



**Postgame Press Conference: Cincinnati 90, Tulsa 69**  
**Head Coach Wes Miller**  
**Jan. 20, 2022**

*Opening Statement*

"When you win a league game by 20 points you are going to feel good about that. I thought that we had a great energy to start the game on both ends. I loved our defensive focus early on in the game, all five guys were connected and active. We talk a lot about the type of defensive team that we want to be. I thought we started the game with that type of intent. Offensively I thought we were super aggressive. When you are playing against Tulsa you are going to face multiple defenses and changing defenses. Sometimes that can really frustrate you as a team. I thought instead of being worried of what they are doing, I thought we did a nice job of attacking and playing. David DeJulius and Jeremiah Davenport really got us off to a good start by being aggressive shooting the basketball and making plays. I didn't like that we weren't on the boards in the first 4-5 minutes. We are pleased with the win but we are worried about John Newman. We don't know what's going on yet. I am choosing to think positively because he is a huge part of our team. When a guy goes down it is good to see another guy step up. I thought Mason Madsen did a terrific job of stepping up. Its a good step in the right direction when you win any game at home like that. We will build upon it and keep working, because I think the work we been putting in at practice day after day gives you opportunities to have nights like this."

*On his team's turnovers*

"Nah, I don't want to turn it over 19 times, but I do think when some of the things we try to do offensively to attack their changing defense, we sacrificed a little structure for some attack early in possessions. When you do that, you're going to turn it over a little bit more. I don't know if I wanted to turn it over 19 times, couple of them were really careless, but again, the more you attack early and the more you open the floor up early in possessions, the more you're going to turn the ball over. That's something we did talk about as a staff going into this game."

*On sophomore guard Mason Madsen's health*

"You know physically, you'd have to ask him, but what I can tell you he's been competing hard in every practice. I've seen him really working to improve some things defensively in practice because that's the thing I've been harping on with him since day one. Listen, he's an offensive threat and he shoots the heck out of it, amongst other really good attributes offensively. But we do need him to defend better than he was defending earlier, and he's worked really hard at that and that's all you want as a coach. You point out some of the things you think you want to improve, and you want a young man who comes in and approaches it the right way every day, which he has. What's been neat is that he's been working steadily at trying to be great defensively in practice since he's come back off the injury and he's been able to do it every single day, so it's nice for him to get some results and I thought he had some really nice defensive possessions tonight. He got a couple big deflections and started fast breaks, so I don't think Mason is a bad defender and never have, but I think he's got the ability, because he's got great athleticism and feet, to be a guy who really gives us something defensively when he checks in the game, and I thought he did that at times tonight."