

Emirates NBA Cup

Friday, December 12, 2025

San Antonio Spurs

De'Aaron Fox

Semifinal Practice Day



Q. So you're one of the veterans, one of the leaders on this team. What are you telling the young guys who this is their first time in any high-stakes situation outside of college, high school? You have experience in the NCAA Tournament, in the playoffs. What are you telling the young guys in situations like this?

DE'AARON FOX: You seize the opportunity. That is what it is. Obviously we are playing a team that is playing extremely well. When we go into games like this, you worry about yourself. We go in and we do the things that we preach night-in and night-out. If we do that and we play the way that we think we can play, we put ourselves in position to win.

Q. Seeing Wemby in practice and being around him the last couple days, how ready do you think he is, and what are your expectations for him tomorrow?

DE'AARON FOX: Extremely. We want him to continue to come out here and be himself. We don't want him to change the way that he plays.

Obviously with him missing time, I think we have been playing extremely well even when he has been out. But him coming back into the fold, I think that adds to us offensively and defensively. So we want him to continue to be himself.

Q. The Knicks are here in Vegas, as well. You played under Mike Brown previously. What stands out about him as a coach?

DE'AARON FOX: I mean, he brings a level of accountability to, I think, not just a team but to an organization from top to bottom. Not surprised the way that they are playing. Obviously they have an extremely talented team, but I think he adds to that dynamic. I think they have been playing well.

Q. I know you came over midseason last year, but Chris Paul was an 82-game starter for the Spurs and you got to be around him. Were you surprised about how things played out with the Clippers, and what

were your experiences with him?

DE'AARON FOX: Besides the end, I don't know what happened to that point. So I don't really have an opinion about it, nor do I really care.

But, I mean, CP was great. He was a professional. He was a vet. As soon as I got here, he asked me, where do I want the ball, what spots do I like, things of that nature. Things that I think you've seen from him through his prime and when he was in New Orleans, when he first got to L.A., those are the things that I kind of expected from him, and being that vet and being the person that everybody called "Point God."

I think he was great for the group last year, especially going through a lot of growing pains. I think everybody was appreciative of what he gave to the organization last year.

Q. In the semifinals of the Cup tomorrow, I think you will have your first chance to play with Vic, Steph and Dylan Harper as a group. What does that say about how this team has progressed with all the absences that you've dealt with, and how excited are you to see the full-strength version of this team?

DE'AARON FOX: Yeah, I think our group is extremely talented. Like you said, I've missed eight games. Steph has missed some time and Vic has missed time and Dylan has missed some time. I think our team is staying afloat, and I think we are kind of exceeding expectations.

Obviously we all need to get into a flow of playing together, but everybody continue to go out together and keep doing what you're doing, be yourself. Just the unselfish nature of everyone we have on our team, I think that allows our team to continue to grow.

Q. Along the lines of what you just said, being here for the semis and being 17-7, you're probably right. You probably have exceeded expectations. What does that add to what you guys have done so far? When Vic went down, people thought the L's might start showing up, and they didn't.

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DE'AARON FOX: Inside of our locker room, it didn't change anything. We felt like we gave ourselves a chance to win regardless of who we throw out there because of the talent we have in the locker room.

For what we are thinking, we're doing exactly what we are supposed to. Even when I went down and we start 5-0, we are expecting to go out and win every game. Obviously we know we're not going to win every game.

But if we go out there and execute to the level that we feel like we're able to execute and stick to our game plan, we always give ourselves a chance to win.

Q. You, Steph and Dylan, three high-skills guards. How do you build that chemistry?

DE'AARON FOX: Obviously a lot of that has to do with just being able to be on the court together. But when you have guys who are all able to get downhill, create their own shot and create for others, I think it's extremely easy to play off of each other. I think it makes easier for each because when we are all on the court, we command attention.

So that's been an easy process to grow through, and we're continuing to get better every day.

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