



POSTGAME QUOTES

K-State 75, Kansas 70 | February 5, 2024

HEAD COACH JEROME TANG

Opening statement...

"Well, you know, first of all, this is why you want to be in this league, it's just an unbelievable night in and night out. You're playing great teams and in great environments and it's a slugfest and players just made plays one after another and so proud of our guys. You know, there's always opportunities through the course of a season and through the course of the game, you know, to pack it in and these guys, they're not quitters. Our struggles to this point have been more connection struggles rather than physical ability struggles and as a staff we're trying to spend more time with those connections and I have to do a better job with our guys and connect with their hearts and I think that's the first step. I also want to thank our fans. They were unbelievable tonight and it's a plus 10 and they might have been a plus 15 tonight and then you know, Kansas is an unbelievable team and program and so anytime you can beat a team like that, it goes a long way in building confidence and helping you get to the ultimate end goal."

On why he wanted the fans to stay off the court...

"Well, these are two of like the most proudest moments for me being here. And that when you can beat a nationally ranked team, Baylor was top-10 and Kansas top-5, and your fans don't storm the court, that we're building and expectation of these are the games that we're going to win and we're going to be that kind of program. I asked our fans last year, I said, 'we'd get one court storming and after that, let's have an expectation that we're going to win.' And you know, I've never seen them storm the court at Allen Fieldhouse. I've never seen them storm the court at Duke and at North Carolina, and I don't believe there's any reason why given time and the opportunity that we can't build that kind of program here in Manhattan, Kansas."

On how big Jerrell Colbert was...

"Jerrell has been working hard. We gotta give credit to our GAs [graduate assistants], they spend a lot of time with him, Coach Marco [Borne] and Coach Jareem [Dowling] work with the bigs and you know, it's been a struggle. Somebody asked me a couple weeks ago, what certain guys have to do to get on the floor and I said mature, and he's really taken a more mature approach to his craft. You know, you think and you look at it and you say, 'well, man if he has a plus 18, but you said plus 21 in 60 minutes, why don't you play more?' Well, no, he's not physically conditioned yet because game conditioning is different then you know, regular conditioning. So you know, I just need him to not think that this is the pinnacle for him and get happy and relaxed right now, you got to lock in and just keep getting better because the scouting report is going to get better on you. And so and that's the whole team, but since we're talking about him, very proud of him doing the hard work he's putting in and then his teammates really trust him and that's a big deal."

On what is about overtime that brings out the best in his team...

"Yeah, I don't know. We just have this belief, I think you know, in overtime, it's about players making plays man, and them dudes, they don't feel the pressure. You know, and we work on it everyday in practice, but I don't know that, that's necessarily the reason, I think the guys just make plays and their confidence level grows and I think our staff does a good job in those moments of not getting tight."

SENIOR GUARD TYLOR PERRY

On his difficult layup late in the game...

"My teammates tell me all the time I can't jump over a phone book. So you know the best thing for me to do is just try to get it up as high off the glass because I'm not jumping over nobody so you can put it that way."

On his first K-State vs KU rivalry game...

"I've been blessed to be able to be in two Kansas rivalries now. Independence and Coffeyville [Community College] and now this one. But there's nothing like this, the way these fans interact. They were outside at two o'clock in the morning, I've never seen anything like this in my life. I'm blessed to be in the purple and white and just so thankful they showed up and showed out for us and it's a blessing to be part of this rivalry. This was one you'll be able to tell your kids about."



On his second-half scoring...

"It's my teammates, I can't put it nowhere else. They tend to find me and they find me in the first half too. There's no science on it, no fairy dust to it. Over the course of 40 minutes you got to stay into the game you got to stay locked in. I try to let the game come to me and I have such an amazing group around me who finds me in my spots that I like and they just keep me going. So when you have a group like that around you they just continue to believe confidence in me. They just make the game so much easier for me."

On being counted out...

"I try not to worry about it. We see what people say about us but at the end of the day, we know what we have. We know what we're capable of in that locker room. And so I can't sit and worry about what people say about me. Coach Tang has told me and the rest of our team all year that the work is going to show and so all you can continue to do is show up. And that's the first thing and that's the first step to winning and showing up and I think this team is going to continue to do that, no matter what happens. We believe we're a tournament team and that you know we can do damage when we get there. And if we got 12, 13 guys who believe in that and the rest of the staff you know anything is possible."

JUNIOR GUARD CAM CARTER

On the quick turnaround from Saturday...

"We had to, it's a rivalry game. We lost what four in a row? This one was important to us. We had to lock in, we had a lot of preparation in a short amount of time and we were focused. We knew from the jump that we were gonna win this game."

On how big offensive rebounding was...

"We knew we had to limit them to one shot to win this game. Like every team, we have to limit them to one shot and I feel like in the future we have to build from this."

JUNIOR FORWARD ARTHUR KALUMA

On what was said when KU took an early second-half lead...

"We just had to settle into the game. I feel like we always come out in the second half and we're a little flat. So we just had to, you know, really settle into the game, stick to our plan, and get back to our principles. And then when you got a shooter like TP [Tylor Perry] who could create all his own shots, I mean, it's easy, you know I'm saying and I feel like we fought back and we played a good half of basketball."

On his first K-State vs KU rivalry game...

"It was a fun environment to be in. I feel like our fans did a very good job of packing it out, creating the environment, and setting the mood for the game. Kansas is obviously a very good basketball team. Everybody was excited to play and I feel that we went out there and we did what we had to do in order to get the win."

KANSAS HEAD COACH, BILL SELF

On if he had a chance to separate early in the second half.

"Well, we played great to start the second half. I mean, we went on a 7-0 run in about a minute and a half and then they went on an 11-0 run in about two minutes. So obviously, we you know, we had an opportunity to keep them at arm's length and didn't do a good job at that at all. So that was a big stretch of the game from the 18 minute mark to the first TV timeout, that's when they went on their run and of course, we went on our run the first couple of minutes but how that happens in a game and there's a lot of time."

On both teams' intensity...

"Well, I thought they were the more athletic and explosive team early in the game and I thought we showed stretches where we were as well. The bottom line is you know, the game comes down to making free throws and it comes down to how they scored their last six points in regulation, if I'm not mistaken on their offensive rebounds and one of them was an airball. They just came up short and one got tipped in by Hunter [Dickinson], so I mean that we were kind of unlucky there too, even though you know those are a part of the game."





Difference in intensity between the last two games...

"Whether it's K-State playing at Oklahoma State or us playing Houston or whatever, the intensity in everything's not quite the same or the prep. I mean, you practice for 20 minutes on Sunday, you know because of fatigue and all of that stuff. So I actually thought both teams probably did a pretty good job hanging in there for 45 minutes because I know we were tired. I don't think we were quite as turned up as were on Saturday obviously."

DAJUAN HARRIS JR., JUNIOR GUARD

On what made it difficult to close it out...

"When we pulled away with 11, they came back, you know, it's a game of runs anyways. But that's when we should have put our foot on their throat but we didn't do that. Coach [Self] told us at halftime when it gets to the 10-minute mark in the second half it's gonna be anybody's game and the crowds gonna get into it. We just messed up on that."

On Bill Self's message after the game...

"We got to be better on the road. This is like our fourth time we've lost on the road. We just got to come back, come ready to play. We got to rebound and close out. Late-game situations get the rebound. We got to make free throws but we can get through that."

On the thoughts going into Overtime...

"I thought we had it. Two years ago we came back in overtime. I've been there, Coach has been there before and I just thought we had the game but you know, they're going to compete too. They were on a losing streak, 0-4. We're KU and we know they're gonna bring it so we just got to be better."

HUNTER DICKINSON, SENIOR CENTER

On how frustrating this game was...

"Yeah, no, it's pretty frustrating when you're up 11. I just think I gotta do more for my team out there. I feel like I let them down today."

On what areas he thinks he let the team down in...

"Just a couple of plays you know, tipping it in for their team, when you literally give them two points. When we cut it to two and I ran him [Tylor Perry] over. I really don't understand how that can be a foul but I can't, I guess, give the defender any contact on a screen. But I guess I gotta run around the screen. But just making those types of plays when the game is close, I can't do."

On the atmosphere...

"It was good. It was a fun atmosphere. You can tell there's definitely some disdain between the universities and so I feel like it was a great environment and that made for a great game and unfortunately we just came up short."

