



POSTGAME QUOTES

Utah Jazz 100, Minnesota Timberwolves 94
December 30, 2014

Notes: The Jazz are now 70-35 all-time versus Minnesota and 40-13 in Salt Lake City ... Enes Kanter tallied 10 rebounds in the first half, finishing with 12 and 14 points for his seventh double-double of the season ... Trey Burke scored a season-high 26 point (previous 20 v. NO 11/22) ... His 10 field goals made and 21 attempts were also season-highs ... His three three-point baskets ties a season-high for the third time this season (last time 11/18 vs. OKC) ... Rookie Patrick Christopher logged a season-best 13 minutes and four points ... Gordon Hayward has now scored 20 or more points in four of the last six ... He scored 11 points, missing just one shot on three-for-four shooting from the field and four-for-four from the foul line in the quarter while adding two steals during the fourth quarter when the Jazz outscored Minnesota 28-22.

Quin Snyder – Head Coach

On the fourth quarter run

“It was really just defense. It seems like everybody made a play on the defensive end whether they were the actual player that deflected the ball and stole it, or someone pressured the pass, or someone denied the pass. It was the defense that created a couple easy buckets and gave us a boost.”

On Gordon Hayward leadership

“That’s certainly what we need from him and it has been something he has given us quite a bit. Gordon [Hayward] is asked to do so much for our team scoring, passing, rebounding, it takes a toll on him and the one thing that he can’t let slip by the way side is what he does on the defensive end. For him to keep his focus, particularly when he is not guarding the ball, is something that is really important to us and it’s hard to do when you’re not involved in the play to be that alert and aware. That’s what happened in the fourth quarter and I think his offense fell in line too.”

On Trey Burke

“I think the key thing for Trey [Burke] to really help our group is for him to defend and its easier for him to defend when he is scoring and he was scoring tonight. I’m not taking anything away from his defense but I’m going to sit up here and be really happy with Trey [Burke] when he has a bad scoring night and he guards, and he was terrific.”

Gordon Hayward – forward (26 points, 2 rebounds)

On the team’s late rally

“We got a little more aggressive and got some deflections and numerous people got steals which then makes it easier for us offensively. Most of the game I thought we kind of went through the motions and then in the fourth, and after we gave up a 10-0 run, then we picked it up from there and never looked back.”

On the Energy Solutions Arena crowd

“[They] were huge. It’s a feeling you get that is hard to describe. They give you a boost of adrenalin. There was even a time when we came out after a timeout and [the crowd] was still super loud and we couldn’t hear anything and got a stop defensively. We really need that, so it’s huge.”

Additional quotes on back...

Trey Burke - Guard (26 points, 6 assists)

On the 4th Quarter Play

“We knew it was going to be a tough game coming off the loss last night in Los Angeles. In the second half we regrouped and came together. I was just trying to play my game and help the team. Tonight we were a little beat up and it was tough to have energy we needed. We did what we needed to do to get the win ... and that’s all that matters.”

Enes Kanter - Forward (14 points, 12 rebounds)

On the team’s play late in the game

“It was tough coming off last night’s game (versus the Clippers). I thought we could have won that game, but tonight we came out and fought. The last three minutes of the game I think we played our best basketball and all five guys were into the game and played really well. The key (tonight) was our defense. It’s what coach is always talking about and we did really well in the fourth quarter.”

On the team’s energy

“The whole team is playing really hard and really tough. I think that is our focus right now and we need to keep that going.”



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Notes: The Timberwolves move to 5-25 on the season ... Minnesota is now 35-70 against the Jazz all-time and 13-40 in Utah ... Shabazz Muhammad finished with seven rebounds and a career-high 30 points ... Andrew Wiggins had 21 points and five rebounds ... The Timberwolves had 26 assists on 38 baskets ... Minnesota outscored the Jazz in the paint 42-36.

Flip Saunders – Head Coach

On the last five minutes of the game

“The last five minutes we had breakdowns. We had some of the same situations: we didn’t set as good of screens, we missed some free throws late, and we didn’t hold screens. Point blank, they got aggressive and we didn’t match their intensity. We played more not to lose than [play] to win and we lost more of our aggressiveness.”

On the game

“We played well. This is how we’ve been. And the difference is that they have a player in Gordon Hayward that took over the game in the last two and a half minutes and that’s why he’s a max player. We weren’t able to make those plays. I mean, it’s disappointing. As coaches, you look and you’re up 10 with six minutes and you need to make a couple plays. We let them make a couple big plays and get right back into the game within 45 seconds and make it to four. So this is tough, those guys are hurting in there. We’re disappointed because we’ve had a lot of games like this and we’re all in the same situation.”

On Shabazz Muhammad

“They loaded up on him [Shabazz Muhammad] late. He carried us for most of the game. He had a phenomenal game. They loaded up on him, we couldn’t get him the ball.”

On playing well for 48 minutes

“What we did was the things that we were doing early, hard rolling to the basket and that, for some reason, we didn’t do it late. It’s like we got stuck in mud a little bit. To their credit, they played hard, their crowd got into it and we didn’t react in a positive way and we’ve done that a lot. But now we got to go home and we got some games at home with the New Year and we got to find a way to play all 48 minutes. On this trip, two games we played great for 46 minutes. We could very easily be 2-1, but we came away 0-3.

Andrew Wiggins – Guard (21 points, 5 rebounds)

On the game

“It’s tough to fight to the end [and] to have a close game throughout. We fought, we just came up short at the end. It is growing pains. Go at it again in practice tomorrow and get better. Learn how to really close all games. We had it.”

On Utah’s aggression

“They were aggressive with us. They tried to get the ball out of our hands. He (Shabazz Muhammad) was dominating the whole game. Absolutely killing it. We just have to bring it next game.”

Additional quotes on back...

On Gordon Hayward's plays at the end

"They made two big plays off our mistakes. That is just another thing we need to learn to do."

On the crowd noise playing a factor

"No, college basketball is just like that. It gets even louder."

Shabazz Muhammad – Forward (30 points, 7 rebounds)

On the end of the game

"It was tough. The crowd was getting into it. I think we were not really comfortable out there in the last three minutes. We played so well the rest of the game. I thought we definitely had that one. That's a tough one."

"We weren't really running our offense. We were kind of panicking on offense and that is one thing that we got to do. We need to learn how to slow down. We are a young team and that's something we need to learn is especially how to slow down in the last three minutes. That was the first situation we have been in like that. The home crowd in it, with a neck-to-neck game. That is something that we can definitely take a positive out of. It is a nail bitter that we didn't get the win."

On Gordon Hayward

"He is a great player. He made two great plays. He was really overplaying the lanes. We were thinking they were open and he is really fast. He plays defense and offense. He really took the game from us in the last two minutes with those steals."