



CINCINNATI BEARCATS

THE AGENCY | COMMUNICATIONS & CREATIVE CONTENT

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POSTGAME QUOTES

CINCINNATI 76, TARLETON STATE 58

DEC. 1, 2025

CINCINNATI, OHIO | FIFTH THIRD ARENA

ATTENDANCE: 8,092

Cincinnati Head Coach Wes Miller

Opening Statement

"We've been trying to work on some things offensively the last couple of days, and I could see some of those things taking shape. I thought we did a good job with our movement. You could see the movement early. I thought we got the ball to the inside with the dribble and with the pass early, and I thought we generated really good shots early in the first half. We didn't sustain it, but you could see some of the things that we were doing in the last couple of practices taking shape offensively. I thought that the turnovers were careless. Now, Baba [Miller] had seven of them in the first half, and he hadn't played basketball for eight days. I said this on the radio, but I'll say it now. He isn't 100%, and he got hit. In my opinion, it wasn't a very good play that took him out, but he sucked it up and played. And that to me is more important than seven turnovers. That to me is what Cincinnati basketball is about. Everybody told him to sit out for another week or so. He didn't want to sit out. He wanted to play. Nobody made him play. Nobody told him to play. He said, I want to play with my teammates and help Cincinnati. He had seven turnovers, but I'll take the guy who wants to fight through it when they're not 100% all day, every day. I was pleased with that. But the turnovers were not just his, but were careless. Three times, from jumping out of bounds or falling out of bounds, and throwing the ball to the other team, we made nice defensive plays. That was frustrating. So, we've got some things we need to clean up. In the second half, I thought we did a better job of getting the ball inside, in the post, and I like Moustapha [Thiam] in a game like that, where he has such a size advantage, we have to take advantage of that more. He had a couple of silly fouls, and some things did not go his way. I did think we got it inside there. I like that. We won the rebounding war again. The turnovers were frustrating. Some of the defensive errors were frustrating, but there were some really good defensive possessions, too."

On appreciating the Bearcat fans

"I appreciate all the people that come out. I appreciate anybody that comes out to support the Cincinnati Bearcats. I've said this multiple times now and it's the same answer. I understand what it means to coach here, the expectations. I understand what it means for the expectations for people to play here and wear that jersey, and it doesn't change how I feel. I appreciate the people that come out and support us. It's really that simple."

On battling through adversity

“The things that I liked tonight about the team were the ball movement, the player movement, the commitment to work on some of the things that we practiced the last three days. Offensively, I like that. We won the rebounding war, and that is a team that's very physical and plays very hard. I think when you do the scout, you can see there was a heck of a game they played against Baylor. You know, a couple weeks ago, they just won by 18 or 20 at Rice, which is an American Conference team. So, I mean, this is a physical, hard playing team, and to win the rebounding war that was positive, those are the two things that I liked. And there's a lot that we got to clean up. I think we know that, everybody watching us knows that.”

Graduate Guard Kerr Kriisa

On coming off the loss vs Eastern Michigan

“We definitely laid an egg. We just showed ourselves that if we're not connected and if we go halfway in the game, we're not that good. What makes us special is how hard we play, how focused we are, how detailed we are, and how together we are. So, I think down the line, we can look at that game and kind of laugh about it, because that game really helped us moving forward.”

On the success factors tonight

“I feel like we did a good job of trying to make a play for a teammate. [Baba Miller] got down to the paint, there were three guys around him. Just being aggressive about trying to make a play for a teammate. I think that really helped us, and we got a lot of wide-open looks. So that's something we got to keep looking at moving forward.”

Graduate Forward Baba Miller

On how he felt coming off of an injury

“Pretty good. I felt better than I expected. I was a bit rushed out there on the court. In the first half, the turnovers were bad. I feel like I should have made better decisions. Maybe I slowed down, but I felt pretty good. It was just fun to be back out there with the guys.”

On the defensive intensity tonight

“I feel like we had some pretty good plays. Personally, I feel like I should have done better. I don't think I played to the standard that I have for myself, but we have guys that can really lock down. And as [Kerr Kriisa] said, we're a defensive team, we're going to play hard, and I feel like we did good, but we can still keep getting better.”