



Postgame Quotes: Cincinnati 89, Alabama A&M 66

Head Coach Wes Miller

Nov. 16, 2021

Opening statement

"As I told the guys in the locker room, winning is winning, and it matters, and we're always going to appreciate it and enjoy it, so I'm proud of us finding a way to win... I didn't think we played our best basketball tonight, I thought we looked out of sorts at times. I didn't think we were consistent with our defensive energy and our approach at times... We can play better; we're going to get back to work and try to play better and we have a big one in here in forty-eight hours against a really good Presbyterian team."

On the team clicking together

"I think that when we are really locked in and really engaged. I think we are a pretty good basketball team. We still have a lot of work to do. When we are not, we aren't very good, and that's what I told my team in the locker room, and they agree. We just got to continue to work and build and improve to have 5 guys on the same page. Listen, I'm not frustrated, I'm not angry. It's a good chance to learn and grow in a 23 point win. I'm pleased that we can grow and get in the win column at the same time."

On the 13-0 run

"I think when you play well defensively, and we play active defensively, you know I think you are going to create opportunities to get stops, and get out and run. We have a chance to be a really good running team. We've seen that we run the floor the right way, and we can make simple plays."

On DeJulius' 21 point breakout performance

"David's a guy we are going to demand a lot from offensively, not just to score it, but to create good shots for our team. Every night we need him to do one of the two, or both, and tonight, the ball found him in open areas. David's pace and his ball fakes, settled him down, and settled our team down. I think that he is going to score it this year, and I also think there is going to be nights where he has seven or eight assists. Like a lot of guys, he's important to us offensively."

On the importance of +/- and Oguama's +24 tonight

"Like every other coach I am very well aware of plus-minus, and I put a lot more stock into it with a bigger sample size, so we will really look at that stuff after 5 to 6 games...I think it's pretty indicative of [Oguama's] effort and energy tonight that we were +24 when he was in the game, because he was terrific, and all of our eyes could tell us that he impacted the game in a positive way. His energy, his pop,

who he is on the offensive glass, didn't just matter tonight, but in our first 3 games...I thought he really opened some things up for us early.

On Mike Saunders Jr.'s performance tonight

"I thought Mike gave us a ton of energy, especially in the second half, and I thought he had some really nice moments tonight. Listen, his ball speed is a factor, and I want him to utilize it every position he's in the game. His ball pressure is a factor. He's probably in the last couple of weeks taken a huge step off the ball defensively, not probably, he has in the last two weeks taken a huge step off the ball defensively. He's always been good on the ball, everybody here knows that, but he's really been working off the ball defensively and he's taken a huge step and I thought you could see that tonight by some of the things he did defensively."