



Coaches Quotes

Florida State 72, Clemson 53

Sunday, December 8, 2019

Donald L. Tucker Center

Tallahassee, Florida

Clemson Head Coach Brad Brownell

Opening Statement

"Obviously Florida State played a great second half. We really struggled once the momentum went against us and I just don't think we responded very well. They turned it up defensively and were very good. Offensively, in the second half, we did not execute very well and made a lot of silly plays. Once they (Florida State) gets momentum and started making a few threes it becomes extremely difficult. (Anthony) Polite and Patrick Williams were both very good in the second half. They really changed the game for them, and we just did not play well in the second half."

On Why Their Defense Seemed To Struggle In The Second Half

"I think our poor performance on offense took away a lot of our energy. We could not score a basket, turned the ball over a bunch, and some of those turnovers led to transition. It can be frustrating as a player sometimes and that takes real growth. Your team has to be mature and we just have not been good enough at that. We let our offense dictate a little bit of our attitude and I thought our hunger was not as good. On the other side, they (Florida State) played extremely well and made shots. Once you start making shots, it takes all the game pressure out of it. When they got the 10 points lead, I think their kids were loose and easy. It is a lot easier to make shots when you are up 10 or 12 than when you are down six. I think they just played with a lot more confidence and swagger in the second half."

On If Florida State's Offense In The Second Half Helped Their Defense

"Absolutely. It energizes you and you can become even more aggressive defensively because now if you give up one or two baskets it doesn't feel as bad if it were a tight game where every basket is really important. I think it goes hand and hand and we saw the bad of both in the second half. I thought we played well in the first half, I thought our plan was good, and we were competitive, but our guard play in the second half really struggled and we couldn't find a way to make consistent baskets. This just put way too much pressure on us and they (FSU) are just way too good for that."

On Florida State This Year Compared To Last Year:

"Well obviously they have guys this year that have been around and guys that have made nice steps. Obviously when you have a guard like Trent Forrest, he really settles you into a game. (Devin) Vassell is really talented, MJ Walker is really talented, and you have guys like (Anthony) Polite come in and score four threes. We tried like crazy to recruit Patrick Williams because we know how good he is. They just have so many guys that when a good player has a bad night, there will be another guy that has a good night. That depth is why they have been good consistently. I know Leonard has talked about it and said they may not have the top player or two in the league, but he believes their seven, eight, and ninth players are better than a lot of people's and he plans accordingly. There is a wearing affect that comes with it and a wearing affect that comes with their style of play that you have to deal with. We felt that in the second half today."