

POSTGAME QUOTES



SKY GENERAL MANAGER & HEAD COACH JAMES WADE

On what Seattle did to disrupt the team:

"I think it was more us. They're [Seattle] a good team but I just don't think we came out with an energy that is equal to playing in a basketball game."

Doc

On if there's a positive the team can take away from this loss

"Yes, you always find lessons in [a] loss. So there's something positive we can take away from it. I'm sure. What that is, I don't know. I think it depends on how we respond. If we respond the way we're supposed to then we'll take something from it. But if we don't respond, if we keep coming out like the way we did with the energy that we came out with then it's just going to be another lesson for us the next game."

On the biggest key for the team going forward

"Just got to show up. We still have good players on our roster. We can't feel sorry for ourselves because people are not here. We've got to show up."

SKY GUARD/FORWARD KAHLEAH COPPER

On what Seattle did to cause trouble for the Sky:

"We were zombies. We just didn't have the energy today. I can't tell you what it was but we just talked about it as a team and just talked about celebrating the little moments and celebrating every moment in a game that gives us a little bit of energy. Celebrating deflections, celebrating getting defensive stops and celebrating rebounds. Celebrating the little things that just keeps us locked in and just keeps us energized."

On Diamond DeShields:

"That's the one to my two. She has to take care of herself, take care of her physical and mental. That's most important for her. I think it's important for us to really come together and step up because we were down. Like, we're down right now, and she's a big part of it. A big part of it being on the court and a big part of it off the court just giving us energy and just everything so it really sucks that she's gone."

On Stephanie Mavunga joining the team soon:

"I think she'll bring a body for sure. Just bring energy. I think she's a great player. Great rebounder, great player offensively. I think she'll just compliment our culture and just compliment us on the court. It will be great to start getting her in the flow with us and great to have another person here."

SKY FORWARD RUTHY HEBARD

On the Sky finding rhythm late:

"Yeah, I think we have bits and pieces of us trying to find the rhythm and stuff and hopefully next game, we can come out and do that throughout the whole game."

On the team relying on each other going forward:

"I think we're fighting for a lot more than just us. It's a big loss of course losing two great players, D [Diamond DeShields] and Z [Azurá Stevens]. Things are going on around us in the outside world, we want to keep fighting, keep using our platform for people like Jacob Blake, Breonna Taylor, those people who have it worse than us. Who are fighting for their lives or who've been killed. So I think we are trying to bring that energy and bring them that support and love so we can fight for them and ourselves at this time."

On what she'll learn in these last few games to close out her rookie year :

"I would just think to keep moving without the ball. [Courtney] [Vander] Sloot's a great guard. So just keep moving. She's going to give me the ball in my comfort zone. That's what she's been doing and also just practicing working on my shot, being able to expand my range so I can hit those shots when I'm left open."

SKY GUARD COURTNEY VANDERSLOOT

On what Seattle was able to do to disrupt the Sky's flow:

"It's been a rough couple of days, really emotional and difficult. But that's what we're here to do is play through stuff like this and use our platform. But Seattle, they outplayed us and they made things difficult on the offensive end for us. We never really got into a flow offensively. They were able to score easy points in transition, made us play half court a lot. And we want to play in transition and I don't think we were able to get there and play our comfortable transition game."

On Stephanie Mavunga joining the team soon :

"Losing Z [Azurá Stevens] and Diamond [DeShields] from the bubble is a big blow for us. We understand from their perspective, they got to get themselves healthy. But it hurts, it's hard. But we've kind of like you said had people in and out with injuries all season. We've been able to have people step up in big ways. So we will look to continue that. We also lost Jantel [Lavender] in a trade and although she's not here, that's a blow for us too. She's an important part of this team, with bodies and stuff. We needed someone that could be here and so we're anxious for Stephanie to get here and help us. She's a good player and I think she'll fit in really well with us. So, like I said, we're anxious and I know that she will blend in easily. The transition will be smooth, because we play an easy style that's easy to pick up on. She's made for the style of play that we play, her game is."

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