

Never Forget Tribute Classic

Saturday, December 11, 2021

Newark, New Jersey, USA

UConn Huskies Men

Prudential Center

Akok Akok

R.J. Cole

Postgame Press Conference

UConn 74, St. Bonaventure 64

R.J. COLE: Absolutely. That was the key point going into halftime, knowing that we had some bigs out there, turnovers, and we just made sure coming out that we were strong with the ball all around and just finishing out the game.

Q. R.J., what's it like for you coming home?

R.J. COLE: Yeah, it was amazing to be in this atmosphere, family, friends and the UConn fans, UConn Nation. It was huge. They showed up big time, and we were happy to come out with a win.

Q. How many family and friends did you have here?

R.J. COLE: Probably 20, 30.

Q. (Inaudible.)

R.J. COLE: Absolutely. Coming out and being the aggressor, that's who we are, that's our identity, defense first and just play together and come out with the defensive stops that we need at timely moments.

Q. (Inaudible.)

R.J. COLE: When it comes to identity, we're defense first, just buckling down and making sure that the man in front of us doesn't score (inaudible) drove to the basket he was big-time blocking shots. Him and Isaiah were huge.

Q. (Inaudible.)

AKOK AKOK: It felt amazing just to be out there again, doing it on both ends of the floor, making shots, three-pointers, catching the alley-oop, blocking shots. Showing a lot of things in my game.



Q. (Inaudible.)

AKOK AKOK: We had key players out, Adama Sanogo, Tyrese Martin. It's really just next-man-up mentality. We've been coaching that all week, hard practice, don't need to raise my intensity. Scoring out and just playing hard and proving why you should be on the court. That's all it is.

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