

# Washington Wizards Media Conference

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Washington, DC, USA

**Brian Keefe**

Media Conference



Raptors - 106, Wizards - 82

**Q. It was another game where the Wizards found themselves in a hole early, down double digits just a couple minutes into the game. How hard is it to claw your way back from a hole that early in the game, especially when it's been a few games in a row where that happens?**

BRIAN KEEFE: Starts, we've got to be better at for sure. That was the tale of this game. The start got us. They put their hands on us. They were more physical with us. It affected our game early.

We've got to start better. That's something we've got to get better at and address right away.

**Q. You're the head coach. So you obviously talk to the team and say all you can. Are there any other voices in the locker room you rely on to galvanize the team?**

BRIAN KEEFE: We rely all on each other, and we're all in this together. I'm not any different from them. We're all part of the same team in the group. Obviously I'm the leader, the head coach, and I'm responsible. But we're all in this together, we all support each other. Just got to be better.

**Q. When you look at the starts, is there -- this has been an issue for the last three or four games -- what are you looking at as a theme that seems to pop up every single time? Is it in the preparation, something in warmups?**

BRIAN KEEFE: No, nothing like that. Just the game is the game. We've got to produce when the game starts. We've got to get ourselves into actions quicker.

They took us out of a lot. We've got to give them a little bit of credit. They were physical, and we didn't respond well to their physicality. They made us take tough shots.

It's a mixture of defense and offense. We can't give up easy baskets, but you've also got to get organized, get ourselves getting good looks early so we can have a good flow to the game. We didn't have a good flow early.

**Q. Jordan seemed pretty limited today, just 1 for 9. What did you see from his game? Over the last bit, it's been a little bit more of a struggle for him since the Golden State game.**

BRIAN KEEFE: I thought he had a mixture of good games recently. He had 19, 10 assists, 6 steal game really, 5 for 10 from three. Tonight was -- you're going to have tough nights. Give them credit where that is due.

They were physical and they took us out of stuff, and that took him out of his rhythm. Jordan will bounce back. He always does.

**Q. To what degree was their physicality a role in the Wizards' number of turnovers?**

BRIAN KEEFE: For sure, that's what they do. That even dates back to the preseason. They're a team that puts pressure on you, puts pressure on the dribble. It sped us up. We played in crowds. We didn't handle it well tonight.

**Q. How hard is it to come into a game when you're on a losing streak and play a team that's -- I think Toronto had the best record in the NBA since January 13. How hard is it to come into a game and switch the momentum in your favor that way?**

BRIAN KEEFE: It's always our own stuff. We've got to get back to what we've been capable of doing, being more consistent.

Credit to them. They came in and played well, and we'll tip our hat to them, but we've got to be better ourselves.

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