



BROOKLYN NETS POSTGAME QUOTES



KENNY ATKINSON

NOVEMBER 8, 2016

On the final moments of the game:

"I thought we did a good job defensively. Especially when the big concern was rebounding, I felt like we did a better job keeping them in front of us and then getting rebounds at the end. I thought that was important. Offensively we got Brook (Lopez) touches and did some good things off that, and Sean (Kilpatrick) made a good play off the pick and roll and got fouled. Rebounding was the real concern and obviously at halftime we were pretty upset. Again, we emphasize our guards' rebounds, and I think our guards got 15 rebounds in the second half. First half they got three, so good by them."

On the unselfishness of the team:

"We are really emphasizing playing with the pass, and I thought there was good progress tonight and we have a lot of room for improvement while still sticking. I thought we shot the ball well. We finished at the rim well, which we have been struggling a little bit. You know taking it to the rim but not finishing at a high rate, so I think that has been part of our player development emphasis – we have to do a better job finishing at the rim. So I am proud of the guys – got to the rim and then finished."

On Isaiah Whitehead's performance:

"I don't know. I am not sure how many charges he took tonight. I know he was in a lot of scrums, so maybe two charges – but tried to take like five charges – so, you know, that's Coney Island toughness. But we are getting to feel comfortable with him out there I felt like he had command of the game. I am really proud, we changed defenses in the second half a lot and just how he adjusted and didn't really get lost. The coaches keep telling me, 'Boy, that guy, he learns quick. He's a quick learner. He's a quick learner, He picks up things quick.' You know, he is making progress."



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BROOK LOPEZ

NOVEMBER 8, 2016

On what was different in the second half that allowed the Nets to be better on the boards:

“That was the battle. I think that was the reason they stuck with us. Once we had all five guys coming in and contributing on the defensive glass, it kind of took care of itself. Coach came in and said our guards have three boards at halftime and I think they had 15 boards after half. You know, that’s a big difference. We limited them to one shot and cut their opportunities in half.”

On Isaiah Whitehead’s play:

“Zay Zay (Isaiah) was great. We’re all going to go out there and make mistakes. None of us are perfect, but he played with great aggression and just stayed intense. He kept going. He did a good job running the team and making key plays for us. I thought that was a great move in the second half when he took that charge. I thought it was questionable, but I thought that was a big play. We need things like that from him continuously.”

On whether Isaiah Whitehead coming back into the game after getting his head hit inspired the team:

“No question. That’s the toughness we need and the definition of Brooklyn grit. That’s homegrown, and we need that from every player of ours.”



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RANDY FOYE

NOVEMBER 8, 2016

On playing in his first game:

"It felt great just to get out there. I didn't have expectations, I just wanted to get out there. I didn't care if it was for two minutes, just whatever I can do to help us win. Hit a shot, missed a couple, did some bad things on D, did some sort of good things on D, but at the end of the day it don't matter as long as we win."

On what he saw out of the Nets collectively:

"Just next play. You make a mistake, next play. I just saw everyone helping each other. Coach, he said something to us at halftime about the second chance points, being outrebounded, I think it was like 18 points from second chance points and then the guards weren't rebounding. So our guards went in there and got 15 rebounds in the second half."

On Isaiah Whitehead:

"I could tell from shootaround, I don't know if it's just a Big East thing with him and the other kid, but I could tell from shootaround. He's always locked in but just attention to detail, just asking questions and the way he broke the kid down over there. Just talking about him and just knowing exactly what he wanted to do, I could tell he was ready."

On the defense against Karl-Anthony Towns in the second half:

"We knew that he was going to score and we just told Brook (Lopez) the way you stop him from scoring, you have to go at him. Brook went at him and basically got him in foul trouble. You know, Luis (Scola) got a couple of cheap fouls on him but Brook, basically the way you stop a guy like that, an all-star, potential all-star, is that you go at him. You make him uncomfortable and take his legs away on the defensive end so he won't have as much energy on the offensive end."



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TOM THIBODEAU

NOVEMBER 8, 2016

On tonight's game:

"110 points is more than enough to win. Unless we correct the defensive end, it's going to be a struggle. That has to become a priority by everyone, otherwise nothing positive is going to happen. To me, you have to take something away. We gave up points in the paint. We gave up the three. The rebounding in the second half was poor. It's not good enough; it's not good enough to win. I know that. We have to get caught up in what wins. If you're going to win, particularly on the road when you're shorthanded, your margin of error is very small. You got to play hard. You got to play with discipline. You got to defend. You got to rebound. You got to keep your turnovers down. That I know. We're in position to win going into the fourth. The fourth quarter has to be your best quarter, and we gave up 31 points. So it's not good enough."



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KARL-ANTHONY TOWNS

NOVEMBER 8, 2016

On what was lacking in the Timberwolves' defense:

"A lot of things. We just gave them too many opens threes, we weren't guarding the line. Points in the paint were a lot, so we weren't inside the paint as well. So we did a bad job of just controlling both sides. If you're gonna to give up one, you can't give up both – so we did that today. We gotta fix it."

On Coach Thibodeau's defensive system:

"It's something different. It's based on a lot of trust – trusting that everyone is gonna be in the right spot – so we're just trying to stay on the course, trying to get better, trying to understand it even better. Every single day we're getting better. The scores don't always reflect it, but we're getting better every single day."

On what happened down the stretch:

"There were a lot of things that went their way and, unfortunately for us, they were up before we could make it happen, so it put a lot of pressure on us. We just didn't make some shots. It was something that happens. We can't put ourselves in that position."



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ANDREW WIGGINS

NOVEMBER 8, 2016

On if the defense struggled or if it was missed shots that troubled the team:

"More so we allowed them to get too many points in the paint. We have no problem scoring, but we can't trust in just scoring. When trading baskets, sometimes your baskets aren't going to fall and theirs are. That's when defense comes in handy. And they outrebounded us. There are a lot of things you can point to, especially my free throws. I just gotta keep repetition and working on it from practice. We missed a lot of touch shots around the rim. Calls weren't going our way. This is where we just regroup and come after it tomorrow because we got to play with a sense of desperation and gotta get that big first win on the ground and grab every rebound and every hustle play and play with a sense of desperation."

On learning a new defensive system:

"It's not learning a new system. Defense, I feel like a lot of it is just instincts, trusting your instincts. We're not communicating. Some aren't sticking on their man. We're not clogging the paint because teams are scoring a lot of points in the paint. I'm one of the people that needs to step it up defensively big time."