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Oklahoma City Thunder vs. Minnesota Timberwolves

11/5/2016

OKLAHOMA CITY THUNDER COACH BILLY DONOVAN:

Opening Statement:

“I thought we had really good sustained effort for the majority of the game. I thought to start off offensively, I thought Russell did an incredible job, just getting everybody involved, spreading the ball around, creating and generating shots for our guys. I thought we were pretty efficient on offense in terms of our shooting percentage and I thought we took care of the basketball for the most part. I thought our second unit came in and played well. Towns in the first half was a handful, I thought we did a little bit better job in the third quarter and I don't think he played very much in the fourth. So I thought again it was a good step in a positive direction for us to continue to build on.”

On having 70 points in the paint today and success down low:

“I thought Russell, in particular, did a great job of getting the ball to the paint. We opened up and got open three point shots. We made pretty good decisions tonight on when to interior pass and try to finish at the basket and when to pass it to the perimeter for jump shots. I thought we were balanced. You know, we shot fairly decent. We didn't take a lot of threes but we took good threes. And we were able to get down hill to the front of the rim. We got some offensive rebounds. We got put backs. You know, we got some drives. We got out in transition. There were some different ways that we scored, but what was happening was the floor was spaced. Even the three-point shooting was effective for us because we were taking a lot of good open threes.”

On the Thunder's defense:

“Yeah, I mean, it's probably a little bit of both. One is I think both Victor and Andre both did a terrific job. They did a great job following and chasing off of screens. They did a good job with Wiggins around the basket in terms of moving their feet and make him take tough shots. I thought Andre's and Victor's defense was terrific. And I also, you know, they were really going to town. So he had it going there so a lot of it to him to, but when they did try to incorporate Wiggins, you know, and LaVine, not to mean those guys didn't score some were good shots off, but I thought our guys defended them as well as they could have been defended.”

OKLAHOMA CITY THUNDER GUARD RUSSELL WESTBROOK:

On what got the team going:

“The defense. The other games when we defend at a high level we put ourselves in positions to win games.”

On Jerami Grant:

“He's done an amazing job just to come in and play in this game. He is an athletic wing that fits in right with our style of play and obviously he is very athletic and able to finish overtop of bigs. You should expect things like that from him nightly because he is able to finish overtop. Not just that, but defensively, he changes a lot of shots and blocks shots. He uses his length very well on both sides.”

On the defense:

“Just aggressive. Did a good job of making them shoot tough shots. Their wings had a tough time scoring their guards. We made it tough for them all night.”

On how well Steven Adams is passing:

“He is a great passer. Our bigs are great passers and tonight was a showcase of that. They made great passes, Domantas and Steven, they do a great job of making those passes.”

OKLAHOMA CITY THUNDER FORWARD VICTOR OLADIPO:

On what you noticed about the defense in the third quarter:

“We just turned it up a notch. Now we have to do that for four quarters. When we play like that defensively we give ourselves a great chance to win.”

On what led you guys to have so much success in the paint:

“We just moved the ball at a high level. Russ did a great job of facilitating and scoring the ball for us as well. Everybody pitched in. The bench played great. Everybody from Russ, to Alex, to Kyle to Jerami and Andre. Everyone played great today, so it was a great team win.”