

Washington Wizards Media Conference

Wednesday, January 31, 2024

Washington, DC, USA

Kyle Kuzma

Media Conference



Clippers 125, Wizards 109

Q. What were the points that Brian hit on after this?

KYLE KUZMA: We just weren't good enough. I think in the first half, we showed, you know, some positive things but in the second half, third quarter especially, we -- it wasn't good enough. You could tell we were a little fatigued. Didn't get back enough. Easy -- we gave them easy looks. They didn't really feel us like they did in the first half.

So credit to the blow out to the third quarter. We've got to be better.

Q. I think you called it a wake-up call, the coaching change last game. As reality settles in, how do you keep that energy high, or is that the key to sustaining?

KYLE KUZMA: We've got 23-year-olds, 22-year-olds playing. We should have energy every night. There's like into excuse. Having a new coach and whatever, like we need to bring it every single night. Because at the end of the day we should be grateful to play this game, you know.

Q. What was it about the kinds of turnovers you all had? You didn't have that many, 13, which isn't that bad but they scored 21 points off of that. What was it about the turnovers that was a concern?

KYLE KUZMA: They are more like live ball turnovers, turnovers that, you know, probably got deflections. They got out. They got dunks, transition looks. Easy one. Like you said, 13, not too bad. But when they are not like travel, dead ball, offensive charges, then you know, we don't have our defense set.

Q. Offensively what did you like in terms of how you were able to pick-and-choose your spots, especially in the first half?

KYLE KUZMA: You know, just trying to pick my spots. You know, knowing that I had to get straight to my moves,

especially whether it was Kawhi or one of the other good defenders. Just knowing, just got to get right to it, and shots kind of fell for me a little early.

Q. And with Miami coming in, I know they are playing now, but they had a seven-game losing streak coming into tonight's game. What are the focal points for that contest on Friday night?

KYLE KUZMA: I mean, we got a stretch ahead of us. Miami is just another team, like you said, rough patch, and we know that and they probably know playing us that they are going to come in and try to get right.

But for us, you know, we have to just keep building our steps, make positive growth. Another challenging team. Great players. You know, got to get to it.

Q. Mental stamina, what does that mean moving forward for the team after this game?

KYLE KUZMA: You mean, we've got to finish. We've got to keep going. You know, whether it's Miami, Suns, Boston, we've got Dallas, we've got a lot of good teams coming up.

So this is a really good test for us. Obviously we got two wins versus Detroit and San Antonio, but we're playing some good ball clubs, and we should be excited, though. I think we may grow from those two wins, and playing against a contender tonight, another contender with Miami, another contender with Phoenix, like we've got a chance to really put what we've been doing over the past two wins to the test and continue. Like you said, we had a good first half tonight, bad second half.

Looking for more growth next game.

FastScripts by ASAP Sports

