



Coaches Quotes

Florida State 80, Louisville 76

Saturday, February 3, 2018

KFC YUM! Center, Louisville, Ky.

Florida State Head Coach Leonard Hamilton

Opening statement

“Louisville is an extremely challenging game for us to prepare for because you’re not accustomed to playing against guys with that type of length and that type of ability to block shots. In the first half, I thought, especially in the beginning of the game, our guys were trying to get to the basket, and it seemed like time after time after time they either changed our shots or we missed them. We were very fortunate to have a little surge there toward the end of the first half, and we were able to go into the locker room, I think a few points up. The second half, I thought we defended a lot better. They did such a great job attacking the lane and getting paint touches, and we had to really, really try to stay as much as we could between them and the basket. I thought our guys managed the game a little better the second half, defended a little bit better. We just feel that we’re very fortunate to hang on there for a victory. I was very proud of my guys because Louisville took us to the woodshed down at our place. We lost our composure, they did a great job of making us pay every time we missed a shot, and they took advantage of all our turnovers. Tonight, I felt like our guys were a little bit more poised with the exception of the two turnovers there toward the end of the game. We feel very, very fortunate to come out of here with a victory.”

On the bench’s performance when in foul trouble

“We always say that we try to win games by committee. Trent (Forrest) plays starter’s minutes and M.J. (Walker) plays basically starter’s minutes. It’s not that much difference being in a tremendous conference, those guys will go in and get the job done. I thought that they both made great plays.”

On the team’s concerted effort to drive the basketball?

“We took what the defense gave us. They were doing a great job defending us on the perimeter. They were not going to give us any looks. When you’re playing people as aggressively as they were, we were very fortunate to get into the lane. We got to the foul line and we finished a couple of plays.”