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POSTGAME QUOTES

Indiana vs. Nebraska

Jan. 10, 2026

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INDIANA HEAD COACH DARIAN DEVRIES

Q. On the defense in the second half...

DEVRIES: Yeah, absolutely. I think the number one thing was just the paint touches they got, and then there was some high ball screens and things that we messed up some switches, which we did a good job of, you know, for a good part of the game.

Then second half we didn't communicate that well enough, and they were able to get to the rim and got a few free throws there early to start and got some of those paint touches.

Then a few of the live ball turnovers, you know, the 14 turnovers, it's a pretty simple deal. You take care of the basketball; you win the game. We got that lead, and then we had, I don't know, four out of five possessions I think we turned the ball over during a 10-0 run when we had the lead up to 16. That's just something that you just can't do if you're going to beat a good team.

Q. On a disappointing ending to the game...

DEVRIES: Yeah, it's disappointing, for sure. We played well for a good 25, 27, 28 minutes, whatever, and then just had a bad stretch in there, and the game flipped.

That's why the turnovers are a big piece of that. We had I can't remember if it was 15 or 16, and Tucker picked up his third and forty foul on back-to-back possessions. Then they went on a 10-0 run right after that. That was a big turning point in the game I thought where he picked those two up.

Q. On growing from this contest...

DEVRIES: Yeah, it's something I talked to the team about, and we've been talking to the team about. When they're executing the way that they did the first 25 minutes, it looks really good, and they're doing a great job, and they're defending and getting movement and things.

As soon as you get away from that a little bit and now the turnovers or maybe the lack of communication on a few of those possessions, now all of a sudden everything you've built up for 25 minutes goes away in a hurry. That's something we've had a few moments this year where that's happened. We've talked to them a lot about the next play mentality, win that next play, and not compound mistakes. I thought tonight, again, for a stretch there was a period where we let one mistake turn into two.

Then instead of digging in and really making sure now we get a quality possession the next time, we compounded it with another turnover. It led to back-to-back to back. All of a sudden your lead is gone, and momentum is real. It shifted pretty quickly there.

Q. On getting more from guys when there's foul trouble...

DEVRIES: I think the same thing they've done all year. It's not like he hasn't been on the floor before. They've always done a great job. I just think we didn't have the type of possessions we needed after he went out, again, and most of them it was just turnovers. We didn't even get shots at the goal. I thought we might have one or two in there where I think Lamar drove it hard and tried going through contact, whatever, and we didn't get one there.

But outside of that, we just didn't get very good possessions. Our movement wasn't as good. That's when we were really getting them was getting them side to side, getting them in angles, and getting a paint touch, and then a kick-out three. I thought we looked just a little stagnant and stood around a little bit, and that allowed them to sit in their gaps and could load up on us.

Q. On what changed for Nebraska in the second half...

DEVRIES: Not really. They were a little more hugged up, which is even for them throughout the game, they weren't pulled over quite as far as they normally are on some of the stuff, because they really kind of zone up on man-to-man.

So typically you don't get to the rim very often. They don't give up very many twos. My guess is they were a little more concerned with their shooting. So we were able to get more opportunities at the rim tonight when we got them moving, as long as we got them in action.

I thought for the most part we scored plenty of points minus the turnovers. I mean, our offense was the turnovers, but it wasn't necessarily our offense that got us beat. It was the turnovers and then the defensive breakdowns in the second half. That's the biggest difference. You can't give up 50 points at home. It just can't happen.



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Q. On the 3-pointer...

DEVRIES: Not really. It's a big part of what we do. Obviously when you are a three-point shooting team, you want to make sure you're getting the type of threes, the quality three that you want to get. That's important. But we recruit to it. We play to it. It's all about just making sure, though, that you get some.

There was probably a few in the second half that I thought we got a little anxious trying to get it back on a couple of possessions instead of relying on some movement to then get a better one. That's more just being better on offense than it is about whether you shoot too many threes or not shoot too many threes.

Q. On Nebraska's 3-point shooting...

DEVRIES: They shoot a lot, too. I think, what, did they get, 34 of them up tonight? Yeah, they spread you out as well. That's similar to us. That's where you got decisions to make on how much can you help in those gaps and take away the threes.

Then all of a sudden you get some driving opportunities, which I thought they did a good job of taking advantage of in the second half.

Q. On taking care of self-inflicted mistakes...

DEVRIES: We told the guys at halftime. I think we had six turnovers, and I felt like a lot of those were just self-inflicted. It wasn't even them being aggressive and coming, raking the ball out or something. They were just those type of turnovers you hate as a coach.

I told them if we turn it over five or less times in the second half, we're going to win the game. We just didn't do it. I thought, again, that just won the game.

NEBRASKA HEAD COACH FRED HOIBERG

Opening Statement

HOIBERG: I think you need to give Indiana a lot of credit for really turning the momentum in their favor in that first half. I loved the start. We talk a lot about that in these early games, the importance of it to stay in it. We're down nine, which is manageable. It's tough when you're on the road and they had everything going and we had nothing going there at the end. We talked about it at halftime. We've been in this spot before. We came out and they pushed the lead up to 16 (points). There was just no panic with this group. That's the thing I've been most impressed with. Their emotions are the same, their body language doesn't change. Eventually, we loosened them up and went on a little bit of a run. We couldn't get free there in the second part of the first half. In the second half, I thought our efficiency was outstanding. We got a couple of those in transition, we got a couple steals. Our hands got really active after not doing a good job. We had seven deflections in the first media timeout and then for the next, probably 15 minutes, we weren't very good. Once we got that going again, that's what got us out going. We got a layup, Price hit the big three in transition to tie it, Jamarques [Lawrence] hit a step-in three. I thought [Lawrence] the way that he went out there and played the whole second half speaks to the job our strength and conditioning staff does with our guys and found a way to gut one out in a really tough building against what I think is a really tough team. That Indiana team has got a lot of talent. They shoot it and Wilkerson is one of the most dynamic guards in not only the [Big Ten] but the country. [I'm] proud of the guys for how they continue to find a way and we're going to continue to prepare and find a way and we have a big one coming up on Tuesday.

On message to team...

HOIBERG: To keep going. One possession at a time, you're not going to get it all back at once. Our guys, again, did it with their defense. That's what I was the most pleased with. You can trade baskets, which we did in the first four-minutes of the half, and then go on a run. From there, that's when we got it going a little bit. Again, it started with the defense and the deflections and that's what got us going out in transition.

On defending Wilkerson in the second half...

HOIBERG: He missed a few that he had been making, that's one part of it. I thought our awareness was better, our closeouts were sharper. He was hitting some tough shots, he was hitting some step-backs, but that's what he does. He's just such an elite, elite shooter. Then his size. You just don't realize it until you get in front of him the size he is. He's every bit of 6-6. That kid has got a big, big future ahead of him. For our guys to find a way to continue to fight and battle and make it hard, keep contesting. They didn't get deflated when he hit some of those tough ones. And then, just do everything you can to keep him off the free throw line. We fouled him on a couple three-point shots and that gets guys going, when you can get those free ones at the line.

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