



CINCINNATI BEARCATS

THE AGENCY | COMMUNICATIONS & CREATIVE CONTENT

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POSTGAME QUOTES

CINCINNATI 74, DAYTON 62

NOV. 11, 2025

CINCINNATI, OHIO | FIFTH THIRD ARENA

ATTENDANCE: 11,815

Cincinnati Head Coach Wes Miller

Opening Statement

"I told the guys in the locker room that will go in the book one day. To turn it over 24 times and win. This may sound crazy, but those are the best wins. Sometimes the best wins are when you can't make a shot, you can't throw it in the ocean, and you still find a way. One time, years and years ago, we coached a team, we gave up 20, I think it was 24 made threes, 16 made threes in the first half, and we still won the game. I think when you can overcome some things like that, the character piece is the part you're most proud of, and those are the ones you remember the most. But I'm really pleased that we won. I have so much respect for Anthony [Grant] and for the Dayton staff. I've gotten to know those guys from being in the area here. I respect them as people, I respect them as coaches, and I respect their program a lot. I don't think of them as an Atlantic 10 team. I think of them as a power four team. We found a way to win a game against a big-time program and a big-time team at home, and that part, I'm really pleased with. I thought the running game had its good moments and bad moments, but when we were able to kind of crack them in transition there late in the second half, I think that's why you do it. It's a collective effort. It's not always going to happen early, but I thought it had some signs that it could be really good. We got a lot of work to do defensively. We have a lot of work to do on the glass. We have a lot of work to do with our half-court offense. We play against different kinds of defenses. They were switching everything tonight. We got a little stagnant, and I'll tell you what. It's a lot more fun to learn when you're winning, but we better take it serious as we get back into the tape and get back to work with the players as if we wouldn't have won the game, because we do have quite a bit to do. But I'm pleased that we found a way to win despite not playing our best basketball."

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Deleted: ," Cincinnati Head Coach Wes Miller said. "

On turnovers happening while playing fast

"This is exactly why most teams only talk about running in recruiting. I mean everybody says they run in recruiting, I mean everybody says we're going to play fast, and then they talk about it in the summer and their practices, and maybe a little bit into the fall, but when you get to it and it gets a little wacky out there, you want to kind of get back in control. And if we're ever going to be the kind of running team that I think we're going to be, we have to play through some stuff. Now all these turnovers weren't because of our pace of play. Some of them were breaking the press, some of them were footwork turnovers, some of them were casual turnovers. The other thing is, number one, nobody's going to work on getting better

more than I am after I get out of this press conference. But number two, we won. So let's talk about winning too. Let's not just talk about everything we didn't do well. We just beat Dayton at home with a new team, and the team is trying to figure out how to get better. So, I'm not going to let you guys make it negative. We might get negative in the film tomorrow a little bit, but this should be about the fact that we won. First and foremost, we won the damn game, and that's what matters.”

On Day Day Thomas's value to the team

“I don't have words for the value, because if I try to talk about Day Day's value with a couple sentences, I won't do it justice. He's the heart and soul of our group, and I think you guys all know that. I thought he was terrific tonight. That was a fun matchup to watch those two go at it a little bit. And I thought he was terrific. He got beat in the middle one time and fouled there late. But outside of that, I thought he was terrific. And we weren't good on the free throw line. I think we were one for eight, between Baba [Miller] and [Shon] Abaev. But Day Day, stepping up and going 12 for 12, and Sencire [Harris] going six for eight, I was really proud of that.”

Cincinnati Players

Kerr Kriisa

Kriisa on attacking the rim and getting to his cutting spots

“I feel like just doing my role as hard as I can or as efficient as I can helps me, but also helps the team. I feel like me running hard, cutting hard, doesn't just give me shots but also my teammates. So that's something that I definitely try to do every night.”

Kriisa on playing fast and the amount of turnovers

“How fast we want to play is going to come with some growing pains, so we just got to get better as the season goes on. It's November. We want to play our best basketball in February. The way we play right now, we got to live with those mistakes where we're definitely going to improve on that and work on that as the season goes on.”

Day Day Thomas

Thomas on his shooting night

“With us, somebody's going to have a night every night. It's not going to be just one person. It's going to be somebody different every night.”

Thomas on this game as a test for Big 12

“I think our whole team is that way. I think our whole team is wired that way, nobody backs down from anybody. Dayton is a good program. They're a very respected program. They're always in there, in their league. They're top two, three, constantly making it to March Madness. So, we definitely, were very locked in for the game. That's a quad one or quad two win. So that's great.”

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