

Florida State at Georgia Tech

Coaches Quotes

Florida State 65, at Georgia Tech 76

January 30, 2021

Florida State Head Coach Leonard Hamilton

Opening Statement:

"I thought today was one of those games where when you look back at the first half and see you held a team to 34 points, 34 percent field goal percentage and 25 percent from the three, especially for a team that shoots the ball as well as they do, you think you would ahead. Today though, our offensive execution was probably as poor as it had been all year. The ball didn't move. I thought we over dribbled, I didn't think we got the normal kick out threes, the penetrate and dish threes, or normal ball reversals. It seems as though today we were not as strong at executing our offensive game. Now, defensively we had a hard time guarding (Jose) Alvarado, especially when he got on a run. We've been scoring 80 points a game and when you only score 60, then that says a lot about where our problems were in the game. You have to give Georgia Tech a lot of credit; they've played a lot of people very close. Louisville was a one possession game, Virginia was a very close game, down to the wire, and Duke as well. Today they came home, much more determined than we were, and they outplayed us. You have to give a lot of credit to (Moses) Wright and Alvarado for stepping up and doing their job offensively. Tonight, we just didn't have it going offensively, there lies our loss. That'll happen to you in the ACC, if you're not ready to play them tonight this is what it feels like."

On possession of the ball

"They're the number 2 team in the league in steals, it wasn't like that wasn't in the scout report. It wasn't that we didn't work on that all week, it wasn't like our guys weren't expecting that to happen. Tonight, was one of those games where they were a lot more effective at creating those turnovers than we were at taking care of the ball. Sometimes it's not as much about what you don't do, sometimes the other team just outplays you. They were a lot closer to being who they are, forcing turnovers, getting steals, getting to their strong hands and finishing at the basket. That's what they did in this particular game and you have to congratulate them and more on. We have to learn from this game and hopefully we'll be a lot better as a result of it. I'm just hoping that this is a loss that we learn from as oppose to one that we will lose our confidence, which I don't think we will."

On MJ Walker

"This had nothing to do with MJ. The entire team normally makes about 230 passes a game, we way were way below that. We didn't move the ball well enough; it was like we were stepping in mud. This was one of those games where we just were not as efficient as we have been. I don't think we had amnesia and forgot how to play; I think that this afternoon Georgia Tech did a much better job playing true to who they are than we did. We just came up short today. I like to think we'll go back and correct this and hopefully get back to who we have been in the last couple games. I told the guys, it's easy to be disappointed but we need to go back and evaluate the film, see what our shortcomings were and correct them. I can nit-pick and say it was this person, this player or this mistake but tonight I just thought we were overall inefficient. We have had excellent offensive execution but this afternoon, was not one of those days."

On learning to play away from home

"When you lose a game, you can over analyze things and this one particularly as 'being on the road' because we've only played three road games. You can come up with a lot of different things that you can try and analyze for why we lost but, we just got out played. This team executed their offense; they were patient, they drove to the basket, they got to the free throw line and they hit the free throws much better than we did. We have the depth, we have the energy, we have the athletes and the skills, but we just came up short. Our offensive execution, I just thought, was very poor and it spilled over and drained us on the defensive end. I don't know how many opportunities we had at the rim that we didn't finish, we had layups, tip-ins and put backs earlier in the game that we did not get, and we didn't get the number of transition kick-aheads that we normally get. It seemed like we were this lethargic, we were not as sharp, offensively, and I thought that really hurt us on the defensive end. I think if we would've gotten some of those easy baskets, we normally get it would've energized us a little bit. I thought that they were extremely patient

and had the right style of game to create a problem for us. We turned the ball over too many times and I don't think we got very much out of our defense tonight. Normally we get some steals or deflections with some easy baskets and opportunities for transitions. You have to give them create for executing their game plan and executing it better than we executed ours."