



#### **Coaches Quotes**

**Florida State 72, Clemson 53**

**Sunday, December 8, 2019**

**Donald L. Tucker Center**

**Tallahassee, Florida**

#### **Florida State Head Coach Leonard Hamilton**

##### **Opening Statement**

"I thought Clemson had a tremendous defensive game plan of taking away our inside game and taking away a lot of driving lines in the first half. Obviously in the times we have played them in the past, we have been able to get things over the top. They made us work real hard to get shots over the lane in the first half. Second half, we made the adjustment to go small. We got a lot more assists because we realized we were hitting our head against a brick wall. Defensively, the things I'm most proud of: Our kids defensively adjusted, the energy, the effort, we were sounder. Anytime you have 9 blocks, that helps. Holding them to 20 points in the second half says a lot about our guys' determination, effort and commitment to going out and getting stops. We're still searching and trying to figure out how to utilize and feel confident with our players."

##### **On The Performance of Anthony Polite**

"We have potential to be a good perimeter shooting team. Before we went into the (Emerald Coast Classic) tournament, we had 10 3's one night and then we were one of 17. Mentally and emotionally we needed confidence. It's part of the growth process, getting guys to get confidence. Coach Young has spent a lot of time with our guys shooting. I can tell by the look in their eye, they have more confidence. Ball movement and reversals gave us cleaner looks. I think we are going to be a pretty good shooting team. Right now, we're somewhere in between from a growth standpoint, but as we go through the year we were going to have a little more consistency in those errors."

##### **Did You Make Any Defensive Change In The Second Half**

"It was a little bit of both. I think that the switch in personnel gave us everybody who could guard off the dribble. Its more challenging when you have a point guard trying to battle a 6'9, 245-pound guy inside, but that's when your team's defense becomes a factor. You have to put pressure on the ball, you've got to get to the front, you've got to have weak side help. I thought our guys executed those fundamentals a lot better."

##### **Did You Challenge Your Team At Half Or During One Of The Timeouts?**

"Not to that extent. We just said, "This is what we do." We've been pretty consistent with our defensive system. I thought they executed a lot better. That was an adjustment that was good for this particular game, I am not really sure we could do that every game, but that was good for this game."

##### **Are Turnovers Problematic For Your Team?**

"What happens is, we try to develop consistency and making decisions in .5 seconds. But you catch the ball and you have to almost have your mind made up with what you are going to do with the ball before you catch it. Sometimes, that's not always easy when you play against people that defensively have schemes too. I thought the second half the ball did not stick as much and I thought that really created more movement for our players and created some indecision on their (Clemson) part defensively, because not only did we moved the ball, we moved the bodies. It gave us a different and better look to get it into some gaps and get some higher percentage kickouts."