

# POSTGAME QUOTES



## SKY GENERAL MANAGER & HEAD COACH JAMES WADE

### On getting off to a slow start in the first quarter:

"The first few minutes, [we had to] focus, but the game settled, and we stayed persistent in what we wanted to do. So I thought they did a good job of wearing Atlanta down, and I think that's just how we have to play. So we simplify some things and hopefully that helped, but you know it'll be it'll be a test us, you know, for the games to come, so we'll see where it goes. but hopefully we figure some stuff out."

### On Courtney Vandersloot playing 24 minutes after a season-high 36 minutes in last game vs. Connecticut:

"First of all, Courtney won't let us play her 24 minutes. [laughs] That's not happening. [laughs] Second of all, you know, no the fact is, honestly, it was just a day where, like we played on day, off, on day, off. It was just time to give her some extended minutes on the bench and I was waiting for a game that we can win convincingly so we can rest her. I would love to play her 25 minutes, yes, but the competitor she is, she's going to always push to be closer to 30. And I'm okay with that, because, you know, I love seeing her on the floor but we just had to make sure our bench was into a rhythm and, you know, feeling good, especially on these next games and that felt good to give Sydney [Colson] some extended minutes, give Gabby [Williams] some extended minutes, and let Diamond [DeShields] kind of get a legs up under her because she's still battling through some stuff ... It felt good to extend their minutes a little bit more."

### On hitting the halfway point of the season, and looking ahead at the next 11 games:

"The thing is, we're getting healthier, so that's the only thing you can ask for us, especially with this compacted schedule. We've lost some games that we felt like we should have gave ourself a better opportunity to win. But, you know, as long as everybody's healthy, we can make this push right now and everybody if everybody remains healthy I think it's in our favor. We're learning we're not who we are going to be at the end of the regular season, and that's okay. We just have to keep on working to get there."

## SKY FORWARD CHEYENNE PARKER

### On how tough losses has set the team up for wins like today's:

"This was a great win for us. Obviously, we anticipated winning, but the biggest part about it is how we won, which is cumulatively with defensive stops and just moving the ball, cutting. So I think we need to carry it over and we need to take it up even more, at even another level. I think we all need to just continue to stay hungry and I think we all know that, you know, we all are talking about it. So now it's just putting into action for the next time."

### On mentality heading into game on the bench:

"I mean, obviously, this season was my first time consecutively starting, so my feelings were a little hurt obviously not starting this game, and I think that definitely was part of like the seriousness that I may have showed early in the game. But at the end of the day, I cannot maintain a serious face, I cannot maintain a serious attitude, that's just not who I am and a lot of the team is not like that either. So, you know, it's definitely important to maintain focus and to keep a balance but I think naturally we're just a pretty happy team."

## SKY GUARD COURTNEY VANDERSLOOT

### On what they are dialed in and focused on:

"On being consistent, night in and night out. I think we've seen really great moments and then we've seen some pretty poor moments and we know that we have to bring it every single night. It doesn't matter who we're playing. If we don't bring it, we're not going to have very good results. So, you know, being able to just be consistently at our best, and just continue to build on each game is what we're really focused on right now."

### On playing lower minutes and watching the bench step up and carry team to victory:

"It's huge, and that was something that we kind of talked about going into the season. Is how deep we were and how our bench was really going to help us with these consecutive games, having a lot of good players coming off the bench is huge during this time. And tonight, you know, we gave them the opportunity and they took full advantage of it. And, you know, that's what we need moving forward. When we have a good bench, it just makes things so much easier for everyone involved."

### On staying healthy and getting in recovery time with such a condensed game schedule:

"Well, I think first and foremost, we don't practice, really. The last couple of times we have film or maybe a walk-through, but he's trying to keep us as fresh as we can and it's healthy because, you know, you see it all over the league the teams, you know we have players that are going down with injuries. And that's obviously not what you want, he's trying, he's doing his best. We have our trainers on call all day through our off days and they're working very, very hard to keep us healthy and as fresh as we can be."

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## SKY GUARD ALLIE QUIGLEY

### On if upcoming rematch vs. Las Vegas has special meaning:

"It's definitely a little extra special, I mean they're playing really well, I think it's seven in a row they've won. I'm sure they're gonna be thinking about you know, us beating them at the last second [in our first contest earlier season] so they're gonna bring that motivation, but we got to find motivation for ourselves, just to continue getting better and getting our team where we want it to be."

### On how she would assess the team at this time:

"I think we're not where we want to be, but still thankful and grateful that we have seven wins ... We're in the right direction, but we're just trying to get to a point where we're not taking steps forward, and then one back, two forward, and one back ... We're looking forward to the fact that we still do have 11 games left and it's still a great opportunity for us to continue to get better and continue peaking. But I think that we're not really happy with where we are, but just grateful, like I said, to still be getting wins and grinding them out even though it's not pretty sometimes."

### On staying focused when preparing teams that don't have winning records at this point:

"I think we just can't be looking at the records, to be honest, we gotta focus on where we want to go, and not where they are or what kind of motivation they have. We just got to stay focused on where we want to be, and like I said, how we're continuing on that ladder and continuing to get better. If we focus on how hungry we are to get better and improve, then we'll be alright."

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Topic: Chicago Sky Post-Game Media Availability

Date: Aug 16, 2020 05:50 PM Eastern Time (US and Canada)

### Meeting Recording:

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