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2021-22  
KANSAS MEN'S BASKETBALL

# POSTGAME QUOTES

(5/5) KANSAS vs. KANSAS STATE  
LAWRENCE, KAN. // ALLEN FIELDHOUSE  
DILLONS SUNFLOWER SHOWDOWN



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## Kansas Head Coach Bill Self

*On the win and confidence going forward ...*

"Well I think a win would've given us confidence and momentum regardless but we played pretty well offensively, I mean we were cooking there for a while and uh kstate played pretty well offensively. we couldn't stop them and they couldn't stop us uh there for a stretch but it was a good game a game had more pace to it than probably any game we've played this year and that was more so because of ksate. I think ksate did a lot to try and force the issue and I'm sure that Bruce said 'were gonna go in there and shoot 35 threes and make 15-17 and have a chances. They were right on pace to do that for a while and finally law of averages kind of propelled, prevailed for us. We did a good job defensively the second half with our ball screen stuff comparatively speaking to the first half when we were just awful and they did some new things that we haven't seen before, how they sink cutters off ball screens which messed up our coverage. I thought that was very good what they did. Dave wasn't himself tonight and his foot was a little sore so he wasn't really effective. You know, its hard to nitpick too much. I'm pleased, we were pretty good tonight. The ball moved offensively and guys stepped up and made shots."

*On the three-man play of Ochai, Jalen and Christian ...*

"It's pretty good, and we had a four headed monster tonight, it was Mitch. Usually that would probably be David, but Mitch was really good offensively tonight. Yeah I was pleased. Those three guys went 24-34 from the field and Mitch's 6-7. We'll be hard to beat if you have production like that. I was just shocked that there was that many possessions in the game and I gotta give Bruce credit. I didn't expect him to come in and say 'we're gonna outrun them'. But they did. and there for a while it felt like they could but we finally settled in and we shot the ball so well."

*On the team's passing ...*

"Well when you make 41 baskets you should have 23 assists so you know things are realtive like that. I don't think that we are unbelievable passing the ball tonight just because the number was so high. There were so many more possesions in the game. But I thought we did share and thought we were pretty willing passers tonight."

*On the team's shot selection ...*

"I don't know, can't remember. Maybe och took one or two guarded ones. I thought the shot selection was pretty good. You know when you give guys freedom to shoot it, unfortunately Jalen shot a terrible one in transition, he was wide open off-balance in the first half shoots an airball that led to pack making a three on the other end. you know our shot selection many times leads to the other team scoring on the other end, and we've got to eliminate that. but I didnt think it was bad. if we shot the ball 64 times i bet 58 were probably pretty good shots."

## Kansas Junior Guard Christian Braun

*On the meaning of the game ...*

"It's always fun to play against them we always enjoy the rivalry games."

*On playing in transition ...*

"We also like when teams push the pace with us because i don't think any team in the country can play that fast with us we are a good team in transition so when good teams want to play like that we will score 100."

*On the first half ...*

"I got to do better in the first half to be real honest with you but nah its like i said i needed to play better in the first half like i did and that's not a trend i want to continue but if it works out like that tonight with the



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win then that's what we will keep doing."

On the urgency when things aren't working for him ...

"Obviously when I don't play well I don't think I play as well as I should have you know Obviously I want to get a good start and that goes for the team so if we have a slow start everyone knows to just pick it up."

### **Kansas Senior Guard Ochai Agbaji**

*On the team's rotation off the bench ...*

"Its good its definitely late in the season guys stepping up to the table and games like these when they matter the most which is good to see so im just proud of my team for that."

*On passing Wilt Chamberlin on KU's all-time scoring list ...*

"Oh i had no idea. It's an honor to pass that.. I didn't know that that's just an honor"

*On practicing at the pace he plays ...*

"I would just say conditioning, being able to go up and down and still be able to execute offensively and play defensively i think is something that is kind of on everyone our whole team is in good shape in practice we have a drill called block out break we just get up and down and that's how we play."

*On guarding Nijel Pack ...*

"Just make it tough he moves well without the ball and obviously his teammates are you know they are doing a good job of screening forward and getting him open looks and you know just make it tough for him and no open looks and no helping off of him just from the last game and experience."

### **Kansas Redshirt Sophomore Jalen Wilson**

*On the team's rotation off the bench ...*

"I feel like repetition being able to play with each other you just kind of learn knowing what we are doing and i think it's starting to come together."

*On the Squires family being recognized ...*

"It meant a lot especially being able to talk to them afterwards and what he meant to this community and what he's done for a lot of people but just transcending KU basketball all and out so like his impact was forever felt and to film that about him was an honor and a privilege"

*On Braun and Agbaji getting in the groove and spreading the scoring ...*

"I would say its super tough and then you got a guy like Joe who has a gear in speed that not many people can get to he's also playing really well and we have Jalen who can do it. It's tough to guard us in transition because you know we are really decisive and when Ochai is hitting threes like that it's pretty tough to stop us and if a team wants to do that the whole game which we are well conditioned like ochai said we can do that all game so."

*On what a game like this does for the team ...*

"You know every test is opportunity for us we are getting better we've progressed throughout the year and we continue to get better so i think there's a whole lot of opportunity."



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**Kansas State Head Coach Bruce Weber**

*On the game ...*

"We had no answers tonight with them, ya know, I told our guys after, learn from the best. They (Kansas) are the best right now. They move the ball, they all have advanced their games."

*On the differences between the first game and now ...*

"They played really well, they play well at home. We played unbelievable in the first half against them, ya know they're good, they're in first place, they're one of the best teams in the country."

*On the team's preparation ...*

"They didn't practice well. Yesterday there were a couple guys who weren't quite where they needed to be."

**Kansas State Guard Mike McGuirl**

*On issues defensively ...*

"I think we were just slow on everything and they were really fast with the offense they had and they had a lot of open looks."

*On adjustments out of halftime ...*

"We talked about getting back on transition because they killed us in transition and I think it was less in the second half but they were still scoring so I mean we weren't good enough tonight on defense"

*On whether he thought the game got away from them ...*

"Nah, I think that halftime we got within striking range but to come back we needed to get some stops and that was the focus starting the second half but we weren't able to and we weren't good enough on defense."

*On the defeat ...*

"Gut wrenching, that's the word that I would use because I mean they just kept scoring and kept scoring and putting it on us and it was like, we couldn't do anything about it. We weren't good enough to do anything about it and that's on us. We need to learn from that and learn from this game and get better because we still have time. "

**Kansas State Junior Guard Markquis Nowell**

*On playing his first game in Lawrence ...*

"Tough crowd, tough environment and I like playing in environments like this but I just wish we could have gotten the win but that's a great, great team the have Ochai (Agbaji), they have tremendous players and Agbaji and Braun and that was just a hard fought game in which we came up very short."

*On what he needs to improve ...*

"I have to do more, whatever more is, I have to be willing to do that."

*On the post play ...*

"I would never bring down my big guys because they are working, they are learning but they just have to get better. That's the only think i can say about them. They just have to be better. Coach has been on them. They have been on themselves but my big guys, I love them, win lose or draw."