

BAYLOR POSTGAME QUOTES

Baylor Head Coach Scott Drew

Opening Statement...

"I liked the first game against Kansas better than this one. But, that's the great thing about the league. You get to play everybody twice and make adjustments. I told coach [Bill] Self before the game that I hope we see them again, but I hope it's in the Final Four. I thought it was a great showcase for the Big 12 today. You had two teams play extremely hard. I'm proud of how we battled back at the end. The biggest difference in the first game was that we were able to get over 20 points off of turnovers and today we didn't get that. The second thing is that anytime it comes down to a close game, usually it comes down to the free throw line. We didn't shoot free throws like we needed to in a close game."

On Jared Butler's last-second shot...

"If you hit your free throws down the stretch it's a different situation. At the end of the day, the free throw line is a big part of close games. We have good free throw shooters. We can be an 80 percent free throw shooting team. Normally when we miss free throws, we're able to get a couple of rebounds off of those, but Kansas did a good job of blocking us out. We didn't do as well on the glass as we would've liked. We were not as effective with second chance points either. These are two of the best teams in the country defensively and rebounding. We definitely pride ourselves on winning that battle."

On the quality of the two teams...

"We're both elite defensively. There's 353 teams and you have two of the top three defenses with us and Kansas. Nothing's easy, except when it's a 12-foot lob to Dok [Udoka Azubuike] and he's the only one up there. Other than that, everything's tough. The big thing for us is that we have to keep getting better. You want to keep moving forward despite any injuries. Kansas has really progressed since the last time we faced them. We had a heck of a run. I never thought I'd see anyone do what we did. The Big 12 is so tough. Six straight years we've been the number one conference for a reason. There's a lot of good teams, coaches, players and fan support. I can't thank our fans enough. Our administration has done an unbelievable job with the two gamedays. I know ESPN has done an unbelievable job covering them. It's great having College Gameday here. Hopefully at some point they come back and we'll get them a win."

Baylor Sophomore Jared Butler

On the look he had on the final shot...

"It wasn't super wide open but it was a good enough look. I'm really thankful for Coach Drew allowing me to shoot the ball. I guess it just wasn't supposed to go in, but I thought it was supposed to go in [laughs]."

On where they get their mentality from...

"I think it's obviously divine, because of our faith, and even in the loss we're thanking him and appreciating him and what he's done for us. Moving forward, He's going to continue to support us and we can't let this loss affect us. We have to get another win. We're still the same Baylor team that won 23 in a row, so we can't wait for the next one."

On the quality of the game...

"It's high level. I think all these guys on the court want to win. They want to win the Big 12 Championship. That's what you want out of a 19 or 20-year-old in college that's working for their school, to try to put their school on the map. I think Kansas and Coach [Bill] Self do a great job making sure everybody is on the same page. Coach Drew does a good job of getting us on the same page. It's just fun. Fun to watch."

Baylor Redshirt Senior Freddie Gillespie

On dealing with Udoka Azubuike...

"The guy he can play basketball, I don't know what to tell you. He can rebound and finish off in the rim really well. The first game, we did a better job as a team and came out in rhythm. This game he came out in sync."

On how much more difficult this game was...

“I saw a bit and learned from that first game. They kept the ball out in the side and went from the middle and that kind of messed up our ball screen coverages. The recipe was to switch it all. Any ball screen that will kind of get us back in.”

On the atmosphere after the game...

“We face things like this. We just say to ourselves ‘we’re good, stay positive, get better and move forward.’ The season’s not over. It was a big game and we’re disappointed. We’re still going to prepare better, work harder and do what we always do.”