



59

2020-21
KANSAS MEN'S BASKETBALL

POSTGAME QUOTES

(15) KANSAS vs. TCU

LAWRENCE, KAN. // ALLEN FIELDHOUSE

TCU

51

HEAD COACH BILL SELF

On the first half:

"It was a strange first half because other than the first four minutes, we actually really guarded, I mean we really guarded. And they scored what? Ten points the last 16 minutes of the first half? I mean we guarded. But our offense was horrible. We got some good looks and we didn't make them. Ochai (Agbaji) got a few and Jalen (Wilson) got a couple wide-open looks, David (McCormack) got some great touches inside and just didn't make them. But even if we had made some of them we would have scored 28. It wasn't like we were running great offense by any stretch."

On changing up the lineup going into the second half:

"We decided to go more athletic the second half and I thought it was pretty good. But if you go really watch it, that team that started the second half also was down seven when we subbed (in). They sparked us and then they came back and we go down seven -- if I'm not mistaken, 36-29 -- and from that point on I thought that we played really well. We played tight. There's pressure on these kids; we played tight and we didn't make our free throws and a lot of things, but we really rebounded the second half. We didn't (rebound) the first half at all, but (we) rebounded the second half and we had a couple of timely shots. Even though we still shot miserably, we did a better job and got to the finish line. It was a great, great win. The best we could do today, on Thursday January the 28th, was go 1-0, so we got that done. Now we can look forward to a quick turnaround and go play a team that really guards. We hung 59 (points) today, the team we are playing (Tennessee) I think is averaging giving up 53 a game for the season, so we have to be a lot more efficient on Saturday."

On rebounding better in the second half:

"It was better energy and better effort the second half. At the end when we were really guarding and trying to win. We saw Marcus of old too, defensively, being able to gamble when they aren't in the bonus and things like that, that we just haven't had as many opportunities to do this year. Some things we need to tighten up: one, obviously is he's very good on the ball, but off the ball, he gave up nine points just by jacking around. We need to be able to tighten some of that stuff up. We need to throw the ball to CB (Christian Braun) when he's open. Guys are going to take away a shot off the catch and we missed him two or three times that I know of where he was going to get a 3-pointer and we hesitated throwing it to him or we don't make the extra pass and that wasn't any good. There are some things that we can certainly improve on. I think we got like three shot clock violations, which you don't see very often. We did okay. Obviously, offensively, we are laboring, but defensively we were much improved."

On the upcoming game against Tennessee:

"They have two guys who were highly recruited that will probably -- if they do come out this year -- be high draft picks; obviously, (Jaden) Springer and (Keon) Johnson. (John) Fulkerson is a terrific five man and (Yves) Pons could win National Defensive Player of the Year this year. Josiah-Jordan James could also be in the top 10 or 15 National Defensive Players of the Year candidates, so they really do guard. We need to guard so that they have to labor to score as well. It would be nice if we could just get something easy, (but) we just don't get anything easy."