kept shooting. Credit to AB giving me good screens and my teammates for spreading the floor, but my shot felt good so like I said, I just kept shooting.

Q: What has it been like to have Kelly [Jekot] back on the floor since her injury last year?

A: Yeah, it's awesome. I love [Kelly] to death. She's a hard worker. She has the IQ and I try to learn from her every single day so it's really been amazing. Now she's getting more and more confident every single game and she, I would say keeps us the most composed with her experience and her kind of being an elder on the team. But yeah, I love playing with [Kelly].

Q: Caitlin Clark has been one of the best players in conference so far this season. What about her would you say is difficult to defend?

A: Credit to her, she's an amazing player. Like coach said, she's an elite passer and she had like 17 assists. She just knows where her teammates are and knows where to set them up. [She's an] elite scorer as well so she's just got an all-around game and it's really hard to guard so credit to her, she's tough to play against.

Q: Coach said that you were really great with your teammates in the locker room after the loss tonight. What was said in there, and can you kind of take us in there and [tell us] how you guys stay in the right mental mindset after this?

A: I think accountability is the most important part. You know, we work hard and practice, we practice things and we do it right, and then the game will mess it up. And so we have to hold each other accountable. So what we're messing up in the game is because it's just unacceptable. I had to get on some people in the locker room, and I know they're going to come out strong the next game so yeah, accountability. That's the biggest thing and we're going to work on the things that we do wrong in practice and we're going to make sure to lock in.

Q: Tonight's game was a Pennsylvania pride game, being a Pennsylvania native yourself and having that legacy with their grandfather in the 1954 Final 4. What does this game specifically mean to you honoring your home state and school?

A: It means a lot. I have a lot of pride being from Pittsburgh. I take a lot of pride in that and I know the other PA people on my team do as well. So, yeah, it's a special game. And seeing the jerseys, seeing some Pittsburgh jerseys out there, I had to go up and give some high fives to them. So yeah, it's special, like I said.