

Oklahoma City Thunder

Media Conference

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Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, USA

Aaron Wiggins

Press Conference



Q. . Aaron, you guys got your whole roster back from an historic NBA team. That kind of continuity, is there any down side to that?

AARON WIGGINS: I don't think there's any down side to it. Obviously there's a certain chemistry and togetherness that exists within our team construction and the guys. So, no, I wouldn't say there's much down fall to it.

Q. What did you learn through the playoff chase that will help you this season? Wig?

AARON WIGGINS: I mean I think the intensity of those games, and obviously the difference in game planning from playoffs to regular season. There's just another level to it. So there's a certain sense there that just kind of gives us experience and understanding of what to expect when teams really put forth their best shot and when teams are game planning to a different -- at a different level of detail.

Q. You guys always made it a point to not focus on the outside noise but as a competitor, is there some enjoyment that you get out of the fact that you guys are the top dogs, the team that guys are going to be gunning for?

AARON WIGGINS: I mean obviously when you have success there is a certain level of happiness and joy that comes with having that. But at the same time it's a new season, so you can't sit in that mindset. So our guys are ready to get back to work and put ourselves in position to handle business.

Q. I'm sure you've seen how fans have reacted to the big speech you had with the parade stuff. I wanted to know how much you've seen of that and if your teammates have said that you were going to be giving the speeches from now on after?

AARON WIGGINS: Yeah. They tried to say I would have every speech that anybody is supposed to give. But, yeah, I saw a lot of fan reaction and different interactions and stuff on social media and stuff. I'm just happy I was able to

have that moment with the fans, the city, our team. It was pretty awesome.

Q. You took a big leap as a shot (indiscernible) last year? What can we expect this year as you build upon that?

AARON WIGGINS: I guess we'll see. There's different things that everybody is going to be hoping to have more, whether that's of a role or bigger expansion in something. We'll see how things play out but just trying to do whatever it takes to help the team win more than anything?

Q. You've put on weight?

AARON WIGGINS: I think I got a little bit stronger. I don't know how much more weight I've put on. Maybe a couple of pounds but not drastically.

Q. Were you trying to?

AARON WIGGINS: No. Trying to get stronger. Not necessarily putting on weight though. Putting on weight for me is like 10 pounds. You probably have some young guys that put on 10 to 15 pounds. Three or four pounds of strength and pure muscle.

Q. Yeah. You were a major part of an NBA championship team but there's people that watch you play and say hey, he could be more. He could be No. 2, No. 3 option on some teams. How do you balance that as you've surveyed your career? You get a lot of minutes but you could get a lot more playing for somebody else?

AARON WIGGINS: Yeah. Focusing on where I am for today. We've come off the season with great success and love being with the guys and being a part of this team. So focusing on that and not allowing outside noise to creep in or push me in any direction or sense. But understanding that it's my career and I'm a part of this team and this organization and this is where we are.

Q. Aaron, back to your speech for a second, did you take a lot of public speaking in college?

AARON WIGGINS: Yeah. I was a communications major, took some journalism classes and minor in leadership



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studies and had a lot of public speaking classes and presentations I had to give. But at a young age, I was in front of my church. I was in front of the school. I did a lot of things with a microphone in my hands, so kind of natural at this point.