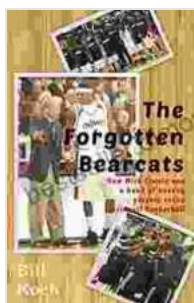


How Mick Cronin And Band Of Unsung Players Saved Cincinnati Basketball

When Mick Cronin took over the Cincinnati Bearcats basketball program in 2006, the team was in shambles. The Bearcats had not been to the NCAA Tournament in over a decade, and they were coming off a 12-19 season. Cronin inherited a roster of mostly unheralded recruits, and many observers believed that he would be lucky to win 10 games in his first season.

But Cronin had a plan. He was a demanding coach who expected his players to work hard and play with discipline. He also had a knack for finding hidden gems on the recruiting trail. In his first few seasons, Cronin recruited a number of players who would go on to become key contributors for the Bearcats, including Sean Kilpatrick, Justin Jackson, and Troy Caupain.



The Forgotten Bearcats: How Mick Cronin and a band of unsung players saved Cincinnati basketball by Bill Koch

★★★★☆ 4.3 out of 5

Language : English
File size : 605 KB
Text-to-Speech : Enabled
Screen Reader : Supported
Enhanced typesetting : Enabled
Word Wise : Enabled
Print length : 133 pages
Lending : Enabled

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Under Cronin's leadership, the Bearcats slowly but surely began to improve. In his third season, the Bearcats finished with a 20-13 record and earned an NIT berth. The following year, the Bearcats went 23-11 and made their first NCAA Tournament appearance since 1998.

The Bearcats continued to improve under Cronin, and in 2014, they made a run to the Sweet 16. The following year, the Bearcats won the American Athletic Conference regular season and tournament championships, and they earned a No. 7 seed in the NCAA Tournament. The Bearcats lost in the second round, but it was their highest NCAA Tournament finish since 1993.

Cronin's success at Cincinnati was not just about wins and losses. He also helped to restore pride to the program and the city. The Bearcats were once again a force to be reckoned with in college basketball, and they were a source of pride for the city of Cincinnati.

In 2019, Cronin left Cincinnati to take the head coaching job at UCLA. He left behind a legacy of success and a program that was poised for continued success.

Cronin's Coaching Philosophy

Cronin's coaching philosophy is based on hard work, discipline, and accountability. He demands that his players give 100% effort on every play, and he holds them accountable for their mistakes.

Cronin is also a master motivator. He knows how to get his players to believe in themselves and to play for each other. He is also a master

tactician, and he knows how to put his players in the best position to succeed.

Cronin's coaching philosophy has been successful at every stop of his career. He has won conference championships at Cincinnati and Murray State, and he has led both programs to the NCAA Tournament multiple times.

Cronin's Impact on Cincinnati

Cronin's impact on Cincinnati goes beyond basketball. He has helped to restore pride to the city and has made the Bearcats a source of excitement and entertainment for the community.

Cronin is also a role model for young people in Cincinnati. He shows them that it is possible to achieve success through hard work and dedication. He is also a generous supporter of the community, and he has donated his time and money to a number of worthy causes.

Mick Cronin is a true hero to the city of Cincinnati. He has saved the Bearcats basketball program and has made the city a better place to live. He is a role model for young people and a source of pride for the entire community.

The Unsung Players

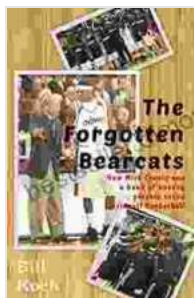
Mick Cronin's success at Cincinnati would not have been possible without the help of a number of unsung players. These players were not highly recruited, but they were willing to work hard and play for each other. They were the heart and soul of the Bearcats' success.

Some of the most notable unsung players from Cronin's era at Cincinnati include Sean Kilpatrick, Justin Jackson, and Troy Caupain. Kilpatrick was a scoring machine who averaged over 20 points per game in his final two seasons at Cincinnati. Jackson was a versatile forward who could do it all on the court. Caupain was a steady point guard who led the Bearcats to the Sweet 16 in 2014.

These are just a few of the many unsung players who helped Mick Cronin save Cincinnati basketball. These players were the foundation of the Bearcats' success, and they deserve to be remembered for their contributions.

Mick Cronin's tenure at Cincinnati was a success story. He took over a program that was in shambles and turned it into a perennial NCAA Tournament contender. He did it with a group of unsung players who were willing to work hard and play for each other.

Cronin's success at Cincinnati is a testament to his coaching philosophy, his recruiting ability, and his dedication to the city of Cincinnati. He is a true hero to the city, and he will be remembered for years to come.



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