



# PREGAME QUOTES

## Minnesota Timberwolves vs. Los Angeles Clippers

November 12, 2016

Minnesota head coach Tom Thibodeau

*On what he likes with the Wolves shooting success this season . . .*

“The rhythm. Playing inside out and getting the ball into the paint and then making plays. The penetration has been great along with the pass, so if we get rhythm shots, I think we have a good chance to make them. The guys have put a lot of work into it, they make the extra pass and they are high percentage shooters.”

*Playing against Blake Griffin and DeAndre Jordan and what the Wolves need to do to slow them down . . .*

“We’re not only concerned about those two, but you add in Chris Paul and JJ (Redick), it’s enormous pressure. Obviously with DeAndre and Blake and the way they run the floor and Chris running the floor and pushing the ball and you also need the awareness of where Redick is. If you overlook those guys then Mbah a Moute can beat you because he is running the floor as well. So I think the pressure that they put on you, our defense in transition needs to be terrific.”

*Dealing with young players in Minnesota compared to what he experienced in Chicago . . .*

“In Chicago, we had more of a blend. Rose was 22 and Noah was 25, still a little bit older than these guys. But we also had veterans like Loul (Deng) and Carlos Boozer, Kyle Korver, Ronnie Brewer. It was a good blend. This team is a little bit younger so we need to work at it every day. We know we need to make a commitment to improve.”

Los Angeles head coach Doc Rivers

*On his advice to Tom Thibodeau in his dual role . . .*

“Just that it’s a job that he can do. He’s ready, he’s been in the league. He’ll be great at it and you’ll see that soon. And then just hiring people who he knows are good and will do a lot of the work for him and that he can trust. I think he’s done that as well.”

*Do you think DeAndre Jordan learned from Thibodeau during the Olympics?*

“I think Thibs is such a great basketball mind and he takes it extremely serious and I think DJ probably got a whiff of that this summer. It’s the Olympic team and we were supposed to win, but I think what Thibs probably showed them, you can’t take it for granted. You have to still be prepared.”

*On Blake Griffin’s defense . . .*

“That’s been his biggest improvement. Offensively, he is what he is. He’s just going to keep getting better. But defensively he can make a bigger step and I think he’s doing that. He has such a high basketball IQ and when he uses it in a defensive play, it makes us really good.”

