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2021-22
KANSAS MEN'S BASKETBALL
POSTGAME QUOTES

(5/5) KANSAS vs. (13/14) TEXAS TECH
LAWRENCE, KAN. // ALLEN FIELDHOUSE



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Kansas Head Coach Bill Self

On the last week having wins in Norman, Manhattan and now against Texas Tech...

"I'm tired, I'm sure the fans are tired. There's a couple players in our locker room and their locker room that are pretty tired right now. That was a fantastic basketball game. The baskets were so hard to come by early, and I felt great that we had 36 at halftime even though there could have been more. We rebounded the heck out of them—we did a lot of good things, but we couldn't guard number 11. We tried everybody and different things, but we couldn't guard 11. KJ was the only one that guarded him. The thing about it is. We scored plenty of points. We couldn't stop them. They're not a great offensive team, we're not a great defensive team. It was kind of weird because they're a great defensive team, but here we are, we still score. And they're not great offensively, but they still score. We dominated everything, but the game should have been over when David had the ball in his hands. Jalen forgot to block off one from the free throw, and he's an under guy. They got four points off of just bone head and next thing you know, the collar gets a little tight and we don't play great down the stretch, then it goes to overtime and we don't play great, but we had some players play great. Och—I mean the National Player of the year made an unbelievable shot that put us into double OT and then we kind of finished it out there and just beat them as bad as we possibly could. It was an unbelievable basketball game. If you're Texas Tech, you're disappointed you lose, but you leave here thinking that we have a damn good team. And I would have felt the same way if it had gone the other way, but we're proud to be a part of this one tonight."

On Ochai's performance in the past three games...

"Think of how the game ended. If Ochai makes the layup in transition, now he was going full speed—the game's going to be over. If David gathers a rebound, the game is going to be over. If Jalen blocks off on the free throw, the game's going to be over. We helped them there, but the guys hung on there and just showed so much heart and so much courage. I thought J-Wil was solid the whole game, CB didn't shoot it well, but I thought he was solid the whole game and tough. Juan got in foul trouble and didn't really help us much being on the bench the first half, but I thought Remy stepped in and did fine. The hero of the night, other than Och, was KJ Adams. He was great! He's the only one that sniffed being able to guard the big kid. Bryson Williams—wow, what a player he is. And he loves playing against us. He was great against us last year and he was great the first game and he was great tonight, just not great enough."

On KJ Adams...

"People don't talk about it. We were up one and J-Wil shot and missed a floater—pretty good shot in that situation. I think KJ whipped two guys' butts to get to the rebound and then they had to foul to basically put us up three. That play right there was as important as CB making the free throws. I'm really happy for him. He's hung in there and he gave us some energy tonight."

On Ochai sending the game to double overtime...

"I told him after the game 'I can't believe you can't even make a free throw!' I was joking of course. It's too early to give out accolades. We know that, and Ochai knows that, but that's the best player in the country right now to date. And no one can say they've made more clutch plays than what he has for us this year."

On Kentucky coming up on Saturday...

The thing about the Kentucky game—it's the winningest and second-winningest programs of all time. It's the bluest of the bloods—us, Kentucky, Duke and Caroline—the bluest of the bloods. And we get to hook up and the game really doesn't mean much. Let's call it like it is. It means pride, it means all that stuff, but it is not going to impact if each of us win the league, it may impact seeding align, but we should just let it go and play. Our guys will be so jacked, and their guys will too. That's going to be a big boy game, just like tonight's was."



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Kansas Guard Ochai Agbaji

On the game..

Kind of like our game Saturday and the Chiefs game. When we went to overtime I thought it was the Chiefs game. They won at all costs and we have to do the same thing. That mentality that we kept that we had on Saturday.

On the three-pointer to tie the game at the end of overtime..

I was telling CB after the game, that whether we're down five, down six or whatever, don't count us out. We have the offensive ability and the defensive mindset to get stops and also get good shots and be aggressive and put pressure on the defense.

On how much this game and Saturday have taken out of the team..

It's made us a lot tougher. It showed our conditioning through these last two games. And just our toughness as a team, to fight for Coach, fight for this program and this school. I love it.

On the game plan and offense used to get shots..

There was a lot in this game especially. We put in some little kinks into our four-game offense because of the way they guard and the way they switch. Credit to Coach for that, that's why he's the best of the best because he prepared and had a game plan based off our last game against them.

Kansas Forward KJ Adams

On the game and what happened and what part he played..

"All I can say is the game was unbelievable, I couldn't have dreamed of a better finish for the game and this why I came here, for big games like that and have incredible moments like that I can tell people down the road"

On what's going through his mind and about his tip back play..

"I think I'll probably say I'm grateful for my teammates for giving me the positivity to not even allow me to get scared or frightened by the big moment, I just like to thank all of them for all they did. It was just really fun playing with my brothers on the court"

On whether he has ever hit a bigger basket?

"Maybe peach jam when I was younger but now it's going to be this one for sure."

Kansas Guard Christian Braun

On his overall thoughts on the game and Ochai's performance..

"Ya, it was wild. It was a long game. They hit big shots, we hit big shots. It was honestly one of the most fun games I have played in. You know the second half of the Kstate game was pretty good too but it was a great game. Ochai was huge as he has been in every single game that we have played in, but that was probably his best performance of the year."

On his offensive game and preparation..

"Ya there really good when you go baseline they load up, it kinda took us a second even in this game to figure it out, one bounce and get it out of your hand but once we figured it out. I thought we were better and then they switched it up a little bit in the second half, started switching a lot, so there a really good team defensively, they throw a lot of things at you, they got a lot of different guys that can play a lot of different ways, they slowed us down for the most part, obviously expect for ochai but they made it tough on us but nobody really slows him down so but they made it tough and they through so many looks at you, you never know what is coming, we played them before and even this game, they through some stuff at us that we werent ready



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for and like I said that's conference and you gonna win those games and it was big."

On if anyone else had they final shot ...

"If they were open, there's nobody that we wanted more than ochai to take that shot."

Texas Tech Head Coach Mark Adams

On what he learned from the game ...

"I learned that we have a tough and competitive team. That is very resilient, you come in here and play against a really, really, good basketball team. We stood toe to toe with them, and dug a hole a few times, at halftime we were behind, but we came back. We showed a lot of determination and commitment to each other. I thought that we would win it in the first overtime.

On the late game decisions ...

"I just think that there were players that were trying too hard and do it on their own. I like to drive and try and get the foul. At the same time. You know when you're on the road you just sometimes don't get those calls. Sometimes you're better off taking those jump shots. The ball didn't fall our way, but we played well. On defense, we took better care of the ball than we have all year look at the minutes played. There's a lot o look back on and a lot to play with this game. "

On Bryson's performance ...

"When we mention Kansas, I think that he just gets ready to play. He's been playing well since that first Kansas game, so I think that we're going to continue to see him score on all three levels and make big plays."

On Agbaji's 3-pointer at the end of the first overtime ...

"We were trying to switch and keep the ball out of Ochai's hands. Trying everything that we could. It was frustrating for me and I know that it was for Red Raider nation too. We ran some different defenses doing everything that we could."

On the outcome down the stretch ...

"I know that we didn't execute on a few plays, and we settled on some of our shooting. Looking back, we were more to the paint. The same thing on the defensive end. Too many fouls in the second overtime."

Texas Tech Forward Bryson Williams

On forcing the game into double overtime ...

"We came to fight. Coming into Phog Allen this is a hard place to play. Playing against a hall of fame coach and one of the most talented teams in the country, you have to come and bring it. We did that tonight, but we just fell short.

On his performance ...

"I just came out to fight; I have teammates and a coaching staff that believes in me. I came out to be aggressive and to do whatever I could do to help this team win. That's what I did tonight."

On the keys to the game ...

"The key was defense, overall. We take pride in defense, and we came to play defense. We were trying to get stops and get better and come back and get our offense rolling. That was our focus, defense."

On the team effort ...

"I could just keep saying this over and over again, this team is willing to fight whenever against whoever. All the guys in the locker room, we took a note to know that we came here to fight. Everyone on the coaching staff knew that too. We came out here and did that tonight."



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On what he learned from the game ...

"That every possession counts. There is no one possession that doesn't count in a game or environment like this. We always follow the first 20 minutes to the last 20 minutes, even in the OTs."

On his takeaways from the game ...

"We're going to learn, and it leaves a pit of fire in our stomach. We're just going to carry throughout the whole season."



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