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2020-21  
KANSAS MEN'S BASKETBALL

# POSTGAME QUOTES

KANSAS vs (23) OKLAHOMA STATE  
LAWRENCE, KAN. // ALLEN FIELDHOUSE



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## HEAD COACH BILL SELF

*On coming out strong in the second half...*

"I mean, how bad of offense was that to start? We couldn't get the ball anywhere we wanted and couldn't finish a play. David got off to a horrid start, and then as bad as he was to start the game, he was that good in the second half; he did a nice job and we played through him. And we did a great job on Cade and he got 26. He's great, but we did a good job on the other guys too. We stopped them in transition for the most part, and out ball screen defense wasn't very good early, but it got a lot better late. I thought we defended the arc better and we certainly rebounded better. Even though the passing—I mean that was just unbelievable—we just gave them baskets just by passing it to them, but I thought that we did a lot of good things. I thought our starters played well, I thought Mitch gave us some good minutes, Tristan came in and gave us a few good minutes. We had to ride Marcus the whole game and it's not fair to Marc, but I don't know what else we can do, and the other guys stepped up. I mean David and Jalen and Christian all rebounded the ball well. If you take away turnovers, that's a pretty good performance tonight. Of course, you can't do that, but I'm happy, I'm leaving here happy. The guys are excited, they deserve to be excited. Sets up two huge games back-to-back Thursday and Saturday."

*On Cade Cunningham...*

"That dude is good, I mean he's really good. I was actually more impressed with him tonight than I was at Stillwater. He did some very subtle things that I think as a coach you look at and say "wow he made that play so easy." That's how you can judge a great one, if he makes hard plays look easy. He makes the hard plays look easy and he's a good leader. I was very impressed with him. They're very very quick and athletic. I'm really looking forward to getting Bryce back. We need another ball handler back there and hopefully we can have him back within the next week."

*On going to McCormack in the second half...*

"We were forcing them, we got in the bonus early and then we shot a lot of free throws in the second half, I think we shot 34 free throws and made 27, that's the difference in the game. We outscored them 12 from the free throw line. We did a lot of good things; Marcus was great the first half. If Marcus wasn't playing on both ends, I mean, he had to guard everybody, and the best player, and rebound the ball, and score the ball. It was almost like he needed to pass it to himself and then go score. We didn't have much going. I think David and Jalen combined went 2 for 13 in the first half and then the lead kind of came off and out defense slacked a little bit the second half, but still the guys hung in there and we did a lot of things a lot better tonight."

*On having three players with double-doubles and Braun's 3-pointers...*

"He (Braun) blows me away because he can really shoot the ball if he has space. It's 3, 2, 1 and he tries to shot fake at the end of a shot clock and he ends up throwing one up there that went in and that was a big shot. I think that put us up 13. CB played well, Jalen did some good things and certainly Ochai, he didn't have a great offensive game, but other than a couple passes—he threw a couple to me—but I thought he did fine too. We just need to tighten up the turnovers. I think a lot of that comes from kids pressing and trying too hard and hopefully this will let them relax a bit and play more freely moving forward."

*On looking ahead to Iowa State...*

"It's really not fair, I look at it and they haven't had their team. They are playing games in our league very shorthanded, and now they aren't shorthanded. They can beat us, they can beat other teams in our league, but also if we play and if we're connected and do what we think we're capable of doing, then there's no reason why we can't have great games against them too. It's a unique thing, I don't think I've ever done this where we play Thursday then turn around and play Saturday the same team. These are the biggest two games of the year as far as I'm concerned. That 48 hours will probably determine how high we finish in the league for the most part and we can put ourselves—although fans won't think it's favorable—but we've got a chance if we play well to put yourself in a situation to remain within striking distance of second place, and I think second place would be a great goal for this team, so we still have a lot to play for."