HEAD COACH BILL SELF

On the Red Raiders jumping out to an early lead and keeping momentum:
"They were by far the best team. They were better coached, they were more prepared, they were tougher, they were faster. It was a beat down. I do not know if it was a 12-point game because it felt like more to me. We cut the lead to six a couple of times but let them get easy baskets. We defended their actions really well; but they got 85 points off turnovers, second shots, and guys driving right every time. It is certainly disappointing. They were so tough and aggressive it reminds me of teams we have had in the past. We were so passive, we got what we deserved. When your best athlete goes 1-9 with two points, two rebounds, and gets goose eggs across the board against their best athlete who just dominates, that is what happens. It is not just because they are so much more athletic than us, they are so aggressive. We have allowed our guys to be finesse guys and that is a formula for disaster. This could happen a couple or several more times without question even at home because we have shown everybody we have a chink in the armor and they are going to come in here and take down. To lose 2-3 games in Allen Fieldhouse, the two teams we have lost to are really good. Texas Tech could win our league, they are that good. The whole thing is to be so non-competitive in certain spots; Devonte’ (Graham) is the only one who had an average game. We put everything on his shoulders he played 40 minutes, make every play when nobody else even came close to making any plays. That is really disappointing. They outplayed us, they whipped us and I know that was a big win for their program. We now have to go steal one on the road on Saturday. We put ourselves in a pretty tough position."

On being outrebounded and the 15 Kansas turnovers turning into fast-break points:
"It is unbelievable. 41 points out of our softness or lack of ball handling ability. We turn it over 15 times so they can max out at 30, 32, 33 points and they get 26, which is unheard of, and then they turn it over 10 times and we get eight. The second chance points was a joke. We do not have anybody who fights for the ball. We are playing all two guards and we have been able to dodge a few bullets. Udoka (Azubuike) got his butt whipped by their big kid on the glass and our supposedly two best rebounders – that play minutes - should be Lagerald (Vick) and Svi (Mykhailiuk). Svi did not have a good game tonight and Lagerald that was about as poor as I have seen him individually. It is because we didn’t play tough. I have done such a crap job of getting these guys to understand how athletes who are hungry play. Those are some hungry athletes on the other side and we didn’t match it at all from an intensity stand point. We got what we deserved, certainly, and hopefully we can grow and get better from this. It is not going to be the only time we lose in this league and Texas Tech will have some nights in this league where they struggle, because the league is so good. When you rely on making shots in order to play well it is not a good formula against teams that really guard."

On the upcoming game against TCU:
"They are good. I think we are ranked 10th and we won’t be anymore. Texas Tech is ranked 18th and TCU is 11th - if I am not mistaken. It is a tough week playing 18 and 11 back-to-back, but that is how it is in our league. I hate to say this as a coach, because I hate the way we competed, and that is on me more than the players. I am actually happy for kids who try so hard to have some good things happen for them. They wore us out and got the best of us and we will have a chance to get a rematch in Lubbock but it will be much harder to beat us there than it will be to beat them in Allen Fieldhouse."

KANSAS SENIOR G DEVONTE’ GRAHAM

On if shooting was part of the game plan:

On the key to Texas Tech’s win tonight:
“That was a big key right there (TTU getting out to a 23-7 start to the game). We just came out flat and they did a good job coming out, hitting shots and getting stops early. It really kind of disrupted us early. They were just knocking down everything."

On losing the rebounding battle:
“We’ve just to be tougher down there (in the post). We’re small, so we’ve got to play even harder, even scrappier. We’ve got to do a way better job of rebounding."

On Kansas missing all 12 of its 3-point shot attempts in the second half:
"It was just off shooting, basically. I didn’t know that we went 0-of-12, but it was just an off shooting night."

On Texas making a run in Austin and KU responding with a shot of its own on Friday night, compared to tonight’s game and if it felt opposite:
“Definitely. I think we had it cut down to six (points) and then we’d have a mental lapse and give up an easy bucket or put back, an offensive rebound, stuff that we can’t afford to (let) happen."

On his assist-to-turnover ratio tonight and how TTU’s defense affected his play:
“They did a good job, just being in the right spots, jumping to the ball, ball screens, and down working on the baseline, things like that. It was just a lot of careless plays by me personally and we had 15 turnovers as a team. We just had a lot of careless plays and were out of control on fast breaks, moving the ball and little things like that."

On not being used to suffering home losses and his reaction to tonight’s outcome:
“It’s not normal. It’s not something that I’m used to, that we are used to. We’ve just got to get more focused and get way tougher.”
KANSAS SENIOR G SVIATOSLAV MYKHAILIUK

On not being used to suffering home losses and his reaction to tonight’s outcome:
“It’s terrible. We’ve got to start playing way tougher on this court. We need to do what we know we can do.”

On the team’s depth in the front court:
“We need big men. We have Doke (Udoka Azubuike) but he can’t play the whole game, we need to sub for him. They are really going to help us. But today, we just didn’t match up. At the end of the game, they put five guards in, so we put five guards out there so we could match up.”

On what Texas Tech did to challenge Kansas’ 3-point shots tonight:
“They didn’t let us catch the ball easy. They were denying the ball all the time. They stayed down on the ball screens and forced us to try and make over them. They did a really good job.”

KANSAS SOPHOMORE C UDOKA AZUBUIKE

On his back today and his thoughts on rebounding being a factor in tonight’s game:
“It’s getting better. I’ve been doing rehab, so it’s getting better.”

On not being used to suffering home losses and his reaction to tonight’s outcome:
“Like I said, today wasn’t decent. I’m not used to all this. I know I didn’t play (the entire season) last year, but we’ve got to focus. Like Devonte’ said, everybody is going to give us their best shot. So we’ve got to focus and be ready to play right from the jump (ball to start the game).”

On the differences in the teams’ offensive rebounding tonight:
“They are way bigger than we are. It’s pretty much just me for us. I think rub it out, that’s the biggest factor.”

On how he felt for this game compared to at Texas, physically:
“It’s (my back) is better than it was when we were at Texas. I didn’t even know if I was going to play there. My back is getting better. I’ve been going to rehab and all that, so it’s definitely getting better.”
TEXAS TECH HEAD COACH CHRIS BEARD

Opening Statement:
“It’s obviously a big win for our program. It starts with just winning a game in this league. It’s so hard to win games in the Big 12, and it’s extra hard to win on the road, so it starts with that. To say anything different than this would be wrong, it’s a special win because of how much respect we have for this program. And not just my friend Coach [Bill] Self and Norm [Roberts], but Coach [Roy] Williams before him. This is sacred ground in college basketball. To come in here and play well and to win, it just means a lot to our program. Nobody respects Kansas basketball more than us.”

On redshirt junior center Norense Odiase’s play:
“Me and Norense have a good relationship, but when he turns the ball over I don’t really like him. But when he doesn’t turn it over, I love him. I thought Norense played well tonight, he got some rebounds – and Kansas is so quick at trying to get it – he was good tonight. When he had his one turnover, he was stone-faced and looked like a real veteran out there.”

On the significance of leading the entire 40 minutes:
“I didn’t even know that. We kept telling our guys at timeouts, ‘We’re down six, we’re down seven.’ At halftime I said, ‘We’re down nine. We’ve got to win this half by 10 to win,’ all the way to the end. Even late, I was telling Jarrett Culver, our freshman, ‘Hey, we’re down six,’ and he came over to me and he said, ‘Coach, there’s 30 seconds left in the game. We’re not down six.’ But that’s an impressive thing. Give our players all the credit.”

On if he sensed the team was confident and believed they could walk into Allen Fieldhouse and win:
“In no way did I expect to beat Kansas on their home floor. What I did expect was to play hard and to play well. I tell our guys all the time, there’s two things you have to do to play at this level, and it sounds real simple, but it’s not. You have to compete hard. Every possession has to have a life of its own; and you’ve got to be willing to do whatever it takes, and we’ve done that all year long. Even when Seton Hall beat us, we played hard; we just didn’t play well. So, once you start playing hard, now you get into the next category where you have to play well. For us, that’s low turnovers, good shot selection, contest 3-point shots, overcome adversity. I did have some confidence tonight that we were going to do that. Win the game? No. Play well and give ourselves a chance to win the game? Yes.”

On if he was concerned about opening Big 12 Conference play on the road, at Kansas, after playing neutral-site games:
“No. We played Seton Hall at Madison Square Garden, and that was a home game for Seton Hall, I promise you. So, we’ve played two really great teams, Boston College and Northwestern, on a neutral floor. We want to get the program to the point where we play a schedule kind of like Kansas; but to speak frankly, we’re having a hard time getting people to play home-and-homes (series) like Kansas can get. But ideally, as we continue to build the program, we’d love to play some more key road games. We’re working really hard at it, and we’ll start on the road next year. If there’s any BCS teams watching this – I don’t know why you’d be watching this – but if you are, we’d love to start the series next year on a BCS team’s home court. We want to play on the road, we’re just trying to find somebody to play us. I don’t want to play Kansas in a nonconference game though; I’m not interested in that.”

On winning the rebounding battle:
“We thought we might have a chance to compete on the boards tonight. Kansas is playing four guards right now, so our decision was (between) do we match up with them or do we try to impose our players? Normally, you match up with Kansas; but tonight, I had a lot of confidence in our guys, so we had two, sometimes three forwards, out there. It hurt us a little bit on the defensive end, but we were getting more dividend on our investment because we were getting offensive rebounds tonight.”

On freshmen Zhaire Smith and Jarrett Culver playing well in this atmosphere:
“I’d put [David] Moretti in that same class, from the Italian national team, he’s played in big games. I thought he made some great plays tonight, especially when we were trying to rest Keenan [Evans]. Our fourth freshman right now on scholarship, Malik [Ondigo], is going to be really good, too, he’s just injured right now and we can’t get him onto the floor. But give my staff a lot of credit for a great recruiting class.”

On senior F Zach Smith playing through injury:
“Zach Smith is a warrior. I have so much respect for Zach. He’s probably 50 percent right now, but he wanted to play. He begged me to play tonight. He’s worked tirelessly since the Baylor game in rehab and in the training room. Last night he was setting his alarm every two hours with our trainer and our doctor and worked really hard. Give Zach credit, that guy’s a warrior to even try (to play) tonight.”

On if he felt like Texas Tech had an edge over Kansas with its bench production:
“You know, I don’t know if we have an edge on Kansas in anything. Maybe [that] we have Whataburger in Lubbock, Texas, and I don’t think you all do. That’s an advantage. But, I have a lot of confidence in our bench players. I worked for the greatest coach in the history of the game, in my opinion, Bob Knight, and he taught us a lot of things, as did his son, Pat [Knight]. One of them was just the value of a sixth man. I’ve always understood this. [John] Havlicek was Coach’s [Bob Knight] teammate at Ohio State. Havlicek might have been the best player in the NBA at one point in his career, but he came off the bench because [former Boston Celtics] Coach [Red] Auerbach knew what he was doing. All of our teams – going back to my junior college teams and Division II teams, our Little Rock team – we brought great players off the bench, so it’s by design. This year we just have a lot of young guys who are playing older than their age, and so far, it looks like our bench is a weapon.”
CHRIS BEARD (CONT.)
On being able to take away 3-pointers from Kansas:
“Well, it’s impossible to stop them. You just try to contain them, and you try to contest shots. The way they [Kansas] shot the ball the other day in Austin, [Texas] -- they’re not going to get beat -- they’ll play on the final Monday (NCAA National Championship game) because Texas did a good job contesting most of them. You have to be fortunate and tonight we were. They got some good looks, we got some mistakes on some switches, so we were fortunate tonight. But, I think you have to give our players credit. I did feel like there was an urgency to guard the 3-point line. With that came the opportunity for Kansas to drive the ball against us in the second half, but luckily, we had a lead big enough where we could sustain that. I do give our players credit tonight for at least trying to contest 3-point shots.”

On responding to adversity when the Allen Fieldhouse crowd got into the game:
“I was proud of our poise tonight. I was proud of our demeanor. We knew that adversity was going to come. It’s not a matter of if, it’s when. We knew this is one of the best crowds in college basketball so we were ready for those moments. It’s really difficult to coach against Coach [Bill] Self coming out of timeouts. I think he’s one of the best coaches in the history of our game. He gets a lot of credit for recruiting and being at Kansas, but you have to understand how hard it is to guard his X’s and O’s. Every timeout you come out of, he does something that’s not in the scouting report. He’s a great coach. We were fortunate tonight to dodge a few bullets there, but I give our guys a lot of credit. I thought we played hard and I thought we played well.”

TEXAS TECH REDSHIRT-JUNIOR C NORENSE ODIASE
On the team’s mindset going into this game:
“The team’s mindset was just rebounding. That was our biggest thing that we keyed on this game -- win the rebounding battle. We knew it was going to be a tough fight with those guys (Kansas), but we did the job there and that helped us win the game.”

On his offensive rebounding tonight:
“Every game, I try to get offensive rebounds. We all do, as a team. You see guys like Justin [Gray], Z [Zhaire Smith], always crashing. It just seeps up (through) to the rest of the team and we always try to go for those.”

On staying composed and riding the waves when Kansas’ Udoka Azubuike got alley-oops:
“They’re good players. The thing about it is when they get something like that, we just have to move on to the next play. Obviously, it’s not in our game plan to give those up, but if they do get one or two of those, (we have to) just move on to the next play and get them back next time.”

TEXAS TECH SENIOR G KEENAN EVANS
On Justin Gray starting the team off with eight points:
“It was definitely big. We need him to be able to make shots when he’s open. When he caught the ball, he was ready and knocked them down.”

On forcing Kansas to take mostly contested shots in the second half:
“We were just making sure we were communicating, talking and trying to make it as tough as possible for them to take shots. We know that they take -- and make -- big shots, but we were just trying to make them uncomfortable.”

On Texas Tech being the aggressor at the end of the game:
“We knew we were in the bonus and they were kind of playing on their heels, so we just tried to take it to them and not settle for jump shots later in the game.”

On not withering when Kansas cut Texas Tech’s lead from 13 to six points:
“It’s just something that we practice every day; to keep our composure no matter what. Going into this game we were just trying to control the crowd, but once the crowd got going we knew that they would make big shots or dunks. We just always told ourselves during timeouts or on the floor, ‘Stay stone-faced, keep your composure and keep playing.’”

On how big this win is for the Texas Tech program:
“It’s a great win for us. We’re back to the drawing board tomorrow, you know, back at it with another game coming up soon. So, you have to move on, not celebrate this one, don’t get too high. We take this one as a good win, but we’re on to the next one.”

On if he walked into Allen Fieldhouse tonight expecting to win:
“Yes. We work too hard to not walk in here and think that. [With] all the work we put in, we felt confident and poised, so we came in here and tried to get the job done.”