

Players Era Power College Basketball Tournament

Thursday, November 28, 2024

Las Vegas, Nevada, USA

MGM Grand Garden Arena

Notre Dame Fighting Irish Coach Micah Shrewsberry

Postgame Press Conference

Houston, 65 - Notre Dame- 54

MICAH SHREWSBERRY: Credit to Houston. Just a great coach. Really good team. Really hard team to play on second night of back-to-back. We had a bunch of dudes playing 40, 45 minutes the night before.

I thought we did really good things defensively. I thought we moved the ball pretty well for maybe 30 minutes of the game, but I felt like we wore down at the end, and they have a lot to do with that, with how they play and how much pressure they put on you on both ends of the court.

But proud of our guys for their effort. And we'll grow from this. This game is going to help us way down the line this season.

Q. Obviously not the outcome you guys wanted the last couple of games here. How do you guys keep the confidence of the locker room moving forward into Saturday's game against Creighton and moving forward from that?

MICAH SHREWSBERRY: Just played the best team in the country toe to toe for whatever. Almost 40 minutes and we're showing it right now. Like, it's not changing. So like we need to continue to have belief. We need to continue to find different ways to win, whether that's a high-scoring affair like last night or whether it's a knock-down-drag-out game like tonight.

I think we can kind of do both and find different ways to have success and find different ways to try and win.

Q. Also you mentioned the defense and obviously everybody playing a bunch of minutes with you guys being down, obviously back-to-back games. The only other team this year to keep Houston under 70 was Auburn in a victory. Can you maybe go over the defense and really how you felt they played today and



what they were able to do to keep Houston in the lower-scoring --

MICAH SHREWSBERRY: I felt our effort, in the first half, they hit four 3s, and I felt like three of them weren't mistakes on our part, which kind of opened up the game a little bit going into halftime.

But we wanted to protect the paint. We wanted to try to keep them away from the rim. We wanted to keep them off the foul line and then be there on their guys that make shots.

I thought Logan Imes did an incredible great job on L.J. Cryer, making him take tough shot after tough shot. You look at Sharp, goes 3 of 9 from 3, and one of them is a bank shot. We did a good job of holding our own, and then holding our own on the glass, eight offensive rebounds.

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