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2020-21
KANSAS MEN'S BASKETBALL
POSTGAME QUOTES

(3) KANSAS vs (8) WEST VIRGINIA
LAWRENCE, KAN. // ALLEN FIELDHOUSE



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HEAD COACH BILL SELF

On his assessment of the game:

"Well, we played terrific, even in the first half. We were down one, but we had played better than that. They went zone and I had kind of a screen line up and we didn't attack it well. When I said screen line up, we had Marcus (Garrett) and Dajuan (Harris Jr.) and maybe Tristan (Enaruna) in the game at once so they really didn't have to guard us because they didn't think we would shoot it. We got some looks against the zone in the first half and we really didn't make them and then the second half, we were really good against it. I mean the ball moved and David (McCormack) made a couple of great passes out of the post and we made some shots. But I actually thought we guarded well the first half. We didn't think (Sean) McNeil would go 7-for-7 and make six threes; that wasn't really our scouting report. We should have known not to leave the scouting report on how we defend those two wings with four guards. We did a great job in that regard for most of the whole game and in the second half we had a run there (in) about the first 15 minutes where we were on point on both ends."

On the Jayhawks' scoring tonight:

"It was tricky. Ochai (Agbaji) didn't make shots today, but don't you love his aggressiveness? He is just tough enough to shoot it and of course you don't have to tell Jalen (Wilson) to be aggressive. He is always aggressive. CB (Christian Braun), you know at half time I told our guys, I said he has to shoot the ball and he didn't have any problem pulling the trigger in the second half. It was good and you know I thought David played great. It was David's best game, his first game in a while, but David actually played against a big team which people don't understand. It is a little bit harder playing against small (team) sometimes and it is nice to play against somebody your own size. I thought CB did an unbelievable job holding (Derek) Culver (to eight points). (He was) Unbelievable (in the) second half. Jalen had him the first half and did a pretty good job, but he got loose two or three times, so we switched and put CB on him. Then Jalen was good on the perimeter and CB was great. It was a good team and we didn't do a great job on (Jordan) McCabe on that high ball screen late, but that was kind of after the game wasn't in doubt. I am happy, it is good to go home this way, being ranked what we are. Being undefeated in the league and nobody had a tougher first two games in our league than us, so it is good to get these under our belt. Now, hopefully everybody goes home and is smart and has a good Christmas and comes back and let's turn it up, you know, get ready to start the new year."

"Basketball is a little strange. The reason we scored so many second-chance points was because we ran down long rebounds; the ones that we got were 3(-point) misses, which give long rebounds. That was an advantage to us because if we were trying to score from the inside the whole time we wouldn't have had those long rebounds, so we wouldn't have had those opportunities. Shooting threes helped us win but missing threes helped us also because it gave us a chance to get offensive rebounds. If it is a long shot, long rebound, there is no more advantage with size, it is whoever is playing or is quicker to the ball. If you look at their stats, most of their 19 rebounds, 8 or 10 were from long shots, misses, they ran them down too. They got a lot more offensive rebounds closer to three feet from the basket than we did. To be honest with you, they got four put-back points in the last two or three minutes I think. We could have done a better job on the glass, but I thought our guys battled really hard on the glass."

On his favorite Christmas memory:

"One thing that comes to mind right now is my first BB gun I got for Christmas. That was a big, big deal in Oklahoma, when I first got a BB gun in fourth grade or whatever. Christmas is a time for everyone to spend time with family and unfortunately this (year) is going to be tough and totally different for everybody. I encourage everybody to be smart and if we could just hunker down now, we will get to the finish line and it will be a lot better. But it is going to be hard. With our guys going home, I said, 'Okay you can't hang out with your buddies, wear a mask in your own house, if anybody comes to the house say, 'Hey mask up' and stay away from them' -- that is just not the way that we are used to celebrating Christmas. But in this one year I think it is the right thing to do and I certainly have encouraged our guys to be smart and do it. Of course, we have to lead by example. It is a special time and we have so much to be thankful for. Not only within our program, but within our university and within our community. I hope everyone has a good one."