



(14-2, 3-1)

2021-22
KANSAS MEN'S BASKETBALL

POSTGAME QUOTES

85

9/10 KANSAS vs. WEST VIRGINIA
LAWRENCE, KAN. // ALLEN FIELDHOUSE
JANUARY 15, 2022



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Kansas Senior David McCormack

On the way his practice translated to the game...

"It's a great feeling, of course, just playing the game and letting the game come to me, and letting it flow. It's a great feeling, made the right plays. Of course, there were some turnovers and better reads I could have made but it just feels good to get back in the groove."

On what brings the team together and the importance of the fun they had in the second half...

"I think it was just moving the ball, coach made an emphasis to really move the ball, and to swing it side to side and we'll be able to get whatever we want. Once we kind of bought into that style of offense it made everything fun, everyone was able to score and get the looks they wanted."

On Jalen Wilson's playmaking tonight...

"Not only did the lid come off the rim but as well he made the right reads. It seemed like the game kind of slowed down. He was able to see things before they happened and that's just a credit to him and his basketball IQ."

On the way he and Jalen Wilson have worked through their struggles together...

"This year and last year as well. Like I said, we're close so we just uplift each other in times like that and we make sure to still give credit where credit is due on great games like today. We make sure we stay humble and just tell each other you have this and to just continue to do what you've always done."

On the impact starting a game has...

"Yeah, you always want to hear your name in the starting lineup but at the same time, I always say it's just about the production whether you come off the bench or start. Coach likes to say it put a fire in me to play a little bit harder, be a little bit more tenacious. I think that kind of came out in practice which translated to the game."

Kansas Senior Ochai Agbaji

On the second half and seeing David McCormack and Jalen Wilson play well...

"I thought everyone played well. Dave and J-Will played one of their best games of the season, both of them did. We were just aggressive in the second half offensively and defensively, trying to find our spots and stuff like that. Once we had the opportunity to make a jump and start a run we took it."

On the way West Virginia's pressure impacted them and how they improved...

"I think it was really just the poise of our point guards, DaJuan, Joe and Bobby. They were kind of eating them up and delaying our offense a little bit and slowing our offense down a little bit. We handled that pressure in the second half. Really we were kind of the aggressor in the terms of that and kind of just playing downhill and stuff like that."

On the way, Dave and Jalen have handled their early struggles to get to where they are now...

"They're both mature, a junior and a senior going into a slump like that. They've obviously had that before, I've had that before. You just have to be mature about it, have a positive attitude about it. That



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is the only way you're going to get out of it, that's the way you are going to succeed and continue to be successful is to just have a positive attitude about it and trust your teammates because we always have confidence in them."

On figuring out how to play with the absence of Remy...

"Obviously with the last game, Iowa State, and I believe when we were playing George Mason we had some other games where we didn't play with Remy unfortunately due to injury. It just shows our speed, it kind of goes down a little bit. We still bring it up and find our spots like I said just find our runs where we get out in transition, guys like me, J-Will, and CB out in transition, and then you have Juan out in transition looking for us. It is crucial to have Remy back on the court to counterpart Dajuan when he's tired to give a sub. We're just looking for him to be back."

Kansas redshirt-sophomore Jalen Wilson

On the feeling of tonight...

"Tonight was great, to be able to play in front of the crowd, play with our team like that. We were all playing for each other. We started the second half with probably 8 assists in a row so I think everybody was looking for each other. When we're playing with that energy and playing with that crowd, and just playing like that, that's the best kind of basketball you can play, and I think the most fun as well. So I mean it felt great to do that."

On if it felt like the first time things have really clicked in a while and if they needed it...

"Yeah, a lot a lot. Coming off a close win like that last game I feel like we needed a game before we go on the road the next two games. A game to get us some momentum and I feel like it all just clicked, everybody had their night and I think we all just played for each other. The ball didn't stick anywhere and when we play like that these are the kind of games that can happen."

On his mindset change...

"Yeah, I'm just trying to bring the game as much energy as I can. I think before I was focused on the wrong things so now i'm just trying to be the spark that we need, the energy that we need, and just continue to make plays. I feel like when we set the tone like that, and we're all looking for each other and driving downhill, passing like that. Plays and opportunities come like that. Like a lot of fast breaks today, a lot of dunks, and just stuff like that."

Kansas Head Coach Bill Self

Overview of the game...

"We didn't play well early, well, we played well early, I think we were up five or six in the first few minutes and then we went for about a ten minute stretch and didn't play very well. We actually closed the half pretty good, got up two and playing without DaJuan the first half wasn't good for us, that was pretty evident. The second half, I thought everyone played well. I thought David was dominant, I mean dang it, how good Dave was and Jalen was fabulous, I mean just great. DaJuan came back and did some nice things. When we can get out and run, get some easy baskets, usually run off defense, long rebounds and stuff like that, we were able to do that the second half and were pretty good but it was a good good win."



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I was really proud of Joseph, I thought he did some good things, especially the second half. Even though we still screwed up some opportunities, but he had four assists and the bench was fine but David and Jay Wil, they were the players of the game.

On the play of Jalen Wilson...

"He showed his speed. He hadn't had many opportunities, but he had some broken four plays today, he has had 10 assist the last two games from the four spot which is terrific, I still think the ball sticks with him and with CB. It seems like to me Jalen, which we are so much harder to guard, but he got downhill dribbling and of course you saw the ball go in. There were a lot of good things he did today and David was great, he played like a man and we got to bottle that."

Update on Remy Martin..

"You know I had somebody tell me yesterday, which I think was the right thing to tell me, 'you sound so indecisive when you talk about Remy.' Well, its day-to-day or it could be week-to-week. I can tell you this, the player practiced yesterday and couldn't go today, so it's going be a day-to-day or a week-to-week deal. We need him, but we also need him healthy and what he's got is a bone bruise and you know it's a lot like a severe hip pointer. You know some days it feels better until you get a hit and after you get a hit it goes back to where it was several days ago and he's kinda in that right now and structurally he's gonna be fine but he needs to get a little more pain free before we probably turn him loose."

About the next games...

"K-State has been the unluckiest team in our league by far. That little kid that they got from Little Rock, god he's fast and good and Pack has been good. You know you got McGuirl back there, that's three fast little guards and everybody else is so improved, there good, there 1-4 in the league and they beat Texas Tech today in a game in which they kinda controlled the whole time. You saw what Texas Tech did to us, they're good, they guard, they're good and they can be 3-2 in the league, just as easy as 1-4. Then, obviously OU, we are going to get the chance to guard a guy who gave us 35 in the NCAA Tournament last year, so two hard games, but winnable games if we go and play well. We're gonna have to pay very well."