

# Washington Wizards Media Conference

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Washington, DC, USA

**Brian Keefe**

Media Conference



Warriors 122, Wizards 114

**Q. What were your impressions of the game and what did you think was the difference tonight?**

BRIAN KEEFE: Loved our spirit, loved our competitiveness, loved our connectivity. They just executed probably better than us down the stretch. We got a little sped up, had some turnovers, played in some crowds, and they made some plays. But it was a back-and-forth game. I thought our guys really competed.

**Q. Your thoughts on Jordan's performance?**

BRIAN KEEFE: He played great. Obviously carried us for big stretches, made some really tough shots, big shots for us. I thought he was terrific tonight, and they kind of threw the kitchen sink at him down the stretch, kind of making life difficult for him. But he really pulled us forward tonight. Hell of a game.

**Q. What did you like about the three-point shot selection you guys had tonight? Set a franchise record, albeit in a loss, but seemed like you were getting the shots you wanted, especially from distance.**

BRIAN KEEFE: I thought we were unselfish. I thought we got into the paint. I thought we kicked out shots. Then Jordan hit some tough ones. You've got to give Jordan a lot of credit tonight. He had some tough threes, but for the most part when we get downhill and touch the paint, we have some guys who can make them, and we can make them. When we play that way, unselfish, we're a pretty good offensive team; we just got to keep improving on it.

**Q. On a night when you guys have 24 assists on your 38 made field goals, in a loss, does it give you the positive steps that you want to be making with what these guys have been doing and the work that you've been putting in behind the scenes of building those habits?**

BRIAN KEEFE: Yeah, there's no solace in -- you always want to win. Winning the game is what we're trying to do here, so our guys are upset and they should be. They're competitors. That's what we talked about in the locker room. When you give that type of effort and that type of -- you should feel that, and our guys are -- they put it all out there, and that's the most important thing.

But we're building and we're doing some positive things. We're seeing how we can operate when we really move the ball; we're tough to guard. But we've got to get more consistent with it, and that's a work in progress.

**Q. Jordan talked about how in the last year or so he's really improved in recognizing coverages and adjusting based off them. What have you seen, especially tonight as they throw everything at him with him reading and reacting and making decisions?**

BRIAN KEEFE: Yeah, that's a great point. He's been through so much already in his career and been a focal point. When he was here, he was a focal point, so he's seen all the coverages, and for us he sees probably even more. He's done a great job of reading, reacting, making the right play. They made it really tough on us in the fourth quarter. Give them credit. We just didn't execute as well as we probably should have.

**Q. What did you think of Bilal's play making today?**

BRIAN KEEFE: I thought Bilal was great. I haven't even looked at the stats, but I felt like he was -- A, a tough assignment and that's exhausting work, and a lot of credit to him on that. And then I thought he was able to attack, make plays for his teammates. That's something we think he can be really good at as he grows.

**Q. What did you see on your team's defensive board?**

BRIAN KEEFE: That was a little bit of a struggle. The long rebounds, 50/50, I thought when we made our runs in the game, I think that's when we controlled the boards. When we didn't control the boards, they got second-chance

shots, second-chance really like three-pointers that kind of hurt us. But that's one of their strengths. They kind of hurt us in that area tonight.

**Q. Whether it's talking with former players or getting the crowd into it, do you feel like Jordan feeds off the energy like he did tonight, especially when the spotlight is maybe brighter on him?**

BRIAN KEEFE: That's just how Jordan plays. He's been playing terrific for us, and I'm sure he was excited to be back here and see people. But he's been doing this for us all year, even going into last year, so this is just a continuation of what he's doing for us, obviously scoring more points than maybe he usually has, but he drives our offense. He's our energy.

**Q. What did you like from the effort that you got from Kyle tonight, one of his more efficient games, looked like he was in a pretty good rhythm offensively, as well?**

BRIAN KEEFE: Great. Played a good all-around game, picked his spots, good play making in the first half, and then he found his scoring when it was his opportunity. I thought he played an efficient game. He was really good.

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