



# Pitt Men's Basketball Quotes

Pitt vs. Miami • Tuesday, February 22, 2022

Petersen Events Center • Pittsburgh, Pa.

Presented by Howard Hanna Real Estate Services



## Pitt Head Coach Jeff Capel

### **Opening Statement:**

"Congratulations to Miami. They are an outstanding, old, experienced team. They have elite level guards. I know we haven't played everyone yet, we have one team that we haven't played, but that is the best backcourt we've played against. They're all really good ball handlers. They're elite shot makers. They can create off the bounce. They can shoot it with range, they can get mid-range. They were able to do it all tonight. We dug ourselves a hole with the turnovers once again. Coming into the game, we talked about that. We have to be strong, we have to value the ball. If we do that, we'll get good looks and it's just a matter of knocking them down. When we did that, we got good looks. We shot 48% from the field, but there were entirely just too many turnovers. That's an area that's plagued us all year and it showed up again tonight. That was one of the big differences of the game, the turnover margin."

### **On Mouhamadou Gueye's injury in the first half...**

"It was a sprained wrist. There was no structural damage from the X-ray that we took. He came back out and played the second half obviously, but he was in pain. I took him out and decided to just get him so rest to try to get him ready for next week."

### **On how the team can better handle being pressured...**

"We tried to talk about it, showed them a lot of tape, and talked about the areas of opportunity that were open. We just weren't strong. We just weren't strong with the basketball. We were too loose. We told them they were going to reach, they were going to gamble, they were going to shoot the passing lanes. If we're strong and able to work to get open and make strong decisions and passes, we'll get wide open looks. When we did that, we did get wide open looks. But we didn't do it enough, way not enough."

### **On the team's upcoming break...**

"This break will be very welcome. We can give our guys a chance for their bodies to recover, to mentally recover, and to get away from basketball for a couple of days."

### **On how the team can improve defensively...**

"We have to have great help. We have to be in the gaps. We have to have pride individually. You have to have all of that. Times when we've done it, we've been really good. We just didn't do it tonight."

## Sophomore Forward John Hugley

### **On what he attributes to the team's slow start...**

"Miami was playing pretty good defense. They sped us up a little bit. It was out of our comfort zone, but that's no excuse."

### **On what hindered the team's previous momentum...**

"Honestly, I don't know. That's a great question. I think teams are just playing harder than us, like these last two games. You just have to pick it up. You just keep fighting."

### **On the impact of Gueye's absence in the first half...**

"It changed a lot. That's a big piece of our scoring and rebounding. It was a big drop off, but like they always say, 'next man up.'"



# Opponent Quotes



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## **Miami Head Coach Jim Larranaga**

### **Opening Statement:**

"Of course, it's always good to in a conference game especially on the road and especially when we are playing so well in the first half and are able to get a commanding lead. We were able to sustain our efforts for most of the second half. Got to give a lot of credit to our seniors, they did a great job. I'm very, very happy winning 20 games and having a very solid record in the ACC regular season so far but we still have a lot of work ahead of us."

### **On the way the team has played down the stretch:**

"Like I have said, the regular season is a marathon, and we told the team 'there's four miles left.' This was one of the four and now we have three miles left. In order to win a marathon, you have to play your best or run your best at the end of the race and that is what we are trying to do as we played a very good game from start to finish tonight."

### **On Kameron McGusty's season:**

"I think he's had multiple good seasons, and this is the best. His maturity, his age, and his consistency of effort every day of practice and every game. He shot the ball very well tonight and we shot the ball as a team very well tonight. He's are leader, him and Charlie Moore were both great in the first half and Isaiah [Wong] was not as proficient as he normally is but we needed Charlie [Moore], Kam [McGusty], Sam [Waardenburg] and Jordan [Miller], Jordan was terrific so those guys all chipped in and give compliments to Wooga Poplar, Bensley Joseph, Anthony Walker and Deng Gak, they came off the bench and gave us some quality minutes.