



Post-Game Press Conference Quotes
Head Coach Wes Miller
Dec. 05, 2021

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Opening Statement

"It has felt like a game every couple days even though it hasn't necessarily been that way, which has been great and fun. I think it's nine games in three weeks, so you could feel that. Over the last week and a half, you could kind of feel us wearing down. As a coach, I kind of sensed it and pushed more. I think there is a lot of things we can improve on, a lot of things we got to do better. I pushed them really hard in practice this week. I am pleased we found a way to win and found a way to put some defensive stops together and run in transition at times. That was some of the good stuff. There's a lot of things we've got to get better at...Offensive execution, being more consistent and playing the way we practice every day. Certainly, I have been complaining about us on the defensive glass. I look down tonight and they outrebounded us on the offensive boards. When you play a team that shoots from outside the arc... there were some really difficult shots I felt. I thought we guarded well...at times. You are going to get some strange bounces and long rebounds, so you know you are going to give up a couple when you play against a team with Bryant's style of play. But we got to get better at playing and securing loose balls. I thought we did that tonight, actually securing the ball and getting live-ball stops. We had opportunities to run and get in transition. We had some success. When we didn't do that, the game was frustrating at times. I am pleased we got through this stretch. The guys are trying, practicing hard. I think we can get a lot better, which is a unique feeling as a coach. It will be nice to have a couple days to catch our breath and get back to being healthy."

On success found in runs

"It starts with live-ball stops. If you get a stop, and it's because you couldn't secure a loose ball or a rebound and it gets deflected out of bounds, everybody gets a chance to reset their defense. When you get a live-ball stop, you really do have a chance to run and send everyone to the offensive board. It is a unique style and a difficult style to play. They are sending everyone to the boards and guys are crashing. But when you rebound, you have an advantage in transition, securing the ball. The second part, which is something we have been working at all year, is sprinting the floor and sprinting the floor with organization. The guy with the ball,

whether it's the guy who secures the rebound or the guy we outlet the ball to, playing with pace and discipline and control. When we've done that, good things have happened to us."

On the slow starts

"I am very aware of it...I think if there is a reason that we can identify for it, we can address it. I think it's been different things in different games. We didn't have a slow start at Miami. I thought maybe we had our best start of the season there. I was upset because somebody told me Justin Williams (The Athletic) tweeted that we didn't play well in the first 20 minutes and I said, 'we played well the first six minutes.' I can have some fun after we win. We had a great start at Miami. It has been different things. Tonight, the free throw line had a lot to do with the slow start. I think John (Newman III, wing) missed a two-incher. So, we missed a couple two inchers, we missed a couple free throws. I think if those things go in, we are feeling we had a good start. It's been different things every night. The ideas for me are that we got to be the same team in terms of execution every time we take the floor. That is what we come to practice for."