Iowa State 77, #5/6 Kansas 60

Saturday, January 5, 2019 Hilton Coliseum // Ames, Iowa

KANSAS HEAD COACH BILL SELF

Opening statement:

"That was a beatdown. We got off to such a bad start and we were ahead. I looked up (at the scoreboard and wondered) How in the world were we ahead? We had five turnovers by the first TV timeout, then it just kind of go worse from there. We were up four (points) with, what was it, about two-and-a-half minutes left in the first half and go in down four (at halftime). They were so much better than us. Their guards are really good and they showed us how guards are supposed to play; you move it, you share it, you drive it, you pass it. You shoot it when you're open, you don't take bad shots. We've been living on the razor's edge a lot. Granted, we don't have a lot of where we can go to guarantee us having a great possession. We really don't have good ballhandlers right now. We haven't shot it very well or passed it very well. That's not a great combination for offense, so we've got to get to a point where we can do some things, maybe even simply it even more, to the point where we look to get five or seven passes before we shoot, whatever it is where we can get to the point where we're able to pass and catch, move the ball and hopefully get a shot up each possession. You give them (lowa State) 12 more possessions in their building to get a shot and you don't get one, you're never going to win that game and that was definitely the case tonight."

On who the team turns to in order to get back into the win column, with the absence a true leader:

"We'll get back into the win column, but I don't know. If you look around the locker room, Dedric (Lawson) probably more so than anybody. But there's not a lot of stuff going on in there from a leadership standpoint. Kids care, but it's so much different for them, and out of character (to be a leader). When three guys have 18 turnovers and Lagerald (Vick) doesn't scratch after the first four minutes of the game, two minutes of the game, he didn't play particularly well. We didn't have them ready, as a staff, to be ready to score points without Doke (Udoka Azubuike) present. That's on us (coaching staff), not on the kids. That's on us. We've got a lot of stuff we've got to hammer out and hopefully we can do it relatively soon. We've got two practice days to try to get better. There's no question, eventually you're going to play like you practice. So, certainly, we've got to be better in practice, I think, and that will probably translate to better performances in the games."

On the next few days for junior center Udoka Azubuike:

"I have no idea. We thought he was going to play until this morning, so we have no idea. He's obviously in quite a bit of discomfort, or he would have played. We've had it (Doke's wrist) checked and had it X-rayed and everything. The other day, he told me that his wrist hurt when he shoots it (the ball) and I told him, 'Well, damn, Doke, you don't ever shoot it anyway. I mean, gosh dang, shoot a left-handed jump hook, ok? We need your presence to rebound and defend and everything.' But he didn't feel like he was in a position where he could do that without the fear of getting hit, which I understand."

On the team's next game, Wednesday night against TCU in Allen Fieldhouse:

"I didn't see the score, but I assume they beat Baylor today. I know they were up at halftime, but I didn't see the (final) score. Our league's a monster. Granted, this team that we played today can win the league. The team they played (KU) cannot right now, unless we get a lot of things corrected."



