



Post-Game Press Conference Quotes
Head Coach Wes Miller
Jan. 1, 2022

Opening Statement:

“When you get down 26 against a Division I basketball team it is going to be tough to come back. I was disappointed in our effort in the first half, and I mean that. We didn’t play hard, we didn’t play with energy. I thought we had a great week of practice and maybe one of the best weeks of practices. Sometimes it doesn’t carry over right away. You got to continue to have great weeks of practice and build on them. Unfortunately, it did not carry over to the first 20 minutes of the game. I am disappointed, frustrated and I think our team feels the same way. To be sitting here talking about a lack of effort is disappointing. But, that is the truth. Second-half, I liked our team. I like coaching that team and that team put in great effort. We played with pop and energy. You look down at the numbers and it looks like two different basketball teams. That is because we played with a different type of energy and togetherness. Proud of the way we fought back into it. Showed some character. This is a team that has character and does it right. Proud of them in the second half. Thought we really had some chances to get back in it and win it. We just couldn’t convert a couple we needed to convert. We try to control four-minute segments in games. We won three out of the four-minute segments in the second half and tied one of them...it was the one segment our defensive energy and focus dropped. Gave them some easy baskets in transition and we were not communicating. They get a three because we fell asleep. Over the second half, I thought we looked the team more capable defensively and I thought the team on offense. It was good to see the ball go inside that was a key to the game to use our size. We got it in there and we didn’t necessarily convert on the free throw line like I would like. I think if we shoot the ball well from the free throw line it is a totally different feel the last two minutes. I have never met a young man that wants to miss a shot so I don’t get too worried about that stuff. But, the effort in the first half is what has me frustrated. I am going to look in the mirror and go to the film and see what we need to get better for 40 instead of 20.

On the loss

“I’d be speculating (as to what happened). Like I said, we had a good week of practice. We came back in Sunday and had to change all our plans with the Houston cancellation. We didn’t hit, but we went hard to get our strength back. Monday and Tuesday, we got after each other. Real competitive, got back to working on things defensively that we have showed throughout

the year. Day off Wednesday...we went at it two and a half hours on Thursday. I went as light as I could yesterday to have some legs for today. Thought we did good job preparing and it didn't happen in the first 20 tonight. It'd be speculation right now and we didn't play well enough."