



University of Colorado Student-Athletes

Josh Scott, Junior Forward

ON PITTSBURGH LOSS AT END OF 2014-15 SEASON

"Thought about it through the off-season, don't think about it anymore. I mean, obviously once we get to the NCAA tournament it'll probably come back up, but right now it's a new year. We had the off season to use that as motivation and I think that came in handy."

ON WHAT WE LEARNED FROM PITT LOSS

"We learned that we need to get bigger, stronger, and faster. We learned that we need to improve offensively as well as defensively. Any area that you can point out from that game we need to improve on. That was obvious after that game."

ON EXPANDING GAME FOR THE SEASON

"Passing ... Passing is big for me and just continuing to shoot the mid-range jumper and feeling more comfortable shooting it. It's important for our spacing and it's important for me in general."

ON LEADERSHIP FOR THIS SEASON

"When we lost Spencer (Dinwiddie), he was one of our leaders, so it hurt to not have him; especially when he's your point guard, and we didn't really have time to adjust, we had to learn on the fly. So considering, I think we did an alright job doing it and this year we definitely are improving because he's not here. But that's alright, we have leadership and we will get the job done. I think it's going to come from me, Askia Booker, Xavier Johnson. Probably Xavier Talton too, but we have four guys that know we need to get the job done."

ON WHAT SUCCESS WILL LOOK LIKE FOR THIS SEASON:

"The goal is to make past the first round. I don't think anybody on this team has been past the first round. In the past two to three years none of us have. It's important for to get past that. Obviously it's important for us to make it to the tournament so I'll say that first. Make it to the tournament first and then make it past the first round. The biggest challenge for us is turning the ball over and relying on our defense when we aren't scoring. Those are the two major areas."

ON THE CONFIDENCE LEVER FOR THIS TEAM

"Very confident I'd say. People don't realize that last year people were training for their roles with Spencer being there and this year we all trained with him not being here in mind and got better individually and as a team. I think you will see a whole lot of improvement from all of us."

ON OFFENSE EXECUTION SO FAR

"It's better. We are moving more. It's going to make it tougher for teams to double team us and makes it easier for us to make plays. I'm a big fan of what we are doing right now."

HOW WE CAN HELP IMPROVE TEAM'S OUTSIDE SHOOTING PERCENTAGE

"Helping the guys get easier, more wide open shots. I draw a lot of attention. I've admitted that I think my passing is suspect at times last year, that's why I came into the off season really working on getting other people involved. So that's the big way I think I can help the shooting percentage."

ON THE YOUNGER PLAYERS

"I think Dustin has really improved in the offseason. I would say Tre'Shaun [Fletcher] has improved. This question is really tough for me because I think everyone really improved in some area of their game. I think this is the first year that you can honestly say everyone has improved in some way. In terms of freshman Dom's [Dominique Collier] been hurt a little bit lately, but Tory [Miller] has really been impressive to me in his coach ability and how willing he is to get better; it's tough as a freshman to do that but he has done a good job."

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Xavier Talton, Junior Guard

ON PRESEASON PRACTICE

"Preseason is good. Everybody is clicking well. We still have a little bit of defense to work on, but I think we're coming around the corner."

ON HIS INDIVIDUAL GOALS

"Really just handling the ball, being able to create better for others, making better passes."

ON HIS ROLE AFTER LOSING SPENCER DINWIDDIE

"I definitely needed to step up. Spencer did a lot for us and no one can touch Spencer, but I think a lot of guys who came off the bench stepped up and created more offense for everybody."

ON HIS CONFIDENCE IN HIS SHOOTING ABILITY

"Any time you make a couple shots the confidence builds. If the shooter misses a shot, you just have to keep shooting. That's what we do. We get in the practice gym and get those shots up. That's what we work on."

ON HIS BEST PERFORMANCE LAST SEASON

"The Utah game. It was probably my best game last year and it showed that I really can play. It definitely boosted my confidence."

ON HIS YOUNG AGE

"I think it was more mental than anything. I feel like I kept my own, nobody treated me like a little kid. But, it was more mental than everything, getting prepared."

ON HIS DESIRE TO START

"Every kid wants to start but what it comes down to is that we're going to do whatever it takes to win."

ON HIS CHEMISTRY WITH ASKIA BOOKER

"I think that we have a great chemistry on the court. We find each other in open spots all the time. Whether it be on the break or in the half-court offense, we find each other."

ON THE COMPETITION FOR POINT GUARD

"I think it's made us better honestly. Obviously both me and Askia [Booker] want to play point guard and Jaron [Hopkins] as well. Those guys are talented individuals. So, that competition is just making us better as a team."

ON FRESHMAN DOMINIQUE COLLIER

"I think he's good. Once he puts on a little more weight, I think he's going to be a force to be reckoned with. He's going to be a really good player."

Dustin Thomas, Sophomore Guard

ON THE GOALS FOR THIS SEASON

"The goal for this season is to win every game. Win the Pac-12 Championship and make a run for the national championship. But, practice is going good. We have a lot better chemistry than we did last year. I think guys are working together and it's going to show."

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ON THEIR RIVALS THIS YEAR

"We're looking towards Arizona, both here and there. We lost three times last year and I think that's our rival this year."

ON HIS INDIVIDUAL GOALS

"Getting in there and making plays for the team. I want to sacrifice myself to make good plays for the team."

ON HOW TO IMPROVE THEIR THREE POINTER PERCENTAGE

"It's guys moving the ball, playing together, making good passes and confidence. We want to get out here and play together and know that everyone has each other's back. Just playing basketball. Threes are definitely important, especially on the college level. You have to make sure you can knock down threes and make shots."

ON THE IMPORTANCE OF BEING CONFIDENT

"It's important. Confidence is the main thing and making sure your teammates trust you."

ON THE NEW OFFENSE

"The new offense allows us to just go out there and play basketball. We make plays and move each other."

Jaron Hopkins, Sophomore Guard

ON HOW HE'S IMPROVED DURING THE OFF SEASON

"I feel a lot more comfortable. I feel like the game has slowed down a lot more. I'm able to make decisions a lot slower and process it to make the right pass and the right shot. It started to click for me the first couple weeks of practice. I know I've been working hard all of this off season and I knew it was going to click at some point."

ON WHAT HE NEEDS TO DO TO IMPROVE

"Probably just working with shooters, getting open shots. I need to do what I need to do on offense to make sure we get the win and get us rolling on offense."

ON THE POINT GUARD HE HAS THE MOST CHEMISTRY WITH

"I have the most chemistry with Askia [Booker]. When he gets hot, everybody gets rolling and everybody heats up. I feel like I can distribute the ball and do what I need to do when he's on the court."

ON PLAYING GUARD

"It's going to be a process for me personally. I'm just working to be the best that I can be and make the best decisions on the court. I'm going to watch film and do things like that so I can try to fill that void."

ON NCAA TOURNAMENT DREAMS

"It's a goal. Right now we're just focused on the first game. We want to go game by game and reach a lot of national attention."

ON PRE SEASON PRACTICE

"It's just been season preparation. Working on our offense, our defense and things like that. We're working on ourselves and as the Drexel game gets closer, we'll start preparing for that."

ON THE TEAM HE IS LOOKING TOWARDS DURING THE SEASON

"Team wise, Arizona as always. They're a really good team and they always have solid pieces to the puzzle."

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