



**MBB vs Houston Press Conference**  
**Head Coach Wes Miller**  
**Feb. 6, 2022**

**Head Coach Wes Miller**

***Opening Statement***

“We got our butts kicked tonight. It doesn’t feel good. I’m extremely pissed off. We got the sense that our team was as well, as we should be. We’ve got to learn from it. There is a lot of basketball left to be played. Tip your cap off to Houston. I thought they started the game really executing. I thought they did some really good things offensively that put our defense in rotation. They made plays and we had a couple good possessions early because our guys were ready to play. They guarded the heck out of us. We knew that was going to happen. I was proud of the way our guys fought back late in the first half and early in the second. I honestly thought we would settle into the game at that point. It kind of felt coming out of the second half that we were going to make a big run, we just couldn’t get a couple of things to fall. We really struggled to guard their ball screen stuff in the second half, and we really struggled all night to guard them in space. It would be hard to count how many times we got beat to the middle of the floor, which put our defense in tough situations. They made a couple really tough five, six or seven footers over the top. When you let somebody get to their spot in the paint from behind the three-point line off the bounce, guys are going to make shots and plays. That is a really good basketball team with really good players. I’m disappointed, pissed off and got all these emotions. I would imagine our whole program does right now. When you have nights like this, you dig in harder and you learn from it. You remember it. That is the way that we are going to try to approach it.”

***On playing Houston for the first time and seeing them in person as a coach at UC***

“I don’t know if it’s anything different in person. There is just a level of play. This is the sixth-ranked team in the country and they went to the final four last year. I’ve been around college basketball now for a really long time. I’ve been around really good basketball programs. That’s a really good basketball program. You have good teams, that’s a good basketball program. There is a certain level of play every single year, year after year, that Kelvin (Sampson, Houston head coach) has his crew doing year after year. It doesn’t matter when the faces change, it’s the same thing. I’ve been around

teams like that and been a part of teams like that. I've coached against teams like that, at maybe a lower level. That's the standard. Now we have to figure out how to match that for 40 minutes. I think that there were times tonight where you look up and you go, "we can compete." There were seconds where we didn't. That starts with me, and we have to learn from it. We have a lot of basketball coming our way in a really short period of time. So, we got to learn from it quickly and get ready to play next game."