



# Opponent Quotes

Pitt vs. Florida State • Wednesday, November 6, 2019  
Petersen Events Center • Pittsburgh, Pa.



## Florida State Head Coach Leonard Hamilton

### **Opening statement:**

"I think you have to give Pittsburgh a lot of credit. I thought they played a lot more to who they really are, as opposed to us. I thought we were extremely overaggressive at the beginning of the game and we got a lot of overly aggressive fouls that kind of put us back on our heels, and we never seemed to get into rhythm from that point on. You have to give them credit for being patient and executing their system to the point where we were reaching, grabbing, and making some very anxious fouls. Once we got into that situation where we had to play many different kinds of lineups, I just thought they took advantage by being patient, executing and playing a lot to who they want to be. I thought we had great looks from the perimeter. We're a pretty good three-point shooting team, obviously 6-20 means we didn't shoot the ball well. I thought we had good looks, they just didn't fall. Their ability to get to the foul line was one of the biggest differences in the game. They did a very good job at playing to their strengths and they got to the foul line constantly. They were executing their system better than we were. Last year we came up and they shot 46 free throws and that made a difference in the game and once again our inability to get to the foul line and to be as aggressive as they were. I thought attacking the basket made the difference in the game."

### **On the overaggressive play of his team:**

"I think we're an inexperienced team. I have two experienced players, MJ [Walker] and Trent [Forrest], I've got four kids that are second year players, and six kids that are freshmen. I think we are still in the development stages. When you go on the road, and the ACC will keep you honest with who you are playing, you have to execute to be your very best. I thought that they did a much better job at playing to whom they are. I think that if we get those same open looks in the future they'll go down, but I'm sure their defense had a little something to do with it. Hopefully we learn from this and grow."

### **On the team's identity:**

"I'm still trying to get a rotation. Some of my starters didn't even dress tonight. Our guys were energized and I thought we were just a little bit restless at times. I thought if we had the whole team ahead of time, I could have gotten a little bit of the rotation I was anticipating, but once we started to get into foul trouble early, it put us into the situation where we had to try some new things. To be very honest with you, under those circumstances I thought the kids came in and did fairly well. Except, that is not who we are. We never really got into the rhythm of pushing the ball. Very seldom do you get a team that gets more transition baskets than we do. Very seldom we play a team that outscores us from the bench. However, that was a different story tonight and you have to give their coaches a lot of credit. I thought they did a really good job not panicking and sticking to the game plan. I thought they just maintained their poise."

### **On trying to stop McGowens and Johnson:**

"We tried not to foul them, but that didn't work. For as young as they are, I think they are extremely confident guys, they believe in themselves. I think coach has done a great job at mapping a system that gives them a chance to be who they are, while they are working hard to be who they will become later. I think [Xavier] Johnson is not only a great shooter, but you can tell he's worked hard at improving the other parts of his game. And I think that they're extremely patient at their execution, getting downhill and breaking the defensive pressure down, and I think that's who they are."