



Coaches' Quotes

Florida State 70, Georgia Tech 58

Tuesday, December 31, 2019

Donald L. Tucker Center, Tallahassee, Florida

Georgia Tech Head Coach Josh Pastner

Opening Statement:

First off I want to give credit to Florida State and Coach Hamilton, as they have a really good basketball team. They are very, very good defensive team and Coach Hamilton had them ready to play. He (Leonard Hamilton) is one of the best coaches in the game. The biggest difference in the game was our 20 turnovers to their 12, as our three guards combined for 12 assists and 9 turnovers. We have to be a lot better than that. We need more production out of Jordan Usher on the glass; he gave us 11 points, but only one rebound, and that certainly isn't enough. Moses (Wright) had a double-double but he had six turnovers, which was key. Those turnovers were the difference today. We had some chances. We don't have any margin for error every possession, and we had three consecutive possessions that we missed easy baskets, and that was what turned the game. We are getting better, I like our progress that we are making, even though we are 2-2 in our last four games. I like the direction we are heading and we just have to stay with it, and keep getting better."

On the change of momentum that occurred with the flagrant foul called on Georgia Tech

"That call definitely changed the game, and I felt that (Jordan) Usher made a play on the ball, and the kid came down. I thought the fall was harder than the play, but even though I didn't agree with it, I do understand it's a judgement call. It's a grey issue, and those officials are a high-level crew, but it definitely did change the game as it was a big four-point play, and in a close game those four point plays are tough to overcome."

On the inability to make the run to overcome the deficit

"We just could not get over the hump. We couldn't get the lead. We had a lot of chances to get the lead, but way too many missed opportunities. We missed way too many wide-open 3's that you have to make, and then two opportunities on a fast break that we just threw the ball away. In a game like this, in the ACC on the road, you just can't let those opportunities pass you by. Those possessions and the flagrant foul really changed the outcome of this game. We had 15 assists on 22 field goals, so we tried to play the right way and find the open man. I felt that we were trying to play the right way but we had 20 turnovers and that just can't happen if you want to win a game in this league."

On the potential of a missed opportunity to get the win

"What I feel like is that every time we don't win a game, it is a missed opportunity. In this league it's hard to get wins. We just can't miss a dunk, layup, and wide open 3's, and expect to walk away with a win. Our guards fought and gave us a chance to win, it's just the little things on the offensive end that come back to haunt us. We defended well enough to win the whole game, the issue was the turnovers and missed opportunities."

On the pressure FSU puts on you with a deep rotation

"They play 10 or 11 guys, and you have to give Coach Hamilton credit. I don't know how he does it. I think it's hard to play seven guys, and I don't know how he keeps all those guys happy, as he rotates them on and off the floor. He honestly deserves a statue to be built for what he's done here, to play in the day of age and keep the guys around when they are not getting more playing time, is one heckuva feat. Coach Ham has done an incredible job here and their length is incredible. Combine their length and defensive style of ball, that team is really hard to beat."