



# POSTGAME QUOTES

## SKY GM & HEAD COACH JAMES WADE

## ON BEING ABLE TO PLAY GAMES THIS FREQUENTLY:

"We don't have a choice. So we're not going to make excuses. We're just going to go out. I know it's gonna be tough. And we're pulling everything we have Right now we just want to enjoy this win and see how we can get better. Hopefully we can get healthier. It's one rotation down, you have the 20-plus minute player that's not in rotation as far as Stephanie [Dolson] is concerned and so that would maybe help us not have to over-exert ourselves as far as players are concerned but we just have to deal with it. We just have to deal with it. This is the card that we've been dealt with. We just have to play with it."

### ON SYDNEY COLSON:

"Just to have one practice, I thought her five minutes were good. She's going to get some of my lingo, some of our schemes down and her vocabulary as far as the language that we speak will add on to that and her knowledge of our playbook will probably grow too in the short term. So I thought in five minutes she did well. She held her own, allowed [Courtney] [Vander]Sloot to get some necessary rest and she also allowed our bigs to get some necessary because Gabby [Williams] was able to play the four so it helped us out a lot."

## ON RUTHY HEBARD:

"In the first half it was tough because she gave up three threes. I want to say two to [Kayla] Thornton and one to Katie Lou [Samuelson]. She was really disappointed. And I got on her but we told her that we were going to go back to her. She was upset and so you saw the passion and the fire that she was playing with to get those rebounds and so we were proud of that. And that was a big moment for us because it gave the team energy. I think it was a turning moment for us as a group and you never would have thought that the rookie would have been responsible for it. But the way that she did stay down on those rebounds, that was something. We want her to keep playing to that. She's growing and we're just happy to have her."

#### SKY GUARD COURTNEY VANDERSLOOT

## ON TONIGHT'S GAME:

"That was another one that we kind of showed a lot of grit I think. We're not really trying to do this but we end up getting in a lot of close games and I think it speaks a lot that we've had four games in one possession and we're able to pull them out. Obviously we're going to go back and look at ways we can finish games so they aren't coming down to one possession. So, we're going to use this game as another learning lesson, and be ready for the next game."

#### On Sydney Colson:

"Oh, it's been awesome having her back because she just brings a whole new energy. Having another point guard she's vocal, she's a vet[aran]. To play point guard her whole career. Her presence is just as felt and known and we need that both on the court and in the locker room. She has just such positive energy so it's really uplifting for us, somebody that is really professional, too. She's a pro's-pro and that's the kind of players that you want on your team."

## ON HOW THEY CHANGED THE OFFENSE IN THE SECOND HALF:

"We have a lot of players that can make plays. And we kind of went to a middle pick and roll little bit with a little with a riser and that kind of changed the dynamic of the game. But I think the most important thing was we stopped giving up offensive rebounds. When we get rebounds and we get stops we're really hard to guard in transition. And that was the turning point where I think we gave up nine in the first half and only one in the second."



## SKY FORWARD CHEYENNE PARKER

#### ON BEING ABLE TO PLAY GAMES THIS FREQUENTLY:

"I mean it's definitely different. It's definitely a different process like tomorrow we have to condense in taking care of our bodies, doing treatment and then also preparing our minds for the next team that we'll be facing the following day so it's definitely an adjustment. And we do have to make some adjustments and some changes to the way we prepare physically. Obviously we don't want to be on our feet too much tomorrow and we want to make sure we rest and recover well. So we're figuring it out. I'm glad that we have the staff that we do that has experience and knows what type of treatment we need to do and the type of recovery we need to have."

#### ON STAYING MOTIVATED:

"We have a really great coach. He lets us know that the target is going to be on our back for the rest of this season and that we can't rest. We can't take anything lightly. We can't sleep on nobody, we have to respect every opponent we play no matter if they're at the top of the top of the rankings or at the bottom. So I think our mindset is just to make sure that we show up and bring everything you got every game and I think the rest will really speak for itself."

#### ON HER OFFENSIVE PRODUCTION:

"I think it's just kind of metamorphosing. I've always been a pretty good scorer in the paint and I think this season I'm just improving and getting better at just burying girls. James, [Wade] he just emphasizes me ducking in a lot so he wants me on the block. He wants me to ducking in because he just knows that it works for us, the percentage is up there. But I feel like everybody is leading in scoring right now because it's such a balance all the way around. I feel like we're all just playing our role doing our part. So that's what I'm doing."

## SKY GUARD AZURÁ STEVENS

"I'm always gonna start off with no justice, no peace. Another day that's gone by without Breonna Taylor's murders being arrested. So we're going to keep talking about that, bringing awareness to it."

#### ON TONIGHT'S GAME:

"It feels good to get a win all the time but especially tonight is playing against Dallas. I'm glad we were able to get out the win and execute late in the game. I know we've been having a lot of like close games but I think we're only up from here. Ideally we want to be blowing out teams, but we're learning a lot with these late game situations and we're coming through. So I think that's a good positive take away from the game."

#### ON HOW SHE ATTACKED DALLAS:

"I think in the first half we didn't do a great job of that, especially myself. We didn't do a good job of boxing them out. And that was one of our focuses of the game, but in the second half we definitely turned that around by just getting a body on them and eliminating their second chances. And then I think we've did a good job attacking them throughout the game. The guards did a good job of attacking them and Ruthy {Hebard} came in and did really well for us rebounding wise. She always plays solid when she comes in no matter how much she plays. But especially tonight she did a really good job of just coming in and doing a solid job for us, defensively rebounding scoring like she just played really solid. So I think we definitely responded better in the second half, with limiting their second chances and just putting the pressure on them on offense."