



OKLAHOMA BASKETBALL

JAN. 4, 2018 • OKLAHOMA 84, TCU 71 • POSTGAME QUOTES

OKLAHOMA HEAD COACH SHERRI COALE

Opening Statement:

"Really proud of our guys, any win in the Big 12 Conference is hard to come by. TCU plays hard, their post guys establish themselves and have had a great year so far. I thought our team did a real nice job of taking away (Amber) Ramirez, she's such their engine, emotional leader, and where they get their offensive bravado. So I thought we did a good job there. Offensively, early we did a nice job of attacking the zone; then we missed a few layups and I don't know what you want to call it, if people got frustrated or got tentative or people got over-aggressive. There were all those things that happened after we missed some easy shots. It took the timeout between the third and fourth quarter to realize you don't think basketball over a course of a game, you play basketball and we had forgotten to play. The fourth quarter speaks for itself."

On how the offense found its rhythm:

"Quality of our shots and weak side movement without the ball. Vivi (Pierre Louis) drawing a lot of attention, it begins there. If people are going to double team her, guys have figured out how to find the open spots on the floor. She's a very good passer. I thought her poise was excellent in the fourth quarter. We had a couple plays that were just emotional, emotional blocks, an offensive rebound-putback that had a lot of emotion to it. Then we were off to the races so it was good to see that."

On Shaina Pellington:

"Well she just scores. She can get to the rim and her athleticism is hard for people to handle. Her ability to break people down off the dribble gets other guys loose and makes the game easier for the people around her. She's still learning and growing. If you asked me to sit down and make a list she's got a bunch of things she can get better at and she knows that. We'll watch film tomorrow, but if I can make a list of a whole lot of things she can get better at and I can look down at this stat sheet and see scored 20 points and only had two turnovers, that's something pretty special. We all have to remember she's a freshman playing her first year of college basketball in one of the toughest conferences in the country and she's putting up crazy numbers."

On taking this momentum into Bedlam:

"The fourth quarter was huge. Sometimes you remember most the last five or six minutes of a game, good or bad. You might beat somebody by 30, but if you perform bad the last five or six minutes of the game, that's what sticks with you. Fortunately, tonight the fourth was our best quarter. I think it's good, our guys are starting to understand, collectively, how good we can be together. You know, the way up the mountain is a switch back, you go this way a little while then you go this way, you don't just run and jump on top of it. The most important thing for us is to continue to learn. Keep getting better. If you win, keep getting better, if you lose, keep getting better, when you play great, keep getting better, if you play lousy, keep getting better. Just take it a day at a time and continue to grow."

OKLAHOMA GRADUATE STUDENT GUARD MADDIE MANNING

On her play the past few games:

"I've put in a lot of time and realize I need to enjoy my last couple months here and not let any of my skills go and to show them because if not that would be a shame to me and my teammates."

On what has changed over the past few games:

"The mindset going into it. Focusing on that. And when you focus on something other than yourself, shots seem to go in the basket."

OKLAHOMA FRESHMAN GUARD SHAINA PELLINGTON

On her progression:

"Personally, I feel like there are a lot of things I need to work on defensively. That's my key thing to focus on right now. Offensively, during the game when (Vionise Pierre-Louis) got the ball in the post, when people go double on her it makes it easier for the rest of us to get open and get those backdoor cuts and get easy baskets."

OKLAHOMA SENIOR CENTER VIONISE PIERRE-LOUIS

On making plays out of double teams:

"Well I think I'm kind of getting used to the double teams. I feel like every game I'm getting better and better, whether it be passing or getting through the double team. But all in all, it's patience, I'm seeing the plays and passes faster than I typically do."

TCU HEAD COACH RAEGAN PEBLEY

Opening statement:

"Fourth quarter - definitely a big quarter for Oklahoma, not for us. We've got to do a much better job. Just takes so much effort and focus and concentration to win in this conference, especially in close games. You've got to be motivated defensively and we're still working on that identity but I think that fourth quarter for Oklahoma definitely was huge for them."

On the difference between the third and fourth quarters:

"Well I think we did a lot of good things in the first, the second and the third but when we have those quarters like the third where we're able to score a lot, we forget that it's defense that wins you these games, it's not the offensive end of the floor. We start getting greedy and just want to go play offense and you've got to be really locked in and committed on that defensive end. Oklahoma did some nice things in executing, but there were things absolutely exactly what we were prepared for. You know that (Vionise Pierre-Louis) is going to look to the back side off of doubles and you can't watch the double. You have to drop and be ready to guard that and they executed better in their gameplan there at the end than we did."