#15/16 Kansas 72, Oklahoma State 67

Saturday, March 2, 2019 Stillwater, Okla. // Gallagher-Iba Arena

KANSAS HEAD COACH BILL SELF

Opening Statement:

"I thought we played pretty well. I thought we didn't get to the (OSU) shooters a couple of times the first half, but they made some hard shots and they can really shoot. I thought we got the ball exactly where we wanted it, but missed some bunnies early. But we hung in there, we grinded. (We've got) A bunch of young kids out there competing and they did a great job down the stretch, when it counted the most."

On Quentin Grimes' back-to-back impressive game performances:

"We got a couple of bad plays today where we drove it hard, when we weren't in the bonus, and we ended up getting layups, but they called fouls right before, on the passes. Quentin did a really good job of driving the ball today, better than he has (previously). Even the last play, he drove left and threw the ball to Dedric (Lawson) for an uncontested (shot) and (OSU's Yor) Anei just knocked it out of his hands, out of bounds. I thought we did some really, really, really nice things down the stretch, competing. We had to earn it. We actually defended them better than what it looked like sometimes because they made some hard shots, but when McGriff went out, we caught a break. Certainly, we were able to take advantage of it a little bit. But Dedric put up numbers and Q (Quentin Grimes) was great. Everybody contributed, don't get me wrong. I thought Mitch (Lightfoot) had another fabulous game. But really, Ochai (Agbaji), to me (was the best), because he's labored the last two games, he was aggressive, he got up 10 shots, eight 3s, and he made a couple of huge ones. (OSU junior F Cameron) McGriff got 19 (points) and eight (rebounds) against Dedric, but Dedric did a nice job. He got off to a bad start; he missed like two uncontested layups, right there under the basket. I thought we played well early, but didn't have anything to show for it. The crowd was good. We (Kansas) had our fair share (of fans) here too, but the crowd was good. And they played great. Give (Oklahoma State head coach) Mike (Boynton Jr.) credit; those kids came up empty twice this week but they played really well both games."

On Tuesday's game in Norman and getting the Sooners' best shot:

"Yeah, that's huge. We can hope for a little help today, but we also shouldn't expect it. All we can do is what we can and control what we can. All we can control is preparation for OU and getting ready to play a good Sooner team, that's also playing for a lot as well. It'll be interesting down there, but at least going into the last week (of conference play), we're still in the game. I think we're starting to play better, even if it doesn't always look that way. I think the ball's getting where it's going, I think we're understanding how we're going to score and today, even though they (OSU) still scored several baskets in last shot clock situations, I thought we really defended down the stretch."

KANSAS FORWARD DEDRIC LAWSON

On Quentin Grimes:

"Quentin played great tonight. He started the game off with tremendous confidence and it carried over and that's something we need him to do every game. He played good defense too. He was clicking on both ends and he got the stops that we needed it."

On making a run while Yor Anei is off the floor:

"They went with a smaller big and we went more through the inside for the mismatch. We got out in transition and got some easy 3-pointers and easy buckets. I think that changed the game a lot."

On making hustle plays:

"Those are winning plays that coaches talk about: diving on the court, giving up your body and just playing hard. I think our team did a pretty good job down the stretch closing the game and just playing hard and finishing possessions."

KANSAS GUARD QUENTIN GRIMES

On making the hustle plays:

"Just knowing how important this game was for us going in. I just knew that I had to play well and I didn't want to lose the game."

On starting the game with more confidence:

"Just preparation. Just getting extra shots after practice. We have been clicking as a team in practices and when we play good as a team, we play good as individuals."

On the improvement of his game:

"Especially on the defensive end. Just worrying about what I can control on the defensive end. If I play well on the defensive end, I know it can translate over to the offensive end. Everybody has a lot of faith in me on the offensive end, they know what I can do."



