

Atlanta Dream vs. Seattle Storm Postgame Quotes

September 21, 2016 – Atlanta

WNBA Playoff Round One

Atlanta Dream Head Coach Michael Cooper

Opening statement...

“First off I’d like to tip my hat to the Seattle Storm. They are a very good basketball team and they gave us all that we could handle. That was a team that really had a lot of fight. They were a lot like us because they didn’t really stand out in the regular season, but it’s not how you start, it’s how you finish. It’s going to be a tough summer for Seattle, but there is a great outlook for them because they are going to be a great team in the future.”

On fourth quarter surge...

“We thought we were in a good position. We didn’t quite start the game the way we wanted to but, when you’re missing two key pieces including Sancho Lyttle and Tiffany [Hayes] it made us jumble our lineup around. But I’ve been in this game that is the WNBA for a while, this being my 16th season and have been involved with professional basketball... wow. I have coached and played with some great players, but after coaching players like Lisa Leslie, Candice Parker, and a young lady named “Nneka” Ogwumike, but I’ve never coached a player like Angel McCoughtry. She’s ‘Jordan-ish’.. you know... she’s like Michael Jordan. That fourth quarter where she put on that display was something I’ve never seen before. They had their best defensive player, and I think we threw them for a loop because as a play it was one that we had never run so we just threw it right at them. Defensively they didn’t know how to guard it. We were glad we were that close and I’m glad when our time came to make our run, and Angel usually is the one to start that, we were able to pull away.”

Angel McCoughtry

On leadership on the court...

“I think they all did a very good job on their own. They kept their heads in the game and stayed very positive. I just try to give a little bit of my leadership of just being here and having done this before, so I just try to talk to them during the game like ‘Let’s do this, let’s do this’, and they do such a great job listening. They give their best every game and I’m so proud of them tonight. These are players that definitely deserve a championship.”

Elizabeth Williams

On halftime conversation...

"I think Seattle punched first and they did a really good job in the first half of getting rebounds and running in transition, so we knew if we could get some really good stops and get our momentum going we would be ok. We came out of halftime and went on that run so I think it really sparked our mentality for the rest of the half."

Bria Holmes

On tonight's win...

"I think it was a tough game and without two of our star players, I think everybody stepped up to the plate including our bench. We gave it a team effort and we got a great win."

Mindset going into tonight's game...

"It's the same mindset I have going into every game. Just doing what I can do to help my team win. Whether that's scoring, playing defense, or getting rebounds... It's just doing the little things to help my team win."