

## **Postgame Quotes**

### **Heart of America Athletic Conference Men's Basketball**

**January 14, 2012 – Olathe, Kan.**

#### **Missouri Valley vs. MidAmerica Nazarene**

##### **MidAmerica Nazarene Head Coach Rocky Lamar**

###### *On milestone victory #600*

"I've always been a firm believer that coaching is about building relationships. The relationships that I've built with this team have really been a lot of fun. They're really grown and they've learned to love each other. I think that's so important when you're coaching this game. When I look at 600 wins, the only thing I think about is all of the kids that were there before. Of course, you can't do that without great kids and you can't do it without support. I think back about all of these years at MidAmerica and I still think this is the greatest institution in the world."

###### *On low-scoring start to the game*

"There is no doubt we knew it was going to be physical and we did a really nice job early. They jumped into that zone at the end of the half and we didn't do a very good job of getting organized against it. All of a sudden they make a run in the middle of it and I wasn't too thrilled with that. In the second half we came out and handled it pretty well and were able to get up and down a little bit. When we run, we're pretty good and we ran a couple of times and made things happen."

###### *On importance of 8-0 run to start the second half*

"The guy that started it, Conner Langrehr, has really been struggling and I think he scored every one of those baskets. We were able to get Conner off and all of a sudden, he's enjoying the game and back in the flow so we weren't worried about what's happening to Conner. And we guarded...or we half-way guarded."

###### *On impact of MNU's Luke Thomas*

"I know he was in double figures again on the boards tonight. He got 14 and 15 and 16 these last three games rebounding the basketball. We begged him. The game before that, he got one or two, and so the message got through to him that we've got to have you inside. When he plays the way we want him to play, he's really, really good. He gets a little long sometimes, but as far as getting on the boards he did a great job for us and I was really pleased. I was pleased with all of them. Jacob French steps up in games and Nick Syrie has taken all of the pressure off of Rustin because he runs the show out there."

###### *On overall impact of Nick Syrie*

"As a matter of fact, he had two fouls and he wasn't in at the end of the first half and we got out of sync. If we don't have something good, the nice thing about Nick is he's about to get to the rim really quickly. He's a very good decision-maker and if you ask him, he will give all of the praise to his teammates, so he's a great leader. To have a young man like that to come to MidAmerica from Louisiana? Go figure."

###### *On getting prepared for showdown with Evangel next week*

"For me to tell you I know who's coming up next, but we don't ever look past the next one. We think Missouri Valley is a great team and we had to be ready to play or we would have been in trouble tonight. It's going to be fun to go down to Evangel and see how these kids bring it on the road against the number one team in the league. It's going to be fun to see."