

Post-Game Quotes – 12/9/17 vs NMSU

Head Coach Paul Weir:

“If I had two things to say: One, 12,768 people, it was amazing. Just to coach here and have that kind of fan base and just hear their support for us ... I’m sorry we couldn’t get it done and I’m sorry for our guys. They are fighting and giving it everything they’ve got.”

“They’re giving it everything they’ve got, but we’re just not there yet.”

“I think NM State’s experience down the stretch (was evident), they’re just an older, veteran, experienced group, and I think they showed that.”

“I’m aware of the repercussions of our record, and losing to a rival ... but our journey is so much bigger than that.”

“These guys are fighting and I can’t say anything negative about them ... they are giving it all they’ve got, we just have to find a way to improve and find a way to win games like this before the season is over.”

“Thank you so much to the fans. Please stick with us, and thank you to my players as well because they are continuing to fight.”

“Their commitment to me, and their commitment to us, is humbling; and I hope they are going to get rewarded for it.”

“I believe that really great things in life take time and adversity along the way - we are obviously dealing with that. I just hope that we can continue to keep the spirit that we have.”

“I thought (NMSU) made some really big shots, I thought you could just kind of sense their experience, and I think you could sense our inexperience. We made mental mistakes and we took some bad shots.”

“I think this was just a newer team trying to find its way against a veteran team that’s won a lot of games ... I think that NMSU knows how to win those games and has the experience to do it, and we’re still trying to figure that out.”

“It still wasn’t enough, when you have a 3-point game and you have both teams shooting about 40%, it’s the little things that add up. We were -2 in turnovers, and -6 on the offensive glass. Those eight possessions end up being the difference in a game like this just given that the percentages are about equal everywhere else.”

Anthony Mathis

“(The last 24 hours) have been pretty crazy, but we’ve done a great job of coming together overall. The thing with this team is if we go through adversity, we’re just going to come back even better. It’s a great characteristic to have in a team.”

“I think that when the game gets really late and it’s close, that’s when you have to lock in even more. They made some big shots, give credit to them. Lofton made a big shot. A.J. Harris made a big pull-up jumper, and we really needed that stop. We get that stop, it’s a different ball game.”

Antino Jackson

“When you go through a lot as a team, you come together more. Just like everyone has seen Jack (Jachai Simmons). He’s making improvements. The freshmen are getting in there and making improvements. We’re all just coming together. It’s happening slow, but I feel like when it’s really time and it really matters, it’s going to be there. We’re just being a family. We’re putting it together still, finding our identity.”

NMSU Head Coach Chris Jans

“I think we handled it okay. We didn’t attack as much (as the first game), but we started to attack more toward the end of the night. I try to leave that up to them. I’m not going to try to force-feed it to them and make them attack. I just want them to get it to half-court and feel confident in their offense.”

“I’m happy to win this game and I’m really proud of our team and our program. I told (the players) in the locker room that this is something we’ll be able to take with us for the rest of the year, being on the road and in tough environments, being able to stick together and to come back and figure out a way to win the game.”