



POSTGAME QUOTES

Missouri 71, K-State 67 | October 23, 2026

K-STATE HEAD COACH CASEY ALEXANDER

On what he liked from today's performance...

"I thought we did a lot of good things with the way that we started the game, not just because we made some shots, but I felt like we were dialed in on both ends of the floor pretty well. Probably most pleased with the attention to detail in the scouting report defensively. I thought when we were set and ready, and didn't make a mistake with coverage or matchups or something like that. They executed the game plan really well. Got a lot of bodies in gaps. Did a nice job there, the numbers would reflect that, if you're just looking at percentages. I think we had 14 deflections in the first half, which is a good number for us. So, I didn't plan to play as much zone as we did, but I thought we were pretty good with that. Obviously, we didn't rebound there, which is a challenge anytime you're playing zone, especially with guys that size and kind of recklessness of going to get it. But I thought overall, I was glad to get a number of possessions out of it there."

On the fight until the team showed till the end...

"I love that. I love the way we stuck with it, and that was really an emphasis before the game, regardless of circumstance. I mean, we're in the infancy of this whole thing, and so the most important part of today was how close can we get to the full 40 minutes, regardless of who's out there, what the score is, what the circumstances are, and I applaud our guys a lot for staying with it and giving ourselves a chance. I mean, we got the steal and we got a chance to tie it or take the lead, and didn't get a good shot off. But I was really proud of how they stayed with it. That's what's so great about these opportunities is we had a lot of circumstances throughout the game that you just can't find until you get in the game, you can't practice a lot of those things. So, I was glad and proud of how they responded in some tough moments."

On the early minutes of the second half...

"We really just lost our edge. I felt like it unraveled a lot, not a little bit. We had a couple of real casual turnovers, led to some easy baskets, got them going, and it was just a train wreck on both ends for about five minutes right there. We had a couple of good looks during that time that we didn't make, but the turnovers that led to easy baskets just put us on our heels. We lost confidence offensively, we quit moving. So I was really disappointed with how we started there. We know our margins are really small. You can't have a five minute set up like that. We gave up 27 [points] in the first half, and I think they had 14 [points] in like the first five minutes of the second half or something like that."

On playing a tough team in preseason...

"I think we learned a lot, and I think we battled. I liked our physicality. I liked what we were trying to do. I'm disappointed that offensively we kind of gave in as much as we did. Their length hurt us. They switched a lot of screens, which is typical for teams that play us. But I thought we settled way too much. We made those first three threes, and then all of a sudden it was like, man, my turn, my turn, and that's not the formula. By our count, we had 23 shots in the game that were subpar, not to the standard that we need. We scored five points on those 23 shots. That's a lot of possessions, and then you have 10 turnovers in the second half. Those are hard numbers to overcome. But we did a good job staying with it and giving ourselves a chance."

On the first thing to fix heading into future play...

"We're not off tomorrow or Sunday, and then we play Monday. We'll be smart about how we handle things as far as their bodies are concerned but, we're moving on. You play to win every time, but the first thing I told them in the locker room was, I have zero concern about what just happened, other than what we can learn from it, good and bad. And so we'll start that tomorrow and give ourselves the best chance to be ready on Monday, and that game won't matter either when it's all said and done. And so we'll see how good we can be between now and November 3."

On playing in Bramlage for the first time...

"I thought it was great. I appreciate the students. I thought they were great throughout. We got a little taste of what it can be. I know there's a lot more out there, and I told our team to be appreciative of that. The ones that were here, and if we give them a reason to come, I'm very confident they'll be here. The rest of them will be here."



On the rotational decisions over the game...

"The game kind of dictates where you have to go rotationally. And JT Rock hadn't practiced in eight, nine days, at 3o'clock today, I would have said no chance he could play, but he wanted to give it a go. He gave us some minutes. He wasn't himself by any stretch, but I didn't feel comfortable putting back out there in the second half. We don't have Timo [Malovec], [Matt Gilhool] was in foul trouble, and so we were really limited on the front line. So we had to play a lot smaller than I anticipated. But those guys did a good job. That's kind of what got us back in the game, gave us a little bit of energy, but that's a game by game scenario."

JADEN SCHUTT, FIFTH YEAR GUARD

On how the first game went...

"Yeah, that was good to get out there with the guys for the first time. Obviously, playing Bramlage as a unit for the first time. So I mean, really just trying to work through all the different kinks and stuff. Find our chemistry, so we'll take this you know this film. We'll learn from it and try to move forward. But it's just good to get out there and just kind of build some chemistry to just make us better."

On how he played...

"Yeah, I just thought when we had good movement on offense, played for each other, we got good shots. When we didn't do that, obviously we didn't get as good of shots. And I mean, you're really trying to get good looks at the rim over and over and make the defense work. So there were some times where we were obviously creating for each other, playing for each other, and it looked like good basketball. So, just really trying to figure out what we're good at and just kind of build on that. So I thought there were some good moments."

On what today's game says about this team...

"I mean, it's obviously a positive just to see that there's going to be a fight no matter what the score is, and just you know, you always want to play the game with the will to win. So, I mean, that's going to be. We're still trying to develop our identity and kind of give the fans a look of what we're going to be for the season. So I mean, it's a good sight to see guys who you know fight no matter what the score is and you know give ourselves a chance at the end."

BROCK VICE, SENIOR FORWARD

On how the first game went...

"Obviously, it's a great experience to get out here, play against someone different than just practicing. Since we've been practicing against each other since June, for the opportunity, it's awesome to play them, they're a really good team, and they have really high potential to be a really good team. It was a good experience for everyone. I feel like we played a lot of guys. Everyone got to experience it. The students were great, the fans were great tonight, so couldn't be more thankful for those people. And then obviously we're gonna go watch the film, learn from it, and try to learn from it and be better."

On how you played..

"I mean, I think if you know the coaches' background, everyone's gonna know we're gonna be a high offensive team, and I feel like today our defense was really really good. I mean, I don't know what the percentage was for them, but I feel like the only reason that we struggled defensively was giving up offensive rebounds, which I feel like is an easier fix than a whole bunch of scheme stuff, and that's just physicality and stuff. But we got to work on that, and I got to be better on that end because I'm a big guy, and so I got to hold my weight on that end. So I feel like we did a lot of great things offensively and defensively. We just have to eliminate the turnovers and give them runs, and just be better and fundamentally sound."

On what you saw in the second half...

"I think we had five turnovers in the first seven possessions, which is, I mean, if you're going to do that, you're going to have a very hard time. The game of basketball is a game of runs, coming out of halftime after you've made your adjustments, this, this, and this, and you give up five turnovers in a row, it's going to be hard to come back from that and find your rhythm again."

