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| We're here to win. It doesn't matter how we're categorized. It's been a lot of years since we've been here. We're just happy to be back here. Old veterans, whatever you want to call us. We're in the mix right now. Just great to get the first game under our belts. I didn't change anything, honestly. The first five shots I got were all good shots actually minus one. The first four shots were really good shots. Shots I usually make. Shots I'm comfortable taking. So I didn't change anything about it. I think I got a lay up to go, and that kind of changed it for me and just kind of went from there. We knew at some point they would do that. Tony made a couple of shots down the stretch there. That's when they switched it over. Tony made some great calls to get some switches in the right places, and then the unbelievable shot he made to obviously we're going to make adjustments. That's what Pop does. We understand that when it comes down to it, LeBron is going to be their best defender. They are going to put him on Tony. We have to continue to execute, continue to attack and just try to get TP as much space as possible. Yeah, they were great all around. I thought Kawhi did an excellent job staying in front of LeBron. You're not going to stop him. You just have to try to stay in front of him as much as possible and make his life as tough as possible. Our guys got a lot of open shots. We didn't shoot the ball real well, but we made enough shots down the stretch to extend a lead and get a win here. We'll shoot the ball better. We love the shots that we got. And all around I thought we did an excellent job. We made plays down the stretch. I think we got a couple of offensive rebounds down the stretch and put them back in. We did what we had to do. And all around the board we did a great job. Yeah. It was a key coming in here that we need to take care of the ball. Their pressure defense is what they do, their ability to get in the open court. I think it was a bit of a nightmare, the very first play they come and make a turnover, they run it back and they dunk it right down the middle. That's what we want to stay away from, obviously. That's where they're at their best. So we took care of the ball very well. As I said, we had some plays down the stretch on the offensive glass. I think we had one or two tip ins down the stretch there. That's where we have to continue to attack and continue to rebound the ball. Yeah. I would imagine they are going to use just about everybody they have there. It's usually Haslem starting on me. When they go smaller, I might have Bosh on me. Chris Andersen obviously can come in. So they are going to use all those guys. I know enough about them and I've prepared enough for them. Nothing really changes on how I attack. I just kind of play it as it comes. I don't know. I think at this point my mind was just blank. I just wanted him to get a shot up in the air. I was trying to get position on the board, trying to work Bosh up the lane a little bit, so I could get back to the board. I see him go down and I'm just praying he gets a shot off. Obviously, Tony makes an unbelievable play. He does just about everything in the book that he had. He fell to the ground, pump faked, stepped through and still got it off the ground. It was just amazing. |
| You know what, credit to Miami, honestly. First start there. They outplayed us. They ended quarters better than us. We turned the ball over more than we should have. Credit to them, first of all. We didn't play well. We didn't shoot well. I know I played awfully. Whatever it may be, they responded better than us. So hopefully we can look forward to this Game 3 and regain some of our composure. Not after tonight. I think they regained that. Obviously we were glad to win a game here in Game 1. Our goal was to get two. But they got the one tonight. We get to go back home. We got a game here. We have three at home, so we're excited about that. But if we play like we did tonight, that's not going to matter. It's about getting refocused here, playing a much better game, ending quarters better, and hopefully shooting better. I'm not sure what you're asking. Their pressure was turned up. They got a couple of turnovers and made some shots, bottom line. What did it feel like? It felt like any other game. You get into a situation, and things are getting away from you. You try to continue to play, play hard. The ball doesn't bounce your way, shots don't go in, whatever it may be. Again, credit to Miami. Their pressure. I think they made some adjustments that were key. Got their hands in a lot of stuff. But obviously four is what we want to be ideally. We knew we couldn't stay there. Keeping live ball turnovers where it turns into transition is really what kind of hurt us. Good question. I look at my shots and they the are shots I want. Obviously, they're contested shots, but they're the shots I feel I can make. So whether it be them or me or whatever it may be, I'm going to get back in the gym tomorrow and hopefully come out with a better stroke. But I'm getting the shots I want. I just have to knock them down. |
| Obviously, if that be the case, it would be a huge loss for us. We played all season long with minus a couple of guys in different cases for whatever amount. I was gone for ten games, Tony was gone for a little while, Manu was gone for a little while. We made adjustments. We played without individuals. On this stage at this time it would be obviously a huge loss for us. Just getting out and just shooting individually. Just getting out there and just working on my game individually more than anything. And obviously just in game rhythm doesn't come from anything but in game. Just being on the floor and seeing a shot go in or making a play somewhere and all that stuff helps your confidence. He's been great with some of the younger guys, with Kawhi, Gary and Danny. You see him talking to them all the time during time outs or practice. Just staying in their ears about different things. I thought he's done a really good job of that, giving them tips here and there. I think it will automatically swing that way. I don't think I would put it on myself per se, but it will kind of come that way. The responsibility will fall on my shoulders more, obviously, and Manu as well. So we both will try to step up even more in the absence of his. I don't think there's anything wrong with LeBron's offense. We're guarding him with five guys. We understand what kind of player he is. He's the best player in the world, so we're respecting him as that. So we're trying to make his life as difficult as possible every time he touches the ball. When he comes out in the open court, that's obviously where he really thrives. If we can keep those away and keep his rhythm down, it's better for us. I don't think he expresses enough emotion to know either way. He's always the same. He's always even keeled and he always looks like he's right where he wants to be. No, I don't think I heard him say more than four or five words in a row or he sounded displeased in some way. That was about it. Yes. All of that and probably a lot more. Honestly, I don't read anything. I don't watch SportsCenter. I don't watch sports. I don't watch anything. I don't know what's said and I don't really care. I show up to play the games. We're here at this point and that's all that matters. As I said, I kind of stay away from that. So I don't even know how I guess if you allow yourself to be affected by it, and you allow yourself to look and read everything, then everyone is under a microscope. As I said, I don't envy that kind of scrutiny and pressure in any way. |
| I think combination of us not being playing with two bigs as much. Obviously their effort was there. Defensively they were really solid. And we just didn't get our opportunities. We were crashing as much as we could to the glass, and we knew that there were some rebounds to be had there. They did a great job in controlling the glass. Yeah, that's a big problem. When we lose, that's the big deal right there. As I said, their defense was solid. They turned up their intensity, as we knew they would, and they got a lot of hands on balls, and they turned them into open plays for them, which is what we kind of talked about, trying to keep them out of that open court where they're most effective. They put all those things together and obviously we lose the game tonight. They come up with the win. I think he's just trying to be incredibly unselfish right now. I think he's trying to make the right play at the right time. He's trying to make the right pass, make the defense move instead of looking more for his own. So I think he's just trying to make the right play more than anything. We need him to be a little more aggressive, be a little more selfish, maybe and hopefully we can find him a way to get him to do that. We're going to keep giving credit to Miami. They played a very good game. Defensively they were solid. We had opportunities to get right back into it. We get it to whatever, three points, and we make a turnover and they turn it into a score. So we'll give credit to Miami and we'll leave it there. We're all trying to get to four games. Every game is a must win. Aggressive. His mid range game was working. I thought we did a lot of the same stuff we did last game, challenged his shot. But he made those shots. Once he made those shots, he was able to break our defense down a little better, get inside of us, get to the basket, get some easy ones there. So I think he kind of got everything he wanted. It's one game. We'll make adjustments. We'll see what happens next game. Obviously, when I heard about it. Fourth quarter last game, I had come to the back, he's back there getting treatment. Obviously that was a scary time. But he's played with injuries all year long, minor injuries all year long, and I had no doubt he would be there and be ready to play. And he played well. As I said, give credit to Miami in the second half, that they did a much better job. All in all I thought he played pretty well. Boris played well. He moved the ball well. He's kind of a pass first guy. But he did a great job of attacking once he caught the ball in the pick and rolls, getting into the middle, made some good passes, made a couple shots for us. The time he was in there he made a difference. So we'll see the adjustments we make. We'll watch the film and make some adjustments for the next game and come out and see what happens. We understood adjustments were being made. They're not going to let them run free and get as many shots off as they did in the game before that for obvious reasons. We knew those adjustments would be made. I thought they did a pretty decent job of not only once they were closed out on the line to driving those guys and trying to make plays. We just didn't make enough plays. They played better than us. |
| I just thought he was a bit more aggressive. I know that's kind of the answer to everything. He's a bit more aggressive. He looked for his shot a bit more. And on top of that, just let the game come to him. He made some great plays, got the floor spread for him, got to attack the basket. Just got more opportunities more than anything. I think that's what it came down, just get more opportunities. A tremendous amount. A tremendous amount. We're not a team or an organization that kind of points fingers in that respect. I know it's on the media to find out what's wrong with everybody, what happened whatever game, but he's such a huge part of what we do. And how far we've come. And you can see it tonight in how we played and the results of the game. So we're always confident in him. We don't look at the stats and say, hey, it's his fault or his fault or his fault. We know he has it in him and we hope he can bring it for at least one more win. I waited for my opportunities. I played off the pick and rolls. I got to open spots. I played off of people more than anything. It's what's being given to me this series. It's what my role is. And I'm just playing that. Yeah, he's been unbelievable. Especially on this stage. He's shooting the ball so well. We're asking him to defend Dwyane Wade and LeBron and all these guys. He's got a lot on his shoulders and he's stepped up and answered the bell. He's been unbelievable. I hope he doesn't wake up and keeps playing this way. Yeah, we played more the minutes better. We still had too many turnovers. We still ended with 18 turnovers. That's still a bit much. But we shot the ball a lot better, moved the ball a lot better. We moved their defense very well. And we had a lot of guys attacking and making shots. So if we're going to turn the ball over that much, we have to play as well as we did. We still have things we can clean up in that respect, which is great. If we can take care of those turnovers, because we can't expect to shoot that well in every game, but we just need one more. So hopefully we can. Experience plays a role. We've been in situations like this. We've been together for a long time. So that definitely plays a role. I think we're just trying to do all we can to will it to happen. We hope we can respond better next game than we have after wins. That's the one thing we want to clean up. I think every one of us wants this very badly from the top on down. We're trying to play that way. We just need to put it on the floor and understand the kind of energy and the kind of aggression they're going to come with next game, and counter that with continuing to play well, moving the ball, and finding ways to find open guys. He did seem dejected. He was obviously he's a competitor, an extreme competitor. And he wants to play well and he wants to help our team do well. Just like a lot of us, we lose games and we take the blame for it. He's just the same way. And he wanted to play well. He wanted to play well really badly. I knew he would come out tonight. I knew he would play well. Everything that happens happens because of Pop. He makes all the calls. He let us know yesterday that he was going to start, and we were all excited about it. I'm really excited for Manu, for his performance tonight, but we need him to do it one more time. We need one more win. We need all of us to show up and play well. We'll be satisfied and happy about all that stuff if we can win one more. We honestly didn't change a whole lot. I thought we put a little more effort into it. We cleaned up a couple of mistakes. We're just trying to make their life as hard as possible. There are three incredible players that obviously have gotten their team to this point for three years in a row. They're some of the best players in the league. All we can do is try to do the best we can to make their life as hard as possible. I thought we did a better job in the open court, trying to keep them in front of us, not giving up lay ups like we did in that past game, that last game, and in that respect that changed the game a bit for us. |
| It's obviously disappointing, having the lead that we went into the fourth with. The opportunities we had to close it out. It is what it is. It's a one game series now. I don't know what happened in the fourth and in overtime. Just the opportunities weren't there. I did have some opportunities, just missed shots. Whatever you want to call it. Just a disappointing loss. It's what we've done all year. In a situation where we were going to switch a lot of things, and just unfortunate the way it happened. We got a stop, and we got a bad bounce, and right out to Ray Allen for a three. Just situational. But there's no questions there. It's the plays we've been making all season long. We do exactly that, we recover. We'll use these 48 hours until the next one to get physically right, get reenergized. We'll do what we usually do. We'll watch a little bit of film, and make a couple of little tweaks. We put ourselves in a position to win a game. They made plays down the stretch to take it from us, but we know what we can do. We know that we can win games either here or anywhere else, and we just have to execute for a longer period of time. We had a lapse for a couple of minutes here and there. As I said, up 10 points going into the fourth quarter, we like our chances. We didn't exhale at all. We continued to make some plays. We missed some free throws down the stretch that could have clinched it for us. As I said, we get a stop, we get a bad bounce and right out to Ray for a three. We get stops before that and get rebounds, push them out, we put ourselves in a great situation. It was just unfortunate the bounces that we get, but that's how basketball goes. They're a very good team over there and they continue to play right down to the wire. Yeah, he played great down the stretch. Just as you said, he kind of willed it. Defensively he made some plays. I know he had a block on me, and then a score on the other end back to back. He just he made plays. I don't think there's any two ways to put it. We were in the right position. We were in the right position to close it out. He found a way to put his team over the top. And we just didn't make enough plays to do that. I don't know that's it's any more complicated than that. You're in a situation in a closeout game and you have a lead like we did, it's just unfortunate we didn't take advantage of it. Manu will be good. He'll be fine. He made some turnovers and some unfortunate plays, but honestly, the last play down the stretch there, it can go either way. We obviously believe it was a foul going down the middle. We get two free throws and we're talking about something different here, if that happens. So he'll be just fine. He'll blame himself and put it on himself. That just makes him more aggressive and more ready to play the next one. |
| The obvious word is "disappointing." Tough end to the game. Made some bad decisions, missed some shots. I don't know what to say. Just give credit to the Miami Heat. LeBron was unbelievable. Dwyane was great. I just think they found a way to get it done. We stayed in the game. We gave ourselves opportunities to win the game, we just couldn't turn that corner. They made more plays down the stretch, bottom line. We made adjustments throughout the game. They were making shots. We made adjustments. We closed, we double teamed every once in a while just to change the look on them. They made shots. They made enough shots to put them over the top. Something we were willing to live with. Keeping them away from the basket. As I said, LeBron was unbelievable. He stepped up in this last game and he made enough shots to make us change our defense over and over again. We just couldn't find a way to stop him. It's a hard question to answer right now. To be at this point with this team in a situation where people kind of counted us out, is a great accomplishment to be in a Game 7. Or to be in a Game 6 up one and two chances to win an NBA championship and not do it, that's tough to swallow. For me, no. Game 7, missing a lay up to tie the game. Making a bad decision down the stretch. Just unable to stop Dwyane and LeBron. Probably for me Game 7 is always going to haunt me. Back for what? I have a contract that says I am. Not right now. You'll have to ask Manu that. That's out of me just missing a bunny. Got by Shane and had a lay up to tie the game. That's just frustration. |