

NCAA Men's Basketball Championship: Regional Semifinal - Maryland vs Florida

Wednesday, March 26, 2025
San Francisco, California, USA
Chase Center

Maryland Terrapins Selton Miguel Ja'Kobi Gillespie

Sweet 16 Pregame Media Conference

Q. I was just asking Coach what does he think makes Ju such a good rebounder besides the fact it runs in his family, obviously, with Angel. What do you guys think playing with him?

JAKOBI GILLESPIE: I think he uses his body well. He's tall. He's strong. So I feel like he just knows how to use his body and he wants to get rebounds.

SELTON MIGUEL: Same thing, he's always right there. The ball just goes into his hands.

Q. What has it been like to be able to spend the whole week out here from Seattle to hear and not having to fly back and forth, what's the experience been like the last couple of days having some time off here?

JAKOBI GILLESPIE: It's been fun just hanging out with our teammates, just team bonding. A lot of us have never been to Cali, so it's been fun to get out here and see it.

SELTON MIGUEL: The same thing. The weather is nice. The food is nice. Yeah, we're in Cali.

Q. What activities have you done? What have you done away from the basketball court, keeping people light and not feeling too much like just it's a basketball trip?

SELTON MIGUEL: We had a lot of time to walk around where we're at. We went to eat at little nice places. Just enjoy each other, every moment we can, without the basketball.



Q. Did you know it was so hilly in San Francisco?

SELTON MIGUEL: No, not yet.

Q. Did you get some hills?

JAKOBI GILLESPIE: I saw that. I didn't know that coming here it was hilly.

Q. In this tournament, in general, do you feel like it's sort of anybody's run to make because there's maybe not a Cinderella team, there's maybe not a team that will win it for sure? Is that just this time of year?

SELTON MIGUEL: I think so. All the 16 teams are good enough to win it all. Anything can happen at this point.

Q. I was curious, this Crab Five thing has kind of gone national now. What is it like to have your own brand, kind of, have your own nickname that it seems like it's going to stand the test of time like the Fab Five and like all those other great teams that made a run in this tournament?

JAKOBI GILLESPIE: It's cool to be mentioned with the Fab Five, and they kind of made us -- Crab Five is cool. We have a whole team. I feel like it's cool, like, everybody's saying it, but I feel like we also have a whole team.

SELTON MIGUEL: Same thing. It's pretty cool. At the same time, you've got like 15 guys, 13 guys here. So it should be like the Crab 15. But we embrace it. We're happy for it, and, yeah, it's been fun.

Q. We were talking to Coach about Walter Clayton Jr., how good he is, how quickly he releases the ball. What have you guys seen on film that stands out to you?

JAKOBI GILLESPIE: I mean, you've got to guard him. You can't give him no space. He gets the 3 off really quick. So we've just got to make sure he can't get to his spots.

SELTON MIGUEL: Yeah. He's a really good player. We've just got to be on him all night.

Q. You've been in a lot of different arenas in your time. Curious your thoughts on Chase Center and playing in the house that the Warriors have won a lot here and Steph Curry plays here. What are your thoughts on that?

JA'KOBI GILLESPIE: It's the best arena I've been in, yeah.

SELTON MIGUEL: I'll say the same thing. We're excited to be here. It's a big dream come true playing in an NBA arena, especially the Warriors.

Q. I covered you both last year at Belmont in South Florida. It's been a year now. What's this year been like growth-wise and playing at this higher level of college basketball?

SELTON MIGUEL: It's been pretty fun. Been pretty fun. Just because it's a group of guys that came from different schools, and we all got together to be here. We had this goal since June that we'll come together and try to make the tournament. So it's been fun. We're not satisfied at all because we want more, but it's been really fun. We're grateful for it.

JA'KOBI GILLESPIE: I mean, it's been fun just coming here with a whole bunch of -- because there was a lot of transfers coming in together. I feel like we all came in and had the same goal to play deep in the postseason. So I feel like we're finally here doing that. So, yeah, it's been fun.

Q. I think when even a freshman as talented as Derik Queen, you never quite know how they might show up when the stage gets to the NCAA Tournament, lights are brighter. What have you seen him from in the postseason, and what has he brought to the locker room, his personality?

SELTON MIGUEL: I would say on the court he's been considered as any top freshman in the country. He's never high, never low, always the same, even off the court. He's a really good kid. Good kid to be around. He's fun to be around.

He's just Derik. Whatever we're going to get on the court we'll get off the court. He doesn't change.

JA'KOBI GILLESPIE: I feel he's just a really confident player. He's not going to shy away from any big-time moment.

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