

POST-GAME QUOTES

FEB. 16 2019

FRESNO STATE 81, NEW MEXICO 73

HEAD COACH PAUL WEIR

On effort in tonight's game:

"Their effort is there. Their work ethic is there. I just told the guys now, we ran into two great basketball players tonight, and they looked it, they showed it and they won Fresno State a game on the road. We just have to keep working and trying to get better and grow offensively and defensively."

On Fresno State's run in the second half:

"First part of the second half, they called a timeout ... and they drilled us from there ... They went on a run from there that we just couldn't stop. I took one timeout at one point and they just recalibrated themselves, or we ran out of a little bit of gas, and then they stretched it. I thought we tried to fight back. I thought we tried to get back in the game, but that little run was too much for us to overcome."

On Vance Jackson setting a new career high in points:

"I thought it was great shot selection ... I thought he was much more efficient offensively tonight and he got to the free throw line a lot and made some shots. He's a great player and just a sophomore ... It's in him, he's talented, but to do it every night is going to take some experience, and he's gaining that right now."

On Fresno State's Taylor and Huggins:

"Taylor made a couple in the first half, Huggins made a couple in the second, and Taylor made another in the second. They made about five threes from beyond NBA range, and quite honestly that is not something that we are going out to try and take away. I thought we did a good job at contesting some of them ... you have to tip your hat at some of those. They are great players making very deep shots."

On confidence level of team and if they still believe:

"I just told them I hope they still do. There is a lot of basketball left to be played. It is very easy to say maybe this is over or that things haven't gone our way. Unfortunately, a lot of that is driven by how individuals are playing and there is not a lot of individuals that are playing great right now, but we just have to find a way to stick together. There is really nothing else you can do right now. There's no panicking. We are going right back to work tomorrow morning. We try to get better and make less mistakes next game than we did this game, and hope that we can break through and win some games."

SENIOR ANTHONY MATHIS

On remaining hopeful

"There is no question as to hope, we are not going to give up. We still have a good amount of games left, we still have the Mountain West Tournament. No hope is lost at all. I'd say a little discouraged, I

mean we put in so much work and to see the results we're getting is kind of discouraging. But, we're just going to go back to work in the morning."

On the message to the team

"Obviously we just have to stick together. That's the big key. We can look for reasons to put blame on people. But you just have to take a look in the mirror and really analyze what you can do as a player to help this team get better."

On team chemistry

"I definitely feel like we're gelling a little more. Everybody is starting to realize how precious every single possession is. I feel like we're making strides on the defensive end. But it's just tough when you don't get the result you want."

REDSHIRT SOPHOMORE VANCE JACKSON

On costly mistakes

"I think on the defensive end, not talking for the open threes towards the end that Huggins and Taylor made - it was just not talking. We worked on that in practice, it's just a lack of focus. So that and missed free throws, I feel like those were the two main keys."

On maintaining hope

"Coach just told us he said the season's not over. I'm pretty sure the whole team feels the same way as in we're making strides. We just have to keep getting better."

On team improvement

"Despite the little defensive errors towards the end, I feel like our defense got so much better and I think our rebounding got better, we've been working on it all week. Our ball handling on offense just things like that. I feel like we're going to get better."