

Washington Wizards Media Conference

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Washington, DC, USA

Brian Keefe

Media Conference



Pacers 104, Wizards 98

Q. Are you happy with the way that they especially started the game?

BRIAN KEEFE: I loved our competitive response tonight. We came out ready to go from the jump, physical, communicating on defense, making people miss, finishing our rebounds and then of course sharing the ball. I thought that was really terrific tonight. Loved our guys' effort tonight. Good bounce back from the last game.

Q. The second half their threes started to fall a little bit more than the first half, but the three-point defense in that first half, was it where you wanted it to be?

BRIAN KEEFE: Yeah, they were all contested. We kept bodies in front of people. We were doing some different coverages tonight that allowed us to keep the ball out of the paint, so those things were contested in the first half. Broke us down a little bit in the second, but overall our defense was really good tonight.

Q. Was there any reason why Jordan -- you didn't go back to him late in the game?

BRIAN KEEFE: Yeah, he took a fall there in the middle of the third. His elbow again, the one that's been bothering him. So yeah, I wanted to make sure he was okay, but he got banged up on that one.

Q. Justin continues to just be Justin, his first 20 and 10 career game. What does his want-to with the way he rebounds the basketball afford you guys on both ends of the floor?

BRIAN KEEFE: Yeah, that's on both offensive and defensive rebounding. He plays bigger than what he looks. He's got a nose for the ball, a knack for rebounding, and he just brings a toughness that we really love. He's gotten better and better. Nice game for him tonight.

Q. You hear people talk about some guys like a

specific matchup, whether it's a team or a specific player. It seems that Alex really thrives against the matchup with Miles. Is there any rhyme or reason to it or is it just one of those matchups that it works with the way that he plays?

BRIAN KEEFE: I just loved his aggressiveness from the get-go, starting with his defense. He was switching out on pick-and-rolls tonight, guarding their guards, keeping them out of the paint. His rebounding and then his attacking, his attack mentality tonight was terrific. Rim finishing, off the dribble, just thought he played a great overall game.

Q. The unit you finished that fourth quarter with, what did you see from them, again going with a very young finish?

BRIAN KEEFE: The toughness. We made a couple mistakes here and there, but they played with toughness. We were executing pretty well. Just made a couple more plays than us down the stretch.

Q. Assuming without really knowing how much Jordan is bothered, he will be TBD possibly?

BRIAN KEEFE: Yes.

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