



POSTGAME QUOTES

DENVER NUGGETS VS. MINNESOTA TIMBERWOLVES

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 15, 2013

Denver Nuggets Head Coach Brian Shaw:

On what needs improvement:

“We gave up two 30 point quarters. We have been getting better in the fourth quarter on kind of locking down but we ended up giving up 32 points in the fourth quarter. We’re just taking a step backwards based on what we had been doing lately but I thought overall we made the plays we needed to make, and that was the difference in the game. I talked to our team about having killer instinct. I know at one point I think the score was 109-96. We had a 13 point lead, and it seemed like we had the game in control but [the Timberwolves] would go on a 7-0 run, we would score, and then [the Timberwolves] would go on a 5-0 run. Those were the kind of things that we can’t allow to happen, especially late in the game. We have to develop that kind of killer instinct and put a team down, especially when we know we have a game the next night.”

On Ty Lawson at the end of the game:

“Ty got poked in the eye. I think Corey [Brewer’s] finger went into his eyeball. Our trainers are attending to him right now. [The injury] was pretty significant to the point where [Lawson’s] vision was blurry and he didn’t feel comfortable staying in the game.”

On getting back to .500:

“We got another win and we have a three game win streak now. I want the guys to like this feeling of winning. The fact that we are 4-4 now after a three game win streak, just means we didn’t start out the way wanted. We put ourselves in the hole [earlier in the season], and now we are heading out on the road. We have to start trying to develop winning plays and develop a road mentality.”

Denver Nuggets Guard Evan Fournier:

On a division game:

“[The Timberwolves] are a pretty solid team. I think everyone was focused in. We had a little bit of time to understand our opponent. Things are getting better. We had good intensity.”

On home court advantage:

“We had a good crowd and good fans. Last year was crazy at home. We’re trying to keep this streak alive.”

On guys stepping up:

“With Wilson [Chandler] in, he is amazing and playing small ball with JJ Hickson and Kenneth Faried. We are working on little details because it’s very important. Andre Miller saved us with that huge rebound [in the fourth quarter] and the block by Faried. That’s [Faried’s] type of hustle play, and he’s great at doing it.”

Denver Nuggets Center JJ Hickson:

On the team needing to develop a killer instinct at the end of a game:

“It’s a process. We have to get our killer instinct so to speak—we have to play better team defense, we had a couple of lapses. We gave up 113 points, but we’ll take the win.”



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JJ Hickson continued:

On how they did against a strong Minnesota front line:

“We felt good, we got the win. I think [Kenneth] Faried’s activity was key; we knew we had our hands full and we accepted the challenge and went out and got the win.”

On how his chemistry is coming as a frontline with Kenneth Faried:

“It’s great. I think once we can just play off of instinct and stop thinking so much we will be better off. We’re both very active in the paint—it’s a process just like anything else, but I think we’ll get better.”

Denver Nuggets Guard Ty Lawson:

On if he tried to go back in the game after taking a shot to his right eye late in the game:

“No, I couldn’t even open my eye. I tried to come back in, but when I opened my eye I saw two on this side and one on this side, so there was no chance I could go back in the game.”

On if he will be ready to play tomorrow night in Houston:

“They said it should be better tomorrow, so we’ll see. They put a bunch of eye drops and whatever else they put in there, but I should be ready.”

On if he feels better about missing the end of the game due to injury with the Nuggets winning:

“Yeah, of course—that was the only thing I was hoping for, that they would pull out the win. It gets us back to .500 before this road trip and that’s what we needed to do.”

On if he saw Andre Miller grab the offensive rebound off a missed free throw late in the game:

“Yeah, I saw that. I was looking with one eye and was just hoping we would pull it out. We were up by five or six late, and we needed this game.”



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Minnesota Timberwolves Head Coach Rick Adelman:

On tonight's overall performance:

"We have to defend better than that. We weren't reacting from the weak side at all. We made so many mental mistakes and gave them so many easy baskets. The second quarter was the only time where we actually did a decent job. We just have to come back tomorrow."

On their play in the third quarter:

"We didn't defend. We gave them so many easy baskets. Same thing happened in the first quarter. You're not going to win in this league giving up easy baskets like that."

On Andre Miller's big offensive rebound in the final seconds:

"Big offensive rebound? It makes no sense why the league allows that to happen. It is the only shot in basketball where you can't box out on. You can't box him out; he is at the three point line. They would call a foul if you boxed him out. They let him run in there and there is a wrestling match inside. For 10 years I have never understood why they just don't say nobody can go [inside the three point line] until the ball touches the rim. Then, the defensive team has a chance to get the rebound. But, right now, it is bad for the officials because they don't know what to call. It is just one of those things that you have to deal with. But, with all the stuff we change, we never look at that situation. Somebody doesn't want to do it. Somebody will lose a big game in the playoffs, and then they will change it. But, I just don't understand the reasoning behind it. Like I said, of all the shots in basketball, you can't box out on that one. It doesn't make any sense to me, but [Andre] Miller made a nice play and it hurt."

Minnesota Timberwolves Forward Kevin Love:

On what caused the loss:

"It wasn't really anything we did at the end there. It was our defense the whole game. We just need to lock in ... Our rotations weren't there. We needed to help the helper. Ball screens and rotations were just all off tonight. Yet we were still right in the game there at the end. First 10 games we're 6-4. A couple of the other games could've gone our way. Good thing is we can still get a lot better."

On first 10 games of the season:

"We had a few games there where we felt could've gone our way. If we can get 60 percent or more of our games and be over .500 out of the gate we'll feel good about that. We feel as though we can get a lot better with this team as time goes on. It's still mid-November and we're going to get a lot better."

On Andre Miller's rebound after free-throw with 12.9 seconds left:

"It all happened behind me but from what I heard I guess he left before the shot even went up. That's tough. Stuff happens like that in games. You just have to be a little bit lucky and have things go your way and it just happened to go their way tonight."



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Minnesota Timberwolves Forward Corey Brewer:

On lack of defense:

"We were bad tonight. Defensively we gave up too many layups and points in the paint. We can't do that for us to win. We still stayed in the game and gave ourselves our chances. For us to be any good and make the playoffs like we want to and be the team we want to be we have to protect the paint."

On playing in altitude:

"We have to give a better effort. We were a little tired. That's how they get you. I played here for two years so I understand. You have to fight through that. For us to be a good team we have to fight through all that. We have to battle. We have to pack it in and play team defense ... You feel it but it's no excuse. For us we should've came in here and got a win. We have to have a short memory and come out tomorrow and get a win."

On Andre Miller's rebound after free-throw with 12.9 seconds left:

"That was tough. I didn't even see it. I saw Andre in the lane before the ball left his hand so you can't do anything about that. It was a good play by him ... You're not supposed to be there but if the refs don't call it and you get away with it then it's a good play."

On playing against former team:

"I wish I could've played better. Its tough when you lose no matter if it's coming back to the place you played at or just losing period. For us we need every win we can get so it's tough for us."

On collision with Ty Lawson:

"I went for the ball and I think I hit him in the face. I hope he's alright."