Oklahoma City Thunder Media Conference

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Jeremiah Robinson-Earl

Press Conference

Q. Given you have to go against centers quite a bit, play small ball center, a lot of the guys you go against are bigger than you. How are you effective in that small ball role?

JEREMIAH ROBINSON-EARL: I would say just being able to be versatile on the defensive and offensive floor, being able to stretch the floor, being able to use more skill, footwork, quickness, instead of trying to bang with those guys because there's a lot of big, strong guys out there. It's a lot of fun being able to compete out there against some of the best dudes in the world and what they do.

Q. You guys drafted Holmgren, which changed the nature of roster, then he gets hurt. How does your role change this season with him out?

JEREMIAH ROBINSON-EARL: I don't know how it's going to change or how the role is going to be, but we're just preparing for the most difficult situations. Nobody thought we were going to draft Chet and then he gets hurt. Nobody wanted that to happen. So I think we're just preparing for any situation to come, and we're just excited just to take it one step at a time and just keep attacking every day.

Q. What was your focus, number one area of improvement in the off-season?

JEREMIAH ROBINSON-EARL: I would say I tried to take a big jump in just keep making open shots, just keep shooting the ball. I felt like last year I shot it well, had a high volume of that, but just continue to do that, and a big aspect of this year I feel like just being able to bring some leadership to the floor. I feel like we're a really young team, just having to be who can be a loud communicator out there on the floor and bring everybody together.

Q. What's your assessment of the rookie class?

JEREMIAH ROBINSON-EARL: I think we have a lot of guys that can go out there and compete and want to win games. There's a lot of guys in there -- this is from the summer, the weeks leading up to training camp, they just



love to compete and get out there and get better.

Q. Two of them have the same name; how crazy was that early, and I assume it's not a communication issue. How crazy was that early on with two teammates with the same name?

JEREMIAH ROBINSON-EARL: I mean, it was pretty quick. Jalen Williams, Santa Clara, was like, I'm J-Dub. Jaylin Williams from Arkansas was J-Will. Get that sorted out real quick. We're all good to go.

Q. Josh Giddey said you convinced him to be a Chiefs fan. How hard was that? And who's your favorite Chiefs player of all time?

JEREMIAH ROBINSON-EARL: It's real easy when the team is doing well. They had a bad loss yesterday; I'm not going to lie. But they're winning, they're doing well. It's a long season. I mean, we'll allow him to come join us. It's a close team to home. I'm just a fan of the team. He can choose them. My favorite Chief of all time, I like Tony Gonzales. I'm a Tony Gonzales fan.

Q. You talked about leadership in the Summer League. From your rookie year until now, what would be the main piece of advice you would give a rookie?

JEREMIAH ROBINSON-EARL: Just be ready for any situation. Literally there's a lot thrown at you throughout the year from travel to in games or body might be sore, personnel. Like there's so many different things that can come at you. But just being ready for every situation, taking it one day at a time. Just keeping it as simple as possible I think is really important.

Q. It's been about seven months (indiscernible)?

JEREMIAH ROBINSON-EARL: Yeah, my foot is 100 percent. It's going good.

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... when all is said, we're done.