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# OKLAHOMA BASKETBALL

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## OKLAHOMA 84, WASHBURN 64 NOVEMBER 8, 2016 • HOME POSTGAME QUOTES

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### OKLAHOMA HEAD COACH LON KRUGER

#### Opening statement:

"It was a terrific opportunity in the exhibition game. I thought a lot of guys got in the ball game, and defensively in the first half Washburn kind of did what they want to do, but we got a little sharper defensively in the second half. Again, just the opportunity to get people a live game situation in front of fans was really good for us, and we'll benefit from this a lot."

#### On his team's offensive aggression:

"We had a lot of good possessions, and a lot of possessions where we kind of didn't come away with points where we had an advantage, and we need to value those possessions a little better. Overall, it's going to be in transition for a while, figuring out what's going to work with what combinations and who's going to be productive. It's a deep group and you're going to see a lot of people get in the ball game."

#### On Christian James:

"Christian has done a really good job consistently every day being aggressive offensively attacking the basket. I thought he picked us up defensively there in the second half creating turnovers. Christian has been doing a good job."

#### On Darrion Strong:

"Darrion is going to be an energy guy for us, even though he hasn't been able to practice very much with that shoulder, so we didn't know how comfortable he would be. But he did tonight what he has been doing in practice – bringing energy, attacking, being aggressive and shooting the ball well. We'll need that from Darrion for sure."

#### On the adjustment of trying to put the ball on the floor instead of shooting 3-pointers:

"That's where we've been most effective in practice, to this point. Attacking the paint, staying aggressive, and getting downhill. We need a lot of time to do that, trap a defender, then we'll get a drive and kick or a 3. We had some good looks that didn't go, but for the most a good game. Khadeem [Lattin] and Jamuni [McNeace] combined for ten buckets at that spot so that's great to see. And we could probably throw it inside a little bit more."

#### On Jamuni McNeace's post presence:

"Great to see. Jamuni's been doing that in practice. Him and Khadeem have been really effective in practice and tonight he got a lot of touches and finishing opportunities so it was great to see that."

### OKLAHOMA JUNIOR GUARD DARRION STRONG

#### On playing through his shoulder injury:

"It feels good. When my number was called I was ready to play and very excited. I love this team and the talent we have. I also love being coached, especially by Coach Kruger."

### OKLAHOMA JUNIOR FORWARD KHADEEM LATTIN

#### On how this game prepares them for the regular season:

"Washburn is a really good team. I think with a game like this we really have to dig down and fight and show our grit early on and show that we have some resolve. No matter how many points we are down by, as a team we can handle it and bounce back."

#### On Matt Freeman and Kristian Doolittle acclimating to college ball:

"Well Matt and Kristian are some guys that can really shoot and score the ball. They are really good for us. I'm excited to see where they are going to go."

### OKLAHOMA SOPHOMORE GUARD CHRISTIAN JAMES

#### On the feel of the offense tonight:

"The first half we did really well but got too steady. The second half we opened up. We moved the ball a lot and got the wings involved which helped."

#### On the team's excitement to start the season:

"The team still has a lot of work to do but we are very ready to start the season. We are a young team and everyone is working to find their position and their role. I feel as this team matures we will figure out where we will go."

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