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| Yeah. You know, everything that we did to battle back to that point, you know, just felt like everything was in our favor. And you know, when that three went down and obviously when I got fouled at the three point line, us being in position to win that game, you feel confident about we was going to be able to take care of business. I slipped up. I just slipped up at the end. I mean, we got to feel good about how we played, you know. At this point every possession counts. And that's what we've got to understand. Myself included. You know, a couple of turnovers that I wish we could take back I could take back. But the margin of error is so small at this level, so going into Game 2, we just got to improve off that. They ran the same play. Ray Allen went to the corner for their last possession, you know, and we all switched out, and it kind of threw me off, because I see Ray running by. It kind of threw me off a little bit. Which I had to fly out to LeBron. He made a good play. I can understand. You have to make LeBron shoot a jumper at that point. I mean, I gave him I pressured. I was up too close on him. You have to make him shoot a jumper. That's what we wanted. We wanted LeBron to shoot a jumper right there. Yeah, I think we all would. He does an amazing job of protecting the rim. I'm 100% sure he would have been there. I mean, ain't much I can say. But I felt comfortable coming off when David West handed the ball off to me. First option was to come off of that screen, but they switched it, so we looked for George coming off; that wasn't there. I knew we needed a shot, so was thankful that it went in. And again, I tried to make a play. We had the little scramble, George getting it, tried to make a play there, I got ticked on the arm. I think the ref saw it and gave us the three. Without a doubt. Without a doubt. I mean, I don't know. I think we're just a versatile group. I think we can play at their pace and at times we can slow it down when we need to. And us slowing it down, when we go to our power game. You look at David West and Roy, got 20 baskets themselves. That's all in the paint. So we do a good job of being versatile. I think we can play at any tempo. No. This one might be the toughest one to swallow. Talking about having an opportunity to take the first game. Kind of be in the lead of the series. And not being able to do it because of a last possession, that one hurts. It hurts. |
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| Yeah, I mean, it's tough. They came out and played a great game. If that's how champions respond, we have to see where we're at. Well, we have to watch the film today and see the things that we could have got better at. But I thought offensively we played a pretty good and solid game. Where we didn't play nearly as good as we wanted to was on the defensive end. Allowing 70 points in the half against the defending champions is just not going to cut it. It's not much. It's one game. The series is not over. We're still planning on a long series. But it's one game at a time. We proved we can play well here and there, so it's one game at a time. Just got to be tied together. A lot of passes they got were just lay ups. We have to be tied together. Everybody has to be in sync, how we always are defensively. Especially at home. We're usually pretty at home. So that's what's got to change for us to be successful. No, I just have to battle him. Just push him out a little further. He just did a good job of moving the personnel around, have Roy not be down there. So we'll switch things up and figure out how to adjust to it. I mean, he's tough. He's obviously gifted physically and he's a strong dude, so it's tough. It's tough battling him down there. But again it's something I've learned and will continue to learn more and more when I'm down there guarding him. Yeah, yeah. It is. There's not much movement you can do when he's planted down there. Again, I just got to battle. Well, what made it tough was we was getting everything out of the net. There really wasn't no opportunities to attack, fast breaks or in transition, you know, when the defense is not set. That took a lot of play into what not being able to get to the rim and be aggressive off the bounce. So we just have to do a good job of forcing misses so we can get in transition and attack when the defense isn't set. LeBron has to know they're there. He can't feel like he's isolated by himself down there. He's, if not the best player, one of the best players in this league. You give him five dribbles at the block, you're giving him two points. So LeBron just got to know he sees David West, he sees George, he sees Lance. You have to make sure he feels our presence down there. It's real mandatory. It's us playing with our backs against the wall. We have to come out and feel that way. It's a must win for us. |
| We stay even keeled. But this time around we've got to understand the champions are going to they're going to come back ready to play a game. Them being at home should be another level that they'll kick it to. So we've got to come out and just match that energy. Not really. Not really. We just got to come out and continue to keep playing how we play. Don't let nothing distract us, but let nothing take away from what we do. Everybody play within themselves and continue to play how they've been playing this postseason. We know our defense, if it's as good as we want it to be, we'll have a shot at winning here. It is. It is. Because I'm not a player to try to force things to happen. I usually just try to let the game come to me. At times especially last night not being able to be on the floor for as long as I've been playing on the floor, I just tried to make up for lost time being on the bench and tried to make big plays and be aggressive. Got to do a better job with that. But the good thing is we had Lance Stephenson last night. Continue to keep rising to the occasion and continue to try to lead, and be someone that my team can rely on down the stretch. Again, just staying even keeled. How we play is that next play. Playing for that next possession and just forgetting whatever happened the last possession. It's been a key, especially down when you're playing in postseason, because games can turn so quick, and possessions are so big. We just got to go with the flow and let that last possession kind of air out of our minds and get ready for the next one. I mean it's a real grind. But we prefer it to be this way instead of having a couple of days, because you can lose your rhythm and lose your touch. I prefer I think our team prefers to play every other day just to stay in tune, because we're playing great basketball right now. Well, we played a full 48 minutes. In Game 1 we played about 47. Going into OT that last couple of seconds we slipped up. We played a full 48 minutes in that win in Miami. That's what it's going to take. We did it on the defensive end. We got off to a great start. We were able to rally their comeback and still find ways to score late. He's playing phenomenal. Other than Timmy, he's been the best center in this game right now, thus far in this postseason. That's the reason why we've done so well. Because we're getting a huge contribute from the post area. Yeah, that's huge. That's huge. Because their half court defense is so tough to score on. Roy takes it upon himself to create opportunities for us. Myself, Lance, George, we try to get our buckets in transition and early offense strikes. But when it's late in the shot clock, Roy finds a way to duck himself down there and get some easy baskets for us. Yeah. Yeah. Because we want to come out with energy. It's a three game series right now. We don't want to have to rely on doing our work here to not get eliminated. So we want to continue to keep the pressure on them. Yeah, but it is what it is. We will I will say settle. We have to settle for 2 2. We wish it would have been 3 1. We didn't take care of business when we needed to. So it just makes the job a little tougher. But that's the playoffs. |
| Well, this Game 6 will really determine how much we've grown, because we've been in the sameditch I guess, being in the same predicament. Going 2 2, losing in Miami, coming home and losing at home. We'll see where we're at. We've done well all year, especially in the postseason, dealing with adversity, and overcoming games where we didn't play as well as we wanted to and coming out with energy and the effort to get the job done. Again, we'll see when it comes to Game 6. I mean, I just saw somebody competing. It wasn't no look of determination or anything from what I saw. He just came out and made some shots. You take away that third, we're in the ballgame. We can't have flat quarters like that. Again, credit him for making shots, but most of it was us. We just didn't defend at a high enough level to get the job done. Same. I don't know what really went on. I just turned around, and it was confrontation. So I didn't know what really happened during that play. It's one game at a time. One game at a time. We have to come home and play a good game, bring it. Everybody is going to have to step up and play a huge role. I know in the back of their mind they want to get the job done and be finished. So we're going to have to come out and bring it. But it's one game at a time. We have to force a Game 7. They're at home. They're at home. Anytime a play like that happens, the crowd is going to go for their team. They just fed off that energy. They really just brought it. They were trying to make the big plays, to continue the momentum. And they did. So that was really what happened there, is they just started playing to the crowd. All the emotion, everything, the momentum just swung their way. This is all a learning process for Lance. It's just a learning process for Lance. It's something he's going to have to go through. We know he's going to have to go through. He's going to have to learn how to play through that. |
| David West understands what's at stake. You can tell at times he wasn't fully there. He was trying to fight through and give it his all. We very grateful to have a player like that. That's just David West stepping up to the challenge. And we still went to him, because we know David West, we'll take David West any day. Sick or healthy. He just gave us his all. Made some huge plays for us. The shots he knocked down really was in the clutch moments. And we needed those. That's just the kind of player David West is. I think it was a little bit of both. We executed well. No, but really, what separated was us being able to get in transition and trying to strike early against Miami, because their half court defense is tough. But still, we found opportunities to strike early. And we really executed. We were finding guys in the pick and roll and having Roy or David West make plays out of that. It was just Roy making a huge play. He's one of the, if not the best, defensive big in this league. And I'm glad he's being able to highlight that this series. I think if the voting if they continue to vote who is going to be Defensive Player of the Year, he would have gotten the award. But that's just him making a huge play at the rim. And then the refs calling the tech or whatnot, I didn't really know what was going on. I was just proud of the play that Roy made at the rim. We knew they were going to make a run. This team, they're deadly offensively. They can really put points up. That's just us staying together, being poised, and just rallying you know that effort they made. Again, Lance made some big plays offensively on the boards to get us some extra possessions. We shared the ball. We just made huge plays when we really needed to. It was just a credit to our guys playing our hearts out tonight. |