

Post-Game Quotes: UNM vs Evansville

Coach Paul Weir:

"Obviously it was really good to get a win. I hate assessing a game on a win or a loss, I thought we played a lot better tonight. We had a little lull there in the middle of the second half and even in the beginning of the second half but you have to give Evansville credit. I've coached against and scouted against a lot of teams, and Marty Simmons is as good of basketball coach as I've ever had to scout against. He eats basketball for breakfast. The guy is just awesome."

"This was the ultimate test for our defense as to whether we could affect a team that is very deliberate in what they do and is very technically and fundamentally sound. It was really encouraging for me to take a Marty-Simmons-coached team and turn them over, just because he's such a phenomenal basketball coach."

"Defensive rebounding is still a big issue for us. We practice it every day, watch film on it every day, and we're going to continue to do that. I've got to start to think of different ways to teach rebounding."

"It feels good to get back to the win column. Hopefully we'll be able to take this and go forward."

"We've talked about it all week: your shots can't dictate your effect on the game. Antino's ability to push the ball and transition in the second half really helped us win the game."

Antino Jackson:

"I give a lot of credit to the coaching staff, all the people (behind the scenes, like Chiotti). They constantly talk to me and tell me to just shoot the ball. If you're a player, you have to impact the game in different ways, so that's the only thing I was thinking."

"Every time I sprinted down the court and tried to give somebody the ball, I thought, 'Just be aggressive.'"

"We play a lot of bodies, and it starts in practice. [Makuach], as a freshman, gets a lot of opportunities out there. Him and Sam talk on the sideline. Sam is a big part of him, he goes out there and tells him what he needs to do, and (Makuach is) doing well."

Makuach Maluach:

"My job is to come in, bring energy, play defense, rebound and run the floor. Coach

talked about it, and I try to learn from Sam. So I just try to keep the energy up and keep up with Antino.”

“We were sick and tired of losing. You could tell by everyone’s demeanor that we needed this game bad. I thought we did a good job tonight.”

“It feels great. There’s not a better feeling than winning in front of your home crowd. We’re a resilient group and we like each other a lot. When we win, we win together, and when we lose, we lose together. Hopefully we win more games than lose.”