



Kings Postgame Quotes

Minnesota Timberwolves (0-2) vs. Sacramento Kings (2-1)

KINGS HEAD COACH DAVE JOERGER:

On the team's comeback:

"It just means you go on a road trip 2-1. I think there is a nice difference between being 2-1 and 1-2 and how you feel about yourself, knowing you are going to play your next five in all kinds of different states around the union. I think that's a better feeling getting on the plane tomorrow."

On his halftime speech:

"I was very inspirational. You've got to stay the course – you can't get too high and you can't get too low. I was disappointed in some of the things we did defensively. I thought we did a better job taking care of the basketball today. The loose passing, the loose catching – there's still some time where we struggle, where we revert to playing isolation basketball. What happens is we try to dribble into crowds and then we end up with no play. It just takes time. Sometimes there's going to be some bad stretches where we go...that didn't work good on that. We snapped out of that and moved the basketball pretty well. Like I said, we were much more in attack mode in the second half."

On the second unit:

"It's nobody's fault. Everybody's got their heart in the right place and trying to make a play. We've just got to do a better job of finding those spots and trusting your teammate that we can play on – we can play longer in the clock and as we do that, we'll find that we can set our defense better."

On Matt Barnes:

"There is a level of experience there and certainly guys are very confident in him that he'll always have their back in getting us organized. He helps me because our point guards are all new to this too – with his knowledge of what we're trying to do. Our point guards try to get turned and you'll get good defenders, (Ricky) Rubio and (Kris) Dunn are both good defenders; Matt's able to be a coach on the floor and tell them where to get to."

KINGS FORWARD MATT BARNES:

Regarding the icepack on his front and back tonight:

"I have bad ribs and I got elbowed in my sternum too. I don't even think it's getting old, it's just bad luck, I'm just catching elbows for some reason but I'm alright – I'll be alright. "

October 29, 2016

Home Game 2

Being good luck for his team tonight:

“It’s just being resilient. This is a game of runs and that’s something that in the past, this team would get hit in the face and then kind of hang their heads. But we’re a resilient bunch this year – down 18, came back, took the lead in the third and then held on to the rope.”

His impact on the game given his circumstances with his ribs:

“Just got to tough it out – right now we had to get one of these two home games. We’ve got a tough road schedule coming up so we knew we had to get this game tonight and go on the road. To me, Demarcus (Cousins) and Rudy (Gay) are one of the best one-two punches in the game and like I said, we’ve got a helluva team this year, so we’ve got to keep going.”

On Coach Joerger’s reaction to the first unit; what went through his mind coming out in the second unit:

“Just to bring energy. We’ve got to bring energy; we can’t take anybody for granted. You let teams get leads and it’s hard to get it back – it’s an uphill battle most of the game. So we come out prepared, come out ready, it’ll be easier. So he put them out, I think he sent a message that we came back in the third quarter playing strong.”

TIMBERWOLVES HEAD COACH TOM THIBODEAU:

On the same issues presented from the prior game in Memphis:

“The 3rd quarter was a problem, big problem. We have to take a look at the problems and see where the issues are.”

On how big of an issue was DeMarcus Cousins?

“That’s the way he plays. He’s a tough match up every night. We have to have the willingness to deal with it and deal with it effectively. I thought we came out in the 1st half and played a good 1st half. The 4th quarter was a scramble to get back and then we missed free throws.”

On the team’s toughness:

“We have to get a lot tougher. We got to get a lot tougher.”

TIMBERWOLVES CENTER KARL-ANTHONY TOWNS:

On the same issues they had in Memphis:

“It’s frustrating. We have to keep leads. We keep having big leads and we squander them. We just have to keep working. We have somethings we have to fix. Every game is a learning experience for us. We’re just trying to cut the learning experience shorter.”

On the positives from tonight’s game:

“You don’t get a lead like we do without doing good things. We executed offensively, and defensively. We held the lead tight. But, we can’t let that happen every single game. We can’t be a great team coming out the gate and not finish.”

TIMBERWOLVES GUARD ANDREW WIGGINS:

On if tonight’s issues were the same as in Memphis

“Basically the same thing. We had a good lead (early on), at half-time we had a good lead. Third quarter, the same thing happened in Memphis. We had a really bad third quarter. We allowed them to get in, get the lead close, take the lead. Let them build confidence for them, they started knocking down shots that they weren’t making in the first half.”

On the Kings big third quarter

“They made some plays. They have some good players, (DeMarcus) Cousins and (Rudy) Gay. They were making shots.”

October 29, 2016
Home Game 2

On what the game tells him about the team

"We got to be tough the whole game. Our first two games, we started out the game punching them. We started the game aggressive. Then as the game went on, it slowly just went away. We took our foot off the pedal and we allowed them to get into position (to win)"