



ROCK CHALK JAYHAWK POSTGAME QUOTES

// 2018-19 KANSAS MEN'S BASKETBALL

#1/1 Kansas 89, South Dakota 53

Tuesday, December 18, 2018
Allen Fieldhouse // Lawrence, Kan.

KANSAS HEAD COACH BILL SELF

On different players stepping up, combined with his opening statement:

"We needed it; our starters weren't very good at all, for at least the first half. Mitch (Lightfoot) had a really good first half; Charlie (Moore) only made one shot, he didn't do much; and David McCormack was ok, but he didn't really do much the first half either. The second half there's no question we were at our best when David and Charlie were both in the game. It was good to see those guys step up. I thought David was great, I thought Charlie obviously shot the heck out the ball and did some good things. But on a night where Lagerald (Vick) was ok, he was still 2-of-3 from (behind the) 3-point arc, Dedic (Lawson) didn't have his best game and certainly Devon (Dotson) didn't and Q (Quentin Grimes) didn't, (so) it was nice to have those other guys step up off the bench."

On David McCormack's impressive play in just 17 minutes tonight:

"The most impressive play he had was the blocked shot. I mean he at least went after the ball, it was nice to see. They say your performance is usually a direct reflection of your attitude and his attitude is a '10' every day. I was really happy for him and I was really happy for Charlie too, to see the ball go into the hole because he needs to be a (scoring) threat. Because we've labored shooting the ball other than Lagerald. We've got to get a second guy who can be a threat."

On the guards being able to find the 'hot' guy, who was Moore:

"Our guards, (in) the first half, I think combined for zero assists. So we get three assists the first half and this is what just drives me nuts. We're better than that. But Devon got six in the second half, Lagerald got a couple and Charlie got four. Our guards probably had 12 or so assists in the second half and then of course Marcus (Garrett) got five for the game. So all Marcus does is get seven points, five rebounds, five assists, no turnovers, three steals and his man (he was defending), their leading scorer, only scores two points. So yeah, he was good again."

On Dedic Lawson recording yet another double-double:

"Double-doubles are a little overrated, unless you get 30 and 20 or 30 and 15. He did some good things, but I also think this is a game that he could have put up some real numbers. He did some good things and certainly, we didn't need him to score the ball like he has been. But if you look at No. 0 for them (sophomore guard Stanley Umude) he is averaging eight points a game and he picks on whoever's guarding him, whether that be K.J. or Dedic or Mitch or whoever, and just picks on them. He doesn't have to score the next three games to keep his average. We have to do a better job in some areas, some areas we're getting better defensively but, certainly, that was not one of them tonight."

On Saturday's next game, the team's first true road test of the season, at Arizona State:

"I haven't watched them a lot, you know... is the scout. I know that they're athletic and I know they're much bigger than they were last year. Last year they played those three little guards and then a small four man around a five. This year they're playing bigger and they're really athletic and so it'll be a juiced atmosphere. I think the game is sold out and it's always good to get a win right before going home for Christmas. So we'll get their best, which their best is pretty darn good, obviously, with being ranked (No. 18/19) and hopefully they'll get our best too. It should be a very competitive and fun game, but we should (also) remember what happened here last year."

KANSAS RS-JUNIOR FORWARD DEDRIC LAWSON

On how it feels to be sitting with teammates David McCormack and Charlie Moore:

"It definitely feels good. I thought they were very dangerous about staying ready, things like that. We joke around for moments like this. I'm glad he (McCormack) had the chance to play, he came out and he produced, that's all you can ask for. Same with Charlie (Moore). We know how well Charlie can shoot, (it's) not a surprise to me. I know how good of a shooter he is and how good of a scorer he is, so I'm just glad to see him get comfortable back there and hopefully keep getting better and better for conference play."

On the importance of junior forward Mitch Lightfoot's contributions:

"Mitch is always going to be Mitch. He's a high-energy player, always out there. He will do everything that no one else wants to do; (he) gets down on the floor, blocks shots. For that, you have to love him. He's very consistent, one of the most consistent players on this team."

On redshirt-sophomore teammate Charlie Moore's performance:

"I was just happy to see him making shots and get into a flow. (Making passes and lobs) That's the type of player he is. He has that type of creativity and when he gets going, he's got that playmaking ability when he is comfortable. It's all about being comfortable and having that type of confidence."

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KANSAS FRESHMAN FORWARD DAVID McCORMACK

On how the pace of play is slowing down for him:

"The more I play, the more I can feel the pace of the game just slowing down, and (I'm) seeing what's really going on around (on) the court as far as what I need to do and what I can do to help the team."

On how it felt to get extended minutes (17) on the court tonight:

"It felt good, that I can contribute to the team, help in whatever way I can. Tonight was just a night where I got more minutes, so I had more opportunities to get the ball in the basket, rebound, block, defend whoever I could, do whatever I could to help us win tonight."

On if it is hard to get the pace of the game down when you play limited minutes:

"Definitely not. When you have teammates like I do, they give you a positive mindset always. So if you start off slow, they're always going to cheer you on and get you in the flow rather quickly."

On his block:

"I haven't had that many blocked shots this year, so to get another one; (one) definitely like that to get us into a flow, felt great."

KANSAS REDSHIRT-SOPHOMORE GUARD CHARLIE MOORE

On moving the ball better, getting more assists, in the second half:

"Coach (Self) talked to us about that during halftime; told us we only had three assists, (that) we needed to get the ball downhill more and get others involved. We just took his words and used them in the second half and it worked out for us."

On Self's approach for him:

"He (Self) told me to keep shooting. He was saying that the ball was going in, he was saying that I had confidence, so he told me to keep putting it up."

On if he thinks he could be the third offensive threat for the team:

"I shot it pretty well today. I just have to go back to the drawing board and practice, just get ready for the next game."

On freshman forward teammate David McCormack's performance tonight:

"David played great. He rebounded the ball well, played great defense. I thought he was very good tonight."

On the previous 'big' game vs. Villanova having any effect on the team's slow start tonight:

"We knew that game was behind us, we just came out slow. We didn't have that energy that we normally have. Defensively, we weren't doing so well at the start of the game, but (in the) second half, (toward the) end of the first half, we really started to pick it up. It worked out for us."

On what the team did better in the second half to convert on the break:

"Defensively, we got stops and rebounds and that leads to transition points. It opens the game, it gives the game a pace and helps us out for the better."

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SOUTH DAKOTA HEAD COACH TODD LEE

Opening Statement:

"I thought our guys, in the first half, let ourselves down. We kind of gave that half away. We didn't get into our offense, we turned the ball over and took some bad shots. We guarded them well in the first half, they were 14-of-35 and I think they had four or five transition baskets. We gave up too many offensive rebounds and their size bothered us. I was disappointed at halftime, I thought it could have been an even game. In the second half we didn't compete, which was disappointing."

On what his team showcased:

"I thought we had a couple (of) guys who competed. It's good for (sophomore guard) Stanley Umude to have a game like that and show that he can play against good players because he does have ability. He didn't play at all last year, this is his first year of college basketball. He's learning how to play the game. TP (junior guard Tyler Peterson) brings it every night, it's just disappointing that some of the guys had the nights that they had. Obviously, you can't do that against a really good team."

On Kansas scoring in transition:

"They're athletic and I told our guys it's hard. We have trouble scoring at times and it's hard to be in transition defense the whole night. Their athleticism took over. I'm not making an excuse but (senior forward) Dan Jech just came off medical, he doesn't even know our offense and he's not in shape. We had a lineup (in) once we got in foul trouble and I looked at it and thought, 'This could be trouble' and it was. They took advantage of it and went on a run. That's when it went from being a 12 or 14-point game up to 20 or 22. We had a lineup that was tough and they took advantage. They're bigger than us, more athletic and we have to be able to run (an) offense. We can't be in transition all night and that's what we were. Eventually it wore us out and they had some guys step up and make shots. Charlie Moore had made three 3-pointers on the year. I told him afterward that I'm glad he figured it out and to keep shooting the ball well. I've watched all of their games and he hadn't shot it well. We have to pay attention to their post and Moore was out there shooting it and made six of their nine threes. He had a really big night for them."

On the value of playing in a game at this level:

"The value you get is if you compete and run (an) offense and execute. Unfortunately, we didn't do that. You're battling the crowd and a really good team. To come into this environment, obviously we don't see teams with this kind of athleticism so we had to do some different things. We got a ton of layups out of timeouts; I thought we executed and did really well there. We have to get to the second and third action. They're just too big and too athletic to guard just one action and we couldn't get to the second or third action. We did a poor job of that and that was the most disappointing thing. Then I think we just wore down and some of the guys got frustrated."

SOUTH DAKOTA SOPHOMORE GUARD STANLEY UMUDE

On what South Dakota takes away from the experience of playing Kansas:

"Obviously, it's a good experience to go play the No. 1 team in the country. Also, I feel like this game will help us to make the NCAA Tournament. We're obviously going to play a team like this, so it's good experience to get a game like this under our belt."

On his offensive success tonight:

"(It was) Mainly just (me) being aggressive. Coach (Todd Lee, head coach) has been getting on me about staying in attack mode and letting the game come to me. They had a Lawson (brother) guarding me, so I felt like that was a good matchup for me. I just tried to take him off of the dribble as much as I could."

On settling in offensively over the last couple of games:

"(I'm) Just getting more comfortable having my teammates and coaches believe in me and staying in attack mode."

On Kansas taking control early on in the second half:

"(We were) Just not executing. They started hitting threes and getting out in transition and we were turning it over, so I don't think it was fatigue in a game like this. You get tired, (but) you've got to suck it up and play."



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SOUTH DAKOTA JUNIOR GUARD TYLER PETERSON

On what impressed him most about Kansas:

"They're a good defensive team, really disciplined, really set in the gaps. Obviously, you can tell how big they are. Any time we're in rotation on defense, it's troubling with them getting offensive rebounds and crashing the glass like that. You can tell they're a high-major team and they're a really good team based off of that kind of stuff."

On comparing this game to playing then-No. 1 Duke last season:

"I think we didn't quite compete as well (tonight) as we did last year against Duke. Both (are) really good teams and both are going to have really good seasons, so I'd consider them similar."

On how this game will help the team improve as a whole:

"I think we got better in the fact that we see what's out there. Seeing a good team like that (Kansas) really is just going to push us to be better. They really pointed out the flaws that we have right now; from not being able to get set well into (our) offense to even just competing the whole game. We can't let a team like that get away from us in the second half. (We are) Just trying to build off of that going into conference play, (which) should help us do well."

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