



# Jason Kidd Quotes

Brooklyn Nets 114, Minnesota Timberwolves 99

March 30, 2014



## **On recovering from the struggles in the 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter:**

"I think the biggest thing in that third quarter was the turnovers. You know, we didn't get any shot attempts and we didn't take care of the ball. We corrected that and got some stops, and once we stopped turning the ball over we got some great looks."

## **On Paul Pierce's performance in the first quarter:**

"He understands what these games mean and getting off to a good start and he's done that for us. Hopefully he can keep that up, but the big thing is that we're asking Paul (Pierce) to guard someone that outweighs him, and Mirza (Teletovic) and Paul did a great job on (Kevin) Love tonight. Again, he got some great looks - you're not going to stop him - but I thought overall our rebounding was good as a team, except for that third quarter where we turned the ball over a little too much to start, but we settled in and got a win."

## **On clinching a playoff spot if the Knicks lose tonight:**

"Well, we control our own destiny, so no matter what the Knicks do, we could care less. It's just about us and for us to finish out the rest of the games and see where we end up after 82 games, if it's home court or if we have to start on the road."

## **On the health of Kevin Garnett & what Kidd needs to see from Garnett before he returns:**

"You don't have to ask me anything... we'll see when he comes back. He just needs to put on his uniform, that's it. He can just play, it's basketball. He's done it his whole life, it doesn't change."

## **On the usefulness of having many players that can shoot the three-pointer effectively:**

"You play to your strengths. So when you look at guys who can post up like Joe (Johnson), in that third quarter he was great at running the pick-and-roll and taking advantage of that, but we're getting a lot of great looks from three. Again, off the bench, Alan (Anderson) steps up and makes three of them. So we have quite a few guys who can make the three, it's about the ball touching the paint and working inside-out and right now that's what we're doing very well."

## **On potentially letting Pierce play the full first quarter:**

"For Paul, or Shaun (Livingston), or whoever, sometimes I'm the only one that can play defense, and that's by taking them out. Paul's been going good, but tonight he asked to come out. I was going to let him go, but he asked with two minutes to come out so I have to listen."

## **On the success the team is having at home:**

"It's basketball, you're going to have your ups and downs. Early on, we didn't play well and right now we are. Guys are professional and getting their work in at practice and their pre-game routines must be working. Just paying attention to detail, getting their work in, and making sure they're getting rest this time of the year."



# Nets Player Quotes

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## Nets F Paul Pierce

### On what changed for the Nets in the final stretch:

"I think we limited our turnovers. A lot of the game, we knew we could score for the most part, but we just said if we did turn the ball over, they got out on the break and got easy opportunities. We clamped down on defense and rebounding the ball, then we'll break away from this game. Unfortunately, it took to the fourth quarter for us to do that, when we played our best defense, holding them to finally under 20 points, but sometimes that's the way the game goes. The Wolves were coming off a game when they scored 143 points, so they really feel confident with the way they're doing things, so to be able to go out there and hold them under 100 today shows a lot about our defense and the steps we're taking in that department."

### On whether or not he has been on a team with this many 3-point shooters:

"I don't know. Like you said, I've played on a lot of teams, but it's definitely, it's great when you can step out there and the next guy over can knock down a shot and the next guy and guys coming off the bench. That's our strength. We're a penetrate, kick, 3-point-shooting, run-up-and-down-the-court team. It's always tough when we're not hitting our shots, but for the most part we've been hitting our shots for the last month or so. I think we're doing a good job of mixing it up also, taking it to the basket, drive. Our biggest post presence right now is Joe Johnson, so we utilize him on the post to get double teams. But I think we're taking good threes and that's the key."

## Nets PG Deron Williams

### On this team's growth over the season to be on the verge of the playoffs:

"The first part of the season was rough on us – injuries and everything that we went through. It feels good. It feels good to be able to turn it around. We never really gave up hope when everything was going wrong. We were getting a lot of flak from you guys. We just stuck together. We knew we had a chance to turn it around. It was only a matter of time."

### On how big of a lift it would be to have home court advantage in the playoffs:

"I mean, (it would be) definitely great to have home court advantage. You know, it's so close right now, you don't know. We just have to try to keep winning, keep winning at home and hopefully we can get a good enough seed to get a home court advantage first round."

### On how the team's tough start at the beginning of the season built chemistry:

"It just says a lot about this team I think. Like I said, we stuck together. There was no finger pointing, bickering or anything like that that you would have on most teams that were in that situation. I think that's what allowed us to make this turnaround, and we're playing so well together. We stayed together in this locker room and kept playing for each other. I think that's why we're playing so well right now."



# Rick Adelman Quotes

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## On the game:

"I don't think we got to their three-point shooters quick enough. You have to run them off of the line and I don't think we did a good job of that. Brooklyn has a lot of guys that can shoot it. They held Kevin Love all game. Just being honest. They crowded him, that's what they tried to do. We just have to do something to respond to that, other guys need to step up and we didn't do it. Brooklyn did a nice job. We just didn't do enough things. We cut it in the third quarter there but then they came out and responded at the start of the fourth. Corey Brewer got those steals and kind of brought us back with his energy that he showed. Again, we can't have, especially on the road, Brooklyn has played really well at home, you can't have a run like we gave them at the start of the fourth quarter. It just buries you and then there is no energy coming back. So it was just one of those things. The frustrating thing is we didn't score but then we allowed easy baskets on the other end."



# Timberwolves Players

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## **Kevin Love, Power Forward**

### **On Nets containing him:**

"They did a good job but it was really just me being exhausted. I couldn't find any energy in the second half. That was really it. They did a good job."

### **On why he was lacking energy:**

"I don't know. I might be getting sick or something. I just had zero energy in the second half; got nothing."

### **On what happened in the fourth quarter:**

"They made some shots. They made some good plays and they're a good team. They've been on a roll, especially at home. Home-court advantage was good for them. They've won a ton of games here so they're just a good team."

### **On expectations for Nets:**

"Sure, like you said, there vets are healthy. They got guys who can step up and hit shots. They're in the East."

## **Ricky Rubio, Point Guard**

### **On Alan Anderson:**

"He's a good player. I played with him in Barcelona and I knew him. I tried to give a hint to my teammates but he can hit big shots. He killed us in the fourth quarter. We were trying to come back but it was hard."

### **On loss tonight:**

"Tonight was a tough one because we fought all the way through but in the fourth quarter, we couldn't get that victory."

### **On Kevin Love not having energy:**

"He had a tough night. Paul Pierce was hitting tough shots in the beginning. He played a lot of minutes and he can have a night like that. We just have to bring it tomorrow and try to win tomorrow."