HEAD COACH BILL SELF

On the Jayhawks’ high shooting percentage:
“‘We shot the heck out of it. It was Devonte’ (Graham) and Svi (Sviatoslav Mykhailiuk) primarily, and our defense was good in stretches but it wasn’t great. We rebounded the ball fairly well and it was a good team win. We only turned them over nine times at home which isn’t enough but when you shoot it that well and score that easy, the defense can become lax. I thought we played well and really shared the ball. Certainly, we looked a little bit better than we looked three weeks ago opposed to the last couple games.”

On Malik Newman’s performance:
“He was pretty good. He was aggressive for the most part and was looking for his shot, which is good. I still wish he would get rid of the ball in transition rather than wanting to bounce it all the time. All he has to do is pitch the ball ahead a couple of times, but I thought he did some good things. I thought Devonte’ wasn’t as good off the ball screen tonight as what he has been, but he still played well with eight assists. He had two turnovers in the first minute or two of the game, and (then) he didn’t turn it over again. He was very efficient and only took seven shots to score 17. I don’t know why, but we don’t get to the free throw line -- ever. We have a big guy that we like to throw it to (Udoka Azubuike), but certainly moving forward we have to find some way to score more free throws than our opponent.”

On Sam Cunliffe’s performance:
“I thought Sam played well but he was a little thirsty to be honest. When he’s in the game, we want him to be aggressive, but he needs to be a ball mover too because we have some pretty good shooters out there. He did some good things and it was good to see him get out there. He’s a good athlete and should be a really good offensive rebounder. If he can give us some favorable minutes, then that takes the minutes down for everyone else. All in all, we did some good things (tonight) and shot the heck out of it.”

On James Sosinski’s debut:
“James is a good kid. He’s on scout team every day and I asked him about our base offense which is 4-game and he didn’t know it. So I drew up a ball screen where he ran to the rim and he did that. He thought he was fouled on the first shot that he made and, of course, he didn’t foul on the other end. It will be really nice if we get Billy (Preston) and Silvio (de Sousa), obviously, and that would definitely give this team a different look. But we did feel a little bit deeper today with just eight (players suited up).”

On preparing for Stanford’s big man Reid Travis:
“Well, they’re playing two bigs now. I think they played him primarily at the five, close to the basket, last year and this year he’s moving around more. He’s shot 102 free throws and we, as a group after tonight, have shot 132. It’s ridiculous how we don’t get to the free throw line and that’s what he does well. Hopefully this is the last game we have to play this small but if we can pressure him, maybe Stanford won’t think about throwing the ball inside as much.”

KANSAS SENIOR G SVIATOSLAV MYKHAIILIUK

On his confidence right now:
“(It’s) On the same level. Everybody has bad games, everybody has good games. The last three games I didn’t shoot too well, but this game I shot well.”

On the carry-over from one game (at Nebraska) to the next (tonight vs. Omaha):
“Yeah, today I just felt confident after I made my first couple of shots and just kept shooting them.”

On what Coach Self talked about the first time he came out of the game:
“He was just reminding me of the stuff that he tells me every day mentally. He really always focused on defense with me so he just made sure the things that I need to do, like being hot on the floor. I wasn’t really hot on the floor and he reminded me of that. So when I went back out there, I did a better job of doing that.”

On how the team will prepare to play three games in six days:
“Just by taking care of our bodies and getting our rest. And (to) go hard in practice as well.”

KANSAS RS-SOPHOMORE F JAMES SOSINSKI

On playing in the game and scoring some points:
“It felt great. Four points is whatever, it’s a plus for sure. I’m just happy I got to play tonight.”

On the whole experience this past month, transitioning from football to basketball:
“I’m just taking it a day at a time and doing whatever they tell me to do.”

On finally reaching his goals:
“It was great. I was the only person on the team not to play yet, so it was good to get that off of my back.”
KANSAS RS-SOPHOMORE G SAM CUNLIFFE

On his vision of his first basket and the reality of his first basket at KU:
"To be honest with you I kind of imagined it to be a three (pointer), the first one, but I just knew that if I got off the screen, someone would throw it. I just tried those first couple of sprints to see if I could hit it and see if I could get lucky and throw it (down) so it was good."

On how he felt after that 3-pointer:
"I kind of knew when I caught it, I just felt really relaxed. I was more nervous before the game than I was in it. I started running around and I kind of tuned everything out and started to play and felt really comfortable. But that three felt really good actually."

On Svi’s shooting tonight:
"Well, he went 6-for-7, so he was almost perfect."

OMAHA HEAD COACH DERRIN HANSEN

Opening statement:
"Their guard play made it pretty difficult for us when they run some of the weave actions really quick, and they made plays out of that. When they’re making shots like they did tonight that’s going to be hard, not that we did a great job of running them off, but that will make things difficult. Then we kind of compounded our own problem when we would come down and instead of moving the basketball and trying to get a better shot — good shot, bad shot, at least we’re going to be able to get back – we probably over-dribbled some, took some long ones (shots), they got long rebounds, they’re off to the races, now it’s really going to be hard to match up. That’s when things kind of get out of hand at the end."

On where KU stands compared to the other ranked opponents Omaha has played:
"KU’s guards were phenomenal. And when No. 35 [Udoka Azubuike] catches it with two feet in the paint, he’s a load. He just is, and we have not seen that. We’ve seen a little bit of length, we’ve seen a little bit of athleticism, but we haven’t seen anybody be able to spread the floor like KU can and consistently make shots."

On the freshmen’s play:
"I think Matt Pile and Ayo Akinwole have played really well for us as freshmen. Not that the people in this room know it, but we know it, we’re probably sitting here without three of our top six guys. Those are all experienced players; they’re juniors and seniors. So, to be able to play in a lot of venues like this with younger players and have them have their fair share of success, I think that’s going to bode well for us in the future once we get — we hope — a couple of those guys back sooner rather than later."

On where some of the injured players are at in the recovery stage:
"We’re hoping that [senior G] Renard Suggs practices in the next couple of days. We’ll try to get him in somehow on Thursday."

On if anything has been decided on junior F Mitch Hahn:
"I think he’s going to come back, but that’s probably later rather than sooner. That’s not going to be a two or three week thing. But hopefully not much longer after that."

On what he knew about Kansas senior G Sviatoslav Mykhailiuk coming into the game:
"I’ll be honest with you. When I saw the scout for the first time 24-hours ago, I just watched it on TV — and because TV doesn’t do it justice — I didn’t think he was 6-foot-8, but he is. And he’ll fly off a screen, he can spot up, he can drive it. Along with a couple of those players tonight, you know, [senior G Devonte’] Graham and those guys, when he gets his feet set, he not only makes it but it’s like in the middle makes it. But you have to give him a lot of credit, he’s a hard guard. When we tried to switch, whether it’s one through four, now we might have 5-foot-9 Ayo Akinwole on him, and that’s just another mismatch. He spreads the floor, he keeps you honest, and when he gets his feet set, it’s right in the middle."

On the scheduling of playing two games back-to-back days:
"It happened. There was an event the night before. We wanted to play on Saturday. It didn’t happen, but we had to have the game. We just had to have it. It was the only time we could get it in, and so we scheduled it. It’s not perfect. I’m not saying we would’ve beat KU if we had played them on Saturday. So anyway, we had to do what we had to do."
OMAHA JUNIOR G ZACH JACKSON
On what it was like to come back and play in his home state (from Wichita, Kansas):
“It was a good experience. I honestly had never been to Allen Fieldhouse or to a KU game, so it was cool. Playing in front of your friends and family is always nice.”

On how he compares KU to the other top-25 teams Omaha has played this season:
“They’re definitely at the top. We played two other Big 12 schools, too. I think a major difference between the teams was the atmosphere that we were playing in because the other two schools didn’t have an atmosphere like this. We didn’t really know how to withstand the energy that they felt from the crowd.”

On what impact playing games in back-to-back days had on the team:
“I don’t think it really had that much of an impact. Maybe some, but if you can’t get up for a game like this, then you don’t have any business playing in it.”

OMAHA FRESHMAN F MATT PILE
On what it was like to play in his home state (Goddard, Kansas native):
“I’m a little different than (Zach) Jackson. I grew up a pretty big KU fan. It was a pretty cool experience to be able to play here. I’ve been to quite a few games, but at the end of the day it’s the game of basketball. We’re just going to do our thing. We didn’t really get the outcome we wanted, but we just have to get better from it.”

On his anticipation for this game as a former KU fan and current Omaha freshman:
“The nerves were definitely there at the start. During warmups it was pretty surreal. But once the game got going, it was just like any other game; it wasn’t much different.”

On how he compares KU to the other top-25 teams Omaha has played this season:
“They say this [Allen Fieldhouse] is the best home court advantage in college basketball and it’s definitely true. I think we were just a little overwhelmed with all the loud noises and everything. We kind of got out of our game a little bit and didn’t accomplish what we wanted to.”

On facing Kansas’ 7-foot-0 big guy [Udoka Azubuike] and going right at him:
“I’ve learned that if you play scared, that’s going to reflect on your performance. So you just have to go at whoever is guarding you. You just have to keep going at them and do your thing.”