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An interview with:

LSU

THE MODERATOR: We'll go ahead and get started with LSU. Start with an opening statement from coach.

COACH CALDWELL: I'm extremely proud of this team. We have battled and we have hit adversity and we have been challenged. And when it looked like there wasn't a chance for us to even have our names called on Selection Monday. These young ladies came together and decided to fight, fight for one another, and they put LSU back on the map as a dominant program. And tonight we played a very, very good basketball team in Cal. But I cannot take anything away from what these young ladies have done, their body of work, to get here today.

THE MODERATOR: Open it up for questions for the student-athletes.

Q. For either player, talk about the second half and what you think the turning point was in the game and the difference in the second half.

ADRIENNE WEBB: Our intensity might have slacked up a little bit. We came out a little flat and fought our way back, but I mean, we were putting them to the line and they were knocking down free throws. And I really think that we fought hard at times, but it was like we flipped on

and off. We came up, we turned our intensity all the way up and then we took off some possessions.

Q. Adrienne, talk about your first half defense on Clarendon. I think the term you used on ESPN -- you were told to get in her shorts and you did that. It looks like they made a couple of adjustments in the second half and what do you think they changed and what did they try to do to you? It seemed like they kind of extended their defense to kind of disrupt you out on the perimeter.

ADRIENNE WEBB: When they came out in the second half, they really started trapping us on all our ball screens, so we weren't rotating right or we weren't making the extra pass to find our open teammate.

Q. For either player, can you talk about their free throw shooting when the game was still close and it looked like sort of a see saw back and forth. At that point I think they made something like 10 out of 12.

THERESA PLAISANCE: Yeah, we were going to put them on the line to just see if we can get a missed shot opportunity for a rebound so we could push it back our way. They did a great job of knocking down free throws at very clutch times. And that really killed us. Coming down, having to foul and then converting on the other end and them turning around and knocking two down just right off the bat like that.

Q. Theresa talk about the leader Adrienne has been for y'all during this run late in the season. As y'all go 9-2-down the stretch to make the NCAA tournament. She's led y'all in scoring through that period and obviously carried y'all in the Penn State game.

THERESA PLAISANCE: Webb

has grown a lot as a person and player. I remember my freshman year, you couldn't get a single word out of Webb. Angry, happy, Webb was just Webb. She was going to play her game and not say a word. And as we got older, and as we have developed as women, Webb's done a great job, especially this off season. Starting in the off-season, she was our leader in conditioning, in the weight room, and preseason workouts. Webb was that leader that we all looked to and now having this post season play and being able to play with such a player like Webb, she's such a blessing to have on the team. She's so composed at all times and she does the little things. When you go to Webb, you know you can always expect a hard worker and a great teammate. And you'll never see any negativity coming from Webb.

And it really helped us out this post season especially against Penn State you saw her do what she does, knock down shots. She's just had a great career here. I wish her the best. We're going to miss her a lot.

Q. Adrienne, the thing about this tournament is that there's such great highs, and then such sudden sadness and the emotion of seeing your season and your career end. Just talk about what that's like for you right now. Because y'all had two great highs in your first two games, and then you're there at halftime in this game and then all of a sudden it's all over in what turned out to be a 20 minute game.

ADRIENNE WEBB: Well, it stings a little bit. You want to continue on. You don't really want to think about the odds of, okay, what happens when my season comes to an end. Unfortunately, mine has come short, but I have to say, I have had one great career at LSU. I've had the best group of teammates and I couldn't ask for a better group than this year. We have really fought through everything, through

injury and through numbers. We have really dug deep and believed in each other and pulled through. And I really couldn't ask for a group, a better group of players and coaches to have for this last senior season.

THE MODERATOR: Okay. We'll excuse the student-athletes and take questions for coach.

Q. Can you talk about the flow of the game in the second half. Were they -- did you feel like they got out and ran more and in addition to them getting to the line and was that kind of. So difference?

COACH CALDWELL: Yeah, I did. I thought that the transition game was there. I thought we really tried to establish an inside attack and put the ball inside quite a bit. We have got to play through the contact. We got to make sure that there's no fade aways. You got to be tough, go straight into them.

But those missed shots, those missed gimmies, there was quite a few of them that we missed. And our team needed to think, "and one." And so when you're thinking that way, you're not worrying about whether or not you get the call or not. And I thought we missed a lot of those gimmies and then they did a great job.

I thought Boyd really took it upon herself to push the tempo, which really got their transition game going. And that gave them some easier looks.

But they're a very good basketball team on the glass. They really make a point to get all over the offensive boards.

Q. You spoke about Clarendon's danger off the bounce and it seemed in the second half, whether it was in full court with Boyd pushing she got some good looks with mid range looks. How did you combat that? What did you like from your defense

responding to her in that second half?

COACH CALDWELL: Well, in the second half she got herself to the free throw line. I thought that was the difference. Making five baskets is good, when you look. If you said to me that Clarendon's only going to make five baskets, that's a good night for anybody defensively. But what separated her was getting herself to the free throw line.

Q. One last Jeanne question for the season. Getting to get her in the game, did y'all shoot around and saw she was okay and just what kind of spark did you hope to get and what did you get from her in the game?

COACH CALDWELL: Well we got leadership. Jeanne is one of those players that her stat line doesn't show a lot of points. She doesn't get a whole lot of rebounds, but her ability to lead is always there and her competitive spirit. She's worked extremely hard in the off season and during the entire season. I would say that she's one of my hardest working players and so you knew you were going to get a competitor on the floor as well.

Q. Adrienne made a 3-pointer with 51 seconds left, I think, to bring it to 10 points. The South Florida game was just Monday, so that was a 10 point about the same amount of time. Did you tell your guys anything in the huddle that, look, this can be done?

COACH CALDWELL: Well we talked about that there's plenty of time on the clock, and obviously around the two minute and some change we went to fouling and trying to get the game to be a little bit longer and hopefully they could miss some of those free throws.

But when you have the ability to shoot the three, you always think that you can be in the game. But some things have got to go your way as far as on the defensive end.

Q. Talk about Adrienne, what she provided for you guys during this late season

run. She ended up being your leading scorer a lot of times and in these NCAA games you're putting her on the other team's best player on defense?

COACH CALDWELL: She's a player that can play on both sides of the basketball. Adrienne has really come into her own. When I first met her I thought she was a woman of few words. She didn't say a whole lot. And now you see her stepping up in the huddles, you see her at practice being more vocal. She's just grown tremendously. But she's left her mark on this program. She definitely has been a player that has represented the purple and gold, not only on the basketball court, but within the community and in the classroom. And you couldn't ask for a better student-athlete to be a part of your program than Adrienne Webb.

THE MODERATOR: All right. Thank you.

COACH CALDWELL: Thank you.