

POST-GAME QUOTES: UNM VS. CENTRAL ARKANSAS

HEAD COACH PAUL WEIR

On Carlton Bragg:

“He did what I wanted him to do, which was affect the rim at both ends. I think he technically affected our two-point percentage at both ends which was good and it gave our team a little more experience on the floor, which we all need right now.”

On Bragg’s energy:

“When he made his first two free throws right out of the gate, I felt good. I felt like he’s not too excited... he calmly stepped up, made two free throws. That first layup or two, I think he was a little off, but as the game went on, he was able to turn and finish around the rim. I thought he did a pretty good job tonight.”

On Maluach:

“I think that it was his best breakout game of the year, and not just because he made some threes. It was the best offensive rebounding game and he had some energy to him ... That was really encouraging to see him come forward.”

On rebounding:

“For (Karim) and Makuach to go to the glass tonight, that was big. Those are extra possessions that we are getting that really helped us get a victory tonight.”

#10- MAKUACH MALUACH

On the win:

“We needed this win. We had to get back on the winning side of things and it feels great. It felt great to get a couple of shots and we were just riding the wave ... I want to say thank you to the fans for turning out again. It was a huge win for us.”

On having Bragg in the game:

“He was great out there; he demands so much attention. We didn’t want to put too much pressure on him. We just wanted him to get some touches and to help him get a feel for the game since it was his first time back in a while. He did a great job tonight getting a couple of easy baskets and he rebounded well too.”

On keeping the energy up after big plays:

“Coach just tells me to be aggressive and just read the ball screen. This is my first time playing the three (position) this year, so he tells me to just take what the defense gives you.”

On being aggressive:

“It starts off with practice. I just have to read the game and know where the openings are going to be. If I do that well, it will show in the game.”

#35- CARLTON BRAGG

On getting back on the court:

“Being back on the floor was a blessing and everything else was just a plus. When I first got in the game, I was nervous. I thought I was going to foul, but things ended up going well and we went with the flow of the game.

On what college basketball means to him:

“Being off the court for a year and a half helped me to cherish and respect the game even more. It helped me to take the game more seriously and to keep learning about the game. This game is very special to me.”

On how his game has changed:

“Just running the floor. Coach is on us every day at practice, talking about fatigue and playing through it. I think that is a big thing that carried over.”

On Maluach’s Dunk:

“Every time he’s by the screen, he’s real aggressive and I always tell him at practice to just go dunk the ball. Those plays make the game change and they give us energy.”

On playing at The Pit and the New Mexico fans:

“The standing ovation and the fans clapping for me was giving me butterflies. I thank the fans, I feel like they were playing with me.”