HEAD COACH BILL SELF

Opening statement:
“We played really well early. I didn’t think the ball moved quite as well as it has in the other games and certainly we didn’t shoot as many threes. But we got the ball inside to (Azubuike) early and converted. Our defense was much better in the first 20 minutes than it has been.”

On his team taking fewer 3-pointers as compared to the last game:
“I think they (Oakland) pressured out and didn’t give us as many, but we drove it and got where we wanted to off the drive and we hit the roll man a lot more tonight off the ball screen movement. So there were some good things that happened tonight. I still don’t think we always execute well. We just have some guys that can make some individual plays and they go make it. You’re not going to be able to do against really quality competition. But it was a good win. They’ll win their league. They’re going to end up being really good. They were a little out of sync tonight with it being (Jalen) Hayes’ first game back. They’ve got three really good players.”

On Malik Newman’s play:
“I thought Malik played one of his better games, without question. He hasn’t been very good on the defensive end, just to be blunt. We put him on (Kendrick) Nunn to start on purpose He still go his numbers but for the most part he did a better job. I was pleased with that.”

On how the other Jayhawks performed:
“Lagerald (Vick) was solid, but he’s not rebounding the ball like he was there for a stretch. I thought Marcus (Garrett) was ok, but he wasn’t as near as disruptive as what he has been. Devonte’ (Graham) was just ok. But when you add it all up, the best player at the end of the day was Mitch (Lightfoot). I thought Mitch had his best game since he’s been at Kansas. He gave us 24 good minutes, got 11 points and eight rebounds. He was really important in that first half.”

On Azubuike’s foul trouble leading to Lightfoot playing more minutes:
“You try and buy as much time as you can with both of those guys. But I don’t think it’d be very smart for Dok ( Udoka Azubuike) to get two fouls with 15 (minutes) left in the half and make Mitch play the last 15 minutes of the half. Mitch was good. He was active, he blocked some shots. It was nice to see us block some shots tonight and get some steals.”

On Marcus Garrett’s contributions to the game tonight:
“He drove it (into the lane). I don’t think he made any shots, but he drove it hard and was able to get to double figures. He played fine. I don’t think it was one of Marcus’ better games. I think he can do a lot better, be more active. But overall – I would be interested to see what their staff thinks – I thought we were pretty solid tonight.”

KANSAS SOPHOMORE G MALIK NEWMAN

On his defensive performance:
“I tried to make it hard for them. I really paid attention to the scouting. I think I did a little bit … at least I tried.”

On throwing lobs to Udoka Azubuike:
“Of course he is. I mean, a big fella, a bad lob is a good lob. He is always an outlet when we are in trouble we can just throw it up by the rim and he will go get it for us.”

On variety of offense this week:
“I think it is good. Something that coach pointed out, we had 14 assists today and 12 turnovers, so the ball could move better. Other than that it shows that we aren’t just a three point shooting team. It shows that we are capable and able to make the three ball, but we have these two big guys to throw it up to and that we have guards that can go off the dribble. It was good that we showed we are a balanced team this week.”

KANSAS SOPHOMORE F MITCH LIGHTFOOT

On his career night:
“It felt good. That’s what I came here to do, be a part of our team and contribute. It felt good. Just need to get ready for our next game and channel that through.”

On if the game plan was to work through the big men:
“A little bit. Dok had a great night, he rebounded well and shot the ball well, so we are going to feed him since he is shooting like 84%. That’s what we wanted to do.”

On blocking shots:
“I was just talking about that with Coach Rob yesterday. It’s staying on the ground until the other person commits to shooting and then jumping and going and getting it once it’s in the air. I had a couple of times in the game I fouled out in seven minutes, where I jumped before they committed and got into some silly foul trouble like that. So I need to wait until they commit to shooting.”
LIGHTFOOT (CONT.)
On the feeling of a career night:
“I was just doing what coach asked, that’s what he needed from me. That was energy off the bench tonight, play defense, finish where I am supposed to finish and help my teammates get open looks by setting screens and stuff like that … extra possessions, stuff like that. He wanted me to do it and I’m glad I could.”

KANSAS JUNIOR GUARD LAGERALD VICK
On lob play to start the game:
“Coach tells us all of the time to give energy right from the jump. So we went out there first play and tried to give our team energy and tried to win the game.”

On making progress at rapid rate:
“I’ve been working in practice and in games. I’m beginning to understand everything, beginning to learn more from the coaching staff, from my teammates.”

On his key to developing:
“I learn from every game. After every game I look at stuff I didn’t do right or need to improve on. When I come to practice every day I try to work on it and try to get better. I might be rebounding, it might be blocking out, whatever. I go out there and try to get better at the little stuff. I watch game tape and see stuff that I don’t do right, so I just keep working on it and getting better.”

OAKLAND HEAD COACH GREG KAMPE
On using all the team’s timeouts early:
“Well, I was thinking I probably wasn’t going to need them in the overtime. We do this a lot. We play games like this a lot. The result of today usually don’t happen. To have a veteran, a senior, leading the team, to have Jalen (Hayes) back, and to have that happen was very discouraging to me. Our execution was really, really bad. Our purpose and what we were trying to accomplish (was not good). Offensively, we looked like a very, very, very poorly coached team. We weren’t doing anything. We were making a lot of mistakes and I wanted to use the timeouts as teaching moments. I wish I would’ve had six more. I almost called another one and took the technical just because it was a teaching moment for us. (Our play was) Really, really disappointing so that’s why I did it.”

On the team’s 20 turnovers:
“We’re averaging about that coming into the game. Our point guard play has not been good. We don’t value the ball. We have seniors who don’t value the ball. We are in a rush to do things. We don’t understand the value of every possession. You could add to the turnovers how many bad shots we took. There’s a lot to look at. I don’t know what else to tell you about it. We made really poor decisions and we were a poorly coached team.”

On their plan against Udoka Azubuike:
“We didn’t care how many (points) he got. That didn’t beat us. We talked about if he got 25, so what? It’s stopping everybody else (that was more important). We gave up strong-hand, rip-through drives all night. We gave up transitions all night. The last 10 minutes of the game I would say from (points) 75 to 100, all their points a lay-up on a strong hand-rip right through to the basket or an open three. We didn’t care. We didn’t care that they were going to rip right in. Nobody cared they got beat. We just wanted to get out of here and it was very evident.”

On keeping Jalen Hayes on the court:
“We kept him out there that long to let him feel what it takes to play a whole game. He should not have been in there the last seven or eight minutes. I asked him if he wanted to come out and he said no. Practicing is completely different than playing in a game, especially in a game as fast as this. It was good for him.”

On Kansas’ guard depth:
“They only played seven guys double-figure minutes, but they have four guys that can come off and go. Personally, we think we’re a really good defensive team. Jalen (Hayes), at 6-foot-8, can guard a one through four. We thought it was a good matchup for us, that we could guard that. In the first play of the game, one of our players gets ripped through on a right-hand drive and a lob for a dunk. That just set the tone. Some days you’re the windshield. Some days you’re the bug. And we were the bug today.”

OAKLAND REDSHIRT SENIOR F JALEN HAYES
On how it felt to get back on the court:
“It felt good. I have to work on getting back into game shape, but it was really refreshing to be back out there.”

OAKLAND REDSHIRT SENIOR F JALEN HAYES
On playing Kansas:
“They played like a team that was ready to play and we played poorly. We didn’t execute on offense and we didn’t have enough grit on defense.”