



OKLAHOMA BASKETBALL

NOV. 10, 2017 • OKLAHOMA 114, EAST CENTRAL 78 • POSTGAME QUOTES

OKLAHOMA HEAD COACH SHERRI COALE

Opening statement:

"I'm really proud of our guys, I thought we had a terrific start, obviously. A big point total in the first quarter, but more than anything the tone that was set with our connection on the floor and our aggression and connectedness that we had. I give the four seniors complete credit for the environment we had in the locker room and the pace we played at as soon as the official tossed the ball up."

On Vionise Pierre-Louis' performance:

"Vivi's efficiency was incredible. I just thought she probably had the best internal clock in this game that I've ever seen her have. Throughout the entire game, she went at the right speed and was super aware of everything that was going on, both offensively and defensively. She's had efficient games in the past but I don't know if she's ever had as complete of one as she did today. But when we have a bit of a margin like that, we can keep her fresh and it showed she's worked hard on her efficiency."

On stopping Belmont's leading returning scorer Kylee Smith:

"Well we challenged Maddie (Manning) with that, she drew that straw and did a really good job early on with high hands and not giving her any space. Kylee likes to get to the basket too, so playing with a cushion I think Maddie's length was a little bit of a problem for her. But we made her work really hard to get any looks and I think that was key. We made Maggard work really hard. That little kid can play. I looked up and she had fourteen points and I felt like we had just dogged her all night. I think that's just a reflection of her will. That kid is special."

On OU's freshmen:

"I thought they were great. Ana (Llanusa) struggled a little bit. Just looked a little nervous, she fumbled some passes she usually doesn't and sped up her shot a little bit. But still had some great moves to the rim and finishes and learned along the way. It was a great game for those three guys to have to defend in because there wasn't anything easy about the stuff they did. We didn't have to scout because they had a brand new coach, so we were just guessing the way they would play. There was a lot of learning on the fly that had to happen so I thought they responded really well. Mandy (Simpson) was terrific, Shaina (Pellington) broke the defense down. She was so hard on herself when she was on the bench late in the game, I asked her "how do you feel?" and I was feeling really good about her. And she said, "I didn't play very good." I said you're just remembering your free throw performance, everything else was fantastic. She just really adapted defensively and covered Maggard really well."

SENIOR CENTER VIONISE PIERRE-LOUIS

On the incentive to play well on Courtney Paris Night:

"I don't think that it is even fair to compare me to her, she's too good for that comparison. Really, I was just playing for my teammates and playing for those alumni's and fans that set the platform for us to even have fans and dominate and play great teams like we just played tonight. It was a fun experience to watch the alumni get happy every time I scored a bucket and to be on court with my teammates. I just loved the atmosphere."

On what she remembered about Courtney Paris when she played:

"I never watched basketball in my life to be honest. I did not watch of Courtney Paris until I got here and watching highlights, of course, I heard that it was a big name and people tell me that I should play like her or that I have the opportunity to be like her. So, I watched a couple films and she was a beast there is no comparison between me and her. I didn't start watching until I got here."

GRADUATE GUARD MADDIE MANNING

On having a post player like Vionise Pierre-Louis:

"Oh my gosh, that is huge. You look at teams that win championships they don't have a bad post factor. Then, having one like Vivi where she can do a lot of things on the court, and just the trust that we have built over the years, I go back with her, it is huge."

On playing a similar role that she has played in the past:

"I feel that I might be a little bit more mature, I kind of played all over the place again today, different positions. Sticking in there with whoever is out on the court, if Shaina (Pellington) is on the court then I will probably be bringing the ball up."