



Florida State 78, Miami 66  
Sunday, January 27, 2019  
Watsco Center  
Coaches Quotes

#### Florida State Head Coach Leonard Hamilton

##### ***Opening statement...***

"Obviously our kids shot the ball really well today. I think that made a big difference in the game. Most people who have been playing us lately, I think we have four guys shooting over 30 percent from three. This team is the best shooting team in practice that I've ever had, but we haven't been able to translate that to our game. In the last couple of games, we've shot the ball really well. I think that's given us a lot more energy on the defensive end. I thought in the first half, our defense was pretty good. I think we came into this game, Miami had our attention. Jim's doing probably one of the best jobs in the league because he's had obviously some, if you have two big 6'11" kids, you throw that in the system and their whole team becomes different. They have four kids that shoot the ball really well and I thought their schemes and systems are really good. You look at the five games they lost, four of them they were ahead and including our game late in the second half. We knew if we didn't come out and play with a lot of focus and play well, something bad could happen. I thought our energy was a direct reflection of the respect we have for their team. We've been in the same (position). This is the first game we've had everybody healthy the entire year. We're still building, still growing. I think our team has pretty good potential. The good thing about us is that we've found a bit of success while still growing and developing."

##### ***On the balance of threes and points in the paint...***

"In the last two games that we lost, we shot two for 22 in one game and three for 22 in another from three. So, my point to you is that we didn't get enough paint touches. That's what happens because of the other team. We have to become more consistent. No doubt about it. If we get that right balance of inside and outside, we're going to be pretty tough."

##### ***On Chris Lykes' off night...***

"I think he's a sophomore and kids go through those periods where you lose a couple games and psychologically, it's part of growing and maturing. MJ Walker missed his last 12 shots, but today he shot the ball really well. He's growing and maturing as well. I have five new guys we try and work in our rotation and they're a bit inconsistent. I just think he'll relax and settle down and he'll get back to it because he's really, really good. He is exceptional. You really don't guard him. He might miss some shots, but his quickness, speed and ability to score and create so many things for his teammates that sometimes when you're young like that, you have a bad game or two and it'll affect you. That's pretty much what he's going through is what our young kids are going through, too."

## **Miami Head Coach Jim Larrañaga**

### ***Opening statement...***

"I thought Florida State played really well from start to finish. They shot the ball from three extremely well. 12 for 20 and 60 percent. That's extremely hard for us to overcome. We had a hard time defending their big guys, [Christ] Koumadje got them off to a great start, then [Mifondu] Kabengele is really tough inside. We tried to help out inside and take away some of the opportunities in the paint, opens it up to the three-point shot. They made and we didn't. We were seven of 29. That was the difference in the game."

### ***On what was off with Chris Lykes...***

"I can't explain it right now. He's had two back-to-back games that I think in the Syracuse game, the size bothered him. I think he missed some wide open looks early and I think he got a little discouraged from that."

### ***On what he told the team after...***

"I told them, 'hey, you're in the ACC' and asked them 'how many teams in our league have winning records and how many teams have losing records?' Seven have winning records with five being at the top of the league. There are eight teams with losing records, several with just one win. It's a very unforgiving league. If you don't play well, if you don't finish strong, the opponent is very good. This week, we are playing three Top 25 teams. It's possible our next two games are against Top 10 teams."