



Florida State 80, Louisville 75 (OT)
Saturday, February 9, 2019
Donald L. Tucker Center,
Tallahassee, Florida

Louisville Head Coach Chris Mack Quotes

Opening Statement

That one's tough to swallow, I felt like for the better part of the game we did what we needed to do. We put ourselves in a position to win, have to give Florida State a lot of credit for their pressure, their relentlessness on the glass, that I thought we handled up until the last 6-7 minutes of the game and then overtime. If you're going to beat the Seminoles, I think you need to do three things and we did one of the three. We kept them out of the lane, for the most part best we could. The ability to keep them off the glass and the ability to handle their pressure were our undoing. That thirty second stretch where we we're up four about 1:40 left, tough to overcome. I have to give our guys credit, they never quit. I already knew that was going to happen, but we should've done a better job down the stretch to come out of here with a win. Very good team.

Mack's Assessment of the Overtime Period

"They just wore us down; we have guys playing a lot of minutes. Our offense the last six minutes of regulation and overtime, we got a shot, it was an earned shot. We shot a high enough percentage to win, but we gave up way too many possessions. When I say gave up, I mean Florida State has a lot to do with that. We have to do a better job of taking care of the ball and being stronger with it and getting open for our teammates."

On the difficulty dealing with Florida State's pressure

"The cumulative effect, I thought we did a pretty good job. A lot of our turnovers early on were dead balls, then it became live ball turnovers and them picking you up and wearing you down. Having said that, with 1:40 left in the game, I thought we had the game in our hands. Not that it was a layup to win, we still had to do what we needed to do to come away with the win and we weren't able to. Hats off to them for the way they finished and took the game."

On preparing to face Mfiondu Kabengele

"As a guy who would catch the ball and shoot, yes. Florida State has several really good players, he's the guy that catches the ball on film, prior to this point, he's just trying to get a shot off. We wanted to force him to dribble and I thought we did that. Have to give him credit, he got our bigs up in the air, we were undisciplined on shot fakes. Up and unders became two points and in the second half we did a better job on staying down on him. He's a really good player, he might be their best offensive player, I don't know Leonard would have a better idea. He's very tough to guard."

On being a first time ACC coach and the challenges

"The teams we play. The crowd didn't turn the ball over, we did it to ourselves. It's just basketball. I was a part of this league a long time ago when there were just nine teams in it and now there's 412 teams in the league now. It's a good league, with great coaches. You have to have amnesia when you play in this league, not worry about what happened and focus on the next game ahead. The challenges can become great. I have no doubt that my group will come back to work and ready to go. We're going to need to, because we have to play the best team in the country."

On what the team still needs to work on since the Virginia Tech Game

“Our ability to handle pressure, we put too much on C.C.’s (Christen Cunningham) plate. He did a great job although this turnover ratio is pretty even. He’s playing 43 minutes a game, he’s got the ball in his hand and our guys have to do a better job of getting open, being able to drive under control, and looking for ball fakes, shot fakes, pass fakes. We didn’t do that enough consistently throughout the game.”