

Oklahoma City Thunder Media Conference

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Jaylin Williams

Press Conference



Q. When guys are young and playing basketball, everybody wants the ball in their hands with the clock ticking down. Somebody wants to make a great pass, somebody wants to make a no-look pass. Did you just practice falling down? How do you perfect this, and you're actually so good at it, the league is going to try and outlaw some of the stuff you do. What was your mindset going into playing basketball and deciding I want to be that guy?

JAYLIN WILLIAMS: Yeah, my whole life has been about winning, making the winning plays, and charges came along with making winning plays.

Me and my dad watched film a lot since I was in Boys and Girls Club basketball, and it was always about being in the right position, and I feel like it just translated into me taking charges, and now that I'm on a bigger scale with more cameras, more on TV, now people are seeing that I'm doing it.

Q. You've spent a lot of time with Mark and with Kam Woods with the Blue. What are their styles of coaching, comparing and contrasting them?

JAYLIN WILLIAMS: Actually it's very similar. They both just give you confidence as a player, just telling you go out there, do your thing, while at the same time trying to correct you and help you get better as a player.

Honestly, it's very similar.

Q. When people talk about changing the rules and charges and that kind of stuff, do you take it personally at all?

JAYLIN WILLIAMS: No, not really. I see it but I really ignore it. Regardless of what they do I'm just going to go out there and play basketball and play hard.

Q. When you look at what Chet can do, you obviously haven't seen it yet in person a lot, but having played with him, what theoretically can he bring to you guys?

JAYLIN WILLIAMS: We all know how great of a player Chet is, offensively and defensively. He can alter a lot of shots and you can rely on him to be that guy down there to protect the rim, and then offensively he can dribble the rock, he can offensive rebound, you can throw him lobs, you can do whatever, so really he's going to help a lot, and Chet is just a great player overall.

Q. For somebody that I've only pulled off and had lunch with in Fort Smith once, can you tell the difference between North Side and South Side?

JAYLIN WILLIAMS: North Side is where you go if you want to win; South Side is -- no, but North Side, I grew up on the North Side of town. My family went to North Side, dad went to North Side, brother, sister, cousins, everybody want to North Side, so I've got to rep North Side forever.

Q. Have you tried FAH in Oklahoma?

JAYLIN WILLIAMS: I have. I have. I don't know where it was from. My girl got it and brought it to the house, but it was good.

Q. So you didn't go to the restaurant and get an order?

JAYLIN WILLIAMS: Yeah, yeah.

Q. What are you excited most about this season?

JAYLIN WILLIAMS: Honestly, just to get better as a team, as an individual, and just continuing to learn. Last year of course it was my rookie season and I felt like I learned a lot from the beginning to the end, and I felt like even though I did that, I still feel like there's a bunch to learn, and I'm just ready for the experiences with this team.

Q. Having been to Fort Smith and got family there, I know about Fort Smith, but you hit threes last year. I don't think people knew you could do that. What did you work on this summer? What can you get better at this year? And how much will Chet help your game in terms of being that physical presence down low?

JAYLIN WILLIAMS: Yeah, this summer I really worked on all aspects of my game. One of the main focuses was



getting my body right, getting stronger, getting better physically, and those things like that, and I feel like having Chet on the court will help everybody. He can space the court. He can protect the rim. He can guard guards. He can do everything. I feel like it's hard to say Chet won't help.

Q. Is the "boom" here to stay this season?

JAYLIN WILLIAMS: Yeah, I think I'm going to say it every now and then. It's kind of just become a funny thing that me and my teammates do. We have a couple handshakes that we do that involves it. It's a funny thing to do, and I think it'll still stick around for a little bit.

Q. Do you consider yourself a 5, a 4? There's a lot of talk with Chet, what he is. Is that something that you don't even think about, or do you have a specific idea of what you are?

JAYLIN WILLIAMS: I don't really -- it doesn't matter to me. I'm a basketball player. At the end of the day, wherever I'm put at and whatever I need to do, I'm going to go out there and do it for the team.

Q. What's the level of physicality like in practice every day? You've got a lot of tall guys, really tall, thin guys. Now you're adding Chet. How physical are you guys day in and day out in practice, and which one of your teammates do you like beating on the most?

JAYLIN WILLIAMS: Yeah, it's super physical, especially when we're out there and we have to call our own fouls. It gets super physical out there. I think that's just the level of competitiveness and just our willingness to go out there and compete.

Yeah, I think K-Rich is that guy that I like to chirp back and forth with because I know he's going to say something back if I say something to him. Or Tre. Me and Tre go at each other. It's always fun, though.

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