

## **Stanford Head Coach Johnny Dawkins**

### ***Opening Statement***

“Give ASU a lot of credit. The way they played. I’ve watched them play a lot of games and their record doesn’t reflect how good a team they are. Our guys had to fight the entire evening to lead and then had to fight at the very end from behind to come up to make big plays to take the win. We beat a very good basketball team and a team that is going to do very well in the second half of league play as it continues to play out. They’re a very formidable team.”

### ***On the double-digit leads***

“If you’ve seen them play as much as I’ve seen them play a number of teams get double-digit leads. Up eight, up nine, and in the blink of an eye they’re back in the game. That team has a lot of fire power and any mistakes you make they capitalize. You have to really play a flawless game in order to push the lead up. We got a couple 10-point leads, a couple turnovers and those turnovers led to quick baskets. Quick two, quick three and all of a sudden it’s a five-point game, four-point game. It happens that fast and we were prepared for that because we have seen a lot of tape of them. But give those kids credit they keep playing, they keep fighting and that’s why they have those opportunities. We need to learn from it now on our end because we need to be better in those situations. And I think most of the year we have been. It’s unfortunate today we weren’t as sharp as we need to be. And so we need to work towards that as we move forward.”

### ***On the final play***

“The final play for us started on defense, getting that stop because that was huge. Coming down the stretch they had that five-point play. Made a couple big buckets and then we had to get a stop to give us a chance and so we did. We got the stop and then we ran that play. Almost every week we run that play. In practice we run a couple in-game situations and so the guys kind of knew what we were going to run. We went to the option, the first option was Marcus in that situation, and the second option was Rosco. They took away Marcus’ move and that freed up Rosco and he did what he was supposed to do. He stayed aggressive and our guards and shooters were where they were supposed to be and it was very good execution down the stretch.”