#9/10 Kansas 80, #24/25 Iowa State 76

Monday, January 21, 2019 Lawrence, Kan. // Allen Fieldhouse

KANSAS HEAD COACH BILL SELF

Opening statement:

"It was a great college game and we played from behind or played with no momentum for the vast majority of the game. They were so much faster than us earlier and they moved the ball a lot faster than we could recover and react. (In the) Second half we guarded them better, a lot better. But we did a lot of good things. Devon (Dotson) had eight (assists) and zero [turnovers] and he drove the ball downhill so well. Dedric (Lawson) was unbelievable and Lagerald (Vick) made some shots. Ochai (Agbaji) came in, and it really isn't fair to put Ochai in that position, but he gets eight points and five rebounds in 16 minutes before he fouls out. But, Marcus Garrett, how good was he again? Now, granted, he missed three free throws that could have iced the game for us, but still though. He did so many good things and we competed harder down the stretch. We had some guys make some plays. We ran crap offense twice there late and then after that we end up getting a stop or two and then made a couple of big-time plays. It was a great win; the crowd was fabulous. I had a buddy of mine that played college ball and played a little bit in the NBA and has been around [basketball] his whole life and this was the first time he has been here. He said, 'I was at the Forum when Magic [Johnson] and [Larry] Bird were playing. I was at some of the greatest venues and places, but nothing compares to this.' The crowd definitely played their role tonight."

On Marcus Garrett's performance:

"Obviously, he is more confident and comfortable right now. A lot of the times he got to the basket was made by Devon, who would penetrate and force a little help and then when Marcus would catch it, he would drive it downhill. There are not too many guys who can do it better with his right hand getting in there. But a lot of that was set up by Devon. We have to have a lot more guys driving it downhill, a lot like lowa State does. They put so much pressure on you. One bounce, force help, and then they play to a bad closeout after that. We have to do a better job with that. But there was a lot of good things that happened today. And certainly, (I'm) really proud of our team for bouncing back."

On Dedric Lawson's performance:

"I don't understand the emphasis in the rules. They say you can't put your knee up the guy's butt when you are posting up. And (lowa State) rode (Lawson) out the entire game. We didn't get the call once. We tried to move him around a little bit more. But the bottom line is he just toughed it out. And anybody who knows Dedric knows his thighs are about as thick as his calves and he has really skinny legs. So, he doesn't have the base when people push on him and it is hard for him to hold his position. And certainly, (lowa State) did a really good job of pushing him off the block, but he still managed to maneuver around there."

On the team's upcoming game against Kentucky Saturday in Lexington:

"We are both going to be ranked inside the top-10 going into the game. Even though it is not (No.) 1 and (No.) 2 or (No.) 1 and (No.) 4 like it has been some other years, I think they are (No.) 8 and we are (No.) 9 this week. It'll be a great environment, a great atmosphere. We are just trying to piece it together as much as we can. But how about this schedule: lowa State, at Kentucky, at Texas, Texas Tech, at K-State. So, the next five games are obviously going to be a telling sign of where we are as a team. And we just have to go grind and see what happens, but it should be fun. Now this game (vs. Kentucky in the SEC/Big 12 Challenge) isn't as important as a conference game. It's not, even though fans will beg to differ. But we need to go compete and hopefully go in there and play with house money and a free mind."

KANSAS REDSHIRT-JUNIOR FORWARD DEDRIC LAWSON

On when he believed the game turned:

"I think it was 46-42, and we got a couple of stops. It was after the 12-minute media timeout, Coach (Self) said to win the next four minutes. We went out there and we competed and we rebounded. Marcus (Garrett) got the rebound and then he came down and scored. Then we got another stop and I think it was Lagerald who hit a big shot, KJ hit a big shot, Marcus drove, and all the momentum changed. We threw the lob, then we were up and they called a timeout. When we go on runs like that, we just need to keep going and finish the game. That (lowa State) was a great team, give credit to them. They were making shots when they needed to and they made plays when they needed to."

On Garrett's offensive performance in last few games and his expectations for him for the rest of Big 12 Conference play:

"I saw it coming. I thought it would've came earlier just by seeing him doing so much at practice. He's consistent and consistent at putting in the work. He's getting comfortable with the game. Once you get comfortable with it, it's over. He's had back-to-back games in double figures and we don't look for anything less now, going forward. I expect the same thing, for him to keep going downhill and making those shots and playing with comfort. That's all it is, is playing with comfort."





LAWSON (CONT.)

On the importance of matching Iowa State's physicality:

"They were fouling and then they starting calling a lot of fouls on us in the second half. That's how you play once you start posting up and they start pushing back, you just need to keep battling without resisting. I just wanted to be aggressive on the offensive end and get going. Getting those put backs and rebounds get me going. We did a great job bouncing back."

On Iowa State's Lindell Wigginton attempting to dunk on him:

"Yeah, he tried to dunk on me. He is a solid player, he's one of the best players in the Big 12. He's a great player."

KANSAS SOPHOMORE GUARD MARCUS GARRETT

On what the key was for the Jayhawks during the 14-0 run in the second half:

"(We) Just (had to) come together and make stops. Coach (Self) made a great adjustment during the game that actually helped us go on that run, to make stops."

On how he thought their 14-0 run took lowa State out of the game:

"I felt like it was great. They were moving the ball so well, it felt like the ball was moving from corner to corner. We almost couldn't guard it until Coach (Self) made the switch. (Then) We were able to guard and contain them."

On his four steals:

"It's just like watching film. When I see the ball in front of me, I basically just try to reach. Most of the time when the offensive player catches the ball, they're not really holding it tight, they're trying to run a play, so I just try to get my hand in there."

On Dedric Lawson's play in the first half when other Kansas offense was lacking:

"It was great. He had 15 (points) at the half and he was getting where he wanted to. They basically couldn't stop him."

KANSAS FRESHMAN GUARD **DEVON DOTSON**

On what Kansas did differently tonight to close this game out:

"I thought we had key possessions down the stretch. We locked in, buckled down and really wanted to get that win. We made some key plays on the offensive end, players stepped up and we came out with the win."

On if he believes Marcus Garrett can feed off him driving and drawing help inside:

"Definitely. We both get the ball downhill. If I see an opening, they close out, he'll just go right behind me. It just opens up different options out there on the court."

On the satisfaction of his lob to Lagerald Vick and confidence of that play in the future:

"It was fun. The house (Allen Fieldhouse) loved it. It was a big change of momentum. We play an up-tempo game. There are going to be a lot of plays like that, and I'm looking forward to it."





IOWA STATE HEAD COACH STEVE PROHM

On what he noticed about the adjustment KU made:

"I thought the biggest adjustment they made was the physicality that they defended us with. That was the number one thing. They really got into us and rode us off cuts. That's on me; I probably had our guys thinking too much. We were stagnant, we didn't move the ball well, we didn't cut with the ball well, we didn't screen."

On how much it hurt not to have sophomore forward Cameron Lard on the floor down the stretch:

"It was big, and I probably should have gone with George (Conditt IV) too. He was in foul trouble the whole game. Dedric Lawson went right at him. No rim protection was huge. We couldn't guard the dribble in the zone. We knew coming into the game that we needed to guard them inside-out; that was the game plan."

On how tough is it to see sophomore guard Lindell Wigginton take a step forward in the last game and then take a step back tonight:

"That's the game. He'll bounce back. He'll be ready to go Saturday (at Baylor). That's just the game. In these moments, you want your best players to play their best. He'll be better for it down the road."

IOWA STATE REDSHIRT-SENIOR GUARD MARIAL SHAYOK

On what got away from the team when KU went on the 14-0 run with 12 and eight minutes:

"You just kind of get stopped and they just built momentum. The crowd got into it and then it kind of hurt us on our execution on offense. It is something that we will learn from and get better (on) down the road for sure."

On if he feels like KU took ISU out of the stunt in the second half:

"Yeah, I mean there was a lack of communication that I feel like we could have done a little bit better (with). I think a little bit of our youth came into (play) today, but it is something we are going to learn from. I mean, it is better to have it now rather than in the (NCAA) Tournament or conference tournament. So we are just going to learn from this and get better."

IOWA STATE FRESHMAN GUARD TALEN HORTON-TUCKER

On how he felt like he played:

"First, we lost, so it literally doesn't matter to me. But, personally, I could've done more things. I am really not too focused on that because we lost."

On the 14-0 run that Kansas had in the second half:

"I was saying that we were going to get it right back. You know, you've got to stay positive through those things. Together, as a team, I felt like we fell back a little bit and we just have to learn to grow from it for the next game."